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ANNUAL
BIOGRAPHY AND OBITUARY,

FOR THE YEAR

1819

VOL. III.

LONDON:

Printed by J. JOHNSON, ST. PAULS CHURCH-YARD.

1820.

1819

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NEW YORK: PUBLISHED BY G. & C. VAN NEST, 1819.

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FOR THE YEAR

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Printed by A. Strahan,
New-Street Square, London.

P R E F A C E.

THE appearance of the present, which is the Third Volume of the **ANNUAL BIOGRAPHY AND OBITUARY**, at a far earlier period than usual, at least implies a wish to conciliate the Public by a due exertion of industry.

The memoir of Her late Most Excellent Majesty, in addition to the enumeration of many private virtues, will be found to contain some interesting facts relative to the early education and subsequent studies of that good and amiable Princess. From the short historical dissertation on the origin and antiquity of the family of Mecklenburgh, it may also be seen, that the Kings of England and Dukes of Strelitz are descended from one common ancestor.

To such as entertain a taste for the wonderful, some gratification will perhaps be derived from the adventures of a Harriott; while they who toil and drudge in the pursuits of literature will be somewhat consoled on noticing the Herculean labours of a Beloe.

Those feelingly alive to the suggestions of benevolence may not be displeas'd with the zealous attempts of the late Sir Thomas Bernard to meliorate the condition of the poor ; and the successful enterprise of Dr. Cogan to found and endow the Royal Humane Society, cannot fail to meet with due approbation and applause.

Of the learned Dr. Burney, if not a very copious, yet a very correct account will be here found ; while the laborious and technical investigations of that old and indefatigable servant of the public, the late Right Honourable George Rose, (rewarded, as he certainly was, to the full extent of his merits,) will be discovered, on one occasion, to have saved millions to his country.

The sudden and melancholy death of Sir Samuel Romilly contributed to cast a gloom over society, and actually operated for a while like a great national calamity. A gentleman not wholly unacquainted with that great and original character, has attempted a memoir somewhat after the manner of the French *Eloge*. The minuter facts are chiefly contained in the notes ; and there is no occasion to offer any pledge as to the authenticity of the materials.

Notwithstanding the death of Lord Ellenborough, at so late a season of the year, a memoir has been provided, containing an account of the rise, progress, and rapid advancement of that celebrated lawyer. Some emendations and corrections to Vols. I. and II. are annexed ; and not only a list but an analysis of the writings of most of those whose lives are

recorded in this Obituary, will be found in the body of the work.

It may be now proper to return thanks for some of the many favours conferred. Sir John Macpherson, Bart., who succeeded the late Right Honourable Warren Hastings, as Governor-General of Bengal, has been so good as to transmit an original letter from that gentleman; but it unluckily arrived too late for insertion.

The Right Honourable Sir John Sinclair, who kept up a constant correspondence with the late amiable and intelligent George Dempster, Esq., M. P., during the long period of thirty years, has kindly submitted the whole, not only to the inspection, but the discretion of the Editor.

The Reverend and learned Dr. Peirson has consigned three important letters for the express use of this work. The first, written by himself, tends to elucidate the life and character of Dr. Watson, author of the History of Philip II., while the two others are connected with that important period in the annals of Europe, when the Netherlands threw off the yoke, and maintained a long and sanguinary conflict with Spain.

Finally, to these respectable names, ought to be added that of Sir James Mackintosh, M. P., who with a fine taste for literature, unites an amiable urbanity of manners. By the kindness of this gentleman the Editor has been favoured with an important parliamentary document, inserted in the present volume.

referred in this Obituary, will be found in the body of the work.

It may be now proper to return thanks for some of the many favors conferred. Sir John Macpherson, Bart. who succeeded Sir John Light, Honorable Member of Parliament for the County of Bengal, has been so good as to transmit an original letter from that gentleman; but it necessarily arrived too late for insertion.

TABLE I

The Right Honorable Sir John Light, who kept the office of Secretary to the Admiralty, during the long period of thirty years, has kindly admitted the author not only to the inspection, but the dis-posal of the original MSS. of the papers of Sir John Light, and has been so good as to transmit an original letter from that gentleman; but it necessarily arrived too late for insertion.

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ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS IN VOL. I.

The late F. N. C. MUNDY, Esq. Of this worthy gentleman, a portrait has been since painted by R. R. Reinagle, in consequence of a vote of the Grand Jury of the county of Derby, as a tribute of respect to the memory of an upright Magistrate, who had so often and so ably presided over their deliberations.

THOMAS JOHNES, Esq. An impression from a medal die of this senator and author, by Cornman, has been exhibited since his death, at the Royal Academy.

GEORGE HARDINGE, Esq. was of Trinity College, Cambridge, "and in 1764," observes a respectable correspondent, "when Lord Sandwich was a candidate for the office of High Steward, exerted himself in procuring the Students to mark their disapprobation of Lord S.'s character, by absenting themselves from the College Hall, on the day Lord S. was to dine there. In consequence of this, he afterwards left the University without a degree. These facts," it is added, "I have heard related at length, by two of his contemporaries, Mr. Lambert and the late Mr. Davies, Fellows of Trinity College, and from another Junior Fellow, to whom he mentioned them."

Dr. WATSON, Bishop of Landaff, was second, and Mr. Massey of St. John's College, First Wrangler. Mr. Postlethwayte was not one of his opponents, having taken his degrees six years before, when he was Third Wrangler. He afterwards became Master of Trinity College. Dr. W. at first greatly addicted himself to, and excelled in mathematical studies. It was to the *present* Earl of Egremont he sold some of the property left him by Mr. Luther.

Dr. APTHORP, not Apthurp, p. 595, was author of a work on the Prophecies.

ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO VOL. II.

THE REV. SIR ADAM GORDON, Bart. M.A. Prebendary of Bristol, &c. See vol. ii. page 368.

SIR ADAM GORDON was the heir and successor of Sir John Gordon, Bart. of Dalphollie, N.B. which estate has been long since severed from the title.

The Rev. SIR HERBERT CROFT, Bart. appears to have died in possession of the *living* of Prittlewell, in Essex; but the presentation to this vicarage scarcely entitled the Bishop of London to the title of a "Patron." The estate, the entail of which was cut off by one of his progenitors about sixty years ago, is called "Dunster Park," in a late Baronetage; but it is said to be properly termed "*Dunstan House*." Baronets, by courtesy, are not unfrequently denominated after manors which have been severed from their family. Sir Herbert was at one period so reduced in his circumstances, as to become the tutor of a private gentleman.

The late DR. DISNEY, page 49. left behind him two sons and one daughter (Frances-Sophia,) now wife of the Rev. Thomas Jervis.

The late DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH, page 128, was a great benefactor to the University of Oxford. By a typographical mistake, arising from the obscurity of the handwriting of a correspondent, the grand Cartoons in the Picture Gallery, are printed *Grand Curtains*.

THOMAS SHERIDAN, Esq. See Chronological Table, page xii. was born in Orchard-Street, Portman-Square, at the latter end of 1775, a few days after the appearance of the "*Duenna*."

Page 448, for "a spirited likeness of MR." read "of *Mrs.* SHERIDAN."

MR. RAYMOND, see page 339, died at the age of 48.

DR. THOMSON, page 95, published his Translation of Cunningham's History of Great Britain, not in 2 vols. 8vo. but 2 vols. 4to.

MR. HARRIOTT.
THE
ANNUAL
BIOGRAPHY AND OBITUARY
OF
1818.

PART I.
MEMOIRS OF CELEBRATED MEN, WHO HAVE
DIED WITHIN THE YEARS 1817-1818.

No. I.



JOHN HARRIOTT, Esq.

LATE RESIDENT MAGISTRATE OF THE THAMES POLICE OFFICE.

[*With Extracts from his Works.*]

THE life of this very extraordinary man abounds with a variety of incidents not a little singular in themselves, and such as in the nature of human events, cannot possibly occur but to few

others. An adventurer by turns in all the four different quarters of the globe; an officer, sometimes by sea, and sometimes by land; now in the service of the King, and now of the East India Company; a farmer in both Europe and America; a mechanic, a projector, a speculator, a merchant, an underwriter, and a magistrate: at one period, obliged to escape with his family from a house in flames; at another, beholding his whole landed property submerged by the ocean: such a life necessarily abounds both with variety, information, and instruction.

Mr. John Harriott was born in 1745, at Great Stambridge, near the town of Rochford, in the county of Essex. His ancestors were originally settled at Brigstock in Northamptonshire, where they had resided during many centuries; and when their little patrimonial farm was, at length, sold to the Duke of Montague, the title is said to have been traced so far back as the reign of William Rufus: a fact, which, if correct, affords a very extraordinary instance of antiquity.

His father, whose immediate progenitors were tanners, after having served for some time in the British navy, became the master of a merchantman; and, at length, settling at Rochford, engaged in the wine and tobacco trade. From his parents, he received that plain and practical education, usually bestowed in a provincial town in England. According to his own account, he seems chiefly to have distinguished himself, thus early in life, by robbing orchards and gardens in company with his play-fellows, on which occasions he was accustomed to take the lead. The perusal of "Robinson Crusoe" first inflamed his mind, as it has done that of so many others, with an eager desire of seeing the world. Accordingly, in 1759, when he was only a little more than thirteen years of age, he went to sea in search of adventures. On this occasion, he was entered as a midshipman on board of a man of war, bound with a convoy for New York. During the second gale of wind he became sea-sick, and with a young brother officer, was, as usual, subjected to the jokes of all the mess: this community

of suffering greatly attached them to one another during the remainder of their lives.

The chace, engagement with, and capture of a French armed vessel diversified the voyage; and on their arrival at New York, to his great astonishment, he beheld a market for selling white men, women, and children, — a sight which struck him with great horror. They consisted of *indented* servants, chiefly from Ireland, who sold their labours during a certain number of years, to pay their passage. Here he exhibited his own humanity, by extricating from bondage a young female Hibernian, who had run away from her mother, then in Newfoundland, to whose arms he afterwards restored her, by obtaining her a passage for that island. This action, which produced much ridicule on the part of all on board, was amply rewarded soon after, when he himself arrived there, by the gratitude and kindness of both mother and daughter.

At length, they sailed for the Mediterranean, fell in with the fleet under command of the celebrated Admiral Boscawen, and were delighted with the capture of a French frigate at the conclusion of a short but sharp engagement. After lying some time at Gibraltar to refit and refresh, they proceeded on a cruise. While at Leghorn, during the carnival season, our young sailor got acquainted with a youth of his own age, a native of the country, but of French parents. An intimacy soon ensued, and this naturally led, first to visiting at his house, and finally, to being in love with his sister. The *Signora*, on her part, acknowledged a mutual attachment, and they reciprocally taught each other Italian and English. A marriage might in time have taken place, as her parents rather favoured than discountenanced the connection; but as the midshipman was required to abandon both his religion and his profession, the conditions were deemed too hard, and they accordingly separated by mutual consent.

Soon after this, while lying at anchor in the island of Cyprus, a Greek of some note, learning that the Captain meant to sail for St. Jean d'Acre, solicited permission to accompany him thither. The passage was usually a short one, of about four days;

but on the third, the stranger died during the night, and as the plague was then raging in the *Levant*, it was instantly supposed that he had fallen a martyr to this disease, at once so dreadful and so alarming. The sudden loss of three foreign sailors confirmed the suspicion; and on their arrival at the desired port, they found that this abhorred malady was prevalent throughout all Syria. On this, it was determined to depart immediately; and accordingly, after a dispute with the Turkish bashaw, they suddenly withdrew. This was a heart-rending event to Mr. Harriott, who had obtained leave to accompany his commander to Jerusalem!

The disappointment, perhaps, contributed to inspire him with the wish to turn hermit in the island of Lampadocia, where he found a few persons, called “Mahometan *Religiosos*,” enjoying all the good things of this life, without much toil or trouble on their part. The situation they had selected was beautiful and romantic, about half a mile distant from the shore; their habitation appeared to be a cavern, but they had built a rude front to it, and lived on what they themselves cultivated; in short, they appeared to possess plenty of poultry, sheep, corn, and fruit.

While in Corsica, the midshipman renewed the scenes of his early youth, by robbing a garden of some fine grapes, &c. which had nearly cost him his life, and of this adventure he appeared afterwards most heartily ashamed.

On their return to Gibraltar, they captured a French *Chebeque*, and on landing first heard intelligence of the death of George II. While there, they were subjected to a strict quarantine, on account of their *foul bill of health*; and when off Lisbon, in 1761, experienced the effects of a second, but far less terrible earthquake, than that which had destroyed the greater part of that city but a very few years before.*

While in the British Channel, they once more beheld “dear old England,” and the subject of these memoirs, who had now experienced a long, and first absence from home, perhaps derived more pleasure from contemplating his native coast, than

* In 1755.

any one on board. This joy, however, was not a little damped by some occurrences of a disastrous nature.

As the wind did not serve for Portsmouth, the Captain made for Torbay; but as it was well known that the plague had been on board, not a single boat could be prevailed upon to go to their assistance. On this, they weighed anchor, and bore away for Plymouth, keeping close in with the land, and running under topgallant sails, top-sails, and fore-sail. But when just abreast of the Mewstone, and within sight of the men of war in the Sound, the ship most unexpectedly, and to the astonishment of all the officers, struck so forcibly on the edge of a sunken rock, denominated a "splinter" by the seamen, that she almost immediately filled with water. The consequent hurry and confusion was indescribable; and the misconduct of the foreign sailors, a great number of whom were on board, had nearly proved fatal. When ordered to launch the boats, they proved so ungovernable in their haste and eagerness to escape, that they actually stove them; and their final preservation was chiefly to be attributed to a pinnace, which was towing astern at the moment of this very alarming incident: for the frigate was *settling* fast, and it was doubtful whether the channel was not too deep for any part of the hull to remain out of the water. Intoxication now ensued, and many of the crew, breaking into the ship's stores, produced additional danger, from the facility thus afforded to all, of following their example. At length however the main and fore masts were cut away, and part of the upper works were fortunately left above the waves, after the vessel herself had sunk.

A raft was now made of the rigging, with a view to reach the Mewstone rock, which was full three miles distant, but as the wind proved unfavourable, the Captain had recourse to the sole remaining boat; and accordingly a few were actually saved in this manner. Soon after this, there arrived from Plymouth two empty barges, which were turned adrift for their use: all personal communication being strictly interdicted. By these means, the whole were at length conveyed to the barren rock alluded to before; provisions were fur-

nished them, with due care however, to prevent the possibility of infection; and after a rigorous quarantine, they were at length permitted to go on shore.

This adventure would have cooled the ardour of most young men; but Harriott was of a roving disposition, and every thing at home soon proved listless and uninteresting. He accordingly sought for and obtained an appointment on board of another frigate which first joined Admiral Pococke's fleet at the attack of the Havannah; thence it sailed for Newfoundland, which had been just retaken from the French. In fine, our naval officer was continued in the service until the peace, when he was again *cast adrift* on the world.

After his return, he was employed by a relation in recovering goods from a shipwreck near the isle of Sheppy, in the plunder of which all the inhabitants appear to have assisted. On this occasion, a miller having informed against the Parson, from private spite, a warrant was obtained, and some of the stolen property found; but a box of jewellery valued at 3000*l.* could never be reclaimed, notwithstanding all his trouble, industry, and intrepidity.

As the Russian navy was now rising fast into consequence and repute, Mr. Harriott made a trip to the Baltic, but soon perceived that this service was not likely to prove either pleasant or profitable to an Englishman. On that occasion, he was entrusted with a present consisting of a *Carmuncle* tent, and a few sheep, destined as a present for the late Lord Holland, from Sir George afterwards Lord Macartney, then the ambassador from England, at the court of St. Petersburg. On his return, he spent three days at Holland-house, which he ever deemed one of the happiest portions of his whole life.

He now entered into the merchant service, and adventures multiplied afresh. Having sent a challenge to, and fought a gentleman, while in Jamaica, the latter was severely wounded, in consequence of a dispute at table, about drinking a toast. On his arrival at home, he himself carried another challenge from one of his old messmates, to an officer of the navy, under

whom they had served; and in return were both committed to jail.

In 1766 he repaired to America, and remained for some time with an Indian tribe, with whom he associated in their hunting and fishing parties; and while with them beheld the falls of Niagara. He soon discovered, however, that this boasted state of nature possessed fewer rational enjoyments on one hand, while it was accompanied with far greater difficulties and hardships on the other, than the social intercourse of Europe.

Soon after this, he was about to embark for Corsica, with his relation Lieutenant Dugdale, to serve under General Paoli; but the former suddenly went on board the Russian fleet under Count Orloff, then lying in the Downs, and afterwards suggested the means to burn the Turkish squadron at the isle of Scio. Our adventurer was only prevented from joining him, on this occasion, in consequence of obtaining an appointment in the military service of the East India Company, in 1768.

It was not without reluctance, however, that young Harriott consented to exchange his blue for a scarlet coat; but when once reconciled to it, he determined to be a soldier in reality. He accordingly commenced, by engaging a serjeant of the Guards, then on duty at the Tower, to drill him until fit to fall into the ranks on the parade. He then obtained leave to dress himself in the regimentals of a grenadier, and repeatedly exercised with a company. What made him particularly zealous on this occasion, was the consideration that orders were about to be dispatched to all the Presidencies in India, to train and discipline their troops, according to the new Prussian model, in lieu of the tedious and clumsy mode, called "Bland's exercise."

Having embarked at Gravesend, he found upwards of 40 young gentlemen, passengers on board, appointed either to the civil or military service of the Company. On this occasion, he taught both the cadets and soldiers, and obtained great credit for his conduct and alacrity. At the Cape, he was delighted with the manner of living, which was at once cheap and

comfortable; but in attempting to climb up the Table-Mount, he lost his way, in consequence of having parted from his guide; and was thus punished for his presumption in relying on his own opinion, in opposition to the experience of others.

The ship arrived at Madras just in time for the troops on board to assist at the close of the war with Hyder Ally. After some stay there, he was ordered to the northern Circars, previously to which he became acquainted with General Smith, whose *Aide de Camp*, Major Fitzgerald, presented him at parting with a fine horse, completely accoutred and caparisoned. On his arrival at Ellore, he was ordered to teach the troops the new exercise. In consequence of his services on this occasion, he was now appointed Deputy Judge Advocate; and soon after volunteered to officiate as Chaplain, in which latter capacity he actually married, christened, and buried.

While in the Circars several occurrences took place, which engaged his attention: he found Captain Powell completely recovered from a "Gingee fever," by drinking of claret, for which he greatly longed; while Paymaster Daniel was cured of a bloody-flux, by means of milk, which he most vehemently desired. Our adventurer was accustomed to tell a story of an officer's being refused porter in a raging fever, by order of the doctor, who pronounced compliance to be murder: the patient accordingly soon died *secundum artem*.

After being about twelve months in the fort of Condepille, the subject of this memoir was ordered out with a party, to subdue an insurgent Rajah. On this occasion, the Indian Chief resisted, trusting to his steep hills, bamboo-woods, and thick jungles; but he was at length subdued, and his country taken possession of. On this occasion, Lieutenant Harriott was so severely wounded by a ball, that rendered him lame for life, as to be utterly incapable of further active service. He therefore set out for Madras in his way to Europe, on the half-pay of his rank, by way of indemnification for his loss. At this settlement, he declined an offer of partnership from a gentleman, who, like himself, had retired from the service, and was now

earning a fortune as a lawyer, without any previous knowledge of the profession.

Being desirous to reach Europe as fast as possible, he immediately took his passage for the island of Sumatra; and on his arrival at Acheen was introduced to the Sultan, accompanied by a guard of Sepoys, and a salutation from the ship, which was answered by the cannon on shore. This mock embassy was a trick played off on the vanity of this Prince, merely for the purpose of obtaining permission to trade without paying the usual duties; and it actually proved successful. At Bencoolen, Mr. Harriott was seized with the fever of the country, and obtained first an alleviation and then a cure, by having three jars of water cooled with salt-petre, poured every morning over his head. Indeed, it appears that he had been accustomed for some time, to have large *cudjaree* pots of this element thrown over him daily; and he had long used himself, during the violence of the hot land-winds on the coast of Coromandel, to sit in the shade, with a towel soaked in water about his head. He also cured himself of the itch, by an infusion of tobacco, when no brimstone could be found.

During the passage to the Cape, the destructive effects of the sea-scurvy were soon visible on board; but the men recovered rapidly by drinking freely of new wine on their arrival.

On landing at Plymouth, the pleasure of all the passengers was equally great and sincere, at again breathing their native air.

Lieutenant Harriott now determined to settle at home, and accordingly courted a lady who became his wife, and in due season proved a mother also: but both she and her offspring died within the year. He had by this time become a farmer, but his recent misfortunes rendered him once more unsettled; in consequence of which he came to town, and was soon beheld in the character of an underwriter at Lloyd's. He at length however became uneasy, and experienced disagreeable sensations in his dreams, which were generally accompanied by imaginary storms!

On this, he left that hazardous kind of business, and married a second time, having found another blooming helpmate, who proved a worthy successor of his first wife. However, instead of turning farmer again, he engaged in the liquor trade, as a partner with his own brother. But soon after, they experienced great losses, and he in the end was obliged to pay a large sum, for which no value had ever been received, in order to save the life of a person connected with his family, who had taken the liberty of affixing his name to certain bills.

On this, Mr. Harriott quitted all mercantile concerns, and became once more a farmer. He now discovered that improvements were easily made, and fortunes readily acquired, if undertaken properly, and with a large capital; that wealth and its possessors were more servilely adored in the country than in town; while the inhabitants were to the full as loose in their principles there as in great cities. Having been nominated a magistrate for the county, in this capacity he had more than one case of robbery brought before him, which in point of audacity, and profligacy, could scarcely be rivalled in any capital in Europe.

As Mr. Harriott was fond of company he instituted several pleasant and useful associations. By his means, a club consisting of from twenty to thirty subscribers was formed, although not without great difficulty, during the winter season; but when he proposed a book society, he was at first laughed at; however, by the assistance of two clergymen, one a member of the established church, and the other a dissenter, this business also was at length happily concluded. Such was his energy, indeed, and such his growing reputation, that he was finally enabled to establish a market, greatly to the convenience and advantage of the whole neighbourhood.

His own residence being situate on the banks of a navigable river, he now kept a sailing boat; and appears at the same time to have taken a great delight in fishing. While enjoying these amusements, he had frequently noticed a *sunken island*, covered by the sea at half tide, containing between two

and three hundred acres of land, which he had both sailed round, as well as rowed and walked over. As the soil appeared rich and good, the Lieutenant determined to endeavour to embank and enclose it; and with a view to this experiment, bought the fee-simple for the sum of 40*l*. Here follow his own observations on this subject :

“ I purchased it in the month of May; and when I mentioned my intention of banking it round, to shut it in from the sea, and soon after really began to employ men for that purpose, my neighbours considered it so wholly impracticable, that they good-naturedly were divided in opinion respecting the undertaker; one party considering me as a madman, while the other set me down as a fool. Possibly, some might think me both; and all the circumstances fairly considered, I believe the latter opinion would have been nearest the truth.

“ My only doubt at the time was the strength of my pocket, and I freely confess my own imprudence on that account; such a speculative undertaking being best suited to those who have sufficient property to spare, without material injury to their family, should it not succeed. I had to adventure the larger half of my property, yet I felt so confident of success, that I never hesitated.

“ I sent to the fens of Lincolnshire, and other places, for men suited to the work. I then framed a building that might serve afterwards for a stable, fixing it high enough to prevent the tide from flowing into it, kept a boat to attend, and employed a man to keep a kind of sutling booth, to supply my workmen with good London porter, &c. and also to afford shelter in bad weather.

“ In July, 1781, I made a beginning, and in the December following, I had raised a wall, or embankment of earth, thirty-five feet at its base, battering away at an angle of forty-five degrees towards the sea, until it was six feet thick at the top, and eight feet high; the foundation on which I fixed it being more than two feet above the level of the rest of the island. This wall was more than two miles and a half in circumference, and carried over several deep rills or outlets. Thus

far, we had gone on rapidly, and safely: the two ends of the wall were about one hundred and forty feet apart, separated by a deep ravine, through which the tide ebbed and flowed, with a current and fall similar to that which passes through the great arch of London bridge, but stronger. Approaching thus to the most hazardous part of the undertaking, I tried to persuade my two contractors to use some strong timber in the work, which I offered to furnish exclusive of my agreement with them; but they refused, assuring me they could do it better without.

“ On Christmas-day (the tide suiting best for the purpose) we attacked it with all the force we could set to work. The exertions of manual labour were astonishing; by the measurement of some of the best men’s work, no horse could have carried away the earthy loam, within the same time, which one man spitted and loaded into a barrow, and another man wheeled away. The tide rose, but found the passage stopped: we continued raising the mound; but for want of the timber I had mentioned to stiffen and strengthen it, its own weight operated against it, squeezing the earth out at the foot, as fast as it was loaded at the top. The spring-tides began swelling and rising higher every tide, so that on the sixth, from my turning and shutting the tide out, all this great body of earth was swept away with scarcely a vestige of it to be seen; and the difficulty ten-fold increased, from the greater distance I had to fetch other earth.

“ The contractors to whom I had let the whole, applied for more money. I had already advanced them considerably more than the agreement, without a word like a refusal: *all* was at stake. I determined most resolutely to advance no more for them to sport away at my risk, although I knew they considered me as entirely depending on their knowledge, and that I could not do without them. I, however, plainly told them my determination, that I would not advance another shilling until it was completed according to agreement; and that, if they were afraid, I was not, but would conduct it, and be my own engineer and manager. Finding I was not to be

bent to their measures, and fearful of the event, they ran away indebted 125*l.* to the men, to whom they had under-let the work."

At length, by undaunted resolution, added to indefatigable exertions, in January 1782, the subject of these memoirs made a new bargain with his "sea-wallers," and agreed to pay the money due from the contractors, provided they conducted themselves to his entire satisfaction. He then cut down trees from ten to fifteen inches in diameter, and made piles of these, from twenty to twenty-four feet in length. They were driven, by means of an engine, in two rows, fifteen feet apart across the ravine, and as close together in the rows as possible. After this, they were secured by cross-beams, within five feet of the bottom and three feet of the top, being at the same time keyed and bolted on the outside. This was intended as a kind of *COFFRE DAM*, to hold the earth in the centre of the mound, as a strong core or heart for the whole.

"By the 17th of January, all was ready for another sharp contest with the sea, to determine by force of arms who should conquer and keep possession of the disputed property. I took the command myself: my troops were all stationed before break of day, our enemy then retreating in order to advance again with greater force (the neap-tides being over, and the spring-tides commencing). The morning was cold and frosty; a dram and three cheers was the signal for attack. Knowing the obstinate perseverance of my foe, and that our contest would be long and strong, I repressed the ardour of my troops a little at the onset. Every half hour I suspended the attack; and from several barrels of strong porter ammunition, which I had provided ready on the spot, and elevated on a small tower made of earth, I issued out half a pint to each man; and to such of them as had not provided better for themselves, my bread, butter, and cheese, were welcome. I served it all out myself, with a cheering kind of language suitable to the people, by which, I verily believe what one of my officers (a master carpenter), for the time, said, *viz.* 'that I had more work done for a few barrels of porter, with a little

management and address, than many men would have obtained for as many hundred pounds.

“The enemy advanced against us, and persevered in the attack for several hours; when, having proved the strength of our works, and failed, he retreated. At the severest part of the struggle, (high-water,) I advanced in front, with a *Waller's* tool in one hand, and a pot of porter in the other; when repeating the words that are related of King Canute, I said, ‘Thus far shalt thou go, but no farther:’ adding as he began to retire, ‘that although a conquered foe, I bore him no enmity.’ We then gave him three lusty cheers, drinking the King’s health, on such an accession to His Majesty’s agricultural dominions.

“However, being well acquainted with my opponent’s *manœuvres*, and that he was recruiting his strength daily, and might probably return in his fullest force, aided by his old and powerful ally *Boreas*, I was obliged to keep my troops in full exercise by raising and strengthening my works for some time after defeating him, with a strong guard to watch his motions at night. By these means, I obtained and secured my island from the sea; and so far at least, proved the practicability of the undertaking. As to the prudence of it under my circumstances, as I have before mentioned, I have but little to say.

“Having thus turned a small part of the sea into dry land, I soon built a comfortable farm-house for my bailiff, and the workmen, whom I employed in filling up the small rills, and making fence-ditches where necessary. But it was some months before the land could bear the weight of horses, and it would have been much better if I had kept no more than a pair of them at work for some years; but I was not then aware that the superabundant salts would have continued so long in the earth, to the injury of grain-crops. The soil was rich, being an accumulation of rotten vegetables, which grew up every summer, and fell in the winter, with the weight of a silty sediment from the water. I certainly flattered myself I had secured a comfortable competence, and felt gratified that my little fortune was the work of my own hands, and as honourably earned, as if I had gained it by the spoils of war.”

Meanwhile the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, &c. presented our spirited projector with their gold medal. On this occasion he was addressed in a complimentary speech by Sir Joseph Andrews, bart. who afterwards made him an offer of knighthood; but this was most respectfully declined.

After an union of ten years' duration with his second wife, this lady died of a consumption; but recollecting, after the lapse of some time, "that man was not born to live alone," he married a third time. And luckily for him his choice fell on one who proved a good and affectionate mother to his children. His prospects now became daily more bright, while his life was pleasantly varied, by his official duties in a rude and unruly district. In his capacity of a magistrate, an elderly gentlewoman voluntarily came before him, one morning, to be searched "whether she had teats in her arm-pits, with which she suckled young imps!" About thirty or forty years before this, an old woman who had incurred this suspicion was taken to Farm-bridge ferry, in Essex, and tied to the stern of a boat, to prove her commerce with the devil, in the course of which operation she narrowly escaped drowning.

Soon after, when the French revolution was yet but in *embryo*, Lieutenant Harriott made a tour through Flanders, and greatly admired the fine lands in that rich country. After his return, he obtained another premium from the Society of Arts: "this was for a road-harrow, by which a pair of horses with a man and boy could perform more, and better work, in filling the deep ruts, &c. with gravel, than fifty men could do by stubbing."

While thus apparently enjoying a state of happiness and prosperity, that falls to the lot of but few men, a series of misfortunes speedily occurred in rapid succession, which almost beggar description, and indeed border on all that is wonderful in romance, rather than legitimate in biography. Early in the year 1790, Mr. Harriott's dwelling-house, in which he was born, burst into flames during the night, and himself, his wife, and children, escaped with no small degree of difficulty out of the windows. Luckily he had insured to a certain

amount, which however did not cover the expense of rebuilding; yet still he comforted himself with the prospect held out by his island-crops, which were valued at 600*l.*; but on February 2, 1791, an inundation took place, in consequence of the unusual height of the tide, that swept away the banks of this newly-acquired estate, which was thus left several feet under the sea, and this too within a few months after the property on the main land had been destroyed by a different element. In such a critical state of affairs, he found that his losses by fire and water had swallowed up the whole of his property, and he was accordingly obliged to call a meeting of those to whom he stood indebted. On this occasion, both his friends and creditors seemed desirous to alleviate his misfortunes.

Notwithstanding the consolation derived from their sympathy, the subject of this memoir felt "sick at heart," in consequence of such a rapid succession of evils, and on looking around at his numerous offspring who depended on his exertions alone for succour and support, he conceived the romantic idea of repairing to America, for the purpose of mending his broken fortunes.

In May 1793, he accordingly embarked with his family, and landed safe at Baltimore, in Virginia. Having determined to leave those under his immediate protection, in a cheap and healthy situation, before he commenced his researches through the United States, he began by chartering two sloops of one hundred tons each. These were immediately freighted with flour, and by this mode of conveyance he not only procured a gratuitous passage for himself and family to Rhode island, where they were to remain, but obtained some small profit by the speculation.

After this, he proceeded by himself from Boston to Norfolk, with the view of purchasing a farm. In the course of his rambles, he visited the lands bought by Dr. Priestley, and Mr. Cooper, in the back part of Pennsylvania, without examination, and which they were obliged to relinquish soon after at a considerable loss. He also beheld with equal horror and surprise, the American patriots, writing papers on liberty

with one hand, while they brandished the whip over the affrighted slave with the other. He found justices of the peace subscribing and sanctioning marriage contracts; servants who wished to sit down with him at table; and generals who kept taverns, and waited behind the chairs of their guests. He thought that the education of youth was rather carried to excess in Connecticut; and to this he attributed the litigious spirit which prevails there. Upwards of one hundred attorneys in that little state, find means to live by their profession.

“ We stopped at Judge Sterling’s,” observes he, “ to refresh our horses. Hearing that he was the first judge of the county, I doubted whether it was a tavern, until my fellow traveller called for cider, which the judge readily drew for him. His appearance, in point of dress, was so singularly grotesque, in contrast to the dignity of his office, that I could not refrain minuting it down, while he was waiting on his customers, during the short stay we made. His hair was matted like a mop, and looked as if no comb had entered it for months past; he had on a ragged brown greasy jacket, the sleeves of which appeared to have been torn off; dirty canvas trowsers, no stockings, and very thick shoes tied with leather thongs. In a breast button-hole of his jacket was a short tobacco pipe, completely jappanned with smoke: this last article was a constant appendage to every Dutch settler I met, as well as to Judge Sterling.

“ A story was circulated of him, and told me afterwards by so many of the settlers in that part of the county, that I entertain no doubt of the truth. A poor fellow from New England had passed that way several times in search of a settlement; and stopping to dine and refresh himself at the judge’s house on a Sunday, desired to know what he had to pay? His host made out the account for meat and drink as a tavern-keeper, adding, as a magistrate, the small fine of six shillings for travelling on a Sunday without a pass. In vain poor Yankey pleaded poverty, and urged his constant frequenting of the house as he journeyed to and fro. The judge could not acquit his conscience without fining him!

“Entreaties being in vain, Yankey desired his honour to grant him a pass, or possibly the next magistrate might fine him again. To this there was no objection, but not writing very distinctly or readily himself, he told the other to write, and he would sign it. Yankey obeyed, and wrote an order for 20*l.* on Sterling’s merchant, a store-keeper, living a few miles on the road he had to travel, knowing him to be the judge’s banker, from messages he had formerly carried to the merchant. Sterling asked ‘if he had taken care to make the pass strong enough?’ Yankey *guessed* it would do, and the judge signed it. But a few days after, his worship calling on the merchant, found to his cost he had signed a pass for 20*l.* in lieu of a pass to his Sunday friend. In the first heat of passion, he exclaimed, ‘It is that d—d Yankey’s pass!’ which he explained to his banker, and this created a laugh at his worship’s expense that will last his life.”

In the course of his journey, Mr. Harriott afterwards lodged at the house of another tavern-keeper, called Mr. Miles, “who was a judge of the county, and a member of the assembly.” “We set off,” adds he, “at five o’clock in the morning, and after travelling about twelve miles, breakfasted at the Indian Castle, a tavern kept by a Mr. Hudson, who had been a drummer in Burgoyne’s army at the time of its surrender. He married a widow, and is now a man of considerable property, keeping a large store (shop) as well as the tavern. One of the British regimental field pieces was kept in front of his house, with which he celebrated every American rejoicing day. In the same neighbourhood, the widow of General Herkeman (an officer said to be much esteemed by the Americans, in whose cause he fell) lived as a cook-servant to another store-keeper, exhibiting a contrast to Mr. Hudson.”

During his perambulations, this wanderer appears to have found, that a pretty considerable portion of this county consisted of “pine barrens;” that the price of the rich back lands, when cleared, was very high, while labour was both scarce and dear; the produce, too, proved inferior to that of England: but this arises chiefly from bad management.

Having at length discovered that his favourite project of farming on a grand scale could not be accomplished to advantage, he endeavoured to make himself content with seventy-six acres situate near Newport, in Rhode island. Here, at length, he settled; but it soon began to be whispered that he was a "spy," sent over by Mr. Pitt. Of this, he was first informed by Mr. More, the British consul, who himself was a loyalist; and the intelligence was afterwards confirmed by many others. As these suspicions occurred at a period when the English nation was greatly detested by the native Americans, Mr. Harriott, at length, deemed it necessary to withdraw to his own country. He, however, was prevented for a time by an embargo, which was then laid on all the shipping, in consequence of recent occurrences: but at length procured a passage for his family and himself on board the *Britannia* transport, a vessel which was considered as in some measure sacred, by having come hither under a flag of truce.

"At that time," observes he, "no man in America could well know more of their real grievances, and the effect produced on the public mind in disposing it for a war with England, than myself; and in addition to my own private concerns, I conceived, that to convey substantial information to the British ministry, without palliating on one side, or aggravating on the other, would be the best service I could render both countries. Those who are employed by government to gain information, too often shape it to what they think will please. On these various grounds, I resolved to return instantly; but the democrats, in opposition to the governor of the state, the judge, the revenue officers at the port, and principal merchants of this place, assembled tumultuously, and proceeding on board the *Britannia*, unbent her sails, and brought them on shore, struck her masts and yards, and took forcible possession, declaring themselves the best judges whether a ship, coming in under a flag of truce, ought to be detained or not. I hesitated not, however, to engage the whole of the *Britannia's* cabin, and then posted off to Phi-

Philadelphia, with a tender of my services to the British minister there.

“ During this, Mr. G—— was preparing to sail for England on the subject of American complaints. It was more than six hundred miles to Philadelphia and back again, yet I went thither, and returned within a week, ready for embarking, and before the order of the President was obtained for the *Britannia's* permission to sail; — possibly some little delay also arose with a political view, to give Mr. J—— the start. A few days after I sailed for England, and running a race against Mr. J—— the American plenipotentiary, was fortunate enough to arrive in good time to wait on Lord G—— with a concise narrative of facts, without fear, partiality, or prejudice, on a subject, which, from the embargo in America, could be but little known. I hope and believe it was of use, by preparing His Lordship's mind against the meeting with Mr. J—— a few days after; and as the precise mode I suggested for settling the differences was adopted, it matters not with whom it originated, yet I may be allowed to please myself in thinking it was so far serviceable to both countries.”

We now find the Lieutenant once more in “ dear old England,” but as he was without occupation, and destitute of the means of living with any degree of splendour, or perhaps even of comfort, we perceive him again in an unsettled state of mind, “ encompassed,” as he himself expresses it, “ with a complete void.”

In this irksome situation, peculiarly disagreeable to a man of his active and enterprising disposition, he projected and engaged in a speculation, still more romantic than any of his former ones, for purchasing some millions of acres of land in Georgia, in which project he was promised the succour and assistance of some powerful and wealthy persons. On this, embarking along with his eldest son, with his usual promptitude, he sailed for the Bahamas, and landed at Nassau in New Providence.

“ Imagination led me to consider my intended purchase,” observes he, “ as the link of a chain to join the Floridas

(which were to be first wrested by Great Britain from Spain !) with Kentucky, and all the rich tract of back country along the Ohio; and as the western ports were not then given up, and doubts entertained whether they would or not, the connection with Upper Canada would have been easily accomplished, and the United States insulated. Such was my airy castle at that time. How far it would be prudent to attempt it at all, or to make a purchase of not less than ten, and as far as fifteen millions of acres, was to be investigated farther at the Bahamas, or, as it might happen, at South Carolina.

“ On landing at Nassau, I was politely received by the Governor, Lord Dunmore, whose inquisitiveness to learn all the motives of my visit I did not satisfy, though, from my declining some liberal offers of land he made me, he could not be persuaded I had any views to settle in the Bahamas. While there, I was fortunate enough to meet three gentlemen from Georgia, from whom I gathered such information respecting the land, and the price it was to be bought at, (from threepence-halfpenny to five-pence per acre,) as made it unnecessary to go to that State. Congress, I understood, already appeared jealous, and claimed a right to control the sale of those lands. Nothing could be determined on by me, therefore, until that question was decided between Congress and Georgia; and in the event of Georgia succeeding for what they contended, *viz.* an undeniable right to dispose of the state lands in any way they thought best, Philadelphia and New York were the best markets to purchase.”

The failure of one scheme was but the precursor of a new project; and he now, once more, repaired to America, with the view of realising another airy vision.

“ The world,” observes he, “ was again all before me; but the more I travelled, and the greater pains I took to obtain the *summum bonum*, the greater distance I seemed to be from it. My spirits now began to flag, and I wished to find a place of rest. Humbled as I was in my great pursuit, I persevered in my other researches, until chance directed me to a farm on Long Island, having the appearance of answering the purpose

of sitting quietly down, during the remainder of my life, after the struggles I had undergone; trusting that, as my children grew up, there would be no difficulty in procuring situations which might enable them to support themselves with all reasonable comforts: more than this, I now concluded, would not be in my power to do for them. But the sequel will show how much I was disappointed in this reasonable expectation.

“ With the view I have mentioned, I purchased an estate, (a beautiful farm in Long Island,) and sent for my wife and family, determined to give farming in America a fair trial, though on a small scale compared to what I had originally intended. It was a situation as promising in appearance as could be wished; an excellent house which I finished, good land, good water, healthy air, fish, game, wild-fowl, a variety of fruits, all at command, and in abundance. My family were as much delighted with it as myself, and we seriously thought we might here be content and comfortable.

“ The farm contained one hundred and forty acres, about thirty of which were woodland (now an essential article on the Atlantic shores, near maritime towns, though an incumbrance inland); a good sized house, but not finished, fifty feet in front, and thirty-five deep, square chambers and garrets, &c. &c. One half of the land was the richest loam I had seen near the Atlantic shores; the other half middling, but lying so *water-shot*, that with one hundred and fifty yards of a good ditch drain, and a fortnight's work with two teams to remove large stones, I turned twenty acres of a miry swamp into a good meadow. Fruits of many kinds, such as apples, pears, plums, peaches, quinces, cherries, damsons, currants, and raspberries in great abundance from cultivation; there were also strawberries, mulberries, grapes, and walnuts, growing wild, but neither good nor plentiful; springs of the purest water, near the house, never dry, nor ever frozen.

“ The situation was on the west side of a beautiful bay that opened into the sound, whence market boats were continually passing to New York. There were the best oysters I tasted in America; clams of both sorts, and various other

shell-fish, to be gathered with ease from my own shore; eels likewise in abundance, with variety of other fish to be caught in their season, in the bay, and in the Sound. Quantities of wild fowl in the winter, and tolerable shooting of game on land." Thus situate in an earthly paradise, which only cost him 2800*l.* within nineteen miles by land of New York, and with an easy and ready access by sea: may it not be supposed, that after the arrival of his family, he was now both comfortable and happy? But new and unexpected obstacles, it seems, occurred. It was difficult to procure farming servants, even at ten or twelve dollars each a month, exclusive of board and lodging. Nor would they work in any other way, than what they had been accustomed to. On these occasions, they treated the Lieutenant with the most mortifying equality; for as they never called or allowed him to be *master*, they were accustomed when urged to any thing they did not like coolly to observe, "If Mr. H. is not satisfied with the manner we are used to plough, &c. Mr. H. had better settle with us, and get others." They also objected to wetting their feet, even in summer; they could not perform more than one half the work at ditching an Englishman did; "and as to ploughing, two buck-rabbits with a ram's horn would (comparatively speaking) plough the land as well, and an eel draw as straight a furrow. They would neither be directed, nor found fault with, and were consequently discharged."

Our adventurer was now forced to call in "*black help*," being actually reduced to the alternative of either becoming a drudge to his American labourers, or employing negroes, instead of his white servants; and to the former of these he promised freedom gradually, on certain conditions. But when he got his *black help*, his white men from Ireland, &c. refused to eat at the same table, or even in the same room, with the sooty race; and on his attempting to shame them into compliance by his messing with them himself on one occasion, in the field, the European emigrants, as well as native Americans, instantly retired, exclaiming, "Mr. H. might eat with black men if he pleased, but they never would!" To the credit

of the *blacks*, they remained both faithful and grateful; and by their means, the winter was got through, without any other help; after this, however, no white man would engage with him on any terms!

To add to these petty mortifications, he had no society whatsoever; as all his neighbours appear to have been on the alert to thwart him: one indeed, a Mr. Wilkins, whose estate adjoined, attempted to cheat him out of a flock of twenty-eight sheep, which had been driven on his lands by a snow storm; while for such of his children as were now grown up, he could find no suitable employment. In short, he now determined to leave off farming, and return again to England! Yet, with all this fickleness, he does not appear to have been a loser, for he cleared 800*l.* by the sale of his landed property, and might have obtained double that profit had he but waited a little longer.

So inveterate did his hatred to the Americans now become, that he complains of the high prices of bread, potatoes, beef, pork, &c. although it is evident, that as a farmer, he must have profited greatly from the large sums expended on the necessaries of life, which might always have ensured him a ready and advantageous market. He was now eager to communicate his grievances to Mr. Russel from Birmingham, Dr. Priestley, and other voluntary exiles; but although all seemed, according to his statement, to admit the truth of his reasons, yet no one deemed it eligible to follow his example.

Having entered New York during the prevalence of the yellow fever, he found a melancholy death-like silence to prevail around him. The whole time he remained there, but two carts were at work, exclusive of those that were employed in carrying the dead. No apprehensions, however, were felt for himself; for in case of an attack, he was provided with a strong dose of *ipécacuanha*, a medicine which he had before proved so efficaciously at Bencoolen; luckily, however, he had no occasion to put its efficacy to the trial.

Quitting America with a light heart, and high expectations of better success in England, he now crossed the Atlantic for the fourteenth time; and, after a fortunate passage, arrived

in Ireland. After a short stay, he set out for Bristol, where he hired a house for the winter; and soon after was lucky enough to obtain employment for two of his sons, in the naval and military service of the East India Company.

Finding "his heart still whole," our Lieutenant determined to go in search of fresh adventures. Accordingly, he once more resolved to try farming, which he afterwards connected with the plan of an Agricultural Academy; but he could not readily obtain suitable land for the first scheme, and not a single pupil presented himself for the second.

After these failures, he ventured on the ocean of domestic politics, and proved more fortunate! His first effort, in this new line, was to exhibit great zeal for, and to subscribe somewhat largely to the loyalty loan; he next addressed a letter to the Lord Mayor in 1797, containing a project for arming all the inhabitants of the sea-coasts, for which he received the Duke of York's thanks. The volunteer system then attracted his attention, and when the Bank of England suspended payments in cash, he offered proposals for supporting its credit, &c. &c.

His suggestions respecting the erection of masts, and the formation of appropriate signals along the coast, were literally carried into execution; he also appears to have given the first hint relative to the sea and river fencibles; all these were gratuitous, but the plan of the Thames Police, which seems to have originated with him, proved not a little advantageous.

It would appear that about this period, the river Thames was infested to an unusual degree with thieves, and even with pirates; and that the merchants were plundered of their property to an immense extent. To present an effectual remedy to this obvious evil he drew up a plan, which he communicated to the Duke of Portland, then secretary of state for the home department, on the 30th of October 1797. The first estimate, calculated at 14,000*l. per annum*, but afterwards reduced to 8000*l.*, appeared too large; and had not the assistance of Mr. Colquhoun been invoked and obtained, the scheme would have been blasted in *embryo*. That gentleman, by his interest

with Mr. Dundas (afterwards Lord Melville) and the West India merchants, found means to create a new establishment, in which they both found places for themselves. An office was accordingly opened, in the neighbourhood of Wapping, at Midsummer 1798; and the number of persons attached thereto appears to have soon amounted to eighty.

“In the organization, and carrying into complete execution,” observes he, “I need not hesitate in saying, we took a full share. We seized the bull by the horns, and never quitted our hold for upwards of two years. It was a labour not unworthy of Hercules, and we succeeded by our joint efforts, in bringing into reasonable order some thousands of men, who had long considered plunder as a privilege.

“The arm of the law, however, when resolutely and steadily exerted, may be made to work wonders; and it is yet in the recollection of hundreds, if not of thousands of creditable people, that in this instance, the river police has wrought a prodigious reform.”

Soon after the establishment of this office, it was attacked by an immense mob of coal-heavers, &c. &c. On this Lieutenant Harriott assumed the command, and with six or seven of his officers, provided with fire-arms, found means to shoot one or two of the ring-leaders, and keep the rest at bay until the arrival of the neighbouring volunteers.

Thus, after the storms and struggles of an adventurous and eventful life, Mr. Harriott at length enjoyed the satisfaction of having brought his vessel into port; and for many years after, we find him safely moored there, as resident magistrate of the Thames Police Office in the neighbourhood of Wapping.

The even tenour of his days, after the storms and struggles experienced in all the four quarters of the globe, afforded ample time for occupations of various kinds. Amongst others, he conceived the idea of writing his own life; and in 1807-8 actually found means to carry this last project into execution, by the publication of two volumes, 12mo. entitled “Struggles through Life, &c.” This was inscribed to “my affectionate children, and grand-children.” “To

you, my sincerely beloved children," he remarks, "I dedicate these memoirs, as to those whom I love and esteem more than I do any other on earth. This you well know, and all who are, or wish to be thought, affectionate parents, will readily give me credit for my sincerity.

"One of my strongest inducements for undertaking a work, to which I feel myself however but too incompetent, is to meet your wishes, by recording what would otherwise most probably be soon forgotten. I feel assured likewise, that none will set a greater value upon it; and most devoutly do I pray unto Almighty God, that the memoirs of my Struggles through Life may prove instructive in guarding you against the errors and follies which they record; and teach you, that you ought never to despair, but place a firm reliance on the Providence of God, and his blessing on your own exertions."

In 1808 we find him asserting, "that though somewhat shattered and unfit for sailing far under a roving commission, his timbers are yet sound, and still capable of harbour duty." About that same period, he exhibited the superiority of "an horizontal or capstan-bar motion," for working ships' pumps at sea; while he invented two fire-escapes, for saving life and property on land. Five of his children were grown up at that period, and his own wants appeared at once bounded and supplied by a moderate competency.

It was thus that old age seemed to pass gaily, and even usefully away, until a cloud rising all on a sudden above the horizon burst at length on his devoted head. It is not necessary to enter into particulars. Some of the persons under him are said to have made certain disclosures, which, whether well or ill founded, in the end bereaved him of the countenance of his former patrons. Notwithstanding this he remained in the house attached to his office, where he was doomed to be overwhelmed with a variety of diseases, which for a time nearly deprived him of his senses. Thus terminated a life, replete with adventures, speculations, and fortunate as well as adverse incidents, on the 13th of January

1817, at the advanced age of 72, after a very long, painful, and protracted illness.

LIST OF THE WORKS

Of the late John Harriott, Esq.

1. Tables for the Preservation and Improvement of Landed Estates, and for the Increase of the Growth of Timber on them.

2. Struggles through Life, 3 vols. 12mo. 1st edit. 1808
3d ditto 1816.

No. II.

THE REV. WILLIAM BELOE, B.D. F.S.L.

RECTOR OF ALLHALLOWS, LONDON-WALL; PREBENDARY OF PANCRAS,
IN ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, AND PREBENDARY OF LINCOLN.

[*With an Analysis of his principal Works.*]

THE subject of the present memoir was a writer of considerable celebrity. Indeed, he devoted his whole life to literature, and his multifarious labours were not entirely thrown away on a barren and unproductive soil. A period of near forty years, during which he was almost constantly before the public; and in the course of which he edited, translated, or composed more than forty volumes, afforded great facilities, in respect to style, composition, and information. Some fortunate occurrences too, were seized upon with equal avidity and success; while the late war with France supplied ample materials for his pen, and finally, produced both notice and preferment.

William Beloe was born in 1756, at Norwich, in the county of Norfolk. His father was an eminent tradesman in that ancient city, where, after struggling with a variety of difficulties, he at length carried on, for many years, a very extensive and lucrative traffic. For such an ancestor, none of his descendants have occasion to blush; on the contrary, one anecdote concerning him reflects lustre on his character, and cannot, even at this distant period, but afford gratification to his offspring. Unassisted either by fortune or education, he entered life in a very humble station, and consequently, under many disadvantages. His first efforts proved unavailing, unsuccessful, and ruinous. Notwithstanding his acknowledged industry, so unfortunate did he prove, that at the end of a few years, he was compelled to divide his effects among his creditors! Un-

daunted by events, over which he had no possible control, and respecting which he was allowed to be blameless, the elder Mr. Beloe commenced business a second time; and by persevering assiduity, and unwearied attention, was at length enabled to perform one of the noblest acts of which human nature is capable. He now convoked his creditors, and gratuitously paid the balance due to each, amidst the plaudits of all.*

Perfectly aware of the advantages to be derived from a good education, the father determined from the first to bestow one on his son. William accordingly commenced his career at a little school in his native city, whence he was removed to another, the superintendant of which undertook to teach him the classics. From the latter, he took his first flight to a remote province; for his parents, either actuated by a laudable economy, or, what is still more probable, by the reputation of a most respectable master, determined to acquire for their son all the benefits that could possibly be derived from his tuition.

The lad was accordingly placed under the care of the Rev. Matthew Raine, then resident at Hartforth, near Richmond, in the county of York. This worthy gentleman appears to have educated the children of others, as well as his own, with no common degree of success: indeed, it is sufficient but to mention the names of his sons, in order to be convinced of this fact. Of these, the late Dr. Raine, after acquiring a high reputation both for intellectual and acquired knowledge, died some years since master of the Charter-house; while Jonathan, a younger brother, has been long since called to the bar, and sat in more than one parliament for the borough of Newport in Cornwall.

But it will assuredly prove most satisfactory to permit the pupil himself to describe this period of his own life; and he has happily left us in possession of materials sufficient for that purpose.

“ One of the earliest things I recollect of myself is, that I had a certain pruriency of parts, which induced my friends

* See Gentleman's Mag. vol. lxi. p. 402. Mr. Beloe, sen, died at Norwich in 1791. His wife, a woman of the warmest piety, the most active benevolence, and the most mild and amiable manners, survived him many years.

to suppose, that there was something in me, beyond the level of boys of my age. I fear, however, that the harvest did not correspond with the promise of the spring; or rather, perhaps, that the partiality of parents and relatives was in the first instance delusive. This, however, was not their fault, for they certainly bestowed on me the best education which their means and opportunities afforded.

“Of the first schools to which I was put, I remember very little; I fear that I did not learn very much: at length I was told that I was to go to a Latin school. I retain the strong impression, that this intelligence electrified my whole frame. A train was laid to my ambition, and I had already conceived myself at the very summit of literary honour and distinction. But I was bitterly disappointed; my instructor knew nothing of the matter; he began at the wrong end, and I was plunged into the midst of a crabbed Latin author, without even knowing my accidence. For a time, however, I kept blundering on; conscious to myself that I was making no progress, and having credit with my master for a large portion of dulness. How long this misuse of valuable hours might have continued, I cannot say; not improbably till I had arrived at the dignity of pounding a mortar, spreading plasters, and compounding medicines. Accident at length removed me to a wider, a fairer, and a more promising field. I must, however, do myself the justice of declaring, that on since looking around me, in a circle not extremely limited, I have never been enabled to recognize any of the individuals, in whose society I dog’s-eared the Colloquies of Corderius, and bewildered myself in the fables of Phædrus.”

His father, as has already been mentioned, now interposed, and happily for the son, placed him under better auspices.

“An opportunity presented itself,” continues he, “of removing me to a remote province, where good education, good air, and kind treatment, came recommended under the sanction of a desirable economy. My hopes expanded, and my ardour increased. I loved my parents, dearly loved them; but I had a certain portion of ambition, which stimulated me

to the attempt of rising above the situation in which circumstances had placed me; and I had discernment enough to see that this could not be done by remaining where I was.

“ I left home, therefore, with many golden and flattering dreams, and I arrived at the place of my destination, when the Midsummer vacation was about half expended. I had an imposing sprightliness of manner, and a conciliating good humour. The first obtained me a credit which I did not deserve; the latter procured the kindness which, as a stranger, I wanted. On being questioned as to what I had read, it appeared that I was seemingly familiar with various books, which intimate a considerable advancement in knowledge. The master predicted that I should be a feather in his cap; my dame was certain that I should cut a figure.

“ Black Monday at length arrived — the boys assembled. From what they had heard, some were jealous of me, others viewed me askance, and all kept at a distance. I at length stood forth. Alas! it was found that I knew nothing. My master was at first angry, and thought me wilfully perverse. He left me for a while; then came to me again — soothed and cheered me. I knew nothing. What was to be done? Instead of being placed in one of the higher classes, the master most judiciously determined, that I should begin again, from the very first rudiments. This was hitting the right nail on the head. Every thing went on smoothly. At first I proceeded slowly — perhaps with a little sullenness; but I soon found that I was progressively getting that which I had not — knowledge.”

This appears to have been a happy period of our author's life; and he records his feelings and his enjoyments with a certain degree of enthusiasm.

“ I look back to these enchanting scenes with no ordinary satisfaction. A momentary bliss is imparted by the recollection. Ah! why should they return no more. Then it was, that the heart, untainted by vice, and uncorrupted by the world, expanded itself to the impression of Nature's beauties; when the mind, full of hope and ardour, thirsting for improve-

ment, which was every day obtained, indulged in lovely golden dreams of fancy, with all the accompaniments of sylph and fairy creation.

“I very soon imbibed a love for reading, which almost instantaneously became a passion. I was voracious. The difficulty of satisfying my appetite in an obscure village, of a distant province remote from any market-town, seemed but to increase it. The first beginnings of a literary life do not always constitute the least interesting part of it. Memory delights to trace a few incidents at this period, the narration of which will at least amuse myself.

“I hoarded my scanty allowance to subscribe to a circulating library, which I heard was to be found at some four miles distance. It was occasionally expedient to send hither, to supply the domestic exigencies of the family. I offered myself as a volunteer for all messages, errands, and parcels; and I returned laden with the produce of this contaminated and contaminating receptacle of trash.

“I had, however, a friend, whose kindness and judgment preserved me from any mighty mischief. My master had a daughter. It is not impossible that she may yet live; nor is it utterly improbable that she may peruse this narrative. Be it so. I do not less willingly pay the debt of gratitude. This young lady distinguished me above my fellows; cheered me; encouraged my desire for books; directed me in the choice of them; nor did I venture to read any without the sanction of her awful fiat.”

The first work that most strongly excited young Beloe's curiosity, and interested his sensibility, was “the Foundling.” He hated “Blifil” with no common degree of dislike; he formed an intimacy with “Partridge;” he loved “Sophia” with rapturous extravagance; and he complacently accompanied “dear wicked Tom” to the nuptial altar. Pope's translation of the Iliad also appears, about the same time, to have attracted no small portion of his attention and applause. A worthy gentleman in the neighbourhood, pleased with the ardour of the boy's enthusiasm, supplied this and many other

productions of a similar nature. He was a man of taste and talents; and his collection, to which recourse was now frequently had, proved not a little acceptable.

At this period our youthful *Tyro* attempted versification, but without effect; for although his fancy was excursive, and his head full of poetical imagery, yet he found himself utterly incapable of poetical composition. The Muses, however, whom he now wooed in vain, afterwards came unsolicited; and in one short day, he translated an heroic epistle from Ovid, which was at length printed, and approved of by his friends.

It has already been stated, that the elder Mr. Beloe had conceived an idea of giving a good education to his son. But it is probable, that his ambition extended no further at first than to enable him to gain his livelihood by compounding drugs and feeling pulses, either in the city of Norwich, or some of the adjacent villages. Mr. Raine, with whom the boy appears to have been a favourite, at the end of a few years intimated, however, to his fond parents, that he had perceived certain indications of talents and good qualities that pointed to higher objects. Disdaining all paltry and selfish considerations, this worthy divine and honest teacher accordingly recommended, that William should be removed, first to a great school, and finally to the University. A kind father easily became a convert to such pleasing and flattering propositions; measures were accordingly adopted for this purpose. Such a sudden change does not appear to have been at first very gratifying to the object of it. He perceived with reluctance that his new elysium was not doomed to last; he was now to bid adieu to the fields, the woods, the streams, through and near which he had so often wandered with romantic and unwearied step; without any companion but his own desultory thoughts and unsubstantial visions. At a latter period of his life, his memory retraced the days of his early youth, and he was still ready to exclaim, "Accept, beloved village, my tribute of unaffected gratitude; I left your plains with anguish—I remember them with ecstasy!"

The boy now returned to the abode of his parents at Nor-

wich, where he was not suffered to remain long idle. The little village of Stanmore, in Middlesex, was at this period honoured with the residence of Dr. Samuel Parr, who, after having stood high in the ranks of literature for more than half a century, is at this moment pre-eminently conspicuous as the most accomplished scholar of the age in which he lives. Thither young Beloe was immediately sent.

“I was now placed,” observes he, “under the care of a great dragon of literature. My sensations on my first arrival at a scene so novel and so strange cannot easily be expressed. I was long and seriously unhappy. I had much to learn, to arrive at the level of those who were now my associates; and so much to unlearn, to avoid derision and contempt, that my situation was for a time truly pitiable. I was humble, retired, and as they thought vulgar; while to me, they all appeared insolent, rude, and intolerable. I had not been taught, or taught imperfectly, to make Latin verses. This was my first labour, and arduous it was. I conquered however the difficulty by perseverance; and became progressively reconciled to my situation. I cannot say more, for perhaps the period of my life which I look back upon with the smallest degree of satisfaction, is the time consumed in this seminary. Perhaps I should qualify the term *consumed*. I became a good scholar in the ordinary acceptation of the word, but I by no means passed my time to my satisfaction, and lost, as I then thought, and still believe, no unimportant portion of time in learning to unravel the complicated perplexities of Greek metre, which after all I very imperfectly understood. I could, however, at the time of my departure, compose in Latin with tolerable ease; read any Latin author without difficulty; and Greek with no great degree of labour. At this place and time, when probably the foundation of my literary character was laid, I have not half so much to remember, at all deserving commemoration, as I have of the hours spent at my remote but beloved village.”

It was about this period that our author began to study the French language. He received his first lessons it seems

“ from a raw-boned Scotchman, whose dialect was as much like the Parisian, as the barbarous vocabulary of Oonalashka resembles the polished language of Moscow.”

In consequence of some very reprehensible act of indelicacy committed in the apartment of one of the upper boys, but of which Mr. Beloe, who had been accused, declared himself on his honour to be entirely “innocent,” he left this seminary. The truth we believe is, that he had unluckily made himself exceedingly obnoxious to his companions; and we have lately learned, that a deputation from the first form, — a circumstance very unusual indeed, — carried up *articles of impeachment* to the head-master. This gentleman, whom he denominates his “Orbilius,” apprehensive of a persecution, kindly advised the father by letter to remove him. He was accordingly recalled, and once more spent some time beneath the paternal roof at Norwich. As nothing was proved on one side, or admitted on the other, and as after the lapse of many long years, Mr. Beloe persevered in his original assertion, no possible blame is here meant to be insinuated.

It was soon after this important epoch that he first became acquainted with Porson. They met at the house of a worthy clergyman, who appears to have encouraged both in their respective pursuits, and to have treated them with no common degree of kindness. The latter was but a mere boy at that period; yet high hopes were already entertained of him. He discovered on this occasion, however, the greatest talents for *silence*; for he was invincibly mute and reserved, and would not enter into any colloquial communication whatsoever. Notwithstanding this, he made a great impression on the mind of Beloe, who was older than him, and had sagacity enough to discover “that he was no vulgar boy.” He found his suppositions confirmed and strengthened on visiting his native village. There he introduced himself to his first teacher, who acted in the double capacity of schoolmaster and exciseman, in addition to which he kept a shop. The old gentleman was flattered with the curiosity of the stranger, and indulged it in a very laconic but comprehensive observation. “There,”

said he, "is where Dick used to sit, and this is his slate; but he soon got beyond me!" The object of this praise afterwards assented to the veracity of his instructor's information.

Mr. Beloe was now sent to the University of Cambridge, and matriculated at Ben'et College. It appears that about this period, (1766,) an allowance of four-score pounds a-year was deemed sufficient for the expenses of a commoner, and 200*l.* for a gentleman-commoner of Baliol. Those of one individual, a contemporary of the subject of this memoir, did not exceed 40*l.*

One of the first employments of this "freshman," after being entered, appears to have been a poetical act of revenge, for the supposed neglect of two young men of his own college, of higher prospects and pretensions than himself. Accordingly, in a thoughtless moment, he inscribed an epigram in one of the Chapel prayer-books, so apposite, that it could be applied to nobody else, and so severe, as unavoidably to provoke their indignation and resentment. This created a party against him here also, which produced indeed a temporary mischief, but was accompanied by permanent advantage. Being left in a great measure to himself, he thus avoided many provocations to expense and dissipation, — many scenes of youthful thoughtlessness and folly, — so that being compelled to fly to his books for comfort and consolation, his mind was soothed, enlightened, and improved.

As there was a great number of distinguished scholars at this period in the University, Mr. Beloe did not rank so high as he might have otherwise done: it appears, however, that he obtained a prize for Latin poetry while an under-graduate; and that he applied himself with no common degree of attention to his studies in general. He also seems to have attained a competent knowledge of mathematics at an early age, by means of a "Throwster," in his native city; an acute, intelligent, and able man, who soon made him as well acquainted with Euclid, and simple Equations, as it was necessary to be, and he was doubtless greatly indebted to his lessons, as they at least smoothed the rugged ascents of science.

Soon after this, Mr. Pitt appeared at Cambridge. He had even at that early period, we are told, a certain austerity of aspect, and stiffness of manner, by no means calculated to conciliate a stranger; but his private life was exemplary; he was at once remarkable for the plainness of his dress, and the regularity of his habits; he lived also at an inconsiderable expense, which doubtless produced the disdainful sneers of inferior men, who deemed the honourable and necessary economy of the son of Earl Chatham disgraceful to the peerage!

Of Dr. Glynn, the subject of this memoir was accustomed to speak in a high degree of commendation, and also of Dr. Prettyman, now Bishop of Lincoln; but Dr. Watson, who then presided as *Regius Professor* in the Divinity schools, does not appear to have been a great favourite.

At length Mr. Beloe took the degree of B. A. in 1779, at which period he was the senior member of his college. Soon after this, he left his *Alma Mater*, and returned to Norwich, where he spent some time with his family, which had increased in number, opulence, and respectability. Luckily for him, Dr. Parr, under whom he had acquired a classical taste, resided there at this moment. He had left Stanmore, whither he had retired on failing in his designs on the mastership of Harrow, and was just elected head-master of the Free School of that city. It is not a little creditable to Mr. Beloe, and indeed to both parties, that his *quondam* instructor soon after his arrival invited him to become his assistant, and he accordingly acted for some considerable time in that capacity, for in this situation he continued during the space of three whole years.

Mr. Beloe was now induced to think of an early settlement in life. The object of his choice was Miss Rix*, a respectable young lady, from the capital: their attachment was mutual; no sordid interests entered into the calculation; and there is every reason to believe, that this union contributed to the happiness of both.

* Mrs. Beloe was the daughter of the late W. Rix, Esq., who, for many years, enjoyed the respectable and profitable office of Town-Clerk of the city of London. This lady, by whom he appears to have been greatly beloved, survives her husband.

A marriage, coupled with the prospect of a family, of course gave a new stimulus to the industry of the husband; and to the church alone he had been taught to look up for a permanent provision. He was already in deacon's, and having soon after obtained priest's, orders, he became curate of Earlham; and it is not a little creditable to him, that when a vacancy occurred, he was appointed to that living. This little vicarage was his sole preferment; and the emoluments were not sufficient for his increasing wants on one hand, while on the other there was no possible hope of advancement in the obscurity of a provincial residence. He doubtless thought with Gray; and was not a little consoled, perhaps, by the repetition of his verses:

“ Full many a gem of purest ray serene,
 The dark unfathom'd caves of ocean bear;
 Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,
 And waste its sweetness in the desert air!”

Mr. Beloe, to avoid this disastrous presage, left Norfolk and repaired to London, which he already viewed as the mart of genius, the patroness of talents, and the habitual resort of the worthy, the learned, and the great. He doubtless hoped, as has already been hinted, for a permanent livelihood, and future advancement in the clerical profession; but he had also great confidence in his own industry, and that facility which he had learned both from habit and application, to wield his pen on most subjects. Accordingly, immediately after his arrival in the capital, he began to write for the booksellers, with whom he appears, during many years, to have been more frequently and deeply connected than almost any other man of his time, the late Dr. William Thomson * of Kensington excepted. He now regularly frequented the shop of “honest Tom Payne” at the Mews-Gate, and of Mr. Peter Elmsley in the Strand. In the course of his visits at these two places, he fell in with the late Mr. Cracherode, Mr. George Stevens,

* See An. Obituary, vol. ii. p. 74.

Messrs. Malone, Windham, Lord Stormont, Sir John Hawkins, Lord Spencer, Mr. T. Grenville, Dean afterwards Bishop Dampier, Mr. Townley, Colonel Stanley, &c. &c. He also renewed his acquaintance with Mr. Porson, and appears to have continued in unrestrained intercourse with him until the death of that singular and celebrated man.

In due time, young Mr. Beloe obtained admission to the Blue Stocking Club, the principal personages belonging to which, at that period, were Mrs. Carter and Mrs. Montague, Sir Charles Blagden, the Miss Baillies, Lady Louisa Macdonald, the Miss Berrys, Lady Herries, Mrs. John Hunter, Mr. now Sir Everard Home, Aleppo Russel, &c. Here, too, he got acquainted with Horace Walpole, son of the minister of that name, and who, on the death of his nephew, succeeded to the title of Earl of Orford. If we mistake not greatly indeed, Mr. Beloe was courted and flattered by this singular man, to whom he was first introduced by the late Mr. Keates, and became a frequent visitor both in Berkeley-Square and at Strawberry Hill. But our author was accustomed to complain, that His Lordship's dinners were "scanty," and his "pudding neither over large nor over solid." * We have also been told by him, that he washed his breakfast service of very beautiful Dresden china, which none of his servants were ever permitted to touch, with his own hand! The chalk stones, which had become protuberant, at length rendered it difficult for Mr. W. to write; and he was accustomed to hold his pen between his first and second finger. He was, of course, a martyr to the gout; but appears to have obtained immediate relief, on plunging his feet, as was customary with him, into cold water.

Previously to the war with France, Mr. Beloe, in consequence of his *bibliographical* connections, appears to have frequented a house, where he occasionally saw, and became acquainted with, Mr. Henley, the Drs. Price and Aiken, Mrs. Barbauld, Dr. Gregory, and Mrs. Woolstoncroft.

* See the *Sexagenarian*, vol. i. p. 278.

Posterior to the event alluded to above, our Author embraced different views, and courted the society of persons of a different description, both in point of influence and political opinion.

At the house of Mrs. Yates, in Stafford Row, to whom he was introduced soon after his arrival in town, he became acquainted with many other distinguished characters of that period; for there he met Arthur Murphy, Home the author of Douglas, Cumberland, Hooke the translator of Ariosto, Mr. Adams of the Adelphi, old Macklin, Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. Lennox, &c. &c. It is rather a melancholy reflection, that not only the hostess, but all her guests, have long since paid the last awful debt of nature!

At a maturer period of life, and if we mistake not, on account of the zeal displayed by him in his political principles and labours, he became known to Archbishop Moore, the Bishops Porteus, Dampier, Tomline, and Burgess. With the former of these, he appears to have been a great favourite; nay, His Grace proclaimed himself his friend, and testified his regard by something still better than words. He was also, on certain occasions, the "almoner" of the late Bishop of London, who appears to have been so timid and irresolute, as to be actually affected by a paragraph in the newspapers, or an anonymous letter, either of which would suddenly alter his most determined intentions.

Yet, notwithstanding all that occurred towards the latter part of his life, there is good reason to believe that Mr. Beloe commenced his career in the city under far different auspices, with entirely different views, and in a very different class of society — under the auspices of Mr. Alderman Townshend of Bruce Castle, and of the Aldermen Sawbridge and Oliver. He was then accustomed to spend many very agreeable hours with the Doctors Price, Priestley, and Kippis; with Mr. John Horne Tooke, Major Cartwright, Dr. Disney, and Mrs. Catharine Macauley; in short, he was accustomed to state, that it was his fate, in consequence of family engagements, to be thrown, during the heat of the American war, amidst "a crowd of

patriots." "Young and inexperienced," adds he, "dazzled with the name of liberty, confounded by subtleties of argument, which, if I could not accurately analyse, I was still unable to confute; and lastly, with the prospect placed before me, of ease and independence, can it excite surprise, that I should get entangled in a net, of which the meshes were at the same time so fine as to elude detection, and too strong to allow of escape?"

It soon became obvious, however, that "ease and independence" were not to be obtained by the countenance of men, who possessed no influence in the state, and were generally in open hostility to His Majesty's ministers. The revolution that took place in 1789, in a neighbouring kingdom, of course alarmed the members of the cabinet, as well as the bishops, the grandees, and the great landholders. The press was at that critical moment, and had long been, chiefly under the direction of the Dissenters, who either affected or possessed great liberality in respect to every thing connected both with religion and politics. It was deemed necessary, therefore, either to cry or write these down, and at the same time to raise up in their stead a new class of authors, addicted to "Church and King doctrines," as was the phrase of that day.

Mr. Beloe was bold, ardent, and enthusiastic. He had a numerous and encreasing family; he was possessed neither of hereditary nor of acquired fortune; and he had chiefly lived for some years antecedent by the produce of his pen. He and another respectable clergyman* accordingly are said to have undertaken a Review, devoted to the interests of the party then in power. This is termed by the former in his last work his *Opus Magnum*, and indeed it produced the patronage and countenance of many great personages, both in Church and State. "There was a time in England," observes he, "and a dire time it was, when the contagion of the French revolution had so infected our purer atmosphere, that the dis-

* The Rev. Archdeacon Nares, said to be the original Editor of the "British Critic."

loyal, ill-designing, and more profligate part of the community dared to use the language of violence, and of menace, to overawe and intimidate those whose sentiments they knew to be adverse to their own; who had the presumption to prophesy, that 'Church and State prejudices were coming to a speedy issue in this country;' who had the insolence to use all their efforts to check and suppress the circulation of what the honest advocates of truth and order wrote and published in vindication of their sentiments; and even proceeded so far as to hold out threats to the individuals themselves, whom they affected, with equal absurdity and impertinence, to denominate 'Alarmists.'

"A sevenfold shield was wanted, beneath the protection of which the poisonous and insidious darts of the assailants might be repelled, and the weapons of those who fought for the good old cause might be wielded with boldness and due effect.

"Before this, the channels of communication with the public were pre-occupied by a faction; the pure streams of truth were either obstructed in their progress, or contaminated in the very source; the representations exhibited of things as they actually were, by the faithful pencils of loyalty and true patriotism, were misrepresented, defaced, defamed, and treated with every mark of ignominy. This powerful shield was at length produced; it was formed with no ordinary skill and labour, and proved of no common strength. From this auspicious moment, matters began to assume a very different aspect. Religion and loyalty were enabled to defy, and to rise victorious over infidelity and anarchy. The strong clear voice of truth was heard, and virtue triumphed.

"The subject is seducing; and memory lingers with pride and fondness on the eventful period. Public gratitude followed the manifestation of public benefit. The individuals who most distinguished themselves in the effectual extension of this shield, as well as by the ardour, and fortitude, and dexterity with which they used the weapons entrusted to them by their country, were not suffered to go without their

reward. But the most grateful of all distinctions were the praises of such men as the venerable Archbishop Moore; the protection, and countenance, and friendship of a Pitt, of Bishops Barrington, Porteus, Tomline; the courtesies of a Windham; and the friendship of a Loughborough."

The last of these great personages is represented as wholly unlike his predecessor Thurlow; "on the contrary, his manners," we are told, "were conciliating and agreeable, and there was a kindness in his manner of granting a favour, which greatly enhanced its value. He would often say, when he gave away preferment, and more particularly to those whose merit was their only recommendation to him, "Go to my secretary, and desire him to prepare the presentation for my *fiat* immediately; or I shall have some Duke or great man make application, whom I shall not be able to refuse."

Mr. Beloe appears to have enjoyed the confidence of this nobleman while Chancellor, and to have been accustomed occasionally to read to him. He praises His Lordship for his acuteness, sagacity, and all the best powers of intellect. "He was also a most polished gentleman; he bore his high honours without insolence, and without oppressing his inferiors by an affected condescension, conciliating all who approached him by his affability and graciousness of manner."

But it may not be here improper to return to and trace the particulars of that literary career, which led to such powerful connections. It has been already stated, that Mr. Beloe had long kept up an intercourse with booksellers, by means of whom his productions first found their way to the press, and then to the public. His earliest connection was with a shopkeeper of this description at Norwich, whom he represents as a "facetious, jolly, honest sort of body;" and to him his first work was consigned. After manifold discussions, doubts, and difficulties, as the author had no money, and the bookseller no inclination to incur any great risk, it was agreed, that in case of loss, the young clergyman should pay the moiety of it by such instalments as his means might permit. "Who shall attempt," observes the man of letters, "to describe the

exultation and self-complacency which followed the definitive arrangement, concerning a *brochure* of less than fifty pages? Who but he, who inflamed by the ambition of authorship, practises for the first time of his life the mysterious characters of the Printer, (the *deles*, the *stets*, the *transfers*, *N. P. bring down*, &c.) and for the first time contemplates the harbinger of that awful charta clypea a proof in the hand of the devil?"

It may be questioned, whether when our great and venerable painter West rushing from the forests of his native America, to enjoy the splendid glories of the Vatican, first beheld the Belvidere Apollo with greater enthusiasm, than Mr. B. experienced when anxiously expecting his approach, he ran to meet the devil at his door. Alas! he little knew the sea of troubles into which he was about rashly to plunge. His imagination did not present to him any thing to 'grieve his heart,' like the apparitions which disturbed Macbeth, in long succession; "a crabbed publisher, a mean bookseller, a fraudulent bookseller, a sneaking bookseller, or, what is as troublesome as any of the rest, a coxcomb bookseller," &c.

"He never anticipated those 'solemn and afflicting' moments of care and anguish, when the repose and indulgence necessary after severe intellectual fatigue were to be hastily and abruptly interrupted by the appearance of a terrific spectre, begrimed by the Printer's ink, and vociferating the words so torturing to an author's ear, 'more copy!'"

At length his first work made its appearance, and after panting for many weeks with expectation; he found the following short decision on its merits, in the latter part of the monthly catalogue of one of these "Lunar Oracles," called Reviews:

"This is a work not entirely without merit, but it is evidently the production of a youthful author, who will write better when he shall have read more."

In a very short time the prudent bookseller produced the account, and after charging for advertisements, paper, print-

ing, and cancels, the author obtained the nett sum of thirteen shillings and eight-pence!

On his coming to town, Mr. Beloe commenced a correspondence with the Gentleman's Magazine; and appears to have obtained a handsome set of books from Mr. Urban, as a present for a prose essay that appeared in that journal. But there is reason to believe that he first cultivated poetry; and soon after leaving college, printed an Ode to Miss Boscawen. At a very early period of his life, he also translated a Ballad from the Spanish into Latin hexameters and pentameters, of which the following is an English version:

“ For me my fair a wreath has wove,
 “ Whose rival flowers in union meet,
 “ Oft as she kissed the gift of love,
 “ Her breath gave sweetness to the sweet.
 “ A bee beneath a damask rose
 “ Had crept the liquid dew to sip,
 “ But lesser sweets the thief foregoes,
 “ And fixes on Louisa's lip.
 “ Then tasting all the bloom of spring,
 “ Waked by the ripening breath of May,
 “ Th' ungrateful spoiler left his sting,
 “ And with the honey flew away.”

This last is from the pen of David Garrick; and it would have been highly desirable to have inserted the Latin translation, could it have been readily obtained.

At the commencement of the French Revolution, our author was not backward, as has been already hinted, to render himself serviceable in the “good old cause,” as he was accustomed to term it. He accordingly composed a work entitled “Brief Memoirs of the chief of the French Regicides,” for the materials of which he had obtained access to a variety of curious and perhaps authentic documents. But his bookseller became alarmed at the title-page; and it was therefore changed into “Brief

Memoirs of the Leaders of the French Revolution." He afterwards composed a waggish sort of parody, or rather commentary, on "Paine's Rights of Man;" and this his publisher wholly declined; but he became less shy after the declaration of war against France.

Anterior to this period, Mr. Beloe had obtained a certain degree of reputation by his translation of Herodotus, which has already passed through three large editions. The second was dedicated to the Right Reverend Beilby Porteus, then Bishop of London, who returned this compliment by one of a still more substantial kind. The author very modestly observes on this occasion, that when he published the first impression, "he was an obscure individual, and did not presume to inscribe it to any one." "I am proud and happy," adds he, "to have this opportunity of expressing my gratitude for the friendship with which Your Lordship has for many years honoured me; and for the warm and generous kindness I have often experienced from you in circumstances of great perplexity and sorrow."

In his preface he congratulates himself on his success; and intimates the pleasing emotions of an author, who has ascended the hill, the approach to which seemed so steep and difficult. He must have been a favourite with many readers, and endured by more; his labour has not been lost, and more or less reputation must be attached to his name. "I am not unwilling to acknowledge," adds he, "that when the first edition of this book was published, I laboured under various difficulties, and I dismissed it to the world with the consciousness, that although I had bestowed much time and great labour upon the work, it contained various inaccuracies and defects, beyond my ability to remove, or my opportunity to supply. During the progress of that time which has elapsed in the disposal of a very considerable impression, my powers of correcting various errors, and of making various important additions, have been extended and improved. The present edition, therefore, appears certainly with fewer imperfections, and, let me be permitted to hope, with many valuable accessions.

“The late discoveries made in Africa, by Park, Browne, Hornemann, and others, and the familiar knowledge of Egypt, which has been obtained, since the invasion of that country by the French, have likewise contributed in no small degree to illustrate many obscurities, and to supply much important information. To these I have not been inattentive, but have every where inserted such new matter as I conceived would be most acceptable and most useful to the English reader.

“But I must not pass without notice, nor indeed without a proper tribute of acknowledgment, the new edition of the French translation of Herodotus, by the venerable Larcher. It appears that the first edition of my translation had not come into his hands, until he was about to put a finishing hand to his last work. But it is no small source of gratification to me, to be spoken of in terms of commendation by a man, whose version of Herodotus into French is perhaps the most perfect work of the kind that ever was produced. It is entitled to equal praise, whether we consider the elegance and felicity of the translation itself, or the profound and various learning, acute criticism, and comprehensive knowledge, displayed in the notes. I cannot dismiss the subject of Larcher without expressing my delight and admiration at the candour and frankness with which he acknowledges and corrects certain errors and opinions on the subject of religion, and religious history, which alone deformed his first edition.

“My thanks at the same time are due to various persons; and first of all to Major Rennell, who has condescended to make my translation of Herodotus the ground-work of a publication far beyond my praise. Whoever shall hereafter attempt to read Herodotus, without the aid of Major Rennell’s most able and excellent production, will have but a very limited knowledge of the author. It will be perceived that I have perpetually availed myself of this writer’s remarks and elucidations. But it is not to Major Rennell’s public labours alone that I am indebted. I have consulted him in various perplexities, and have solicited his opinions on numerous occasions, and his communications on all have been prompt, kind, and satisfactory.”

In the introduction to the third edition, Mr. Beloe observes, that although Herodotus has been dignified by courtesy “with the title of father of history, yet he has been treated with some neglect by the English literati. While Thucydides and Xenophon,” adds he, “have been naturalized among us in correct and elegant translations, this historian, the first remaining link of that important chain, has hitherto been represented only by Littlebury.”

“I shall now conclude this address, by which I hope the reader will be convinced that I offer him an useful work; and one executed with the spirit of a man who wishes to serve the public, and to promote the cause of literature. The labour of almost three years is now submitted to his judgment; for which, though I have not conscious dignity enough to dismiss it without any apprehension, I request no further indulgence than candour will naturally bestow on a work of difficult execution; I have done my best, and must abide the consequences. Avocations, cares, and ill health, I have had, in common with others: but these are so inseparable from human life, that they ought to be supposed in every estimate of labour. It has been remarked by critics of deserved eminence and popularity, that the perfections and beauties of a translation are usually, without reserve, referred to the merit of the original work: while all defects and imperfections are heaped upon the shoulders of the poor translator. To this common lot of my brethren I also very willingly submit; nor can there perhaps be two authors more likely to justify such decisions than Herodotus and his translator.

“Had I been aware how much of my time would be occupied by this undertaking, I should probably have shrunk from it. Now it is completed, whether I shall again venture upon that perilous ocean, where many a braver heart than mine has trembled, will depend perhaps on the degree of approbation, which the present adventure shall obtain from my impartial and judicious countrymen.”

Prefixed to this work is a short but elaborate life of twenty pages; and it must be owned, that the translation is no small

proof of the author's critical knowledge of the original text ; in addition to which we ought not to forget his unwearied industry. Nor can it be denied, that the numerous notes exhibit frequent proofs, both of learning and research.

Soon after this, the assistance of our Author was invoked in the translation of "Alciphron's Letters;" a work which had been commenced by Mr. Mouro. The latter portion, together with the "Essay on the Parasites of Greece," were solely effected by his pen.

Mr. Beloe appears to have imbibed a taste for the French language, and certain it is, that he delighted greatly in the literature of that country. Among other works, he translated "Joseph," by Bitaubé; "The Arabian Nights' Entertainments," from the version of M. de Langles, &c. &c. He also, about the same time, published a miscellaneous volume, consisting of poems, classical extracts, and Oriental eclogues. The "Res Angusta Domi" is the best apology, if any be wanted, for such various and such numerous publications. He himself has significantly observed in a posthumous work, that "young children must have crowdy!"

But, perhaps, his most advantageous employment were not the productions of his own, but the editing of other men's labours. Having at length acquired a considerable degree of skill and celebrity, he was frequently employed in preparing for the press a variety of considerable works; of these, he afterwards corrected the proofs, and superintended the whole for publication.

In the translation of Aulus Gellius, Dr. Parr, notwithstanding the marked difference of their political principles, once more interposed, and kindly composed the very excellent and very learned preface which precedes it.*

In 1807, Mr. Beloe published "Anecdotes of Literature and scarce Books," which he dedicated to the present Bishop of Durham, who, on many occasions, had patronised and befriended him. On this he was greatly assisted by several learned men, and in addition to the shelves of the British Museum, in which he then held an official situation, he had

* See Monthly Review for Feb. 1818.

access to the king's library, those of the Marquis of Stafford, the late Mr. Malone, Sion College, &c. &c.

The first volume commences with an account of a very scarce book, relative to the antiquity of Cambridge, in which Dr. Caius, under the patronage of Matthew Parker, Archbishop of Canterbury, claims precedency for this University. Thomas Key, master of All Souls', having affirmed that Oxford was founded by some Greek philosophers, companions of Brutus, and restored by King Alfred, about the year 870, whence he inferred indisputable seniority, the former work was written to *prove* that Cambridge had for its founder Cantaber, who flourished "394 years before Christ, and in the year of the world 4300 and odd; and, therefore, that the University of Cambridge was 1267 years more ancient than Oxford."

The curious collectors of books will, of course, be pleased to see a few inaccuracies of that excellent bibliographer, De Bure, corrected, and some of his mistakes rectified; we accordingly refer them to this volume.

The T. C. so frequently to be met with in the Ecclesiastical Polity of Hooker, stands for Thomas Cartwright, author of the "Admonition to Parliament, and the most powerful Enemy to the English Ecclesiastical Establishment." Neal gives an account of his dispute with Whitgift.

It is evident from the document intitled "Books," that well-chosen collections have attained a progressive value. Dr. Askew, who appears to have purchased to great advantage, only paid 1*l.* 17*s.* for Dr. Mead's *Edit. Princ.* of "Joh. Tortelli Commentarii Grammatici," which, at his own sale, produced nine guineas; his Horsley's "Britan. Romana" cost him 2*l.* 15*s.*, and fetched 6*l.*; he gave fourteen guineas for Olivet's Cicero, on large paper, and at his own sale it was knocked down for 36*l.* 15*s.* The "Epistolæ Familiares," by Jenson, produced nearly four times the sum he bid for it; and "Aulus Gellius," by the same, nearly five times the original cost. At the Pinelli sale, the *Editio Princeps* cost 58*l.* 16*s.*

"Valerius Maximus," with the "Epistola Lugubris" of

Santius, is one of the rarest books in existence. It cost Dr. Askew four guineas and a half, and at his own sale fetched 26*l.*" He gave three guineas for "Silius Italicus, Editio Princeps, 1471," which cost the British Museum 13*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*; Mr. Knight purchased it at the Pinelli sale for 48*l.*!

"Biblia Sacra Latina Moguntiaë per Johannem Fust et Petrum Schoyffer," &c. 2 vols. fol. A copy of this beautiful book on vellum, at the sale of Count Hoym's library, who was the Polish Ambassador at the court of France, sold for 2000 livres; it was afterwards bought for 3200; at the sale of the Duke de la Valliere's collection, it produced 4020 livres; and the late Mr. Cracherode gave 250 guineas for his copy. "Froissart's Chronicle, Englished by Bouchier," obtained at Dr. Mead's sale 2*l.* 15*s.*, and the late Colonel Johnes, M. P. to procure a beautiful copy of it, printed at Paris by Eustace, in 4 vols. folio, expended the prodigious sum of 149*l.* 2*s.* He also gave 108*l.* 3*s.* for a large paper copy of "Buffon's Natural History of Birds," finely coloured; and for "Paintings of various Subjects in Natural History, by Agricola," fol. 173*l.* 5*s.*

The following anecdotes relative to the 2d folio edition of Shakspeare are curious: "Dr. Askew had a fine copy of this work, with the autograph of Charles I. Mr. Steevens purchased it at Dr. Askew's sale for 5*l.* 10*s.* In this book Charles I. has written these words, "DUM SPIRO SPERO, C. R.;" and Sir Henry Herbert, to whom the King presented it the night before his execution, has also written, "Ex dono serenissimi Regis Car. Servo suo Humiliss. T. Herbert."

Mr. Steevens has been guilty of an error concerning Sir Thomas Herbert, which could hardly have been expected from so accurate an enquirer. He affirms, that this Sir Thomas Herbert was Master of the Revels, the following words being copied from his own hand-writing: "Sir Thomas Herbert was Master of the Revels to King Charles the First." Whereas it was a Sir Henry Herbert who held that office. This mistake was immediately detected, and rectified by His present

Majesty, in his own hand-writing, by which circumstance this book possesses the autographs of two sovereigns of England.

Beneath the above words of Mr. Steevens, His present Majesty has written thus :

“ This is a mistake, he (Sir Thomas Herbert) having been Groom of the Bedchamber to King Charles I. ; but Sir Henry Herbert was Master of the Revels.”

“ Dr. Askew,” adds Mr. Beloe, “ purchased this identical copy at Dr. Mead’s sale for two guineas and a half. For this book, says Steevens, I gave the enormous sum of 5*l.* 10*s.* It was purchased for the King’s library for eighteen guineas : I wonder what, under its present circumstances, it would produce at this time?”

There is a curious account of the Coptic manuscript drawn up by Mr. Combe. This ancient Egyptian manuscript on papyrus was taken from a mummy at Thebes, and brought into England by William Hamilton, Esq. by whom it was presented to the British Museum. The characters are those which were in common use among the Egyptians, and are evidently written from right to left. It is divided into five columns, the first of which is imperfect, and each column is accompanied by a drawing, which represents one or more objects of Egyptian adoration. The ink, which retains its colour in a surprising manner, seems to be composed of lamp or charcoal black, suspended in some animal matter. The letters are formed by a reed, and not a brush.

Before the expedition of the French into Egypt, no manuscripts of this kind have ever been noticed. They are unquestionably by far the most ancient monuments which have reached our times ; and the mummies of distinguished persons are said to be seldom without one of these rolls ; and no mummy has been known to contain more than two.

ÆDES WALPOLIANÆ. We are informed under this title, that the Houghton collection of pictures was sold to the Empress of Russia for the sum of 40,555*l.*, after having been separately valued by West and Cipriani. Mr. Horace

Walpole told Mr. Bull, that the whole cost his father something short of 40,000*l.*; but it ought to be remembered, that several were presented to him, — one in particular by Vanderwerffe, from the Duke of Chandos, estimated at 700*l.* The immaculate Conception by Guido, considered the finest in the whole collection, was supposed to be worth 3500*l.* The busts, bronzes, and most of the family portraits, were preserved.

The remainder of this volume is chiefly occupied with anecdotes illustrative of Granger, extracted from Sir William Musgrave's copy-inscriptions selected from rare portraits in the Cracherode collection; an account of a curious and scarce work on Stenography, printed at London in 1588; extracts from rare and uncommon treatises on English poetry, furnished by Messrs. Douce and Reid; an account of scarce tragedies and comedies, from the Garrick collection, &c. &c.

In vol. ii. we have more extracts from the Garrick collection; these consist of "Old Songs;" but although scarce perhaps, none of them are very exquisite.

"Johannis Parkhursti Ludicra sive Epigrammata Juvenilia." Of this rare book, there is no copy in the British Museum, and the editor is indebted to his friend Mr. Douce for the use of one. The author was born at Guilford in Surrey, and sent at a very early age to Oxford, where he became a probationary fellow of Morton college in 1529. He was afterwards rector of Cleve in Gloucestershire. On the death of Edward VI. being actuated by conscientious motives, he left his preferment, and retired to Zurich, where he continued till the decease of Queen Mary. At the accession of Elizabeth he returned to his native country, and was made Bishop of Norwich. He translated part of the Apocrypha, and wrote many *Epigrammata*, &c. His death occurred in 1574.

Another name is added to the catalogue of English poets, in that of "Rowlande Broughton." Of the work of "Jo. Davers," entitled the "Secrets of Angling," it is observed, "that there does not exist in the circle of English literature a rarer book." It has been ascribed to the pen of the celebrated Dr. Donne.

A Poetical Tract, lent by Mr. George Chalmers, called "A Godly Dream, by Elizabeth Melvill, Lady Culross Younger." was the first production of the press at Aberdeen. It was "imprinted by E. Raban, Laird of Letters," 1644. "A fig for Momus," London, 1595, and inscribed "to the Right Honourable and thrice renowned Lord William, Earle of Darbie," is the first collection of Satires "so named and intended in the English language." The extraordinary ease and melody of the verse, at so early a period, are truly surprising.

"Euphues Golden Legacie" deserves notice and commemoration, not only for its great rarity, but also as by the acknowledgment of all the commentators, it furnished the plot of Shakspeare's "As You Like It." Many specimens of the prose works of Thomas Lodge are here given; all of which are said to be of the "extremest rarity."

The Roxburgh collection of course occupies a distinguished place in this volume. Of the rare dramatic pieces, the first is *unique*: it is called "Common Condycions;" a copy of this tract was purchased by the Duke of Roxburgh for 6*l.* 10*s.* at the sale of Mr. Steevens's books. The "Nice Wanton" is in black letter. His Grace gave 12*l.* for the "Old Wife's Tale."

We find the following account annexed to "Dido:" "I have before mentioned," observes Mr. Beloe, "the extreme rarity of this piece, of which a third copy is unknown. This copy was purchased at the sale of Steevens's books, by the Duke of Roxburgh, for the enormous sum of 17*l.* In the beginning is the following note by Mr. Steevens:

"This copy was given me by Mr. Reed. Such liberality in a collector of old plays is at least as rare as the rarest of our dramatic pieces. G. S."

"Mr. Steevens had before experienced, however," adds our author, "at least an equal degree of liberality from a collector of Hogarth's works. The unique print of "Loyalty, Episcopacy, and Law," was the property of Mr. Bedford, and by that gentleman's kindness added to the collection of

Mr. Steevens. Mr. S. made large promises of compensation, which terminated, I believe, in a few early flowers and a pineapple."

"Il Decamerone di Messer Giovanni Bocaccio, Editio Primaria, &c. Venetiis, Anno 1471, in fol." This edition was to be found no where but in the Roxburgh collection, and here follows an account of the manner in which it was obtained :

"The great collectors of books, and competitors for rare publications in their time, were Lord Oxford and Lord Sunderland. This copy of Boccace came into the hands of a London bookseller, who showed it to the above noble Lords, and demanded a hundred guineas as the price of it. This sum must at that time have appeared enormously extravagant, nor can we wonder that they severally hesitated about it. Whilst they were deliberating, an ancestor of the Duke of Roxburgh saw and purchased the volume. The two noble collectors were invited to dinner, and the subject of Boccace being purposely introduced, Lord Oxford and Lord Sunderland began to talk of this particular copy. The Duke of Roxburgh told them, that he thought he could show them a copy of this edition; which they defied him to exhibit. To their mortification and chagrin he produced the book in question.

"If there should happen to be a public auction of the late Duke of Roxburgh's most valuable library, I think I may venture to foretell, that this Boccace will produce not much less than 500*l*." It produced more than four times as much (2260*l*), and is now in the collection of the present Duke of Marlborough.

Under the head of rural sports, of which there is a volume in the British Museum, there exists a very rare tract, entitled "A Jewell for Gentry," the title-page of which conveys a true idea of the manner in which the nobility and gentry of that day were employed: "Being an exact dictionary, or true method to make any man understand all the art, secrets, and worthy knowledges belonging to hawking, hunting, fowling,

and fishing. Together with all the true measures for winding the horne."

The King's Pamphlets. These constitute a literary treasure of great curiosity and value. There is an account of them in a paper annexed to the first folio volume of the manuscript index, from which we learn that they form "a complete Collection of Books and Pamphlets, begun in the year 1640 by the special command of King Charles I. of blessed memory, and continued to the happy Restoration of the government, and the coronation of King Charles II." The collector appears to have been a clergyman, called the Rev. G. Thomason.

The works of George Gascoigne, an early English poet, now sell, we are told, for "a most enormous price." Collectors, however, are not aware, that there exists in the British Museum an unpublished poem by him, entitled "The Griefe or Joy, Certyne Elegies, wherein the doubtfull Delightes of Manes Lyfe are displaid. Written to the Queenes most excellent Ma^{tie}. Tam Marti quam Mercurio, 1576.

"To the Highe and Mightie Prynnesse Elizabeth, by y^e Grace of God Queene of England, France, & Ireland, Defender of the Faithe, &c. George Gascoigne, Esquier, one of Her Ma^{ties} most humble & faithfull servants, wisheth long lyfe, wth trew felicitie nowe & ever."

Among other curious productions is the copy of a letter from Dr. Tanner, the learned author of the *Notitia Monastica*, which reveals what is not generally known: that a great part of the additions and corrections in the second edition of Wood's *Athenæ Oxonienses* were supplied by him. "A short Account of the first Rise and Progress of Printing," is the most diminutive printed book ever seen by our author, being no more than two inches in length, and one in breadth.

The last document of any consequence in this collection "is an imperfect but formal and authentic abdication of Richard Cromwell: "shewing his willingness to submit to this present government; attested under his owne hand, & read in the house on Wednesday the 25th of May 1659."

The two first volumes of "Anecdotes of Literature and

Scarce Books," were received so favourably by the public, that in the course of a few years, three more were published, making in all a series of five; and a sixth was actually promised. Vol. iii. is dedicated to the Archbishop of Canterbury; and commences with an article inscribed "Biblical," giving an account of the earlier Bibles, those printed in Germany, Poland, the Olivetan Bible, &c. &c.

The "Newe Testament," by Tindal, the first edition of which was printed in 1526, is a very scarce book. The only copy of this date, known at present, was bought by Dr. Gifford, and by him given to the Baptist Library at Bristol. Mr. John Murray, one of the Earl of Oxford's collectors, obtained this for twenty guineas, and His Lordship was so much pleased with the acquisition, that he settled 20*l. per annum* on him for life. On the 13th of May, 1760, it was afterwards sold at Mr. Langford's sale of Mr. Ames's library for fourteen guineas and a-half. The whole impression, with this single exception, was purchased by Tonstall Bishop of London, and burnt at St. Paul's Cross, ann. 1526. This translation was printed in the reign of Henry VIII. in the very year when it was destroyed. "The place where printed is generally supposed to be Antwerpe, where persons in those days had the press and greater liberties than in their own countries."

The next work we shall mention is entitled "A GUIDE TO GRANDIVRY MEN." It is printed at London, 1630, and divided into two books: in the first, advice is given to the description of persons mentioned in the title page, before they bring in a *Billa Vera* in cases of witchcraft, "with a Christian direction to such as are too much giuen vp, on every crosse, to thinke themselves bewitched;" in the second, is a treatise concerning witches, "good and bad, how they may bee knowne, euicted, & condemned, with many particulars tending thereunto." We find by this work, that *pictures* (portraits, perhaps) were considered among the "other tricks of witch-crafts."

In a wedding sermon preached at Whitehall before the King, at the nuptials of Lord Hay, January 6th, 1607, we find the following whimsical passage: "But of all qualities,

a woman must not have one qualitie of a ship, and that is too much rigging. Oh what a wonder it is to see a ship under saile, with her tacklings, and her masts, and her tops, and top-gallants, with her upper decks, and her nether decks, and so bedeckt with her streames, flags, and ensignes, and I know not what; yea, but a world of wonders it is, to see a woman created in God's image, so miscreate oft times, and deformed with her French, her Spanish, and her foolish fashions, that He that made her when he lookes upon her, shall hardly know her, with her plumes, her fannes, and a silken vizard, with a ruffe like a saile, yea a ruffe like a rainebow, with a feather in her cap like a flag in her top, to tell (I thinke) which way the wind will blow."

Vol. iv., published sometime after the preceding, contains an account of several of the Greek books printed at Venice and at Rome, &c. &c.

Vol. v., dedicated to the Bishop of Ely, appeared in 1811. In the introduction, the editor laments, that in consequence "of the appointment of Sir George Ouseley to a high and important office in a distant quarter of the globe," he had been unable to obtain the promised extract of his Oriental manuscripts. The whole of this portion of the work is dedicated to a consideration of tracts on the canon and civil law; the decretals of Gregory IX., the codex and institutions of Justinian, &c. we are told, while treating of the materials of books, that the invention of vellum, usually ascribed to Attalus King of Pergamos, now Bergamo, was unquestionably known long before his birth. It was however greatly improved by Eumenes King of Pergamos, the contemporary of Ptolemy Philadelphus; the latter of whom prohibited the exportation of the Papyrus, of which the Egyptians, by appropriating certain districts to the cultivation of it, obtained a monopoly. The refined and luxurious Romans very highly improved the quality and the appearance both of vellum and paper. It was embellished for letters in an elegant manner; and there were also tablets appropriated to amatory writings, called *Vitelliani*. Pliny enumerates eight different kinds of paper, of which *the*

Charta Claudia was the best. According to Anderson, we had no manufacture of any other species than brown before 1690, until which period we paid France the yearly sum of 100,000*l.* annually for this commodity. In the ninth century paper was made of cotton; and that made from linen rags was not commonly used until sometime after the year 1300, when it was first introduced. It appears from a priced catalogue of Michael Mattaire's library, that rare books then sold at eighty or ninety *per cent.* cheaper than at present.

In 1812 appeared vol. vi. and last. This contains specimens of the poetry of Robert Greene and Richard Stanihurst. We have also some verses by Joshua Poole and Sir Thomas Roe, the latter of which are supposed to be *unique*; the whole is dedicated to the memory of Sir John Harrington, Knt., Lord Harrington, Baron of Exeter.

A curious work is here mentioned, supposed to be the production of Parsons the Jesuit, entitled "A Declaration of the true Causes of the great Trouble presupposed to be intended against the Realme of England, &c. An. MDLXXXII. 12mo." This was deemed important enough to require an answer from the pen of Bacon, afterwards Lord Verulam.

The author, whoever he may have been, seems to have conceived a great enmity against the Lord Treasurer, whom he accuses of having brought the nobility "into the seruility, that yf they apply not themselves to Cecil's humour, they must not liue in their countries, but be tyed unto the Court, or allotted their dwelling as yf they were his perpetuall wardes, yea rather as pupils, that are kept under with roddes, not daring to speake what they think and know, but are set to be ayme-giuers, while others do hurt their marckes.

"Some of them he hath undeseruedly brought into the disfauor of the Prince. Sundry he hath drawn upon fained fauors of the courte to consume themselues to beggery.

"Others he hath sent forth to become pirates and sea-rouers. And the lyues of some of the principall, by guylfull pretended crimes, he hath taken away, and by one meanes or other he hath brought such as be yet lyuing into those termes,

that none may be permitted to carry any credit in the commonwealth, except it be some very fewe, whose wisdomes he can easily ouerrule. By which meanes there is in England none of more opulence, none of more authoritie, nor none of more power than himself, and therefore none to withstand his entended matche between the Lady Arabella and his grand-child. Whereby England may happen to haue a King Cecille the First, that is suddainly metamorphosed frō a grome of the wardrobe to the wearing of the best robe within the wardrobe."

Among the works of "Prose writers" are some curious tracts, and of these we shall here mention a few. "The first booke of the Historie of the discoverie and conquest of the East Indies, enterprised by the Portingales in their dangerous nauigations, in the time of King Don John the second of that name," has precedency in point of order; and is also, we are told, "of uncommon rarity."

In the pamphlet entitled "True and Perfect Narrative of the Differences between Mr. (afterwards Dr.) Busby and Mr. Bagshawe, the first and second Masters of Westminster School," London, 1659, we find pretty conclusive proof, that the former of these did not obtain his celebrity, as to severity, without just cause. The following observations by the author, Mr. Bagshawe, who disclaims all love of punishment, are not unworthy of notice :

"For the thing (i. e. punishment), I will not dispute it by way of common place with Quintilian, who thinks it altogether unfit, and of whose judgment I am; but so farre as relates to this school (Westminster), I could wish that there were some order taken to limit and restrain the exorbitance of punishment, that poor little boys may not receive thirty or forty, nay sometimes sixty lashes at a time, for small and inconsiderate faults.

"For my own part, whether it proceeds out of my natural remissness, or out of a sense of the indignity, that such a kind of punishment is neither fit for me to inflict, nor for my scholars to suffer, I could heartily wish that there were an assistant in

whipping, rather than in teaching; it would be well if the two *consuls* here had their *lictors*, that so we might not be both judges of the fault, and executioners of the sentence, for fear passion, or something worse, do exasperate the penalty.

“ Truly I have seen, — I forget myself, I have heard, I mean, — so sad examples of cruelty of this kind, that I believe I could make your honours weep at the report of them.”

Mr. Bagshawe mentions with indignation the cruelty of “ a worthless and an infamous person, John Busby by name, nephew to the head Master ;” and wishes “ that this barbarous licence may be for ever abolished, for it were better,” adds he, “ that the school should perish, than such an execrable use of whipping should again be made.”

Under the head of “ Old Sermons,” we have a number of whimsical titles, such as “ Spiritual Salt,” “ The Wheel turned,” “ Love and Fear the inseparable Twins of a blest Matrimony,” “ Two Sticks made one,” “ The Divine Lanthorne,” “ The last Fee-Simple,” “ Peter’s Net let downe,” &c.

The author, in his preface to this volume, flatters himself, “ that no publication in our language hitherto printed will be found to give either so circumstantial or so accurate an account of the early printed books, or of the first editions of the Classics.

“ I speak with the greater confidence on this subject,” adds he, “ because the late Bishop of Ely, than whom no man, with the exception, perhaps, of Earl Spencer, was better qualified, condescended to peruse, not only every manuscript sheet before it was committed to the press, but even to correct it afterwards. From gratitude to his memory, I am not unwilling to have it understood, that if the third, fourth, and fifth volumes shall be found to contain, as I believe they will, much curious research and important information on the subject of early typography, the principal merit may be ascribed to His Lordship’s greater knowledge, experience, and sagacity. Whereas the deficiencies and inaccuracies, of which also I am

conscious there are not a few, must rest wholly with myself. I willingly sustain the burden."

Mr. Beloe has hitherto been chiefly contemplated as a literary man only; and, indeed, his preferments as a beneficed ecclesiastic are to be traced mainly, if not solely, to this source. It has already been observed, that he was first Curate, and then Vicar, of the parish of Earlham *cum* Bowthorpe, where his ambition taught him to contemplate higher objects; and in a seemingly auspicious hour, conducted him in company with his young wife to the metropolis. His first preferment, after he had arrived in the capital, was the mastership of Emanuel Hospital, Westminster, which he retained for about twenty years. The salary is but moderate; yet it is a desirable preferment for a young clergyman, for, if the writer of the present article be not greatly mistaken, it is accompanied with a good residence, and several other advantages.

The Lord Chancellor Rosslyn was so much pleased with his political zeal, that he presented him, in 1796, with the rectory of Allhallows, London-Wall, within the precincts of the city. Next year, the Bishop of Lincoln, who doubtless recollected him at college, was moved also by similar motives to confer a prebendal stall in his cathedral. Soon after this, the venerable Bishop Porteus, whose name and patronage doubtless confer great honour on every one noticed by him, in 1805, presented him with his last, and perhaps his best piece of preferment — that of Prebendary of Pancras, in the Diocese of London.

We have hitherto abstained from mentioning a situation to which Mr. Beloe was appointed in 1804, that of one of the assistant librarians to the British Museum, an office conferred by the trustees, among whom at that period were several of his particular friends and patrons, such as the Lord Chancellor, the Bishop of London, &c. Few men were better calculated to fulfil the duties annexed to this appointment, and to no one could it have been more grateful, in a variety of

points of view. Indeed, the subject of this memoir actually commenced a work, essentially connected with that very situation, and which could be no longer carried on, with any great confidence of success, when he was bereft of it. The cause for which he was deprived of the emoluments and advantages annexed to this respectable station, reflects no personal disgrace on the sufferer, for it arose out of a joint act of fraud and treachery on the part of a man who had surprised his confidence, and lulled all suspicion to sleep.

This circumstance, however, appears to have embittered the remainder of his days. So late as the summer of 1812 *, he alludes to this event, and after lamenting the literary advantages of which he had been deprived, adds as follows :

“ Having now little to hope or fear from censure or from praise, I feel not the smallest occasion for self-reproach. I may, perhaps, concede, but I can hardly be induced to regret, that as far as worldly objects are concerned, it would have been far better for me to have had less of the disposition to oblige, and to have supposed that it might be possible for fraud, artifice, and villainy, to lurk under the semblance of complacency, frankness, and honesty. Neither will I complain of serious promises made which never were fulfilled, and of hopes held out which never were accomplished.

“ Some documents, however, remain, which, if produced, would prove that brighter prospects were once before me ; and as far as I can believe my own heart, or can be supposed to know my own conduct, my claims remain unaltered.”

Towards the latter end of his life, and before the unfortunate event alluded to above, Mr. Beloe was not only enabled to confer on some of the male branches of his family a suitable education at one of our universities, and to behold his only daughter respectably settled in life, but also to live in a creditable manner in Kensington-square, which by its vicinity to town, enabled him to keep up his intercourse, both with his friends and the press. While there, he was not only visited by several respectable families in the neighbourhood, but also

* See Preface to vol. vi. of *Anecdotes of Literature*.

by Dean Vincent, Dr. Burney, Mr. Porson, &c. &c. the last of whom appears to have been a frequent guest.

Mr. Beloe's attachment to this gentleman seems to have been unvaried; and his love of late hours, the singularity of his opinions, and all his other peculiarities, were amply compensated by the effusions of a mind naturally strong and vigorous, superadded to a degree of learning but seldom witnessed in the present age, and which perhaps will be scarcely credited in the succeeding one. Although their political and religious creeds were as far distant as the poles, yet, to the credit of both, they appeared to have lived together during many years in the greatest possible harmony.*

At length Mr. Beloe, who had now nearly attained three-score years of age, began to droop; and both his family and friends were prepared, after some time, to expect the most melancholy results. It is impossible to express his last illness with more truth or effect than has been already performed by Mr. Nichols, who had known him during many years, and witnessed his early prospects, as well as premature decay. "With much sorrow, the writer sits down to relate the death of his learned and ingenious friend; an office which, in the course of nature, Mr. Beloe should rather have performed for him. It was otherwise appointed. A constitution of body, delicate and irritable to an unusual degree, proved unable to sustain the repeated shocks of grief and vexation, which sound religion had disciplined the mind to bear. Bodily disease, of a painful and incurable kind, had for a few years been added to his other sufferings. Yet his intellectual powers were never

* It was during a visit to Kensington, that Mr. Porson wrote his celebrated *jeu d'esprit*, in which he supposes the devil to have visited earth, for the purpose of seeing what could delight him most. This contains a bitter satire on a certain class of professional men; it chastises the pride of those who affect to be humble, and is eminently severe on the mode of conducting the affairs of Cold-Bath-Fields prison, while under the management and direction of Governor Aris, &c. It was composed extemporaneously, while the author happened to be disengaged from the whist-table, at the instigation of Mrs. Vincent; at least that lady pointed out the task, without however assigning the subject.

Mr. Beloe was doubtless induced by prudence to suppress this poetical libel, as we do not find it among his *Porsoniana*.

clouded, nor his spirits often depressed; not ever, when he had the company of a friend to cheer them.

“Mr. Beloe continued to write, on a variety of subjects with his wonted facility and elegance; and though he could no longer study with continued application, yet his literary curiosity was never diminished. Never soured for an instant by any species of suffering, the thing least possible to his mind, at all times, was to persist in resentment against any person whatsoever.

“But the time was now come, when nature could no longer struggle against so many causes of decay; and in the latter end of March 1817, he had a seizure, which from the first was threatening, and soon after deprived him of the use of the lower limbs. Three weeks from that time he lingered; at first in much pain and irritation, but for the last ten days in ease of body, and perfect tranquillity of mind. On the 11th of April, surrounded by his family, he passed into another state of being, full of religious hope; and with such ease, that the exact moment of his departure was hardly ascertained. Mr. Beloe had very recently entered into his 60th year; and has left a widow, with four sons, a daughter, and several grandchildren, to lament his loss. He was buried in his own Church of Allhallows, London-Wall, attended only by his sons, and three or four select friends.”

Soon after Mr. Beloe's death appeared a work entitled “The Sexagenarian, or Recollections of a Literary Life,” some passages of which, perhaps, might either have been suppressed, or at least softened, without doing any violence to the memory of the author. Without dwelling invidiously upon these, a short account of its contents shall be here annexed.

These two volumes are dedicated to a “dear old woman,” whose name and connections may be easily guessed at from the following quotation:

“Mayst thou,” continues he, “with whom the various incidents of a perturbed life have been participated, the pressure of which has again and again been alleviated by thy sympathy, accept in no adulatory terms of praise, but in those of

sober gratitude and truth, my heart-felt acknowledgments of thy goodness.

“ Well can I remember, that when thou wast an object of admiration, not to the gay and thoughtless alone, but to the grave, the sedate, and the wise, that no external allurements could ever divert thee from the obligations of duty.

“ Nor can I forget that when our earlier career was obstructed by briars and thorns, thy sagacity found means to lessen their asperity, and thy unwearied exertions never failed to facilitate their removal. Surely, too, amidst the sufferings and sorrows of repeated sickness, did thy tenderness assuage the pain, and impart the most delightful and salutary balm. The first vigour of my warm and youthful fancy was employed in representing the emotions excited by thy presence. The last occupation of my trembling pen is to offer, with an unfeigned devotion, the solemn prayer, that thy decline of life may be as little rugged and disturbed as the condition of humanity will permit; and so farewell !”

After a variety of details respecting the studies of his boyish days, Mr. Beloe mentions some of the abuses that have lately crept into the Universities in the following terms: “ Might not parents,” observes he, “ be protected by a fiat from the *caput*, from enormous bills incurred at taverns, livery-stables, and confectioners? Might not tutors, without invidiousness, quietly communicate with the tradesmen of their respective colleges, on the subject of the present means and future expectations of the young men under their protection, and thus prevent any great accumulation of credit on one side, and of debt on the other? Might not private dinners in private rooms be strictly prohibited, and the possibility of making foolish, expensive, and pernicious jaunts to London and elsewhere be prevented?

“ I am satisfied that something might be done, and I am certain that something ought to be done. I speak feelingly, smarting, as I do, in the persons of near and dear connections, and knowing no inconsiderable number of parents and guardians who sympathise with me.

“Formerly, and at the period which I am about to describe more at length, I verily believe, that, except in the rooms of noblemen, and of a very few young men of great and known hereditary property, the more expensive wines were utterly unknown. Whereas, at present, most of the young men have, occasionally at least, their claret and champagne; and a friend of mine showed me, the other day, a bill for three months only, amounting to a hundred pounds for these articles, incurred by a jack-a-napes dependent on the liberality of distant relatives, without a sixpence of his own.”

At the time Mr. Beloe went to college, an excursion to Gogmagog-hills, Huntingdon, or Newmarket, satisfied the ambition of a youthful Cantab; formerly, the students met sociably after dinner in the hall, to drink wine in each other's apartments, and expended two shillings or half-a-crown for a desert of biscuits, apples, and walnuts. Now two pounds will hardly suffice; and a debt of fifty pounds is frequently incurred for this unnecessary luxury within the period of a single year.

While Mr. Beloe indulges not unfrequently in political and personal resentments against others, as in the case of the late Mr. Gilbert Wakefield, &c. &c. Porson is uniformly praised and respected. In addition to this, a number of curious particulars concerning his early days are narrated in vol. i.

Our Author allows a certain portion of talents to the late Earl of Orford, but he gives such a scanty bill of fare of his entertainments, as leaves no pretensions to hospitality.

“He was, in the truest sense of the word,” observes he, “a perfect courtier. He was consummately insincere; and would compliment and flatter those in conversation, whom, in his correspondence, he sneered at and abused. This was, in a more particular manner, the case with some literary acquaintances, who, when he wanted their aid and information in the prosecution of any pursuit, were ostensibly very high indeed in his esteem; but when he had got all he wanted, were either noticed with coldness, or made objects of his ridicule and contempt. This was remarkably the fact, we are

told, both with respect to Richard Gough and Cole of Milton.

“He was accustomed to speak of these admirable specimens of satire, the Baviad and Mæviad, in terms of rapture: his expression was, ‘it is so soothing.’ At the same time, more than one of the objects of that satire were among his dearest friends, and complimented by him on their poetic talents.

“On the first appearance of Dr. Darwin’s celebrated poem on the ‘Loves of the Plants,’ he was extravagant in his commendation of it, — ‘we have seen nothing equal to it since the time of Pope.’ His Lordship’s admiration, however, cooled afterwards.

“He certainly had an elegant taste for poetry, and his smaller compositions of this kind are models in their way. He had no great extent of capacity, and very little learning; but he was undoubtedly a most entertaining companion, and a very polished and accomplished gentleman. — So much for H. W.”

Among other biographical delineations, we are also presented with an account of Dr. Baillie, Sir Everard Home, Mrs. Carter, Mrs. Hunter, Hannah M—[ore], Mrs. T—[rimmer], Mrs. W—[oolstoncraft], and H—[elen] M—[aria] W—[illiams]. Other ladies are characterised under the names of Ella, Elfrida, &c. Mrs. Yates is treated with much kindness and indulgence. Archbishop Moore is greatly praised for his zeal in behalf of both church and state, “at the time the mighty monster of the French Revolution was rearing its infernal brood of assassins, infidels, and miscreants.”

Dr. Gregory is not treated with much partiality. The “dry bookseller” was the late worthy and respectable Mr. Johnson of St. Paul’s Church-yard; the “opulent bookseller” was Alderman Cadell. He mentions, without sufficiently designating, “an honest bookseller;” the “exotic bookseller” resided many years in Pall-mall, and then removed with a considerable fortune to an estate in the vicinity of Harrow.

“Upon the tendency of his (Professor Porson’s) politics,” observes he, “it is not intended to expatiate. It never inter-

rupted an harmonious intercourse of more than twenty years with him who pays this tribute to his memory, and to whom, in a moment of confidence, he gave in his own hand-writing a pamphlet written in answer to Mr. Burke's *Reflections on the French Revolution*. It is termed, 'A New Catechism for the Use of the Natives of Hampshire.' It is written with much vivacity and humour, but strongly marks the incorrigible bitterness of his political prejudices."

It may be necessary to conclude with the following quotation from the preface, as it is explanatory of the work, and contains a character of the author drawn up by a friend.

"The circumstances attending this publication by the editor are of an interesting, almost of an awful nature. To engage the attention more deeply in his narrative, and to relieve it of the egotism attached to self-biography, the sexagenarian had adopted the third person instead of the first in many parts of the work. He had supposed that after his death a friend had discovered a number of scattered materials, from which these volumes were to be formed, and had so supplied the connecting links as to make the history complete.

"In adopting this plan, he was enabled to give the narrative many lively turns, which the natural playfulness of his mind suggested. In this manner he had proceeded, sustaining the character of himself and his friend within a few pages of the conclusion of his work; and had even corrected the press down to the present sheet. Little perhaps did he think how prophetic was his plan, and that on his own death-bed he should really entrust to a friend that office which in fiction he had supposed to have been committed to his care. To present these *Memoirs* to the world, and explain the peculiar circumstances under which they are published, was the dying request of the Sexagenarian to one who knew and who valued his worth.

"He had scarcely entered upon his sixtieth year, and had just entitled himself to the appellation which his work had assumed, when he was suddenly called from an existence of much bodily pain and suffering. His life had been chequered

by various events, both of a prosperous and of an adverse nature. In the paths of literature his exertions had been attended with the most gratifying success. He had moved in the first circles of life; he had been fostered by the great, and rewarded by the good. No man perhaps of his age possessed larger or more varied resources of curious and entertaining scholarship. In literary anecdote he was rich and fertile; in neat and appropriate citations he was unrivalled.

“ His conversation was easy, elegant, and communicative; and no scholar could leave his company without an addition to his stock of knowledge. As a friend he was respected and beloved; among his acquaintance, indeed, his good humour was almost proverbial. His open and generous nature was too often a dupe to the treacherous, and a prey to the designing. His latter days were spent in retirement from those busy scenes in which he had formerly borne a conspicuous part. In the two last years of his life, he amused himself with the composition of the preceding Memoirs, which display an extensive knowledge of the events and the characters of a former day. Many of the personages there described, like the hand which records them, are now in the dust, and have left their name only, and their memories behind.

“ Would the reader enquire the end of the Sexagenarian; would he know how a life so spent was concluded; let him be assured that his last hours were those of a good and pious man; that he departed in the same faith and fear in which he had lived. And happy will he be, who, after a life so actively and so usefully employed, shall repose upon a death-bed so calm, and so christian, as that of the SEXAGENARIAN.”

LIST OF THE WORKS

Of the late Rev. William Beloe.

1. An Ode to Miss Boscawen, printed in 1783.
2. The Rape of Helen, from the Greek, with Notes, 1786.
3. Poems and Translations, 8vo. 1788.

4. The History of Herodotus, from the Greek, with Notes, 4 vols. 8vo. 1790.
5. Translation of Alciphron's Epistles, 1791.
6. Translation of the Attic Nights of Aulus Gellius, 1795.
7. Miscellanies, viz. Poems, Classical Extracts, and Oriental Apologues, 3 vols. 12mo. 1795.
8. Translation of the Arabian Nights' Entertainments, from the French, 4 vols. 12mo.
9. Joseph, translated from the French of M. Bitaubé, 2 vols. 12mo.
10. Anecdotes of Literature and scarce Books, 6 vols. 8vo. published between the years 1806 and 1812.
10. The British Critic. Of this periodical work Mr. Beloe was for some time the sole Editor, and for many years the joint-conductor with Mr. Archdeacon Nares; he also wrote many of the principal articles of Criticism. N.B. These two Clergymen resigned their labours at the conclusion of the 42d volume.
11. Biographical Dictionary, 15 vols. 8vo. An edition of this work was undertaken by him in conjunction with the Rev. W. Tooke, late Chaplain to the British Factory in Russia; the late Mr. Morrison, and the Rev. Robert Nares.
12. Brief Memoirs of the Leaders of the French Revolution.
13. Several Articles in the Gentleman's Magazine.
14. The Sexagenarian, or the Memoirs of a Literary Life, written by Mr. Beloe, and edited by a Friend soon after his death, 1818.

No. III.



THOMAS COGAN, M.D.

ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF THE ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY.

It is extremely satisfactory to be enabled to record the life of a man who reflects so much credit on human nature. Fortunately, on the present occasion, several interesting details have been collected, partly from notes transmitted by one of his own family, and partly from the recollections of the writer himself. Some of his friends too, who lived in great intimacy with him, both in England and Holland, have also kindly contributed to elucidate the character and pursuits of a philanthropist, long known to the public, both by his talents and his virtues.

Thomas Cogan was born in the obscure village of Rowell, in the county of Northampton, on February 8, 1736. His father was an apothecary, greatly respected for the skill displayed by him in the exercise of his profession; which in a

country town is not confined to pharmacy alone. On the contrary, he, as usual, united the other two branches of physician and surgeon in his own person, and on his little nag was accustomed daily to visit all his patients within a pretty extensive circuit. Although it may be here unnecessary to observe, that the elder Mr. Cogan could not possibly acquire a fortune by his labours, yet it is apparent, that he must have lived in ease, if not in affluence; for he maintained and brought up two families, in addition to which, after conferring on them what may be termed a learned education, he sent his sons into the world with professions calculated to obtain respect, super-added to a decent subsistence, which was all that a man of primitive manners and limited ambition at that time looked to. Having thus done his duty, he trusted to the wise and unerring dispensations of Providence for the rest!

That the old gentleman, in respect to religion, was a Dissenter, there can be but little doubt, as his children were educated in this persuasion; but to what particular sect or denomination of Christians he belonged, is not precisely known to the writer of this article. The elder Mr. Cogan attained a patriarchal age*, and when 80, actually married a second wife, by whom he had a son, still living. †

Young Cogan, who was the offspring of the first marriage, received the rudiments of his education most probably from a country school-master at Rowell; after which he was placed for some years at Kibworth, in Leicestershire, under the tuition of the late Dr. Aikin, father of the physician of the same name, and at that time greatly celebrated as the master of a very flourishing academy. That this teacher was eminently successful, is sufficiently apparent, from the number of excellent scholars who had been placed under his care. Indeed, it is unnecessary to go any further than his own family in proof of this assertion; for his surviving son, Dr. John Aikin, is an author of great respectability; while his daughter,

* Mr. C. lived the extended period of 90 years.

† The Rev. E. Cogan of Higham Hill, near Walthamstow, in the county of Essex. This gentleman, for many years, presided over an eminent and flourishing academy in that neighbourhood.

Mrs. Barbauld; has exhibited no mean degree of talents, both in verse and prose. Of the father, as well as of the children, the subject of this memoir was always accustomed to speak with great respect: indeed, it was under the inspection of the former, that he acquired a taste for classical knowledge, which never forsook him during the remainder of his life. His residence in Leicestershire, however, did not exceed two or three years; and he constantly lamented the shortness of his stay there, until the close of his life.

Mr. Thomas Cogan was destined from early life to be a spiritual teacher among the Dissenters. He was accordingly educated with great care and strictness for his future charge; and in respect to morals, character, and learning, must be allowed to have been peculiarly fitted for the office of a minister. But while at Kibworth he had indulged pretty freely in general reading; and the direction of his mind was afterwards turned towards the controversial writings both of his own and the preceding age, in the history of which they form an original and important feature. In fine, no one ever evinced more technical knowledge of the doctrines of grace, free-will, necessity, fore-ordination, &c. than he; but this species of learning appears to have been but little serviceable to his advancement in life. Either his system of theology was not popular, or at least it was not exactly consonant to the received opinions of his auditors. There is some reason to believe, that he indulged a youthful imagination in commendation of *good works*, and paid less attention to *faith*, than was agreeable to the chiefs and elders of his communion. Certain it is, that he successively presented himself to several congregations, of which the pulpits happened to be vacant, without ever receiving a regular call or invitation.

Reduced to a *dilemma*, about the year 1758-9, he pointed his footsteps towards Harwich, whence in an auspicious hour he repaired to Holland, and proceeded to Amsterdam. Here a Presbyterian church, with two pastors on the model of those of Scotland and Geneva, had been long established. It was cherished both by the English and Dutch governments, and

supplied with pastors from the Caledonian universities. One of these, a native of Aberdeen, wishing to return for a while to his native country, was desirous to obtain a deputy to supply his place during his absence; and act in conjunction with his colleague, the Rev. Thomas Pierson, D.D., a man of great worth and learning, who afterwards suffered severely on account of his zeal in behalf of the House of Orange. The Rev. Thomas Cogan, having displayed his certificates, and proved himself duly qualified for the undertaking, now settled in the chief city of Holland, and appears to have become greatly attached to that country.

Here again another instance of good fortune occurred; for he soon after saw, and at length became the husband of a very worthy, amiable, and accomplished woman. The name of this lady was Græn or Groen, pronounced by the Dutch *Gruen*, which, by an easy transition, becomes Green in English. She was the only daughter, and indeed the only child of Mr. Groen, a Dutch * trader of some eminence, who acquired considerable opulence by his connections with Great Britain. In consequence of these, all the German subsidies during the seven years' war were transmitted through him to the place of their destination; and his fair profits arising from commission, exchange, &c. must of course have been very considerable. Indeed he might have realised an immense fortune, had it not been for a propensity seldom laid to the charge of his countrymen: this was an unbounded hospitality. Either to maintain his influence, or to display his gratitude, Mr. G. kept an open table for the English; and happening to entertain our newly-arrived pastor among the rest, this led, first to acquaintance with the daughter, and then to a union of a more permanent nature.

Sometime before this, the subject of our memoir had repaired to England, and appears to have resided for some time at Southampton, where he preached in 1762 and 1763. But his heart was bent on returning to the United Provinces, with

* He was originally a silversmith in Amsterdam.

a view of remaining there for life. He accordingly returned, and found the lady to whom he had been so long attached, constant and faithful. She was young, handsome, and rich also: her hand was therefore courted by a number of suitors; but Miss Groen preferred her Englishman to them all, and there is every reason to suppose that their union contributed not a little to the mutual happiness of both parties.

After leading his bride to the altar, in due form, the object of his future pursuits became a subject of deep consideration. As he had just acquired a considerable fortune with his wife, when reckoned in Dutch guilders *, and expended in a country where the necessaries of life were to be obtained at a reasonable rate, he determined to resign his ministry, and follow the secret bent of his own inclinations. In this plan Mrs. Cogan most readily participated, and they accordingly removed to Leyden. Entering his name on the records of that University which once supplied all Europe with Physicians, he applied himself with great assiduity to attain a knowledge of the healing art. It may be readily supposed that the first principles of Pharmacy were imbibed by him under his father's roof, and that he already knew by inspection all the principal medicaments, which is more than some *theoretical* physicians are acquainted with.

After obtaining a general knowledge of his future profession, our student applied himself chiefly to obtain a proficiency in the *Obstetric art*, which at that period began to be practised by males. Accordingly, in due time, the degree of M. D. was conferred on him; and we have some reason to believe, that his *Thesis* was connected with that branch of the science in which he wished to excel. †

Having been thus admitted in due form, Dr. Cogan imme-

* First and last, he may have received from 8000 to 10,000*l.* by this lady.

† Dr. Cogan's inaugural thesis, when he obtained his degree at Leyden, was soon after published there, under the title of "Dissertatio de Pathemat. Animi, vi et modo agendi. Ludg. Bat. 4to. 1767." This information has been since communicated by a friend.

diately paid a short visit to England, after which he commenced practice; and having chiefly directed his studies towards a particular branch, he was best known as an *Accoucheur*. In this capacity he gave full and entire satisfaction to many respectable families, both English and Dutch, in Rotterdam, Amsterdam, and Leyden, in all of which cities he occasionally resided. After a few years of pretty successful practice in Holland, he and his wife repaired to England with a view to a permanent residence. As he meant to persevere in his professional career, London was selected as best fitted for his exertions; and as it was necessary to become a Member of the College of Physicians, it is to be inferred that he was admitted a Licentiate.

Accustomed to the crowd and bustle of the great towns of Holland, this little family (for they had not any children then, or afterwards) actually pitched on Paternoster-Row as a place of residence, undismayed by the narrowness of the street, the difficulty of access, the constant crowd of passengers, and the perpetual noise of hawkers, porters, and printers' devils. But to noise Mrs. Cogan had been long habituated; it was the dust and dirt that alone appeared odious in her eyes, for as she had been educated in the Dutch school, the enduring of filth of any kind, appeared in some degree criminal in her eyes. This lady accordingly not a little astonished her neighbours by a due and constant attention to cleanliness; for an engine was purchased, by means of which her drawing-room and bed-chamber windows were wetted daily, to the great obstruction and annoyance of the passengers, who being unapprised of her motives, and unacquainted with the practice of Amsterdam, began to consider "the Dutch lady" as a nuisance. The Cogans afterwards removed, by way of changing the air, into another part of the city, where the population was nearly as dense, and the atmosphere almost as ill-calculated for the purposes of respiration. They had long lived in a thick and foggy atmosphere, and there is no part of our metropolis indeed, that will not appear eligible, when estimated according

to the ratio of the places, which with them formed the sole rule of comparison.

Dr. Cogan now became acquainted with a number of respectable professional men, and no small degree of intimacy soon took place between him and Dr. Hawes. It is to this friendship we are indebted for the Humane Society!

The first institution in Europe for recovering persons apparently drowned originated at Amsterdam; and has since become the model of all others. The following incident gave birth to it: — * A boy called Andrew Park, the son of Mr. Park, a respectable Scotchman engaged in trade, having dropped a Dutch coin, called a *stiver*, in the canal at the back of his father's house, endeavoured to recover it. But all his exertions proved unavailing, and on making a last and fatal effort, he was precipitated to the bottom, where he remained some little time. At length the unfortunate child was brought home to his disconsolate mother, who, instead of yielding to despair, immediately set about what appeared to her the most rational mode of restoring suspended animation. She accordingly placed the boy up to the neck in a tub of warm water, and recurring to friction, in aid of her other endeavours, soon enjoyed the inexpressible felicity of beholding her darling son restored to life!

This astonished the *Amsterdammers*. They daily beheld some unhappy victim sacrificed to the apathy of the bystanders and the inattention of government. Familiarised to the sight of drowned persons, they had become callous to events of such frequent occurrence; and as few or none ever recovered, after being immersed even for two or three minutes in the dirt and slime of their surrounding waters, they began to think all medical or other aid wholly ineffectual.

This occurrence, however, aroused them from their slumbers, and in consequence of the exertions of some worthy men, a

* For this authentic account of the accident that gave birth to the first Society in Europe for the recovery of persons apparently drowned, the writer of this narrative is obliged to a very respectable Scots-Batavian family.

Drenkelengen Societet was immediately formed, and commenced its operations in 1767.

Among those who proved themselves most zealous advocates for this institution, was M. Varnede, a member of the Walloon Church at Amsterdam. He was consequently nominated a director, and afterwards edited the first volume of the transactions of the infant society.

London, where the pulse of humanity ever beats high, had witnessed a variety of the most distressing events, from year to year, with an indifference that actually seemed inexcusable, after a neighbouring nation had set so noble an example. At length these two noble-minded physicians determined to arouse their countrymen into action, and it is astonishing with what slender means and scanty resources they commenced their labours. The late Dr. J. C. Lettsom, always one of the first to stand forward in the cause of beneficence, and whose trivial errors have been magnified into crimes, by those who do not possess a tithe of his virtues, was one of the first to join them.*

* It will be seen by a perusal of the following extracts, that Dr. L. felt himself deeply interested in the success of this benevolent institution. On April 20th, 1805, we find Dr. Lettsom anticipating the annual dinner, in a letter to the Rev. J. Plumtre, of Clare-Hall. (See vol. ii. of his Life, p. 128.) "I must acknowledge thy politeness," observes he, "in placing my head where it has been for thirty years past, near to that of Dr. Hawes. He is a man whose memory will be dear to posterity. Next Wednesday will be the Anniversary Festival, when Hawes will be all animation. We usually meet 300 strong. Lord Henniker is to be the chairman. The music and singing, the procession of those raised from the dead, all combine to render the festival equally rational and pathetic. My good friend, the Hon. P. Pusey, joined me in a subscription to supply each of the restored objects with a Bible, which in the procession accompanies each object. My brother-in-law, Counsellor Garrow (yesterday elected M. P. for Gatton), has supplied them with appropriate religious books; so that the mind has, in many instances, been restored to life as well as the body.

"Good James Nield, the modern Howard, is engaged to be my neighbour at dinner; and I hope that Jenner, who is a steward, will come from Berkeley to attend in his place. Shouldst thou visit us on the occasion, our board will be more highly enriched thereby. Dr. Burgess (Bishop of St. David's) dined last year with us, but cannot this; he has, however, volunteered to be a steward next year, and accompanied his proposal with a present of twenty guineas. I imagine we shall have the Bishop of Bristol at the dinner."

In another letter to the same gentleman, dated London, May 15, 1810, Dr. Lettsom expresses himself thus: "The Royal Humane Society still supports itself with distinguished character; our finances are favourable, and our ardour not cooled, though we lament the loss of its founder. That we respect his memory, you will be convinced by the Report of 1810, the second of my treasurership. In the last anniversary sermon for

Mr. Nicol also liberally assisted both with his pen and his purse. The plan was circulated, indeed, chiefly by his means, and ably advocated in his periodical pages. But as nothing succeeds in this country without a *dinner*, which at once inspires spirit and publicity into the resolves of all public bodies desirous of patronage, a convivial entertainment of this kind at length took place, and the anniversary of the institution (April 15, 1774) has ever since been celebrated in a similar manner. Of late, indeed, this is usually preceded by a sermon; while a Prince of the blood, with a number of distinguished personages, has been seen to preside at and adorn the festive board. It was formerly the custom after dinner for those who had been rescued from a watery grave to walk around the saloon in silent and solemn procession, and thus exhibit, at one and the same time, the most infallible proof of the utility of the institution, and of their own gratitude.

Thus, only seven years after the formation of the “Associ-

this society, the preacher (Rev. Hen. White, M. A.) introduced, among the providential means of saving life, the subject of Vaccination, with an ardour animated and impressive. At our dinner, about 250 members assembled, with a flow of soul, and not less of a pecuniary support. The anniversary dinner of the Sea-bathing Infirmary was more numerously attended than at any previous meeting; indeed, charity in this metropolis is more liberally supported than ever was heretofore known. At the anniversary of the Society for the Deaf and Dumb 3000*l.* were subscribed, of which 700*l.* were brought by Abraham Goldsmid the Jew. At the Jews' Hospital 2500*l.*, of which about 1000*l.* by the Christians. Thus charity, which descends from Heaven, is designed to canopy the whole earth; and England, like an immeasurable mirror, reflects the heavenly rays from pole to pole.”

In 1811, the doctor observes as follows: “The objects of the Royal Humane Society, &c. are prosecuted with the ardour that Hawes inspired, and with an increase of finances that characterises the liberality of the nation. I think you will find this year's Report more interesting than any preceding one.”

In the following letter, dated London, Nov. 23, 1811, Dr. Lettsom at length does justice to the zeal and merits of Dr. Cogan: “Next Wednesday being the birth-day of Dr. Hawes, the Humane Society will dine at five o'clock at the London Coffee-house, Dr. Lettsom in the chair. If you will favour us with your company, we will retire to Sambrook-court to take a bed. This must not be considered as a Society dinner; but as a private meeting (at their own expense) of the directors, managers, and select friends of the Society, and of the deceased founder. *Among the number will be the coadjutor and surviving founder Dr. Cogan.* I expect it will prove a day of social rationality and sedate conviviality. Do come, and oblige your's, &c.

ation for the Recovery of those apparently drowned" at Amsterdam, a "Humane Society" was established in London. The two founders now slumber in the silent grave; but it ought to be recorded on some public monument, that within a period considerably short of half a century, no fewer than 4411 persons have been resuscitated from apparent death, while several hundreds of persons have been rewarded for their meritorious efforts, in rescuing them from inevitable destruction!

On this occasion, a correspondence was commenced with Holland, by means of the subject of this memoir, who obtained all the rules and regulations of the mother-society. These, together with the Memoirs, were translated from the *low Dutch* by Mrs. Cogan, who thus, in conjunction with her husband, was associated in so good a cause. After a few years, the King was pleased to become the patron of the Institution, which, on this, immediately assumed the appellation of "The Royal Humane Society." A gold medal was also struck on the occasion, with an appropriate device*; and bestowed on such public-spirited individuals, as had risked their own lives for the preservation of their fellow-creatures. Here follows a summary of the process recommended and practised, which cannot be too widely diffused.

"PREVENTION OF DEATH.

Cautions.—1. Never hold the body up by the feet.—2. Never to be rolled on casks.—3. Avoid all rough usage.—4. Avoid the use of salt, in all cases of apparent death.

RESTORATION OF LIFE.

The Drowned.—1. Convey carefully the body, with the head raised, to the nearest convenient house.

2. Strip and dry the body; clean the mouth and nostrils.

3. Young children to be laid between two persons in a warm bed.

* LATREAT SCINTILLULA FORSAN.

4. An adult. — Lay the body on a blanket or bed, in a warm chamber, in winter:— To be exposed to the sun in summer.

5. The body to be gently rubbed with warm flannel; — a heated warming-pan, covered, to be lightly moved over the back and spine: if at hand use the warm-bath; or warm bricks, &c. applied to the arm-pits and soles of the feet.

6. To restore breathing — introduce the pipe of a pair of bellows into one nostril, having the other nostril and the mouth closed; inflate the lungs, till the breast be a little raised; the mouth and nostrils must then be let free: — repeat the process till life appears.

7. When a bellows, or any proper apparatus cannot be had, immediately attempt to excite the natural inspiration and expiration, by applying pressure alternately on the chest, merely by the hands, so as to imitate the natural breathing, and promote the introduction of atmospheric air. This process has proved highly successful; and as any person may apply it, as well as a medical professor, it should not be delayed a moment.

8. Electricity early employed by a medical assistant.

Intense Cold. — Rub the body with snow, ice, or cold water. — Restore warmth, &c. by slow degrees, and, after some time, if necessary, the plans to be employed for the resuscitation of drowned persons.

Suspension by the Cord. — 1. A few ounces of blood may be taken from the jugular vein, and cupping-glasses may be applied to the head and neck; leeches also to the temples.

2. The other methods of treatment, the same as recommended for the apparently drowned.

Suffocation by noxious Vapours. — Cold water to be repeatedly thrown upon the face, &c. drying the body at intervals. — If the body feels cold, employ gradual warmth, and the plans for the drowned.

The same process is necessary to recover persons apparently dead from a stroke of lightning.

Intoxication. — The body is to be laid on a bed, &c. with the head a little raised: the neckcloth, &c. removed — obtain

immediately medical assistance, as the modes of treatment must be varied according to the state of the patient.

General Observations. — 1. On signs of returning life, a teaspoonful of warm water may be given; and, if the power of swallowing be returned, warm wine, or diluted brandy — to be put into a warm bed, and if disposed to sleep, will generally awake restored to health.

2. The plans above recommended are to be used for three or four hours. It is an absurd and vulgar opinion to suppose persons are irrecoverable because life does not soon make its appearance.

3. Electricity and bleeding never to be employed, unless by the direction of the medical assistants.

If the resuscitative process be immediately employed, an immense number of lives will be restored.

Coroners. — Many lives have been sacrificed which might have been restored, from a prevailing opinion concerning the impropriety of meddling with a body without the permission of the coroner.

Opinion of an eminent Special Pleader. — “It is a misdemeanor to prevent the coroner from doing his duty. But the meddling with a body, for the purpose of restoring life, is not a transgression of the law; nor do I know any statute by which such an act is prohibited. The coroner ought to be called in as soon as it is evident that the body is dead.”

Absolute not apparent death is here meant.

Reflections. — 1. This institution has dried up an abundant source of destruction to human life.

2. Has created an additional province to medical science, and enlarged the boundaries of its exertions.

3. The Royal Humane Society has promoted in all ranks of people, an ardent spirit of benevolence and philanthropy.”

For the first six years, Dr. Cogan prepared the Annual Report of the Royal Humane Society; after which he was succeeded by Dr. Hawes. They both constantly attended the anniversary dinners, and were tremblingly alive to every thing connected with the institution. Their foreheads appeared to

be irradiated with mirth, while their eyes besparkled with joy at the customary festival!

Meanwhile, the doctor, by care, attention, and good conduct, in addition to a high character for science and knowledge, had attained a most respectable practice. He had acted for some years in conjunction with the present Dr. Sims, who is now, we believe, at the head of his profession, and to him he resigned the whole in 1780.

To those who may be astonished at beholding any one suddenly resigning such a lucrative situation, without any apparent motive, it is only necessary to observe, that Dr. and Mrs. Cogan were without any prospect of a family; that they had disciplined their desires in such a manner, as to divest themselves of all expensive habits; and that they were now in full possession of independence, and even of opulence. As for the Doctor, his three ruling passions through life appear to have been a love of agriculture, a fondness for travelling, and a taste for literature: these were happily blended with a love of the country, and a fervour of enthusiasm, in behalf of every thing connected with the happiness and melioration of the human species.

One of these objects was immediately gratified by another voyage to Holland, and he was so much attached both to the country and people, as in some of his letters to term himself a "Dutchman."

After visiting his old friends in Amsterdam, Rotterdam, and the Hague, he retired with his wife to one of the upper Provinces, where he occupied for some years the noble mansion of the Earl of Rochford, whose ancestor had accompanied William Prince of Orange to this country in the capacity of a page. Indeed, this nobleman himself was originally descended from the house of Nassau, and the place we now allude to proved to have been one of the favourite hunting-seats appertaining to this family.

The house was surrounded by a noble grove of trees, and the adjoining woods and fields and pleasure-grounds, which were all laid out according to the style of a former age, con-

tributed to render it delightful. Within, the apartments were numerous, lofty, and of large dimensions.

The furniture exactly corresponded to the residence, for it was to the full as grand as the palace of a King or Stadtholder demanded. The ancient chairs, tables, sofas, and beds, were all richly ornamented and gilded; so that the temporary occupant was often accustomed to observe, that during the first night spent by him at Zulestein, he was unable to close his eyes, which were involuntarily employed in roaming over the magnificence with which he was surrounded.

Here he spent some few years along with a female so justly dear to him. When they rode or wandered about the country, the lofty towers of their abode served as a land-mark to ascertain their exact position. As they returned, the trees in which it was embosomed seemed to bend their heads in token of a hearty welcome! But their happiness was destroyed by events, equally sudden and unexpected.

It has already been more than once hinted, that Dr. Cogan was greatly attached to Holland, and it is not a little probable that he would have ended his days at Zulestein but for an occurrence which shook the frame of all the governments of Europe, and rendered the United Provinces eminently disagreeable, and even insecure, for an Englishman. The House of Orange, which had originally contributed so much to the liberties and independence of the Dutch nation, had of late become odious, and was only preserved in its authority by Prussian bayonets. The French Revolution inspired that party which assumed the name of the *Patriots* with new hopes, and a hard winter, during which the rivers and canals were frozen, enabled their allies to pass over the ice, and become masters of the country.

This memorable event gave birth to what was termed "the Batavian Republic:" and the late Prince of Orange having fled to England, a spirit of independence seemed to be infused anew into the country. But it was not the interest of France, that the ancient genius of the Dutch commonwealth should be aroused; and Holland, for the first time since the expulsion of the Spaniards, was at length converted into a monarchy.

It was in consequence then of this extraordinary Revolution, that Dr. and Mrs. Cogan deemed it prudent to leave the Continent, and embarking at Helvoetsluys, landed after a short passage at Harwich. So certain, however, were they of a speedy return, that they actually settled for some time at Colchester, in anxious expectation of another change, which would enable them to re-visit the former scenes of their delight in security, and once more embrace the numerous friends they had left behind. But these fond wishes were not then destined to be realised.

Meanwhile, Dr. Cogan paid frequent visits to town, and in 1794 published his "Rhine, or a Journey from Utrecht to Frankfort." The late Mr. Joseph Johnson, an eminent and respectable bookseller, of St. Paul's Church-yard, was his publisher, and at the house of this worthy man, who set apart one day of the week for the entertainment of men of letters, he formed a number of agreeable acquaintances, as he was a frequent guest.

In the course of the succeeding year, he translated the works of Professor Camper, from the Low Dutch. Here again we have reason to believe that he obtained the assistance of his wife, in preparing a publication for the press, which was written in her native tongue; to him a foreign language, and not indeed so fixed by grammatical rules, as to be easy of comprehension when reduced to writing, even by those who have spoken it from their infancy. It was for some time doubted, whether he was the author of the life and opinions of "John Bunce, Jun.;" but since his death this is no longer a question, as it is well known and acknowledged by his family, that he composed this work.

At length, notwithstanding the advanced period of his life, Dr. Cogan determined to indulge in a taste for agriculture, which had been always a favourite pursuit with him. He accordingly removed to the west of England, and took a farm at South Wraxall, near Bath. It may be supposed by some, that this must have proved a very unprofitable speculation; and that in consequence of the very different pursuits, in

which a long life had been occupied, would have been continually committing blunders, and experiencing disappointments.

This however was not the case. On the contrary, he became not only one of the best, but most celebrated farmers in Somersetshire. On all occasions, he followed the most approved modes of cultivating the earth then in use, and actually introduced new ones, with no small degree of profit and advantage. He now became a member of one of the Agricultural Societies, and was soon distinguished as a candidate for public notice. Nor were his labours ineffectual; for he obtained several premiums, such as cups, medals, &c. for his improved practice.

Meanwhile, literary pursuits were not forgotten. A "Philosophical Treatise on the Passions," in one volume, of which two editions were published, was speedily followed by an "Ethical Treatise" on the same subject, which experienced equal success. To these succeeded his two "Theological Disquisitions," in which he exhibits the superior excellence of Christianity, and denies "the eternity of hell torments;" and as these formed a series, they were afterwards printed and bound together.

"Ethical Questions, or Speculations on the principal Subjects of Controversy in Moral Philosophy," proved his last work, having been published only a few months before his decease; and of this an attempt is here made to convey an outline.

We are told in the preface, that in his Philosophical and Ethical Treatises on the Passions, every subject merely speculative had been cautiously avoided, the object being to collect and arrange important truths, philosophical and moral, and give them a practical direction. The following speculations may be considered as supplementary to the preceding volumes, and are intended, among other things, "to confute the hypothesis of Beattie, so boldly advanced, and perseveringly supported in the popular *Essay on Truth*." These doctrines were before attacked by a great philosopher * of this country;

* Dr. Priestley.

but a new edition of that work indicates that the arguments then used have not produced universal conviction: "in the field of science, as well as of agriculture, the weeds which have not been totally eradicated will spring up and require a *second hoing*." "The sentiments," adds he, "I have been so solicitous to support in these speculations, appear to me so influential to the practice of virtue, so conducive to human happiness, and so honourable to the Supreme Being, that I sincerely hope every endeavour to confute them will be in vain."

The following questions contain the subject of Speculation I.: "What are the sources of rational conviction? And what are the characteristic differences of each?" Every man, we are told, professes to love, and acknowledges the importance of truth; yet few persons have made the *nature* of evidence, and the *kinds* of evidence on which truths are founded, or the *degrees* of it which are necessary for the conviction of a rational mind, the subjects of minute enquiry. There must be such a thing as *truth*, although from its extreme simplicity, it may be difficult to define it. Whatever *has been, is, or will be*, is entitled to the denomination of truth; it is and must be beneficial in its nature: error is merely the phantom of a diseased imagination, or a voluntary deception of a depraved mind, and is pernicious.

Truths are stated to be known seven different ways: through the medium of our senses; by quick perceptions; by observation and experience; by human testimony; by means of memory; by reasoning, or logical deductions; and lastly, by mathematical evidence.

After examining each of these separately, our author observes, that "the more secure, but the more tedious method of searching after truth, is by the slow process of *analysis*; to suspect a theorising disposition; to enlist under no banner; but earnestly to seek for truth itself, whether it confirm or oppose popular opinions; fearless of consequences, and convinced, that it alone, however foreign or alarming in aspect upon its first appearance, or injurious to individuals, is the

only solid basis of human happiness, on an extensive scale. Should the materials thus carefully collected, digested, and arranged, terminate in a system, it promises to be a permanent edifice, founded upon a rock, defying every assailant, and adapted to the most important purposes.

“It was by this method,” adds he, “that Bacon, Locke, and Hartley, have immortalized themselves, and blessed mankind; notwithstanding the occasional errors which subsequent enquiries may have discovered, in consequence of the very illuminations received from their writings. A giant may enable a dwarf to see somewhat further than himself, by kindly placing him upon his shoulders.”

In the next section it is maintained, that benevolence is a principle distinct from self-love. In combating the hypothesis, that a benevolent action is always founded on self-interest, he contends merely against the *universality* of its operations. Every act by which others are benefited, does not indeed proceed from a pure unmixed motive: much good is done from a principle of vanity, and we are teased into many things by the force of solicitations. The pleasure of doing good introduces habit and attachment, and there will be always a disposition to assist a beloved object, which will increase until personal interest may be totally forgotten.

In regard to the “existence of the moral sense” which is the next subject of inquiry, our author is not inclined to think that human nature is endowed with this; but we are told, that “the love of virtue, and hatred of vice—distinctions quickly discerned, and strong sensations correspondent to their character—are equally the *acquirements* of virtuous minds.”

As to the doctrine of *philosophical necessity*, it is observed, “that as the human will forms so important a link in the chain, it ought to be perpetually noticed and respected; and its powers of choice should be carefully distinguished from every species of physical agency.” The Doctor seems to think, that mankind are in a gradual state of improvement; we daily perceive that conviction of errors leads to future

good; repeated experience must finally correct the grossest ignorance; while a series of evils suffered in one course, will compel us to pursue another, until we shall finally have obtained wisdom to make a choice of virtue, and religion as the supreme good; "this life may be much too short for the purpose, but the human race have an eternity before them."

It is contended also, that amidst all the diversities we behold, a *concatenation*, an uninterrupted concatenation, may be traced. "An undisturbed series of cause and effect prevails. The links indissolubly hang together. No human power can break through them." "Nay more, what renders the chain so indissolubly strong, is, that no human being can desire to break through them; for his own desires, determinations, and executions, are *component parts* of the chain; and no man can possibly change the purpose he is executing at the very time that he wills to execute it."

"It has been objected," adds he, soon after, "that this concatenation leads to all the horrors of fatalism. In the mind of an Atheist it may, with the consistent Theist there is little danger, with the pious Christian it is impossible."

The fifth speculation is occupied with the investigation of the following question: "Is *human nature* endowed with a *common sense* destined to be the criterion of truth; and more infallible in any case respecting its decisions, than the deductions of reason?" This is denied by our author, notwithstanding it has been gravely asserted by Dr. Beattie, and willingly assented to by what is here termed "the northern Philosophers." "The attempt," observes he, "is no less than to employ reason to weaken her own influence; to make her prove that upon subjects where she is the most wanted she is a dangerous guide. It is confessed that in the science of bodies, reason has made some glorious discoveries; but we are advised in the science of the mind to consider her as treacherous and deceitful. Thus the exquisite and exalted powers of our intellectual faculties are solely adapted to those inventions and discoveries which respect the accommodation of man, in his passage through this transient state of things!

Subjects infinitely more momentous are not within her particular province. All the fidelity with which her powers execute inferior tasks, ought not to seduce us into a confidence in her, when we are searching after metaphysical, moral, or religious truths. These are to be discovered at once, by inward and infallible sensations, and our intellectual faculties are to be rejected as impertinent, intrusive, and dangerous!

“But what augments our surprise is, that at the instant in which reason is declared incompetent to judge of these subjects, Dr. Beattie implores her aid to the establishment of his system! And that his favourite common sense did not immediately discover to him the absurdity of the project! If our professor’s arguments be futile, the system falls of itself; if they be potent, their very potency will destroy it; for the arduous province assigned to reason, is to excite by ratiocination, the strongest suspicions that the powers of ratiocination are not to be credited. He would thus compel *it* to prove its own fallibility, and he reduces *himself* to the necessity of reposing a strong confidence in that reason which he earnestly admonishes us to distrust.

“Hume, with all thy eccentricities,” observes our author, “thou hast never advanced principles so inimical to the public weal! A consistent disciple of Dr. Beattie may feel it to be his duty to become a pest to society; while thy disciples, were they invariably governed by thy principles, would become too sceptical to commit an injury.”

The next section is occupied with an enquiry into the peculiar opinions of Mr. Hume, which he opposes with the same zeal as he has done those of Dr. Beattie.

The seventh and last speculation respects “moral obligation.” Much labour is bestowed on an enquiry into the foundations of virtue and morality, and reference is made to another work (Eth. Treat. vol. ii. p. 97.) for the distinctions he has endeavoured to establish between these. Their definitions are here given: virtue expresses in its most comprehensive sense, “a salutary force or energy;” morals “are exclusively applied by the moderns, to those manners and

habits which respect the progress of virtue;" while moral obligation "is a relative term, which when it respects *morals* implies a duty."

One principle Dr. Cogan maintains to be universally operative, and hence the infinite importance of virtue and morality in producing the desired end, which is happiness. "It is manifest," observes he, "that the principles of virtue are the only principles by which the greatest good can be obtained. That virtue is the road to well-being, pointed out by the finger of God, every Theist will allow, who has paid attention to the nature and tendency of virtue; and every Christian will admit, that it is rendered obligatory, in order to prepare us for a more exalted state of happiness, than can possibly be enjoyed in the present imperfect, tumultuous, and transitory condition of things. These facts incontestably prove the divine benignity towards the human race; and they authorise us to conclude, that *benevolence towards his creatures is the grand spring of action.*

"This inference," adds he, "corresponds with the most exalted ideas we can possibly form of a being perfectly good. Benevolence is the principle which constitutes superlative excellence of character. We have proved upon another occasion, that all the other attributes of the Deity are subservient to his GOODNESS. Power is an attribute merely physical. Knowledge may be inert. Wisdom is alone valuable as it enables to form and execute plans of utility. *Goodness* is the attribute which renders every other attribute interesting. It both directs and restrains power; it renders knowledge efficacious of good; it inspires complacency in all the plans of wisdom."

The following quotation will convey some idea of the *benevolent disposition* of the author himself:

"I have proved upon a former occasion, that no one dogma in controversial theology is built upon a slighter foundation, than the doctrine of eternal misery; and also that the terms *death, perdition, destruction*, so frequently used in the Old Testament, could not be synonymous with absolute anni-

hilation; because the righteous as well as the wicked are to be raised to life at the general resurrection. It is therefore illogical to give that gloomy interpretation to the same phrases so frequently used in the *New Testament*, that is, in *the dispensation of Grace!*

“ I have proved, and I think unanswerably, that the judicial punishment of sin is *death*, the loss of life, or a claim to immortality, from imperfection of character; that to construe the terms *death*, *perdition*, *destruction* into a life, an eternal life of misery, is the strangest perversion of language ever permitted to pass current.”

While occupied in metaphysical discussions, Dr. Cogan was not unmindful of other objects which were always dear to him, as connected with the best and noblest interests of the human species. Finding some melancholy instances of persons drowned in the river Avon, &c. in 1805, in conjunction with a few friends, he instituted the “ Bath Humane Society.” It was nearly at the same period, that death snatched from him the succour and society of a dearly beloved wife, after an union of almost forty years.

At length, partly in consequence of his advanced age, and partly from other considerations of a different kind, Dr. Cogan gave over the pursuit of agriculture, and was afterwards accustomed gaily to observe, “ that but for the support of the king and the beggar, he would never have turned farmer.” By this, he meant merely to insinuate, that he was enabled by a recurrence to the earth, to indemnify himself for the increase of taxation, both royal and parochial, produced by the war with France.

The Doctor now visited his friends and relations, and resided sometimes in Bath and sometimes in London. At length he repaired to the capital for the last time, and took lodgings in Covent-Garden, that being a central situation, whence he could easily visit both Westminster and the city. He had been for some years affected with asthma, which he was liable to during the winter season; and about the Christmas of 1817-18, was also afflicted with a cough. This was greatly increased by an im-

prudent visit dictated by friendship to a gentleman who resided in St. Mary-Axe, through a thick fog, on the last day of the old year, which produced a cold that proved both troublesome and dangerous. As he was not unconscious of his situation, after about three weeks endurance of his malady, Dr. Cogan determined to remove to another air. Accordingly, on Saturday, January 24, he set out for the house of his half-brother, the Rev. E. Cogan, a very respectable minister and schoolmaster, at Higham-hill, near Walthamstow, where he lingered for some time. His death was that of a philosopher and a Christian. Finding his end approaching on Sunday, February 1st, he exhibited a degree of unexampled courage and resolution; for we never recollect to have either seen or heard of any similar effort. Being now incapable of holding a pen, he dictated to one of his nephews three farewell letters addressed to three of his most particular friends, and at the same time observed with his usual placidity of countenance, "this is the great trial!"

Like Socrates of old, he conversed with those around him until his dissolution; and, what is not a little remarkable, he did not keep his bed one entire day during the whole of his illness.

"I have only to add," observes one of his relatives, who witnessed the whole of this awful scene, "that to the very last moment, he retained the vigour of his mind; that during the last few days of his life, he conversed with his usual vivacity, and looked forward to death with a serenity and composure which excited the admiration of all who saw him. His dismissal was perfectly easy, as he departed without a struggle or a groan immediately after having taken some refreshment with considerable relish."

Thus, at the ebb of life, and on a death-bed, he acted with his wonted serenity and firmness. He even smiled, as he was accustomed to do, when he happened to utter any thing playful. He spoke as follows to his brother, and the elder of his nephews: "You now deplore my condition, but it will soon be your fate also. I am only anticipating you a little

while. Suppose your boys were to undergo an examination to-morrow morning, what would it signify, that one should go to bed at six this evening, another at seven, another at eight, and another at ten — they would all meet together at the same hour to-morrow !”

He also conversed with his brother, the Rev. E. Cogan, on a variety of subjects, particularly the important one of religion ; and, unless when speaking on any thing serious amidst the supposed gloom of a death-bed, displayed all that amiable serenity which had marked, embellished, and accompanied the whole of his life. At length his strength and his speech failing, he expired without a groan, on February 2d, 1818. Dr. Cogan had attained a good old age, for had he lived until the following Sunday, he would have completed his 82d year. But even then, his would still have been eight years short of the long-protracted space of life enjoyed by his father. His will, like every other act of his life, exhibited the amiableness of his character. He bequeathed the bulk of his fortune, which was pretty considerable, partly among his own immediate relatives, and partly among those of his late wife ; his friends too were not forgotten, and it is not a little honourable to his memory, that he left a legacy to Miss Hawes, of Lavender-Hill, Surrey, a respectable lady, who is the niece of the late worthy Dr. Hawes, his most zealous co-operator, in founding the Royal Humane Society of London. His remains were committed to the earth, amidst the sighs of his surrounding friends and relatives, at the burial-ground in Hackney, on Monday the 9th of February.

Thus died Thomas Cogan, M. D., after a long life, enjoyed, not wasted ; rendered pleasant by the undeviating evenness of his own temper ; and successful by care, industry, and attention. He considered life as a journey full of incidents ; and it was his practice to render it as agreeable as possible. In early youth, he displayed an attachment, and also evinced a certain degree of excellence, in poetry. He was happy in some of his lyrical effusions ; and is said to have been the author of many humorous songs. At the anniversaries of the

Humane Society, he was accustomed to sing one of his own composition, in honour of that institution, every stanza of which, in allusion to the solicitations at first necessarily recurred to, for the purpose of exciting compassion, was made to end with the old and popular burthen of —

“ And a begging we will go, will go,

“ And a begging we will go!”

After this, his chief pursuits were, metaphysics, theology, and agriculture; but towards the conclusion of his life, he devoted his time chiefly to the study of moral philosophy, in which he must be allowed to have excelled.

In respect to religion, he was, from conviction, a Christian; and, at the same time, what every good Christian ought to be — liberal in respect to the construction of other men's opinions, and tolerant in regard to those who differed from him, even in matters of vital importance. All his writings connected with theology tend to show the justice, goodness, and paternal affection of the Deity: whence he inferred the consequent impossibility of eternal torments!

Dr. Lettsom, in the Annual Report of the Royal Humane Society for 1814, thus notices Dr. Cogan's account of their proceedings:

“ These volumes have acquired distinguished public approbation; but here it is not requisite, at this time, to offer additional eulogy. Reflecting, however, upon the advanced period of life in which some of these have been composed, contemplation is gratified by the splendid display of mental vigour in maturity of age; in the acumen of the philosopher, so happily combined with the solidity of the sage; affording at the same time a pleasing instance of the influence of benevolence maintaining mental activity; of philanthropy, which, by communicating placidity of mind, prolongs its energies. ‘ *Quietè et purè atque eleganter acta ætatis placida ac lenis recordatio.*’

“ Hence results that suavity of manners, so interesting in society; those varied and infinite resources of lively conversation, which diffuse rational pleasure, and convey useful

instruction. True it is, that familiarity may be exercised without degradation, and elevation of sentiment without cold reserve, or the repulsiveness of ostentation; as the expression of superiority of knowledge may be chastened by suavity of manner; and this is the happy medium, so characteristic of the surviving Founder of the Royal Humane Society."

In his person, Dr. Cogan was small, plump, and rather inclined to corpulence in the middle period of his life; he at the same time exhibited a keen eye, and a benignant smile. In his dress, he was plain and neat, but he had adopted the Dutch method of clothing, and was accordingly accustomed to use flannel, and wear worsted stockings, both of which he retained longer than is customary in our climate.

His conversation powers were very prominent, for he was replete with intelligence, and conveyed his knowledge in a calm and gentle manner, without dogmatism, or a surly affectation of superiority. On the contrary, he was uncommonly mild, gentle, and unassuming.

This article cannot better conclude perhaps than with the following unanimous vote of the Royal Humane Society, passed at the first meeting after his decease:

"Resolved, That this Court receives information of the death of Dr. Cogan with feelings of the deepest regret for his loss — of the most unfeigned respect for his memory — of admiration of his talents, so usefully and meritoriously devoted for the good of his fellow-creatures — and of gratitude for the numerous and important services, rendered by him to this society.

LIST OF THE WORKS

Of the late Dr. Thomas Cogan.

1. Memoirs of the Society instituted at Amsterdam for the Purpose of restoring Persons apparently drowned, for the years 1767, 1768, 1769, 1770, and 1771. Translated from the Low Dutch, 8vo. 1774.

2. Professor Camper's Works, on the Connection between Anatomy and the Fine Arts, &c. Translated from the Low Dutch, 1 vol. 4to. with plates, two editions.

3. The Rhine, or a Journey from Utrecht to Frankfort, &c. 1794, 2 vols. 8vo. with plates.

4. A Philosophical Treatise on the Passions, two editions, 1 vol. 8vo. 1802.

5. An Ethical Treatise on the Passions, founded on the principles investigated in the foregoing work, (No. 4.) 2 vols. 8vo. two editions.

6. Theological Disquisitions, or an Inquiry into those Principles of Religion which are most influential in directing and leading the Passions and Affections of the Mind, 8vo. 1812.

7. A Theological Disquisition on the characteristic Excellencies of Christianity; or, an Inquiry into the superior Assistance it affords, and Motives it contains for the Practice of Virtue, Cultivation of the best Affections of the Heart, and preparing the moral Offspring for permanent Felicity, 8vo. 1813. N. B. These Disquisitions were afterwards published in 5 vols. 8vo.

8. Life and Opinions of John Bunce, Jun.

9. Letters to William Wilberforce, Esq. M.P. on the Doctrine of hereditary Depravity. By a Layman, 8vo. three editions.

10. Ethical Questions, or Speculations on the principal Subjects of Controversy in Moral Philosophy, 1 vol. 8vo. 1817.

N. B. Dr. Cogan has left some unfinished works, and also several manuscripts behind him.

No. IV.

JOSEPH ADAMS, M.D. and F.L.S.

LATE SENIOR PHYSICIAN TO THE SMALLPOX AND VACCINE INOCULATION HOSPITALS, AND ALSO TO THE NEW FINSBURY AND CENTRAL DISPENSARY IN SMITHFIELD, PRESIDENT OF THE LONDON MEDICAL SOCIETY, &c. &c.

[With an Analysis of his principal Work.]

THE subject of the present memoir, who was born in the metropolis, in 1756, claimed his descent from a family, of which several successive generations had been also born, and generally resided there. His ancestors appear to have come originally from the neighbouring county of Hertford, and he himself is supposed to have sprung from that branch of which Sir Thomas Adams, Lord Mayor of London in 1645 — a great sufferer during the civil wars, on account of his attachment to the house of Stuart — was the head.

Joseph Adams, the youngest of the three sons of a respectable medical practitioner in Basinghall-street, may be said to have come into, and continued in the world for about three-score years, in a constant and familiar intercourse with every possible appendage to the healing art — drugs, hospitals, lecture-rooms were constantly in view, and for the most part, the scene of action from the cradle to the grave!

After a suitable education, which was greatly improved by study, this youth was apprenticed to his own father, who was a member of the Apothecaries' company, with a view to the future benefits derivable from that excellent institution; and a fair opening was thus made for his becoming, first the partner, and in due season the successor of a parent who devoted much

time to his instruction. A variety of circumstances, however, prevented the completion of this scheme, although taught the first principles of pharmacy under the paternal roof.

The ambition of Joseph, influenced perhaps by both a love of and taste for classical literature, soon aimed at the higher branches of his profession: for to remain a mere dispenser of drugs, was not consonant either with his intentions or his feelings. And here it must be frankly allowed, that by his studious and retired habits, superadded to a turn for investigation, he was admirably calculated either for the humbler or more exalted branches of his profession.

Mr. Adams was now fated, in the language of the times, "to walk the hospitals," and it will be seen by recurring to the names only of the masters under whom he studied, that he was enabled at an early period of life to render himself familiar with the practice of the greatest physicians and surgeons of that day. At St. Bartholomew's he witnessed the talents of Dr. Pitcairn, one of the most popular medical characters of his time, and was also a pupil of Mr. Pott, who had become so famous for his operations in respect to the stone, that he was deemed equal, if not superior, to the French lithotomists;—no small compliment at that period!

Under his friend and future patron, Dr. Saunders, at Guy's, he also beheld an able and enlightened mode of treating the patients at that establishment; but it was at St. George's Hospital, whither he had been attracted by the reputation of Mr. John Hunter, that he learned to reject some very current notions, as well as rooted prejudices on one hand; while on the other, he readily imbibed the new and enlightened theories of that gentleman, then at the height of his reputation.

The scholar was well calculated, both by nature and education, duly to appreciate the merits of such a master. He did not reject his doctrines because they were novel in themselves, and rather disadvantageously exhibited under an uncouth garb and a provincial phraseology; on the contrary, he soon perceived them to be at once ingenious, interesting, and profound. They were the ideas of a man original in his character and

conceptions, unacquainted with books, but familiar with practice; who was thus not only incapable of plagiarisms from the conceptions of others, but obliged not unfrequently to call in assistance, to explain his own. The subject of the present memoir was well adapted, by a previous course of study, to comprehend both the value and utility of his doctrines. The zeal displayed by Mr. Joseph Adams was so great indeed, that on all occasions he became their warm advocate and defender; in short, during the course of his whole life, he was ready at all times to enter the lists with the anti-Hunterians, whom he attacked as if they had been his own personal enemies.

After some years spent in these previous avocations, Mr. Adams at length, although not without some degree of reluctance, commenced practice in the metropolis as a surgeon and apothecary. Certain it is, however, that although now happily married, and apparently settled for life, his success was neither equal to his expectations nor his merits. On this, several of his friends, particularly the late Dr. Saunders, prevailed on him to leave England, and try his fortune in another part of the world. But to effect this with comfort, and even with propriety, it became necessary for him to obtain a degree. As he had not studied at either of the English Universities, it was deemed proper to solicit this from the northern portion of our island. Accordingly a *testimonium* in respect to character and talents, most respectably signed, was transmitted to Marshal College, Aberdeen, and a Diploma in due form transmitted in return. The degree of M. D. was obtained in 1796; and the first edition of his work on "Morbid Poisons," which shall be noticed hereafter, may be considered as a *Disseratio Inauguralis* on this occasion.

Dr. Adams now determined to proceed to the island of Madeira, and his friends in London, together with the reputation derived from the work just alluded to, facilitated the means of practising there to advantage. He accordingly obtained the most flattering introductory letters, not only to the English merchants, but also to the Portuguese nobility, as well as the governor, Don Jose da Camera e Leme. By the special

favour of his Excellency, he was permitted soon after his arrival to visit the Lazaretto near Funchall, where some unhappy persons afflicted with the leprosy were carefully secluded from society; and after a minute examination of several of the patients, both male and female, he was enabled to remove many ancient and important errors respecting that * malady. He also had a fair opportunity to do ample justice to the memory of Mr. Hunter, by a description of the *Acarus Syro* (Exulcerans) of Linnæus, inadvertently by some supposed to be the itch-insect, the existence of which in this disorder had always been peremptorily denied by that bold and original speculator. Such was his ardour of investigation, that he appears to have actually "colonized" this extraordinary animal on his own person, for the purpose of obtaining a more complete demonstration. He had also an opportunity of tracing the unhappy malady called the Yaws in a white subject (a young Danish nobleman, his patient), from the previous fever to cicatrization.

Notwithstanding Dr. Adams found an English physician in full practice at Madeira, he soon obtained such encouragement as induced a residence there during the space of many years.

That island has generally been deemed not only generally salubrious, but beneficial in no small degree, in respect to the cure of pulmonary complaints. It has accordingly been long frequented by many of the English nation either immediately afflicted with, or exhibiting a tendency to diseases of the lungs. The war, too, had at this period multiplied the number of patients, who now flocked thither in abundance, as they were totally deprived of an asylum either in the south of France or any portion of Italy.

Dr. Adams was fully aware of the advantages to be derived by a medical man from these circumstances, and he contrived to enhance them by means equally useful and advantageous.

* See a "Description of the Arabian Leprosy, or Elephantiasis of the Ancients, the Elephantiasis of the Moderns, or the Barbadoes Leg, and the Lepra Grecorum," read before the College of Physicians in 1806.

Accordingly, a large and spacious house was soon provided for him, and knowing that attention to *dietetics* was to the full as necessary as medicine itself, he was thus enabled not only to prescribe certain rules and regulations, but also in some degree to superintend their execution.

Nor was it solely an accession to his private fortune that Dr. Adams courted. The situation he now occupied afforded ample opportunity for collecting new facts, as well as eradicating many ancient prejudices, — for among the natives he beheld not only varieties of the diseases witnessed in England, but also many maladies happily unknown here, or if known, existing but in a trifling degree. To the catalogue already enumerated, may be added some diseases very common in our West India colonies. Several cases of this kind were carefully examined; it was he also who penned the first accurate description of the “Barbadoes leg,” which has since been fully verified by subsequent inquiries.

After a residence of about eight years in Madeira, during which ample opportunity was afforded for a little tract on the climate of that island, Dr. Adams returned to his native city in 1805, with his health amended, his mind expanded, and his fortune improved. Indeed it has been confidently asserted, that the voyage itself was strictly connected with his professional pursuits. During his absence, a new and most singular epoch in medical science had occurred. The smallpox, so long the dread of afflicted parents and the terror of blooming beauty, which notwithstanding the milder substitute of inoculation, like a pestilence, occasionally smote and thinned whole districts, had now met a more formidable antidote in the Jennerian discovery, a rival of a gentler form and less terrible aspect. This had been both described and ranked by himself, among the “Morbid Poisons,” several years before, and a second edition of his work was now loudly demanded. To complete the subject, he was also desirous to re-visit Great Britain, for the purpose of deciding on the nature of Sivvens, a disease very common in Scotland, by actual inquiry and inspection on the spot.

His arrival in this country occurred at a period extremely

auspicious not only to his own interests, but those of medical science. The permission of the College of Physicians enabled him to practise as a licentiate; but he looked forward to some settled and permanent employment, congenial to an active and inquisitive mind, and likely to lead to scientific inquiries and results. The death of Dr. Woodville, who had so long presided as Physician to the Smallpox Hospital at St. Pancras, had just produced a vacancy in that Institution. For this office he immediately became a candidate, and was supported in his pretensions by several eminent physicians, particularly Dr. Jenner, who had so recently distinguished himself, by introducing and perfecting the *preventive mode* of treatment, in respect to one of the most virulent, contagious, and deadly diseases with which humanity has ever been afflicted. Accordingly all difficulties, both in respect to the regulations of the hospital itself, as well as to the laws of the college, having been most satisfactorily obviated, Dr. Adams was unanimously elected physician to the Smallpox Hospital. This fortunate event immediately determined him to fix his residence in London, and he accordingly settled in the metropolis during the remainder of his days.

For several years after this period, the life of Dr. Adams was but little chequered, either by fortunate or adverse circumstances; being entirely devoted to the duties of his profession.

His immediate predecessor in 1799 had already introduced vaccination, and during the last seven years the progress of the new treatment was considerable, although not rapid. The subject of this memoir, however, found that it was not yet sufficiently prevalent; for the variolous patients still exceeded those who had been vaccinated, to the amount of two hundred. An epidemical smallpox of the natural kind, accompanied by frequent deaths, instead of proving favourable to vaccination, as might have been supposed, tended rather to discountenance it. Parental fears, and the usual prejudices accompanying every thing novel, rendered that species of inoculation originally introduced from the East by Lady

Mary Wortley Montague, and now fully identified with the habits and practice of the country, still popular. Thus, vaccination had the most formidable enemies to contend with: custom, prejudice, and ignorance.

Notwithstanding this, Dr. Adams, whose mind was fully imbued with the propriety and necessity of the Jennerian system, continued as much as possible to practise it in the Institution committed to his superintendence. Nay, he was of opinion, that none else should be allowed in the Hospital; but the time had not yet arrived when this could be either satisfactorily or safely attempted. Fortunately, however, for the interests of humanity, the epidemic ceased; and it is not a little memorable that the first week in June 1806 exhibited a singular exception to the usual result: not one single death by smallpox having occurred within the bills of mortality.

The committee for managing the affairs of this establishment, actuated by similar motives with their physician, deemed this a proper opportunity for removing causeless alarms and ill-founded prejudices; as well as of promoting a perfect reliance and security in respect to the new mode of treatment. Accordingly a general report was drawn up, and circulated under the Doctor's inspection. Nearly at the same time, in a communication to the College of Physicians, he stated, for the information of the House of Commons, that it appeared from the registers of the Hospital, "that 20,324 patients had been vaccinated there since 1799, of which only eighteen had afterwards taken the smallpox casually." A new order of things followed soon after these investigations; for in the spring of 1808, the *variolation* of out-patients was discontinued, while vaccination was readily offered and daily practised with increasing certainty and success.

Dr. Adams afterwards published a second communication on this interesting subject, and presented the profits of the sale to the Hospital funds. Both Reports have since been consolidated; and thirteen editions have yielded 1517*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*, which sum was invested in short annuities, and the interest placed at the disposal of the committee.

Meanwhile Dr. Adams endeavoured to obtain the ear and confidence of the public, by means of a number of pamphlets, essays, and dissertations, immediately connected with his professional avocations. In particular, as might indeed have been expected, he exhibited himself on all occasions a strenuous advocate for vaccine inoculation, and published answers to all the objections made against the cowpox. He also wrote an illustration of Mr. John Hunter's theories concerning "The Life of the Blood, &c."

In 1806, Dr. Adams at length found time to complete a new edition of his work on Morbid Poisons, on which his fame, both as a speculative inquirer and practical physician, chiefly rests. It was not however published until the following year, when it appeared in a new and more advantageous form, being not only accompanied with many additions of an interesting nature, but also with several coloured plates, well calculated to exhibit correctly the appearance of certain diseases under all their varied forms and variations.

The work itself is preceded by a copious introduction, under the name of "Preliminary Remarks;" consisting chiefly of a defence of the doctrines of Mr. Hunter, whose opinions "are gaining ground daily." The observations consist of two parts, the first of which comprehends syphilis, yaws, sivvens, elephantiasis, and the *anomala* confounded with them; the second includes the acute contagious, particularly the variolous and yaccine.

It is stated, that among the ancients the dread of poison was the continual alloy of successful ambition, and the object of medicine was rather to discover antidotes than remedies. Improvement in natural knowledge has relieved us from many of these fears, and yet a terror of "poisoned bullets," "poisoned Indian arrows," and "poisoned springs," for a long time prevailed. Apprehensions of contagion too, unknown in former ages, have haunted the moderns; and prevented their slumbers. In the times alluded to above, slaves and plebeians chiefly suffered: often in peace, and still more frequently in warlike times, famine was the forerunner of pestilence; and the rich generally

escaped both. The disease ceased with the cause which produced it, and the individuals who fell were scarcely known excepting by their nearest connections.

“ But by some causes which have not hitherto been explained, diseases have been introduced, which spread in a manner that defies all caution. No prudence can protect us against a contagion which may be conveyed by so many sources as the smallpox, and the venereal poison finds its way to the retreats of the most wealthy libertine. Men whose lives are varied with a perpetual series of enjoyments, or who promise themselves such a succession, feel proportionably apprehensive of whatever may shorten or interrupt such a career. Hence imaginary evils are multiplied, and the anxiety to enjoy without danger proves a source of greater miseries than we dread.

“ When a plentiful table, luxurious baths, and a cautious seclusion, were no security against a disease which might be introduced with a napkin, all cutaneous complaints became more than ever an object of suspicion without discrimination, and almost without examination. Under the general denomination of lepers, thousands whose only crime was poverty were condemned to imprisonment or exile. If we may believe Matthew Paris, the number of Lazarettoes erected after the holy wars amounted to 21,000; and we are told, that in the metropolis of a neighbouring kingdom, the façade of such a building exhibited a gibbet for such as dare either enter or escape without permission.

“ These terrors might gradually have subsided: eruptive fevers produce their crisis, and death or recovery follow. Chronic eruptions were less frequent among the wealthy, and when they occurred were overlooked, like their vices. Among the poor, who depended more for support on uncertain contributions than on manual labour, a prison was at least a security from want. But when a disease arose, which spread in proportion as the means of indulgence were extended — for which at first no remedy was known, and which, when apparently subdued by a remedy, would afterwards show itself in a distant part, and even when driven from the skin, would

appear in the bones, — all reasoning seemed to be set at defiance. The horrors of so uncertain an infection were scarcely less dreadful than those of religious superstition; and quacks, as well as regular practitioners, were sometimes as industrious in availing themselves of these, as monks and the secular priests of the terrors of damnation.”

As our improved knowledge of the productions of nature has relieved us from many terrors concerning poisons, so a more correct attention to the laws of disease has somewhat lessened our apprehensions of contagion. In proportion as this knowledge increases, the happiness of mankind will be less alloyed by fear; and therefore no subject can be more deserving the attention of a physician, than an enquiry into *morbid poisons*.

After attempting a more correct definition of the terms *endemic*, *epidemic*, *contagious*, and *infectious*, we are told that there are certain circumstances common to most morbid poisons: the first is, that all persons if susceptible of their impression are more so, in proportion as they are unaccustomed to it.

2dly, That Mr. Hunter, who first saw the necessity of a distinction between the original and morbid animal poisons, observed three states of the body, which are necessary for the existence of the latter: susceptibility, disposition, and action.

And 3dly, Two actions cannot be carried on at the same time in the same part, or the same constitution; another law entirely overlooked until Mr. Hunter's time.

The Doctor in his next chapter (chap. iii.) produces instances recorded by other writers to illustrate the doctrine of morbid poisons; and attempts a classification of those local diseases, on the plan pointed out by Celsus.

After stating the probable origin of some morbid poisons, our author reproduces his own, which was the first printed account of cowpox.

“The cowpox,” observes he (p. 51.), “is a disease well known to the dairy farmers in Gloucestershire. The only appearance in the animal is a phagedenic ulcer on the teat,

without any apparent inflammation. When communicated to the human species, it produces, besides ulceration in the hand, a considerable tumour in the arm, with symptomatic fever, both which gradually subside. What is still more extraordinary, as far as facts have hitherto been ascertained, the person who has been infected is rendered insensible to the variolous poison.*

“Whether any of the morbid poisons, which at present so much diminish the period of human life, arose from such causes, it is impossible to ascertain. It would be easy to suggest many arguments that might favour such an opinion, derived from the countries from which some of them are said to have originated. But as nothing satisfactory can be obtained, it is much more to the purpose to direct our attention to the laws by which every poison is governed, till an accumulation of facts shall enable us to form rational conclusions.”

We next have an account of the first local actions induced by morbid poisons, which is illustrated by the cause and progress of other local actions that vary with the nature of the stimulus. After this, follows a dissertation on the origin and cure, both original and remedial, and of the difference between primary and secondary local actions; with a long account, relative to the use and the abuse of mercury in certain cases.

We learn also, that there is a remarkable similarity between smallpox and the yaws, the latter of which is “supposed sometimes, if not always, inoculated either by immediate contact, or by the intervention of flies, who carry the matter from a diseased subject to the broken skin of another.”

Much judicious advice is given in respect to the use of mercury; and it is decidedly maintained, that the disease for which this is usually administered, was totally unknown to the

* “Though this description of cowpox is incorrect, excepting in its consequences on the human species, I have preserved it as an historical register of my imperfect knowledge of this disease when the first edition was published. There was then no printed account of the cowpox. Mr. Cline, knowing the object of my inquiries, acquainted me with what he had heard from Dr. Jenner, and by his correspondence procured me further information. What has since been explained by the discoverer, serves to illustrate my theory still more, since it has been shown that the disease in the cow may originate in a horse, and shows different *phenomena* in three different classes of animals.”

flourishing states of Greece and Rome. Many novel, curious, and interesting observations are introduced relative to sibbens or sivvens, a malady well known to the peasantry of the west of Scotland, and not unfrequently communicated to the mouth by two persons smoking out of the same pipe :

“ The custom of using a single pipe for a whole family, and almost for a whole village, is, I believe, peculiar to some districts in Scotland. If Cromwell’s soldiers introduced the smoking of tobacco among the inhabitants, and if they afterwards continued the practice, indiscriminately using the same pipe, it is not improbable that the origin of the distemper may be rightly dated, even if the soldiers were free from the complaint.”

In chapter xviii. we find a most minute account of leprosy, comprising a description of the Arabian leprosy, or elephantiasis of the ancients ; the elephantissis of the moderns, or the Barbadoes leg, and the *lepra Grecorum* ; which is followed by a minute description of the *Acarus Syro*, by some called the itch-insect.

Part II. *On morbid Poisons attended with critical Fever.*—Our author here descants on the various causes of fever, and observes that since the introduction of the term *typhus*, we have in some measure lost sight of every cause of low fever but infection. He concludes chap. i. by recapitulating the causes of fever. This is followed by an account of the manner in which different fevers supersede each other, together with observations on infectious atmosphere, endemic effluvia, and pestilential constitutions of the air, epidemics, the plague, and the yellow fever.

In respect to acute contagions, we are furnished with the prevailing symptoms and mode of treatment. The ancients, we are told, were well acquainted with infection ; but contagion is not easily traced in any but the Hebrew writers. Acute contagions only attack a person once in his life ; and are more acute in proportion as the atmosphere is more pure : hence the difficulty of guarding against them.

The smallpox was not accurately described before Syden-

ham; and it was Mr. John Hunter who first taught us the cause of those *phenomena*, which the former, indeed, saw, but accounted for by an erroneous theory.

The fourth and last chapter is chiefly occupied with "Prevention:" it concludes with observations on variolous and vaccine inoculation.

The following short deductions quoted from chap. ii. are worthy of attention:

"If what we have said is admitted, it will follow, that the fever from infectious atmosphere is to be ascribed to the confined effluvia from living bodies — the yellow fever to effluvia of putrid animal or vegetable matter exposed to a hot sun — and the plague to the latter, joined to an epidemic constitution of the air. That in all, a *fomes* may excite the disease, yet we are not certain whether a diseased subject is contagious, unless in a certain atmosphere. Lastly, if a pestilential atmosphere may sometimes be of itself sufficient to excite fever, it is still probable, that its effects would be greatest in crowded cities, as we have seen is the case with influenza."

In respect to a disease on which the Doctor must be allowed to be well qualified to decide, he thinks that since the discovery of *vaccination*, not only districts but individuals may secure themselves whenever they think proper. After stating a case from Dr. Jenner, of a boy receiving the infection while attending to the operations of a grave-digger in a country church-yard, he observes, "that the means of exterminating small-pox are, first, by an universal vaccination; next, by an universal quarantine; next, by shutting up all burying-grounds, burning the furniture of all suspected houses, painting and white-washing the houses themselves."

"I should conceive it lost time," observes he, soon after, "to offer even a summary of the arguments adduced to prove that cowpox is a security against smallpox. There is, in my opinion, no medical fact that stands on a securer foundation. The very exceptions that have been made are so few as to establish the law. In all inquiries, we are to consider the credibility of witnesses. On the side of cowpox, they are not only the most numerous,

but include those names to which the public look up with the greatest confidence. On the other side there are certainly respectable names, but the number is comparatively small. The publications, however, on this subject are so numerous, and have been so lately digested by Dr. Willan, that I shall leave the mere question of evidence, and content myself with offering a few proofs that the cowpox and smallpox are the same morbid poison."

Again, at the conclusion of the whole, our Author thus decidedly expresses himself in behalf of cowpox:

"As to every other mark of perfect or imperfect vaccination, nothing has been added since the discoverer published his 'Enquiry.' There is no mode of judging of vaccination but by the progress of the vesicle, by its contents, its scab, and cicatrix; and though the last may prove a confirmation when regular, it is not to be considered when irregular as a sufficient proof of want of security. The vast numbers we have tested in every possible way at the hospital prove to a conviction, that whatever objection may be made by the enemies of vaccination, or whatever doubts and anxieties may be nursed by its over-zealous friends, the practice must ultimately bear down all opposition, and the arguments against it will be forgotten, or only recollected, like the early pamphlets against variolous inoculation."

In addition to this, and the other works already enumerated, Dr. Adams was also, for some years, the editor of the "Medical and Physical Journal." Of this periodical publication, one-third of the property appertained to him; the printer and bookseller, two very respectable tradesmen, having each an equal portion with himself. It was supposed likely to have proved advantageous to all parties; but a dissension among the partners unhappily took place; and it is not at all unlikely, that the profits were dissipated in a long and tedious chancery-suit. In addition to these various and numerous avocations, Dr. Adams gave an annual course of lectures, and acted for some time as physician to the New Finsbury and Central Dispensary, in Smithfield. It of course follows, that but little time remained for private practice.

His death, at a period when he still remained in full possession of all his mental faculties, was occasioned by an accident. On the 7th of June of the preceding year, being then at Holloway, he happened to fall while looking at some land recently purchased by him; and however slight this occurrence on a level surface may seem to be, yet it produced a compound fracture of the leg, which at the end of about a fortnight proved fatal. He was removed soon after this unfortunate incident to his house in Hatton-Garden; and as the bones had *united* by the *first intention*, and every thing denoted the most favourable results, all ideas of danger had vanished. He accordingly continued to see his friends and converse with them as usual, until about an hour previously to the fatal moment, when he ceased to exist. Having dined at five o'clock in the evening, the Doctor expressed himself as being "in a very comfortable state," yet shortly after he was seized with cold sweats and faintings; he appeared, however, to revive for a few minutes; but soon relapsed, and gradually ceased to breathe at 7 o'clock in the evening of the 20th of June 1818.

Thus died, in the 62d year of his age, Joseph Adams, M.D., a man of not unpleasant manners, short in stature, didactic in conversation, and plain and unaffected in dress. The vigour of his body did not equal that of his mind, while the labours of the closet, the hospital, the dispensary, and the lecture-room, unfitted him, perhaps, to cope with the multitude of his engagements. In private life, Dr. Adams was amiable; and his loss will be long felt by an afflicted widow, and a numerous list of friends. He was beloved by his pupils, and possessed the happy faculty of communicating his ideas with perspicuity to his audience. To such opulent patients as consulted him, he was candid and explicit; to the poor, humane, benevolent, and liberal. His professional labours were meritorious in no small degree, both abroad and at home. It was he who gave the first distinct account of modern leprosy; it was he who, by actual experiment on himself, proved the itch and ouçoes to be two distinct diseases; and it was he who undertook

a journey to Dumfries for no other purpose, than to enquire into the nature and treatment of the Sivvens.

LIST OF THE WORKS

Of the late Dr. Adams.

- 1 Observations on Morbid Poisons, Chronic and Acute, 1st edit. 8vo. 1795; 2d edit. 4to. 1807.
2. A Guide to Madeira, 8vo. 1801.
3. Observations on the Cancerous Breast, consisting of original Letters from Dr. Baillie, Mr. Cline, &c. 8vo. 1801.
4. Answers to all the Objections hitherto made against the Cowpox, 8vo. 1805.
5. Popular View of Vaccine Inoculation, 12mo. 1807.
6. An Enquiry into the Laws of Epidemics, 8vo. 1810.
N.B. Here was first suggested the idea of Saving Banks.
7. Report from the Royal College of the United Kingdom, in favour of Vaccination.
8. Syllabus of a Course of Lectures, on the Institutes and Practice of Medicine, 8vo. 1811.
9. Hunter's Treatise on the Venereal Disease, with Commentaries, 8vo. 1812.
10. A Philosophical Dissertation on Hereditary Peculiarities of the Human Constitution, 8vo. 1814.
11. An Illustration of Mr. John Hunter's "Life of the Blood," in answer to the Edinburgh Reviewers, 8vo. 1814.
12. Life of John Hunter, 8vo. 1816.
13. On Epilepsy, printed in the Transactions of the Medical Society of London, 1817.
14. A variety of Papers, Dissertations, &c. in the Medical and Physical Journal, of which he continued Editor until his death.

No. V.



SIR THOMAS BERNARD, BART.

OF NETTLEHAM, IN THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN.

[*With an Analysis of his principal Works.*]

THE Bernards were long settled in Lincolnshire and the neighbouring counties; and including the present, there have been four baronets of this family. Sir Francis, who obtained the first patent, on account of the active part taken by him as a zealous Loyalist, previously to the American contest, was originally bred to the bar; he, indeed, practised with some degree of success, and in due time became a bencher of the Middle-Temple. By his wife Amelia, daughter of Stephen Offley, of Norton-hall, in the county of Derby, Esq., and niece to John Viscount Barrington, he had a numerous family of six sons and four daughters, some of whom were born in America, and others in different parts of the British empire.

It was perhaps in consequence of the connection just alluded to, that Mr. Bernard, in 1758, was nominated governor of New Jersey by His present Majesty. After a short residence in that Province, he removed in 1760, with the same rank and authority, to Massachusetts's Bay, where he continued during ten years. This proved a stormy period, for it included the disputes concerning the imposition of the stamp-act, and the subsequent enactment of certain duties by a British parliament; which soon led, first to a civil war, long, expensive, and sanguinary, and finally to the independence of the colonies.

On that memorable occasion, Mr. Bernard took an active and conspicuous part. This of course produced hatred and animosity on the side of those who advocated the cause of the United States; accordingly, after beholding his person and authority insulted, his letters to England intercepted and published, and even his life threatened, he deemed it prudent to withdraw. On returning home, he was received with approbation by the ministers of that day, by means of whom he obtained the rank of a baronet, and was also nominated to a respectable station in Ireland. He died June 16th, 1779, and was succeeded by his son John, Francis having been cut off in his father's life-time.

Mr. Thomas Bernard, the subject of the present memoir, and second surviving son of Sir Francis, was born at Lincoln, on the 27th of April 1750. While yet a child of about eight or ten years of age, he either accompanied or speedily followed his father across the Atlantic. Soon after his arrival in New Jersey, this boy was placed at Havrard college, in New England, which had even then obtained some repute; and while there, he evinced such commendable diligence, that a degree was conferred upon him. The M. A. however was never used by him as an *addendum*, either because he was disgusted with the conduct of the Americans, or that he deemed the academical honours of England alone respectable.

On his return to his native country, Mr. Bernard determined to make the law his profession. He accordingly entered himself a student of Lincoln's-Inn, and in 1780 was called to the bar. He does not appear, however, to have

been anxious to acquire distinction in any of the Courts of Westminster; for not confiding perhaps in his own oratory, he confined himself entirely to the respectable and lucrative branch of *convancing*, which, however, requires much care, great industry, and many nice and technical distinctions, in respect to various delicate points of practice. Notwithstanding all these difficulties, his efforts appear to have been crowned with success, for in due time a considerable degree of reputation gradually attached to his professional labours.

Meanwhile it was deemed proper for him to settle in life; and happily, an eligible opportunity now presented itself. Accordingly, in 1782 Mr. Bernard married Margaret, one of the two daughters of the late Patrick Adair, Esq.; and as this lady survived her only sister, she became the sole heiress of her father, and consequently brought a large fortune to her husband. This incident of course forms a memorable epoch in his biography, more especially as it speedily led to events, whence the community derived considerable benefit.

Having gradually withdrawn himself from business, Mr. Bernard now dedicated the remainder of his days to objects of public utility; and we have a rare instance in his person, of an ardent zeal for the cause of humanity, happily united and blended with a love of whatever tends to improve, enrich, or embellish society. We accordingly find him busily employed in contributing to the comforts of the poor, the instruction of the ignorant, the promotion of the fine arts, the advancement of manufactures, and the prosperity of agriculture. Every plan connected with any of these objects, in him found a friend, a patron, and a protector.

It would be an Herculean task to describe all his labours; and indeed they are so multifarious, that it may be necessary to arrange the substance of them under separate and distinct heads.

I. *The Foundling Hospital*. — This establishment flourished greatly, and increased both in wealth and respectability, under his immediate inspection. Mr. Bernard having distinguished himself as one of the governors in 1795, was soon after elected

treasurer, an office which includes a comfortable and even an elegant residence. During seven years' abode there, he assiduously attended to all the concerns of the corporation; and perceiving that much of the land purchased by the founder was both useless and unnecessary, he contrived to draw a great revenue from the surplus by means of a yearly ground-rent. Several handsome streets were accordingly built; and two of the principal received the names of Coram and of Bernard. On his resignation in 1806, he was elected a vice-president.

II. *The Instruction of the lower Orders.* — In 1796, Mr. Bernard, in conjunction with several of his friends, conceived the idea of “A Society for bettering the Condition of the Poor.” On this occasion, he carried his plan into execution, through the assistance, both pecuniary and personal, of his relative the present Bishop of Durham, Mr. Morton Pitt, Mr. Wilberforce, and several other benevolent characters. By their joint efforts, they diffused a large mass of useful information among a class of society that stood greatly in need of it; and thus gradually improved the condition of an immense number of the people.

III. *Religion.* — To impress the most populous, and indeed irregular and disorderly portions of the metropolis with the principles of Christianity, Mr. Bernard obviated the objections of those who complained of a want of church-room, by purchasing a proper building in West-street, Seven-Dials (near to what was formerly called *Broad St. Giles's*); and having previously obtained the consent of the Rector, and also of the Bishop of London, who is the diocesan, he established it as a “free chapel.” At the same time was annexed to this institution, one school for boys, and another for girls. Finding the plan prosper, with the assistance of the officiating chaplain, the Rev. Mr. Gurney, since preferred to the living of St. Clement's, he engrafted on this establishment the Society called “the Chapel Benevolent Society.” At Brighton, however, he and his friends were not equally successful; for after incurring considerable expense on an establishment there, the

Vicar, who, owing to some error or omission, had not given his consent, interposed, and exercised his acknowledged rights.

IV. *The Sciences*, 1799. — The French National Institute having acquired a high reputation, and diffused its fame throughout Europe, Sir Benjamin Thomson, commonly known by the name and title of Count Rumford, determined to found a similar establishment in the metropolis of England. It is not unlikely, however, that all his plans would have finally proved abortive, but for the countenance and co-operation of the subject of this memoir, now rising fast into notice and esteem, while his taste and judgment were already respected and looked up to by a very numerous class in the first order of society. Accordingly, by means of his active co-operation and influence, the Royal Institution in Albemarle-street was formed, and a charter obtained in 1800. The library is large, expensive, and well-selected, but loses somewhat of its value, perhaps, by being detached in different and distant apartments. The newspaper-room is below, and abounds with English and foreign journals. The laboratory deserves high praise; for the apparatus placed there by the liberality of the subscribers is well calculated for experiments of the highest order; and if the discoveries recently made by Sir Humphry Davy alone be duly estimated, this establishment must be allowed to have contributed to the benefit, and even to the glory of the nation.

V. *Fine Arts*, 1805. — It was Mr. Bernard also, who sketched the plan of the British Institution, formed likewise after a French model. In this establishment, now better known as “The British Gallery,” a school of emulation has been gradually formed, and the taste of a numerous body of pupils greatly improved. In order to achieve this, several public spirited noblemen and gentlemen have been induced to send thither the most renowned efforts of the old masters. The choicest productions of Corregio, Raphael, and Rubens, have occasionally graced these walls, and excited the enthusiasm of the students, who have exhibited all their energy, in the endeavour faithfully to copy the beauties of such transcendent painters.

VI. *Humanity, as connected with Children, &c.* — Most of the late beneficent plans for improving the condition of both sexes, at an early period of life, have either originated with, or been assisted and supported by this worthy gentleman. Thus, the public have been gradually led to contemplate with a pitying eye, and finally, by appeals to the legislature, greatly to improve :

1. The situation of children employed in cotton-mills, by shortening the duration of their labours.
2. The apprentices of chimney-sweepers, by affording easy means of redress, from the cruelty, injustice, and brutality of their masters.
3. The opening of schools for the blind, with a view to their instruction and amusement.
4. The extension of vaccination, first as an excellent mode of practice when considered by itself; and next, as coupled with the diminution of inoculation, and the gradual extinction of the natural smallpox.

Nor ought it here to be omitted, that he joined most heartily in an attempt to supply the manufacturing poor of the metropolis with fish at a cheap rate.

VII. *Literary Society.* — It was Mr. Bernard who first conceived, and afterwards carried into execution, in conjunction with others, the plan of establishing a club, not for gaming and drinking — but for the advancement of literature. This idea, *unique* in its kind, in 1809 was carried into execution, next door to the Royal Institution, in Albemarle-street, under the respectable name of the ALFRED, which, however, gives it somewhat of the air of a legal or constitutional, rather than a learned, assembly. It still keeps up its reputation, by means of a very select society: but we believe the original object is entirely changed; as it is now chiefly celebrated for its good cheer and agreeable company.

While thus busily engaged in the career of virtue and humanity, Mr. Bernard succeeded suddenly and unexpectedly to the title, which had been originally conferred on his father, in consequence of the death of his elder brother, Sir John, in the West Indies, in 1809. This event, indeed, superadded a

respectable *prefix* to his name, but could neither render his person more venerable, nor his life and actions more honoured.

As a literary man, Sir Thomas Bernard is author of several publications, which reflect honour on his memory, for they all seem to be dictated by humanity; and it is obvious to every one, that benevolence was the chief, and indeed his sole, motive, for appearing before the public. “*Spurinna*” was printed in 1813, but never regularly circulated, having been entirely distributed among his friends. Three years after a new edition appeared, and was read with eagerness; the following is the precise title of the third and last, which was published about a year before his death; and differs not only in the title-page, but in some other particulars from the preceding: “*Comforts of Old Age; with Biographical Illustrations, by Sir Thomas Bernard, Bart.*”

“*Lenior et melior fis accedente senecta.*”

Here follows the dedication :

INSCRIBED TO

SHUTE, BISHOP OF DURHAM,

AS A SMALL TESTIMONY OF

AFFECTION AND GRATITUDE,

BY THE AUTHOR.

“*Infancy,*” we are told in the preface, “*conducts to youth, youth to mature life, and mature life to old age and immortality.* In the two first of these periods, the preparation is regularly made for the succeeding state of action, and systems of tuition are adopted to fit the traveller for the progressive stages of his journey. But the close of life is seldom made the subject of any preparatory contemplation. For while to some it is an object of terror, by others it is treated with affected neglect; and the greater part of mankind immersed in the cares and concerns of the world, and in a contest for the toys and baubles, the crowns and sceptres, of the little scene in which they are acting a part, seem to have forgotten the

great theatre to which they are ultimately destined." "I am aware," adds he, "that in the hurry of busy life, amidst those professional and political efforts and exertions which are generally useful to the community, and sometimes promote the welfare of the party himself, this preparation cannot be always properly attended to. In active life, however, while we are striving for independence and competence, it is prudent at least to make preparation for the time, when we may decline every other labour, except what concerns the interest of our friends, connections, and dependence, or the welfare of the community.

"The object, therefore, to which I point, is the securing of a middle period, during which our exertions may be so directed, as by duties performed, and benefits conferred, to produce consolatory reflections against the approach of age and infirmity; so that we may view the grave, not as a scene of terror, but as the source of happiness and expectation. In the course of directing my attention to this interesting subject, the intimacy with which your Lordship * has favoured me, has afforded the most satisfactory evidence, that age is not necessarily attended, either with infirmity of body, or asperity of mind; and that when they do occur, it is the effect of unregulated appetite and passions, of a morbid constitution, or of natural sourness of temper. Indeed, I have been much gratified to perceive, that the effects of age *may* be directly the reverse, and that the feelings and affections of the mind may become softer and milder, more kind and more benevolent as the CHILD OF IMMORTALITY approaches the commencement of his spiritual existence."

In a work of this kind, it was impossible for Sir Thomas to overlook the labours of his classical precursor; he accordingly refers to them in the following manner:

"Of the materials which *Cicero* possessed, no one could have made a better use than he has done in his *Essay on Old Age*. But the Gospel has since opened purer and more

* The present Bishop of Durham.

valuable sources of consolation than are to be found in polytheism and heathen philosophy. The miserable uncertainty or affected indifference of some of their best and wisest men, with regard to a future state, form a striking contrast to the sure and certain hope, which reliance on the word of God, and faith in the merits of our REDEEMER, will supply during age and infirmity, to the poorest and humblest Christian, who —

“ Sinks to the grave by unperceiv'd decay,
 “ While resignation gently slopes the way;
 “ And all his prospects brightening to the last,
 “ His Heaven commences ere this world be past.”

“ In adopting the form of a dialogue passing between eminent men of the same period, I have followed the example of Cicero. The venerable Bishop Hough is the Cato of my drama; a prelate who enjoyed an extraordinary degree of health of body and mind, to the advanced age of ninety-two; and died, as he had lived, respected and beloved. He is well known for his manly resistance, as president of Magdalen College, to the tyranny of James II. His private letters, lately published by our friend Mr. Wilmot, present an amiable portrait of his mind; and have enabled me, in some degree, to mark his peculiar manners and mode of expression; so as to offer a view of his character in his 90th year, in the spring which succeeded the hard frost of 1739, the point of time which I have fixed for this dialogue. The two other parties are his friend and correspondent, Bishop Gibson, then Bishop of London, and Mr. Lyttleton (afterwards Lord Lyttleton), his neighbour in the country.”

These three celebrated men having met in the palace of Worcester, much friendly courtesy, and many well-assorted compliments, are supposed to have taken place on this occasion. The two others look up to Bishop Hough for his decision as to the comforts of old age, and His Lordship, who had that day entered into his ninetieth year, following the

Ciceronian arrangements, begins by classing its supposed inconveniences under the four following heads :

- 1st, That it unfits for public life ;
- 2dly, That it is attended by infirmities of body ;
- 3dly, That it diminishes the powers of animal enjoyment ;
- And 4thly, That it is a state of anxiety on account of the approach of death.

In considering the first objection, he observes as follows :

“ There is no doubt but that the aged are less fit for great enterprises, which require bodily strength and activity : but they are not therefore disqualified for the conduct of business, or less fit for counsel, advice, or direction. And I must observe, that in the government of empires, it is knowledge and experience, not youth and temerity, that are essential. The advantages of *young counsellors* have been proverbial, ever since the revolution which followed the death of Solomon. — Need I, Mr. Lytton, to one of your scale of intellect, observe, that *with civilised man*, it is counsel not force, mind not body, that *must* govern. Agamemnon, in his speech to the aged Nestor, did not wish for the athletic strength of youth, but for the experienced wisdom of age to conquer Troy ; as Mr. Pope has well translated it :

“ O would the Gods, in love to Greece, decree
 “ But ten such sages as they grant in thee !
 “ Such wisdom soon, should Priam’s force destroy,
 “ And soon should fall the haughty towers of Troy.”

“ It was not by corporeal but by intellectual vigour, that our Royal Master William, and our English Hero Marlborough, performed such great achievements for the preservation of our civil and religious liberties, and for the salvation of Europe. It was not muscular strength, but mental reflection working by experience, that instructed the former to baffle the intrigues of Lewis, aiming at universal monarchy ; and when in January 1704, the Emperor of Germany, alarmed at the progress of the French arms, and at the defection of the Duke of Bavaria, implored the aid and protection of the Queen and people of

England, to save the Roman Empire from impending ruin, it was acuteness and sagacity of mind that enabled Marlborough to compel the surrender of the entire French army at Blenheim, and in one day to annihilate the tyrannic and destructive power of France.

“Among those who congratulated our Deliverer upon his welcome arrival in 1688, one of the gayest and most lively courtiers that I saw in the whole party was Serjeant Maynard, then about my present age.”

This celebrated lawyer, we are told, was not even then deemed unfit to be placed at the head of the High Court of Chancery, in extremely critical and difficult times. Lord Somers, too, exhibited no less vigour of intellect in projecting the union in 1708, than he displayed twenty years before; and in 1715 he conducted himself with great and uncommon energy in reprobating the severe measures then practised against the rebel Lords. Dr. Robinson, Bishop of London, lived to his ninety-third year, and always preserved a considerable share of health; Sir Christopher Wren was in his eightieth year when he finished the Cathedral of St. Paul's; and actually completed several other great works before his death, which occurred at the age of ninety-one. The immortal Newton too, who began his philosophical career before one-and-twenty, while in his eighty-third year was very busy in improving his Chronology; Corsini was near four-score when he succeeded to the Papal chair; Marshal Villars at the age of eighty took the command of the French army in Italy; and in one short but victorious campaign, drove the imperial forces out of the Milanese territory.

“I have a respect for a good pun,” adds Bishop Hough, “and I love the pleasantness of this old man, who, at the siege of Milan, being asked his age, could answer, ‘*Dans peu des jours, j’aurois Mil-an.*’”

As to “infirmities of body,” the good prelate seems to think they are principally to be attributed either to original weakness, or to deterioration of strength, arising from youthful excesses. Increase of years, we are told, is not only a check

to intemperance, but is also a preservative against its unhappy effects: it does not exclude conviviality, but on the contrary, improves the delight of social intercourse, while it diminishes the cravings of appetite.

As to the "diminution of animal enjoyment," this, we are told, is but a trifling circumstance; for who will question the superiority of intellectual over sensual pleasure? An old man can enjoy the most desirable part of a social entertainment better than when he was only five-and-twenty.

"The new-born infant is a mere *sensualist*. Softness to the touch, sweetness to the taste, fragrance to the smell, brilliancy to the eye, and pleasing sounds to delight the ear, constitute the sum and substance of his existence. He is composed entirely of sensual appetites; and when they are satiated, sinks into repose. But every ray of intellectual light that is admitted into the mind by instruction, experience, example, and the kindness of friends, tends to convert the *animal* into a *rational* being, supplying mental pleasures in the place of those which are merely corporeal, and the direction of reason for that of instinct.

"As the heir of immortality advances in the period of existence, a series of mixed enjoyment follows in succession, until what is called the entrance of life; when the sensual attraction, the desire of pre-eminence, and the dreams of ambition, supply new objects; which, though not purely intellectual, are not so grossly sensual as those which occupy the very vestibule of existence. As life passes on, there is an increasing prevalence of intellect; and the soul is gradually prepared for the glory to which it is destined. To complain therefore of the diminution of sensual gratifications as our intellectual enjoyments increase, seems neither just nor reasonable."

"Bishop Gibson. — According to the arrangement of your subject Bishop of Worcester, there now remains for consideration the fourth inconvenience of age: 'Anxiety on account of the approach of death.' Let us, I pray you, have your sentiments on that subject."

"Bishop Hough. — Uncertainty as to life is not pecu-

liar to old age. The young and the active are even more liable to fatal accidents and violent diseases than the aged; and if the postponement of death be an advantage, age has already obtained it; whilst to youth it must be a matter of uncertainty, when not more than one in five obtains the age of fifty. But who that looks to his well-being — who that feels the strugglings of immortality in this mortal body, would desire an extraordinary length of *probationary* existence?

“ Considerations common to the heathen world, and suggested by a general view of human nature, would repress such a wish. Those however which are derived from revelation are of infinitely greater weight. In a fallen world, where sin and misery are the consequences of a decline from a state of bliss and innocence, no wise man would desire to extend the period of probation further than its appointed limit, when he may be mature for happiness and immortality. For when the circulation of the blood ceases, and the vital heat is no longer conveyed through this mortal frame, the SOUL is emancipated from its earthly tabernacle, and with renovated joy and vigour commences its course of intellectual and immortal existence. And if medical men may be relied on, the suspension of that vital heat, and the current of the blood by which it is conveyed, and the immediate approach of death, produce a sensation similar to that of falling asleep. — I do not however refer to a premature and violent death, which is generally attended with pain; but merely to the cessation of that *vital heat*, which breathed into created man, made him a living soul; and which, by the blood, not only communicates its power to every part of the living creature, but gives out warmth even to the bodies around it.”

“ Mr. Lyttleton. — It is said, my Lord, that the heat of the blood is of the same temperature in youth, and in age, in the snows of Siberia, and in the burning sands of Africa; and that while by wool, fur, feathers, and other non-conductors, this *animal heat* can be prevented from escaping, the *living creature* will almost bear any severity of climate.”

“ Bishop Hough. — So I have read. — But let me cau-

tion you, that when I speak of the final cessation of animal heat being a mere *sinking into repose*, I am not talking of the parting hour of the *criminal* and the *vicious*. To meet death with ease and tranquillity, is the exclusive privilege of piety and virtue. At the same time, frequent meditation on our removal from this material world, is necessary for those who desire, that the terrors of death may be soothed, and its pangs alleviated. I have long meditated on the subject; and indeed to neglect it at my advanced period, would be to sleep on my post at the moment of attack.

“ But here again age has its advantages: and I must observe, as to the actual pain of death to *the aged*, that in a state of maturity, the fruit drops spontaneously from the tree; and the separation of the immortal soul from the mortal body is of course less painful than in early life.

“ How different was the death of the youthful Lord Russel, which I witnessed in 1683! — The forlorn age of his father — the widowed state of his dear Lady Russel — the orphan condition of his children — the illegality of his sentence — the dark clouds which overhung his country — and the cruelty of Charles and James — did so combine to embitter his removal from this world, that it required all his Christian fortitude and patience, and all the support which he derived from his earnest prayers, to bear the trying scene with decent composure.”

———— “ The dread of the unknown world to which we are approaching,” continues the good Bishop soon after, “ is like the fear of a child going into a dark room; and we only blame the child when he knows the place well, and yet fears the *darkness* in which it is for the time involved. The heathens knew not the place to which they were going: they had no Revelation as to a future state, and were therefore terrified. To us it is revealed; and we know, and are sure, that the world we are leaving, and that to which we are approaching, are under the same government and protection of the same Omnipotent and benevolent Power, — with this only difference, that sin and misery, the consequence of the dis-

obedience of Adam, are in the present world more or less the lot of all his descendants; but in a future state will affect none but the reprobate and disobedient."

Two passages in this little book are immediately connected with the personal history of the subject of the present narrative. The first respects one of the ancients, whose habits and character are said to bear a great resemblance to those of the present Bishop of Durham, the relation and correspondent of our author.

"In Pliny's letters," observes the aged Bishop of Worcester, "there is an interesting account of his friend Spurrinna, and of the methods he took to preserve his activity; arranging his life by that uninterrupted regularity which seems to be peculiarly fitted to old age. Though he was only a boy to me, being then in his 78th year, I have profited by his example.

"The first part of his morning (Pliny tells us) he devoted to study. At eight o'clock he dressed, and walked about three miles for contemplation and exercise. Conversation and reading, with a little indulgence of repose, filled up his time till noon, when he took the air in his chariot, with his lady or some friend, and used a little more walking exercise.

"Between two and three he went into the bath; after which he played some time at tennis, and then reposed while a favourite author was read to him, till at six o'clock he sat down to an elegant repast, enlivened by the recital of a dramatic entertainment, and extended by mirth and good humour to a late hour."

That this character of a good heathen is intended as a likeness of a Christian Bishop, may be gathered, not only from common report, but also from the following passage in the preface, addressed to His Lordship.

"Having at first fixed on the title of SPURINNA, I was influenced by a letter of Pliny's, the first in his third book;—a letter which I never read without real gratification, increased by circumstances of resemblance in habits, character, and period of life; which if from one peculiar cause they do not strike Your Lordship, will, I am confident, not escape the

application of my other readers; even if I should give them no larger an extract than the following:

“ILLI POST SEPTIMUM ET SEPTUAGESIMUM ANNUM AURIUM OCULORUMQUE VIGOR INTEGER; INDE AGILE ET VIVIDUM CORPUS, SOLAQUE EX SENECTUTE PRUDENTIA.”

The next and last quotation to be here given respects Sir Thomas's first wife, Miss Margaret Adair, whose character is thus pourtrayed by an affectionate husband.

“Where the powers of the mind and the intellectual habits have been duly cultivated, connubial love will gradually refine and become intellectual; and be more and more assimilated to that spiritual enjoyment, which will form a portion of the felicity of the pious in a future state. It is thus that mutual confidence and esteem — complacency, forbearance, intellectual improvement, and benevolent occupation, become increasing sources of reciprocal tenderness, and of pure and undivided affection; so as to produce that vital union of soul, of which the sensualist can have no more conception, than of the Heaven for which it is a preparation.

“You did not know HER — let me therefore indulge myself in a few words to her memory. Long — long may it be, before you experience the interest which I now feel in bearing witness to the virtues of a departed wife.

“Endowed with a pleasing and engaging aspect, ‘she bore a mind which envy could not but call fair.’ Diffident and reserved in mixt society, her intellectual powers were best appreciated in the recesses of private life.

“Warm and affectionate in her attachments, placable and forgiving when injured, and extending her charity with unsparing hand to the deserving and distressed, her life was such a continued preparation for eternity, that the unexpected event, which we all so painfully felt, might to her be deemed a blessing. — I say unexpected — for she was apparently well; and on Whit-Sunday morning was preparing for that attendance on church, which was never omitted, when she suddenly expired. Her health and spirits, though naturally good, had been gradually undermined by a long, an anxious,

and assiduous attendance on a near and dear relative; and her illness had been accompanied by severe sufferings, as appeared by several of her manuscript prayers, which came into my hands after her decease. I know it may appear selfish to praise, where the object may be deemed a part of one's self. But why should I not declare her virtues? The light which they will shed may guide many of my fellow-Christians to eternal happiness!"

We are told in one of the "Notes Biographical and Historical," "that this was a tribute to the memory of an ever dear and regretted friend, who died on the 6th of June 1813. It was written immediately after her death, and contains as correct a delineation of her general character, as an unreserved intimacy of above thirty years could supply."

The intimacy subsisting between the venerable Bishop of Durham, who had always exhibited a marked esteem for the subject of the present memoir, has been more than once alluded to, and it was during one of his visits to this prelate, that the school at Bishop's Auckland was planned. This munificent foundation, intended for the education of the youth in the county palatine, has been described by Sir Thomas in language highly appropriate, because it proceeded from a heart, deeply impressed with the benefits to be derived, from an attempt to render the next generation both wiser and better than the present. *

The last literary labour of our author was a pamphlet written by him, chiefly with an intention to mitigate the hard condition of the peasantry, and indeed the bulk of the people throughout Great Britain; while it at the same time is calculated to advance the best interests of agriculture, and communicate encreasing energies and prosperity to our fisheries. The publication in question is entitled "Case of the Salt Duties, with Proofs and Illustrations."

He commences his publication by stating, that the duties in question have been imposed in exact opposition to the principles of Montesquieu and Dr. Adam Smith, the latter of

* See an account of the Barrington school, established by the Bishop of Durham.

whom maintains, "that taxes should be equal in their bearing and pressure on different classes and individuals — should be known, certain, clear, and intelligible — convenient in time and manner of payment — and as little injurious to the real interest of the community as may be." The former of these celebrated men having mentioned as an instance of excessive taxation, that in one case alluded to by him, the tax was *seventeen times* the intrinsic worth of the merchandize, our author expresses himself as follows :

"What can we suppose these two political writers would have said, if they had lived to witness in this free country an example of taxation, where the duty, instead of *seventeen* times, amounted to forty times the original price and value of the article? And where (as has been generally observed) all those immoral and criminal effects have continued to result from it, which they had mentioned as the necessary consequences of so unwise and disproportioned a rate of taxation. At the same time they would have found, that this code of salt laws was objectionable, as equally adverse to the other rules, which they and other eminent political writers have adopted; — as not equal, but bearing much more heavily on the salt-proprietor and on the poor, than on the other classes of society; — as not known and certain, or clear and intelligible, but voluminous, perplexed, and intricate; — as not convenient in manner of payment, but requiring a large pecuniary advance, which throws the trade in *duty-paid salt* into the hands of a few rich monopolists, and thereby enhances the price to the consumer; — and lastly, in its effects and operation, as injurious to the fisheries, agriculture, manufactures, trade, commerce, and other financial resources of the country."

"In endeavouring," continues he, "to impress upon my reader's mind a sense of the advantages which this country collectively and individually would derive from the annihilation of the salt duties, I have a pleasure in being able to repeat, that I have no personal, political, or pecuniary impulse to the present inquiry. I have no interest or concern with any salt-works; nor, to my knowledge, any connection or

relative who has. I have nothing but public and avowed motives to govern my judgment in this discussion. The present administration has my good wishes; and if I have a bias on the subject, it originates in the desire that they may have the credit of removing this source of vice and evil in this country. In my private and independent walk of life, I have neither favours to acknowledge, nor injuries to resent, from either party: “mihi Galba, Otho, Vitellius, nec beneficiis nec injuria cogniti. Incorrumpam fidem promissis, nec amore quisquam et sine odio dicendus est.”

The gross impolicy of the salt-duties is a subject that has occasionally occupied the attention of the public for many years. The impost on this necessary of life originated as a war-tax in the ninth year of William III. It has since been sometimes gradually, and at other times suddenly increased, in consequence of the pressure of new contests, until at length it appears to have been unhappily carried to such a pitch of fiscal oppression, in the opinion of our author, as to have become not only detrimental to the prosperity of the country, but even to the health of an immense multitude of its inhabitants. It is but justice, however, to state, that some attempts have been made, although hitherto without success, if not to remedy at least to palliate this evil.

Soon after the formation of the Addington administration, in 1801, a committee of the House of Commons was appointed to inquire into the laws respecting the salt-duties, and the means of remedying the inconveniences arising therefrom. Mr. Vansittart, who was chairman, in his report, soon after stated “the extreme difficulty, not to say the impossibility of reconciling the collection of any considerable revenue from salt, *with the invaluable advantages which would arise from an unrestrained trade in, and unlimited use of that article.*” It appears also, from the report of a committee on the Herring Fishery, that the fisheries in general labour under great inconveniences, from the manifold restrictions imposed for the security of the revenue. Evidence was obtained on the latter

occasion to prove, that the trade considered it as less burthen-
some to pay * duty for the salt used for the curing of herrings,
&c. than to comply with the regulations for the use of duty-free
salt. Such, however, was the expense attending this mode,
that the fishermen were accustomed rather to throw over-board
the fish caught during contrary winds, than to cure it, when
there was but little chance of arriving fresh at market. It is
also stated, that no inconsiderable part of the supply intended
for the metropolis was destroyed in this manner.

On the occasion now alluded to, the present Chancellor of
the Exchequer, in the name of the committee, recommended a
“*commutation of the salt-duties*, being persuaded, that for the
prosperity of the fisheries, it would be far more efficacious
than any possible system of bounties and encouragements.”
No alteration or abatement, however, took place; on the con-
trary, a few years after (in 1805), the duties were raised to
30*l.* per ton, being three times what they amounted to at the
commencement of the war.

“Peace, however,” observes our benevolent Author, “is
at length arrived; two other *war-taxes* have been hastily con-
ceded to the clamorous and over-bearing impatience of the
rich and powerful. The *property tax* has been forced from the
minister by the funded capitalist and the great land-holder,
and the *war malt-tax* was surrendered to the opulent brewer,
whilst the continuance of a portion at least of both these taxes
was required to close the accounts of the war, and to provide
for the relief and employment of a population, whose sources
of labour and subsistence had been suddenly stopped by the
peace. At the same time, the interests of the cottager, the
poor fisherman, and the little house-keeper, and the *promised*
relief, (even as to what had been added during the war,) were
entirely forgotten.”

Sir Thomas Bernard thus collects and arranges his objections
to the salt-duties: 1. As to the *equity and justice of the tax*, as it

* The duty at that time was only 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* per ton; not one-fourth part of the
present duty.

bears most heavily on the labouring class; the poor, on account of the nature and quality of their diet, requiring more salt in proportion than the rich, not merely to make their food palatable, but to render it conducive to health.

2. The ruinous expense at which this tax is collected.
3. The impracticability of collecting the tax generally, and with any degree of equality, "no more than a third of the salt used in England for domestic purposes paying the duty."
4. The intricacy of the salt laws.
5. Their detriment to agriculture and the fisheries.
6. Their oppression in respect to the poor, who are too frequently incapable of purchasing a sufficient quantity to preserve a pig during the winter.
7. The loss of sheep and injury to horses occasioned by the dearness of salt, as appears from the evidence of Lord Somerville and others; and
8. The loss sustained by our commerce and manufactures, particularly in the making of steel, sal-ammoniac, Morocco leather, earthenware, &c. as appears from the testimony of Mr. Parkes.

Our Author concludes as follows: "It appears now to be well understood, that neither drawbacks nor allowances, nor any thing but an ENTIRE REPEAL, will give effectual relief to our manufactures, fisheries, and agriculture. The fetters will still remain, though the burden may in a degree be alleviated to the prejudice of the revenue.

— "If it therefore should appear, that the salt duties are incompatible with our great national resources, it remains to consider which we will sacrifice; and whether it will not be wise to pay a lesser contribution, as a commutation, instead of a larger sum to an odious and oppressive tax, which is the great source of frauds, thefts, perjuries, and crimes in this country? With regard to the nature of the commutation, the opinion expressed by the select committee in 1801, will probably meet with general concurrence; — 'that it should be effected by some tax, extending, as far as circumstances will

admit, to all the orders of the community; all of whom would derive benefit from the commutation.'

“ In this free country, the governors and the governed have all a common interest. Agents and underlings may be warped by private and pecuniary motives, to wish for, and to connive at, the existence and continuance of abuses: but influence of that kind cannot be presumed to extend to those superior members of administration, who, when in power, originally brought forward and conducted the enquiry in 1801; and expressed, in concurrence with the other members of the committee, an *unqualified* resolution for the repeal. It is impossible that they, who, in their report to the house of commons in 1801, produced so many and such incontrovertible proofs of the injury, and the burthen of the salt-duties, when only *two-thirds* of their present amount — and advised the repeal, though in the midst of *such a war* — should now, in time of profound and permanent peace, when those duties have been enhanced by the war, from ten pounds to thirty pounds *per ton* — and when the state of the manufactures and fisheries, and the want of employment for the labouring classes, and for our discharged soldiers and sailors, peculiarly require such a measure — it is impossible that they should hesitate to bring forward the repeal, when once they perceive that the country is ready to agree to proper and practicable terms for the attainment of it.”

This pamphlet, which may be termed *the child of his old age*, was composed while on a visit to a family for which he entertained a high esteem, as may be seen from the following dedication:

TO

SIR JOHN AND LADY GREY EGERTON,

THIS LITTLE WORK,

WRITTEN WITHIN THE WALLS OF THEIR HOSPITABLE MANSION,
AND IN THEIR DOMESTIC SOCIETY,

IS INSCRIBED,

IN MEMORIAL OF LONG AND VALUED FRIENDSHIP,

BY THE AUTHOR.

The results of this publication were not unimportant. In the first place, a bill was brought into the house of commons for reducing the duties on rock-salt, used for agricultural purposes; and thus an opening has been made, either for a more tolerating system, or a speedy commutation. On this occasion, the subject of the present memoir was examined before a committee, to whom he detailed the particulars of his plan, which was found to have been duly weighed and well digested.

In the next place, the writings, the exertions, and the solicitations, of Sir Thomas Bernard, with a view to enfranchise the nation from this severe impost, are thought to have shortened his life; for he died suddenly, and at a far earlier epoch than nature seemed to have intended.

During the preceding winter, indeed, of 1817-1818, his health had occasionally suffered from a bilious attack, accompanied by a cough. These complaints were afterwards greatly aggravated by incessant and meritorious efforts in the cause just alluded to, so that an immediate change of air became absolutely necessary. Accordingly, at the beginning of the summer of 1818, the much-respected subject of this memoir repaired along with his family to Leamington-Spa; in the county of Warwick; a place which of late has been greatly celebrated on account of the excellence of its climate. His former disorders appeared at first to abate, but they were soon succeeded by a malady, which, from the very beginning, exhibited a dangerous, and indeed a fatal aspect.

Accordingly, this, which proved to be a dropsical affection, speedily increased, and that too, to such a degree, that his breath was at length overpowered by the pressure; and thus was finally terminated a life, dear to his family, his friends, and his country, on the 1st of July, 1818! The transition was both easy and sudden, being without a struggle and without a groan.

His remains having been conveyed to the metropolis, were interred, at his own especial request, in the exact spot formerly

selected by himself: being placed next to the body of his former wife, in a vault belonging to the Foundling Hospital.

Sir Thomas Bernard had nearly completed the 68th year of his age, and was twice married. His first lady, Margaret Adair, who lived with him during a long and happy intercourse of thirty-one years, in a husband has found an eulogist. His second, Charlotte Matilda Hulse, now an afflicted widow, in whose arms he breathed his last, smoothed the pillow of disease, during the melancholy period of illness, and in good health contributed not a little to render his life both cheerful and happy.

As he died without issue, the title devolves on Sir Scrope Bernard * *Morland*, of Winchenden, in the county of Bucks, the *addendum* having been superadded to his paternal name, in consequence of his marriage with Harriet, the only child of William Morland, Esq. an opulent banker of Pall-Mall, by whom he has a numerous family.

In the course of the antecedent memoir, we have detailed a variety of incidents connected with the life and charitable disposition of the late Sir Thomas Bernard, and can now only add our unfeigned sorrow for the loss of so much worth and benevolence!

* Scrope Bernard, Esq. now Sir Scrope Bernard Morland, Bart. LL.D. appears to have been admitted into the list of English Civilians, at Doctors' Commons, Nov. 3d, 1789.

“ He is a native of Ireland, the son of Sir Francis Bernard, formerly Governor of the Massachusetts's Colony in North America. While a student of Christ's Church, he was considered as a respectable classical scholar; and by an essay, which entitled him to an academical prize, he proved himself to be not unskilled in English composition; but he is not distinguished as a pleader or as an orator. He was for some years under Secretary of State (when Lord Grenville was in place), and represented Aylesbury in three Parliaments.

“ He appears to have sued for admission into the College of Civilians, with a view to the acquisition of a productive Chancellorship, rather than to the discharge of the more laborious office of an advocate. On the death of Dr. Harris, he succeeded in the object, being appointed Judge of the Episcopal Court of Durham.” *Cat. of Eng. Civilians*, p. 131—2.

LIST OF THE WORKS

Of the late Sir Francis Bernard, Bart.

1. Observations on the Proceedings of the Friends of the Liberty of the Press, 8vo. 1793.
2. A Letter to the Lord Bishop of Durham, on the Measures now under Consideration of Parliament, for promoting Industry, and the Relief of the Poor, 8vo. 1807.
3. The New School, being an Attempt to illustrate its Principles and Advantages, 8vo. 1810.
4. The Barrington School, being an Account of that established by the Bishop of Durham, at Bishop's Auckland, 8vo. 1812.
5. An Account of the Supply of Fish for the manufacturing Poor, 8vo. 1813.
6. Spurrina, or the Comforts of Old Age, 8vo. 1st edit. 1813, 2d edit. 1816, 3d edit. 1817.
7. Case of the Salt Duties, with Proofs and Illustrations, Dec. 1817.
8. The Cottager's Meditations.
9. Dialogue between Monsieur François and John English.
10. The entire Prefaces, and most of the Reports of the Society for bettering the Condition of the Poor.

No. VI.



GEORGE DEMPSTER, OF DUNNICHEN, ESQ.

A MEMBER OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES, EDINBURGH,
AND LATE M. P. FOR A DISTRICT OF SCOTCH BOROUGHS.

GEORGE DEMPSTER was born in 1735-6. The town of Dundee*, which lays claim to the honour of having produced so enterprising and public-spirited a man, has been long celebrated for its trade and manufactures; nor has it been deficient in the production of eminent citizens; for the name of George Yeaman of Murie is still remembered with respect. After having acted with great reputation as Provost of this corporation, the laird of Murie was elected to represent it in the last Scottish parliament; he also sat in the first and second parliaments of Great Britain, during which period he fully evinced how much it is in the power of a single individual, if tinctured with a zeal for the public good, to serve his country.

* See Dr. Small's "Statistical Account of Dundee."

This member, in addition to an ardent patriotism, was happily endowed with spirit and talents calculated to serve his constituents in an eminent degree: for it was he who enabled them, by lessening the duty, and consequently the price, to exchange peat for coal, and to prevent their native productions from being taxed in a manner that would have greatly hurt if not annihilated their agricultural pursuits.* These particulars relative to the late Mr. Yeaman are mentioned here merely because he appears to have been the exemplar, by which the worthy gentleman, whose life is now about to be detailed, modelled his political conduct.

It has been long urged as a reproach to the inhabitants of North Britain, that they are servile in the extreme, entirely destitute of public virtue, and possess none of that noble energy, in behalf of their rights and liberties, which so eminently distinguishes their southern neighbours. But it ought to be recollected, that this, if it be true even in degree, does not proceed from any native or inherent servility on the part of the people; but rather from their laws, and manners, and customs. The exclusive rights of primogeniture, the odious and almost eternal entails, the want of extensive commerce and manufactures, and the consequent deficiency in respect to the diffusion of wealth, of course create more needy and dependent men than in this portion of the island, without including a numerous race of younger children, wholly unprovided for.

But if England has produced a Hampden, a Russel, and a Sydney, Scotland also has to boast of her patriots; of Buchanan, an illustrious writer, who laid down those principles which were afterwards acted upon at the Revolution; of Fletcher of Saltoun, who displayed a love of liberty, worthy

* By including the Tay within the boundaries assigned to the Frith of Forth a larger scope was given, and smaller duty exacted on the introduction of coals, which unhappily are not to be found in the neighbourhood of Dundee. He also defeated a fiscal regulation for taxing hides by tale, instead of weight, by means of which the skin of a diminutive Scotch cow would have paid as much as that of an English ox; and he succeeded in his opposition to an impost on barley, by measure, on the plea that it was of an inferior quality, and therefore incapable of bearing a duty levied in that manner.

of the purest times of Greece and of Rome; and of a Belhaven*, who, spurning at corruption, both spoke and acted with an enthusiastic ardour for the independence of his native country.

But whatever might have been the original disadvantages of an intimate connection with England, that event has afforded both strength and security to one country, while it has opened a fairer, a richer, and a more extensive field for the industry and exertions of the other. Recent events also prove, that an increase of wealth, and what is to the full as advantageous, its more equal participation, have engendered a noble and national spirit, that must speedily wipe away all these bitter taunts and reproaches. At the time we now allude to, there was no middle class of men between the very rich and the very poor; but partly by commerce and manufactures, and still more by an improved system of agriculture, this order has been at length created, and appears likely to increase.

Mr. Dempster, although born to the possession of a considerable landed estate, was scarcely looked upon as one of the "privileged orders;" for at that period the prejudices of the feudal times were nearly in full force, and the hereditary possessors of land, from time immemorial, alone respected. Now, it so happened, that the Laird of Dunnichen could urge no claim of this kind; for his grandfather, who had been a merchant at Dundee, had purchased it with the fruits of his honest and successful industry; while his father had been enabled to add to it, in consequence of some fortunate speculations in corn. But the personal merits of the man at length overcame prepossessions at which human reason revolts; and notwithstanding his supposed original disqualifications, he was at length considered both an honour and a blessing to the place that gave him birth.

Young Dempster was bred at the Grammar School of

* Lord Belhaven, a peer of Scotland, who opposed the Union. This was the "patriotism" of that day; but it must be frankly allowed, that the event has proved highly beneficial to the strength, security, and prosperity of both countries.

Dundee, where the late Lord Barham *, who, after serving as a midshipman, arrived at the highest honours of his profession, and at length became first Lord of the Admiralty, was also educated. After being duly qualified for the University, he was sent to that of St. Andrew's, to finish his classical studies, from whence he repaired to Edinburgh in 1755, when in the twenty-first year of his age, and was admitted a member of the Faculty of Advocates; and lived so long as to survive all his contemporaries, among whom were Alexander Wedderburne, afterwards Earl of Rosselyn, and Chancellor of Great Britain; Alexander Duff, late Earl of Fife, &c. &c. At the same period, too, he formed an acquaintance first, and afterwards an intimacy with William Robertson, since so distinguished by his various writings; and of David Hume, who at that period exhibited but little promise of his future celebrity.

Being of a social disposition, Mr. Dempster entered with spirit and alacrity into all the diversions of the place; and became a member of the various societies instituted in that city by the Collegians, which, with the exception of perhaps one only, had for their express object the improvement of the human mind. † After this, he travelled over Europe,

* He was then Master Middleton, being the son of Mr. R. Middleton, Collector of the Customs, at the Port of Dundee.

† We have been given to understand, that among many other celebrated names, that of Mr. Dempster was enrolled as a member of the institution known by the appellation of the *Poker Club*, founded by the celebrated Dr. Adam Ferguson, which met at a house called the *Diversorium*, in the vicinity of the Netherbow.

“ The chief object of the members was conviviality, and claret being then sold at eighteen-pence *per bottle*, we believe the chief, if not only beverage, was Bourdeaux. Hume the Historian, Principal Robertson, John Home the author of *Douglas*, Carlyle, &c. were among its members; but such men could not associate without improving one another.

“ It was succeeded in 1756 by the *Select Society*, which in conjunction with all those who were accounted either wise or learned, combined to introduce the *new language*. Indeed, the whole body of the SELECT SOCIETY, to which he was no contemptible acquisition, contributed warmly to the advancement of this plan; and he was nominated one of the sixteen directors of ‘ the Society for promoting the Reading and Speaking of the English Language in Scotland.’ Here follows a list of Ordinary and Extraordinary Directors.

Ordinary Directors.

1. Lord Auchinleck, a lord of session.
2. Lord Alemeer, a lord of session.

and profited greatly by the observations made in foreign countries.

Mr. Dempster on his return practised only for a short time

3. Sir Adam Ferguson, Bart.
4. Mr. Walter Stewart.
5. Mr. William Johnston, afterwards Sir William Pulteney, Bart.
6. Mr. James Ferguson, TERTIUS, A. M.
7. Mr. George Dempster.
8. Mr. Alexander Tait, clerk of session.
9. Rev. Dr. Hugh Blair, afterwards professor of rhetoric in the University of Edinburgh.
10. Rev. Dr. John Jardine.
11. Rev. Dr. William Robertson, afterwards principal of the University of Edinburgh.
12. Dr. John Hope.
13. Professor Adam Ferguson, author of several celebrated works.
14. Mr. John Fordyce, merchant.
15. Mr. John Adam, architect.
16. Mr. James Russel, surgeon.

} Three
Advocates.

Extraordinary Directors.

17. Earl of Errol.
18. Earl of Eglinton.
19. Earl of Galloway.
20. Earl of Elgin.
21. Lord Elibank.
22. Lord Kames, a lord of session, and author of several celebrated works.
23. Sir Alexander Dick.
24. Mr. James Ferguson, advocate and dean of faculty.
25. Mr. George Drummond, commissioner of excise; and
26. Mr. Charles Hamilton Gordon, advocate.

This association was intended not only for philosophical enquiry, but also for the improvement of the company in public speaking: Allan Ramsay, the painter, son of the author of the "Gentle Shepherd," was the founder.

In 1759, the members amounted to one hundred and thirty, and included not only all the distinguished *literati* of Edinburgh, and its neighbourhood, but also several of the nobility and gentry.

The elder Munro, Sir Alexander Dick, Mr. Wedderburne, Mr. Andrew Pringle, afterwards a lord of session, Lord Kames, Lord Elibank, and Mr. Walter Stewart, an advocate, were the chief speakers: Charles Townshend, afterwards Chancellor of the Exchequer, once made an harangue; but David Hume and Adam Smith, never opened their lips. Lord Monboddo, Lord Elibank, and Mr. Wilkie, author of the "Epigoniad," as well as Messrs. John and James Adams, William Tytler, author of a "Vindication of Mary," and afterwards a lord of session, Lord Gardenstone, John Clerke of Eldin, the composer of an excellent work on Naval Tactics, Andrew Stewart, author of Letters to Lord Mansfield, &c. were constant attendants.

In 1761, this celebrated society undertook the Herculean task of annihilating the Scottish language, or rather of refining it, in such a manner, from the vernacular idiom, as to become English both in purity and pronunciation.

"What gave rise to this chimerical project," says Ritchie, in his life of Hume, "was

as an advocate at the Scotch bar, as he was soon called from the expounding of laws to become himself a legislator. He accordingly laid aside his wig and gown, on being elected, after a long, violent, and expensive struggle, to represent a Scotch district of boroughs, consisting of Dundee, Forfar, St. Andrew's, and Cupar, in the twelfth Parliament of Great Britain, which was convoked Nov. 25th, 1762. His wealth must have been very considerable for that period and country, as he appears to have spent 10,000*l.* in this contest. The triumph, however, appears to have been complete, for he was left in full and undisturbed possession, during the long interval of twenty-eight years.

On taking his seat in the house, the new member for Dundee joined the Rockingham party, and generally acted with the Whigs during the remainder of his life. In 1765, he obtained the patent of Secretary to the Scottish Order of the Thistle, an office rather honourable than lucrative; and this,

the important incident of old Sheridan's arrival at Edinburgh, who had made the tour of Great Britain, as an itinerant lecturer on elocution. This gentleman announced his appearance in the Scottish capital, and his plan of instruction in his usual style of arrogance, vanity, and self-conceit; indeed the lofty notion he entertained of the vast importance of the art which he professed to teach, and his own exclusive abilities for teaching it, appear in every page of his flimsy publications.

“ Mr. Sheridan's lectures continued for four weeks; and such was the rage for speaking with an English accent, that more than three hundred gentlemen, among whom were the most eminent in the country for rank and learning, attended him. Availing himself of this kind reception, he gave notice, that he proposed to publish his lectures on elocution, with several tracts relative to that subject in one volume, 4to. Most of the gentlemen subscribed for copies; and a similar project for improving the education of females, was welcomed by them with a similar subscription. The long interval which elapsed between Sheridan's receiving the subscription money and the publication of his book, exposed him to a paper warfare in the public journals.

“ These lectures were delivered in St. Paul's chapel; and during their continuance, the church was crowded with ladies and gentlemen, most of whom began to affect a nicety of pronunciation in their ordinary discourse. Even the grave academic gave way to the prevailing fashion of the day; and Dr. Robertson was so much enamoured with it, that he *sported* on all occasions his progress in speaking English, and to the day of his death, persevered in the practice of enunciating his words with the most pointed correctness.”

Mr. Dempster was one of the most active promoters of this new branch of improvement, and laboured exceedingly to extirpate the northern accent, as well as to introduce a more correct phraseology.

there is reason to suppose, was the only favour ever asked or procured for him during a long Parliamentary career.

It is almost unnecessary to observe, that Mr. Dempster was a decisive and uniform enemy to the contest with America. Notwithstanding the Marquis of Rockingham, on the repeal of the Stamp Act, had proposed and enacted a declaratory law, purporting that Great Britain still possessed the claim, the exercise of which had been just relinquished, yet the subject of this memoir joined Mr. Pitt and Mr. Fox in the doctrine that taxation could not be constitutionally exerted without representation, and this doctrine seems to have prevailed ever since.

But Mr. Dempster did not enter into any factious opposition, either to ministers or the war, so unhappily commenced and supported by them. No sooner was that point of contention given up, and America declared independent, than he recommended many salutary and decisive measures for the restoration of the finances. To attain this object, he insisted on the immediate reduction of our military establishment, the abolition of sinecure places and pensions, and the instantaneous return to the sage practice of our ancestors, by which the expenditure was not to exceed the income. He eagerly joined Mr. Pitt, when that gentleman came into power, in the plan for the appropriation of an annual million; for the reduction of the national debt, and also supported this minister on a variety of occasions.

But two great subjects, on which he was well-informed, now chiefly occupied his attention and engaged his efforts. The one respected the commerce of the country, from which he wished every possible obstruction to be removed; and it must be allowed, that at the period, and during the administration just alluded to, a cessation of considerable duration took place in respect to smuggling, by the operation of the commutation act, while certain facilities, which ought to be still further extended, were given to the fair trader at the custom-house.

Another object of vital importance nearly at the same time

engaged a mind naturally prone to speculation; this was the extension of the fisheries, which has ever been a favourite subject with the Scottish nation since the time of James II., who, while Duke of York, not only patronised, but became a subscriber to a company expressly formed for their encouragement. They beheld, not without a certain degree of jealousy, the Dutch frequenting their shores, and reaping a rich harvest within sight of a population, at that period, indolent, dispirited, and destitute of enterprise. The member for Dundee wished to rouse them into action, by a due sense of their own interests; and for this purpose, he was allowed to nominate a committee, for the purpose of reporting to the house, on the best means of carrying his plans into effect.

About this period, Mr. Dempster, who had a brother * in the service of the East India Company, offered himself as a director. The event reflects no little honour on his character and conduct, for although not placed on what is called the *House-List*, and of course opposed by all the power and influence attached to it, yet he succeeded in the ballot, and accordingly became invested with all the patronage attendant on that situation.

Notwithstanding this, he was no friend to the motives with which the company, or at least its servants abroad, appear at that moment to have been actuated. He could not conceive any idea of a mercantile corporation declaring war, achieving conquests, and deciding on the fate of millions of men. It was his wish to recur to first principles. He could not perceive any necessary connection between the warehouses in Leadenhall-street and the empire of the East. It was a splendid but destructive dream, for a body of English merchants to preside over the kingdoms of Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa; to give laws to viziers and nabobs, and even to regulate the succession to the Imperial throne of Delhi, where they had once appeared in the humble capacity of factors and adventurers. His speculations were of a humble and even a mortifying kind. Instead of spoiling kingdoms, and depopulating whole nations, under pretext of their own good, he wished

* Mr. John Dempster, who commanded an Indiaman.

the directors, like their predecessors, to be occupied in assorting pepper and spices, in garbling indigo, in weighing tea, and in measuring of chintzes ! What an employment for the Lords of Asia !

After this, it will surprise but little, if, when he had retired from the direction, Mr. Dempster should have taken an active part in the debates that ensued against the company. However much he might have lamented the dereliction of all principle, by the formation of the coalition-administration, yet he supported Mr. Fox's India Bill, the original penman of which is supposed to have been Mr. Burke. Accordingly, in the autumn of 1783, he made a long, very pointed, and very singular speech ; and after hoping that a question so important would be deliberately discussed and wisely decided, he entered on a delicate part of the subject then under consideration.

“ With regard to the violation of charters,” observes he, “ all chartered rights should be held inviolable, those derived from one charter only excepted — the charter of the East India Company. That is the sole and single charter which ought in my mind to be destroyed for the sake of the country, for the sake of India, and for the sake of humanity.

“ I give credit to a noble Lord (Lord John Cavendish) for his wish, declared more than once, ‘ that every European was driven out of India, and that we only enjoyed the commerce of this part of Asia in the same manner as we enjoy that of China.’ I for my own part lament, that the navigation to India had ever been discovered, and I now conjure ministers to abandon all ideas of sovereignty in that quarter of the world : for it would be much wiser to make some one of the native princes king of the country, and to leave India to itself. I however see which way the House is inclined, and therefore shall withdraw, as I would not vote against my principles for the throne of Delhi.”

In 1785, we find the member for Dundee earnestly supporting the motion to amend that statute which has obtained the denomination of the “ Grenville Act,” by extending its

provisions. As this has always been accounted the palladium of the House of Commons, by affording a fair trial, in all contested elections, he of course warmly espoused the measure; and in order to exhibit its importance, he pourtrayed in glowing colours the critical situation of any one who aspired to be a member of that House, not only in the time of Sir Robert Walpole, but up to that period of the present reign, when this manifest improvement was first suggested.

“At that degenerate period in our history,” observed he, “no candidate, whether he had the majority of votes or not, was sure of his seat, unless he would truckle to the minister, and sacrifice his principles at the shrine of power. Posterior to this memorable epoch, a spirit of justice has prevailed in the decisions of the committees ballotted for; and these are now conducted in such a manner, as to exempt them from the charge of dictation. The supplementary measure, now under consideration, will tend not a little to augment the security of that candidate who possesses the greatest number of legal votes; and therefore shall obtain my consent.”

But although this bill passed with his assent, it was far different with another, which he opposed with the same warmth he had advocated the former. This was a fiscal regulation, in which the immediate interests of his constituents were deeply involved; for as the town of Dundee had been long celebrated for its very flourishing manufactures of thread, &c. it was of course greatly affected by a small additional tax on printed linens. However, after a sturdy and ineffectual opposition, this measure, the policy of which appears still questionable, passed into a law, and was carried into effect.

Mr. Pitt, still a young man, was now in full possession of all the power and influence of the state, which seemed likely to be perpetuated in his person: for he enjoyed the entire confidence of the king, while all his measures were supported and enforced by constant majorities in both Houses of Parliament. But in 1788, the political atmosphere was suddenly clouded by an alarming and most unexpected event. This

was no other than the melancholy suspension of the executive power, which one party attributed to a temporary and another to a permanent delirium. Mr. Fox, who was then travelling in Italy, was suddenly recalled, and a change of both men and measures was confidently predicted; but the minister acted like Fabius against Hannibal, and finally succeeded by the interposition of prudent and politic delays.

Mr. Dempster on this critical occasion ranged himself on the side of the Prince of Wales, and maintained his right to the free and unrestricted exercise of the sovereign power, as Regent of these realms. Mr. Pitt, nothing daunted at this very unexpected occurrence, immediately entrenched himself on constitutional grounds: and boldly maintained, that the nomination was vested in the two remaining branches of Lords and Commons, who in addition to this possessed the right of imposing *restrictions* on the power so delegated. He accordingly moved certain distinct propositions, an attempt to defeat which was made by moving the previous question; but the latter was lost by a majority of sixty-four, although strongly urged and supported by all the weight of one side of the House, December 16, 1788.

When the report was brought up on the 18th, it was determined to oppose it; and as a certain degree of suspicion generally attaches to party-men, it was luckily left to a leader, whose character, conduct, and abilities, placed him above all suspicion. Mr. Dempster accordingly arose, and delivered a long and able speech, the substance of which shall be here faithfully detailed:

“ I beg leave to propose an amendment to the second resolution, which will rescue the House from the greatest solecism I have ever witnessed. The Revolution is no precedent in point for the present proceeding. Our King is not likely to be expelled the throne, because he is a King beloved by his subjects; but he is also a man, and consequently subject to all the calamities and infirmities of human nature.

“ We have at this time a Prince of Wales, the heir apparent to the throne, of full age. Why then should we create

an executive made up so as to resemble nothing that ever was conceived before; an un-whig, untory-like, odd, awkward, anomalous monster!

“ I here stand up as an independent man, connected with neither party; the amendment I have to propose is an amendment of my own, without consultation, and without connivance; I do not even know whether this amendment will be seconded; but such as it is, I will move it, that I may at least endeavour to preserve the constitution from what appears to me to be a dangerous conjuncture.

“ This amendment is to leave out the word ‘right,’ because the best way of declaring this right is not to express it by a word, but by the exercise of it; and with this view I shall further move to leave out the words ‘in such a manner as the exigency of the case may appear to require,’ and insert, ‘by presenting an address to the Prince of Wales, heir apparent and of full age, humbly beseeching him to take upon himself the administration of the civil and military government of the country during the incapacity of His Majesty, and no longer.’*’

Mr. Courtenay having seconded the motion, a debate ensued, which was adjourned to the succeeding day, and after all the great speakers on both sides had delivered their opinions, the question was at length put, when there appeared: — Ayes for the original motion, 251. — Noes, 178. — So that Mr. Dempster’s amendment was lost by a majority of 73.

At length in 1790, when he was only fifty-five years of age, Mr. Dempster closed his public career as a legislator, after he had sat during five following parliaments, which comprehends a term of near thirty years, so that he had nearly become the “Father of the House of Commons.” Whether it was, that his retreat was voluntary, or that his conduct had become obnoxious to a noble family possessing great influence, a

* Here follows the amended address: — “That it is the right and duty of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons of Great Britain now assembled, and lawfully, fully, and freely representing all the estates of the people in this realm, to provide the means of supplying the defect of the personal exercise of the royal authority, arising from His Majesty’s said indisposition, *in such a manner as the exigency of the case may appear to require.*”

branch of which succeeded him *, is now difficult to decide ; but certain it is, that he carried with him into retirement, the good wishes of all parties and all orders of men.

His leisure was now occupied with carrying those theories into practical effect, which he had constantly advocated during the whole time he had sat in parliament. The county of Forfar still derives benefit from his taste for improvement. Like Peter the Great, on his return to his native country, he was eager to introduce every thing commendable which he had seen among other nations. Having a taste for agriculture, he commenced with his own estate, knowing that a successful example would be followed by a crowd of imitators. His labours were of no vulgar order, and required sacrifices of no ordinary kind. The improvement of a beloved residence, the enclosure of paternal farms, the draining of a lake, the building of a village, were achievements worthy of a British senator. They are not to be compared indeed to the creation of a navy, the founding of a capital, and the civilisation of a mighty nation ; but in proportion to the extent of his little barony, the Laird of Dunichen is entitled to be ranked with the hero, who gave grandeur, strength, and stability, to the Muscovite Empire.

In one point of view, indeed, he rose superior to the Czar ; for he claimed no merit from the guilt and glory arising out of the enlargement of territories produced by the destruction of his fellow-creatures. On the contrary all the bent of his thoughts tended towards their increase, preservation, and happiness. The rage for emigration to America that now began to take place alarmed him not a little. Many parts of the Low-Lands were thinned of their inhabitants ; and the Highlands, which were in some districts literally depopulated, beheld the loss of men very inadequately supplied by the increase of cattle ; for they were converted into sheep-walks and grazing-ground.

To put a stop, if possible, to this evil, Mr. Dempster now laboured for the establishment and extension of the fisheries.

* Captain George Murray of the R. N. uncle to the Duke of Athol.

It has already been seen, that while a member of the House of Commons, he took an active part in this great national undertaking. It was chiefly through his means, indeed, that protecting acts were passed, parliamentary bounties obtained, and a joint-stock company formed. In 1788, he was nominated one of the directors, and in that capacity pronounced a speech to the members, in which he gave an historical detail of the proceedings for extending the fisheries, and improving the sea-coasts of Great Britain. After noticing an able pamphlet by the late Mr. Gray, and lamenting that their funds were not competent to support such extensive and laudable operations, he thus invokes the assistance of the rich and the powerful.

“ Were any one of the great proprietors of extensive tracts of lands, now waste and uncultivated,” says he, “ to embark heartily in such a plan of meliorating his estate, and to devote his time and capital solely to this object, I doubt not but in the course of a single generation, he might derive great benefit to himself, and lay the foundation of immense wealth for his posterity; and in truth, Lord Gardenstone; the Duke of Argyle, in the Isle of Mull; Mr. Campbell, of Shawfield, in Isla; and Captain Macleod in Herries, have been most laudably engaged in plans for improving those islands, not unlike that here suggested. It is also well known, that the late Earl of Findlater, in the course of twenty or thirty years, introduced good agriculture and extensive manufactures into a part of the kingdom where neither were known before, and that the consequences have been, a vast improvement of the value of his estate, and of the condition of its inhabitants.”

In order to prove that the Highlands of Scotland are capable of better cultivation, and to demonstrate the fallacy of the position “ that the times of breeding men are now over; that men must give way to a more profitable species of production; (sheep and black cattle!) and that formerly a chieftain wanted soldiers, but now money;” Mr. Dempster enters into several curious details. In the first place, he observes, that no where in Scotland do potatoes grow better than in the Highlands, and that land may be cultivated to advantage for pasture and hay

in climates too cold to yield much corn, as in Iceland, where corn is seldom sown, and hardly ever ripens, the farms being divided into two parts, viz. cultivated and natural grass. The "leaking showers" which fall during the months of May, June, and July, also render the Highlands admirably adapted for the cultivation of flax.

"I have for argument sake," adds he, "admitted of the truth of the objections drawn from the coldness of the climate, although some things might be stated to contradict the fact itself. The gardens of the inhabitants of Dunkeld extend nearly to the summit of a very high hill; and so do those of Fort William, where the aspect is to the bleak north-east. In the year 1786, there were more apples and pears in the few gardens of Lochabar, than grew on the same number of trees that season in Worcestershire or Herefordshire. At Fort William green pease are ripe, as I have been told, almost as early as at Edinburgh.

"On the first day of August, in the year 1787, the barley harvest of Icolumbkill was begun; and about the middle of that month, the corn-fields round the town of Stornway, in the isle of Lewis, were far advanced towards maturity. Good potatoes are met with in the counties of Inverness and Sutherland, early in the month of August. It is equally certain, that hedgerows and plantations, of which the Highlands are utterly destitute, add much to the warmth and earliness of other countries.

"Snow seldom lies for any length of time in the Hebrides, or Western Highlands; and, indeed, it is generally allowed, that the temperature of the whole island of Great Britain is much milder than any continental situation in the same latitude. I acknowledge," adds he, "that the continual moisture and heavy rains in the Western Highlands, are discouraging circumstances to strangers accustomed to a better climate; but this only increases the importance and value of the native inhabitants, from the difficulty with which they would be replaced."

Immediately after this he glances at the degraded state of

the Scottish elections, and laments, that a certain middle class, called *tacksmen*, are about to be extirpated :

“ Were the political constitution of Scotland like that of England,” adds he, “ and did a freehold or life estate of forty shillings a year give a right of voting for members of parliament to represent our counties, I have no doubt but these tacksmen, in the character of freeholders, would render themselves as useful to the great proprietors in peaceful times, as they formerly were in times of turbulence and war ; and that the same security and protection would be the consequence of their services. But our county elections being too aristocratical to admit of this species of political utility, and great internal tranquillity prevailing in the Highlands, the ancient bond of union between them and the proprietor or chief, is in a great measure dissolved. His pretensions, therefore, too frequently give way to those of the south country shepherds ; and he has often the mortification of seeing his and his ancestor’s mansion levelled to the ground, or converted into a sheep-cot.”

Mr. Dempster having shown that the object of the society associated for the purpose of improving the fisheries, is immediately connected with the excitement of a spirit of industry among the inhabitants at large, proceeds to state, that since the 25th of March, 1788, the Court of Directors had executed the necessary deeds for obtaining the perpetual property of Tobermory, in the island of Mull, and Ulapole, in Loch Broom.

“ The extent of the property acquired at Tobermory from his Grace the Duke of Argyle, for the payment of a mere quit-rent, and from Mr. Campbell of Knock, is not less than two thousand English acres. A copious stream of water runs through the middle of it ; and hard by is a river capable of turning machinery of any kind. The situation of the new town is on a dry and healthy spot, with a southern exposure overlooking the harbour, and sheltered from the north wind by a sloping hill, rising gently behind the town.”

Part of this tract of country, we are told, was soon after let out on building leases ; a common store-house has been erect-

ed; a shop and dwelling-house for a blacksmith have been built; plans for a custom-house were prepared by Mr. Mylne, architect of London; a harbour, quays, &c. &c. were projected, and the ground-work of a town sketched out.

Ulapole being always considered as one of the first stations in Great Britain for the herring-fishery, much was expected from it; but unfortunately the summer and autumn fisheries failed entirely in Loch Broom; yet this disappointment was amply compensated by a winter fishery some miles to the northward, where the herrings were in sufficient plenty to have supplied the markets not only of Europe, but the West Indies. The proprietors having also acquired the property of an island called Restol, very near to some "cod banks," great hopes were entertained of rendering that fishery also productive.

"The society have lately acquired," adds he, "a very valuable property called Stein, in Loch Bay, and Loch Folliart, in the isle of Sky; we have experienced the utmost liberality of treatment from Mr. Bannatyre Macleod, Mr. Brodie, and Mr. David Scott, the Attorneys of General Macleod of Macleod, acting in the true spirit of that gallant officer himself, who is now on service in India, and of whose estate, Stein composed one farm. A thousand Scotch acres of land, whereof one hundred and thirty are in actual culture, have been given to the society at a quit-rent of sixteen pounds *per annum*. Its exposure is to the south. There are lime-stone and free-stone quarries near the spot, and a sufficient supply of peat for fuel for the inhabitants. The isle of Sky well deserves the name of *Fair*, bestowed upon it by the ingenious Dr. Anderson, being in point of fertility and extent next to Great Britain and Ireland, the finest island belonging to His Majesty in Europe.

"Nothing is herein said," adds the patriotic director, "as to the roads of communication between the eastern and the western coasts of the Highlands; yet upon these the success of our undertaking in a great measure depends. The efforts of individuals are inadequate to the expense of such a work.

Mountainous countries have been made pervious by government, in all mountainous regions. The Alps and Pyrenees owe their roads to the Kings of France, Spain, and Sardinia. It is by the government of Great Britain that the roads through half the Highlands have been already made. Most people indeed, in this country, imagine that roads have been made through every part of the Highlands. It is not to be doubted, when once it is known, that the western parts of Invernesshire, Rosshire, Sutherland, and Caithness, are still utterly inaccessible to carriages, and almost to horsemen, that the government will adopt some system for the gradual making of roads through these countries. This object would soon be accomplished by the addition of a very small sum to the money yearly expended in maintaining the roads already made.

“ The nation must never forget, that to the writings and journeys of Mr. Pennant, Dr. Anderson, and Mr. Knox, it is indebted for much information respecting our northern seas. They also enlarged upon the bold and original idea of improving our fisheries and sea-coasts, by founding new towns near to the seas where fish are most abundant, which idea was first started by Mr. Gray, in “ Reflections on the Domestic Policy proper to be observed on the Conclusion of a Peace, published in 1761.”

It appears from a supplementary document, that the patriotism of the Scottish nation was excited on this occasion, in no ordinary degree, both at home and abroad. In Bengal alone, the capital of this infant Company was augmented to the amount of 5000*l.*, while a large sum had also been subscribed at Madras. The total of stock raised, and expected to be raised, by voluntary contribution, was estimated at 150,000*l.*, and never did any previous project appear so feasible, or any speculation evince such an early promise of success. Nor was it a little creditable to this association of private individuals, that the Court of Denmark was induced to imitate all the leading principles of their plan, for the civilisation and improvement of Iceland, which had hitherto been

supported at a very considerable expense to the public. It is true, that it was impossible to find in that country a sufficient capital without the royal interposition; for where else, but in Great Britain, are such a number of wealthy adventurers to be found? His Majesty therefore opened the treasury, for the purpose of encouraging the fisheries on the coasts of that remote establishment, by building villages, collecting fishermen, and distributing premiums.

One direful event, however, had nearly ruined this joint-stock Caledonian company, and blasted all the fair and rational hopes entertained by Mr. Dempster and the other governors. The unfortunate incident to which an allusion is here made, was the French Revolution in 1789, followed in 1793 by a war on the part of England; and that too at a time when the flourishing state of our colonies, and the dereliction of nearly all commercial connection with their own, in consequence of domestic broils, afforded more than ordinary encouragement to those engaged in the fisheries in general, and that of herrings in particular. The zeal of individuals immediately began to relax, and their hopes to abate, when they beheld Great Britain engaged in a contest, the result and termination of which it was impossible to calculate. Meanwhile, their warehouses remained empty, and their fishermen became sailors, while their settlements only appeared on the map. The price of their stock of course fell, and many became sufferers by the rapid depreciation.

Mr. Dempster was greatly mortified by the occurrence of events, which wisdom could not have foreseen, and no degree of prudence prevented. It is unpleasant to add, that this failure was connected with a misfortune of a different kind, although both originated in the same cause. Actuated by patriotism alone, the worthy subject of this short and very inadequate memoir, determined to stop, if possible, the current of emigration, from the north to the west. Accordingly, acting on the acknowledged principle, that where labour is cheap, manufactures may be established to advantage, as diminution of price will prove more than an indemnification for the addi-

tional carriage, he purchased a place called *Skibo*, in the remote county of Caithness, hoping that the certainty of finding constant employment, would tend to render the inhabitants residentiary, and thus prevent them from repairing in shoals to the trans-Atlantic Continent.

But the self-same cause that stunted the growth of the fisheries of Scotland annihilated her manufactures; the wealth and commerce of Britain were diverted into new channels; while the additional increase of freight and insurance had entailed a ruinous expense on these commodities in a foreign market. On this occasion, Capt. John Dempster, who had embarked with his brother in this speculation, was also a sufferer.

Notwithstanding all these disappointments, Mr. Dempster never ceased his efforts for the melioration both of his country and his countrymen. He now applied himself with additional zeal to agriculture. He had reaped many advantages, and never experienced any losses, from the cultivation of the earth; and he began to think, that as this was the first, so it was the most beneficial employment for mankind. The following letter, written in 1803, when he had attained the mature age of sixty-eight, will serve to show the state of his mind at that period. It is addressed to the editor of the "Farmer's Magazine," a work which had been dedicated to himself.

" Sir,

" How much depends upon mankind thinking soundly and wisely on agricultural topics, which, in point of extent, surpass all others, and which may be said to embrace the whole surface of the globe we inhabit! I would still be more lavish in my commendation of your design, were it not that I should thereby indirectly make a panegyric on myself. For these last forty years of my life, I have acted in the management of my little rural concerns on the principles you so strenuously inculcate. I found my few tenants without leases, subject to the blacksmith of the barony; thirled to its mills; wedded to the wretched system of out-field and in: bound to pay kail, and perform personal services; clothed in hoddens, and lodged in hovels. You have

enriched the Magazine with results of your farming excursions. Pray direct one of them to the county I write from, peep in upon Dunichen: and if you find one of the evils I have enumerated existing; if you can trace a question, at my instance, in a court of law, with any tenant as to how he labours his farm; or find one of them not secured by a lease of nineteen years at least, and his life, the barony shall be yours. You will find me engaged in a controversy of the most amicable kind with Lord Carrington, defending the freedom of the English tenants from the foolish restrictions with which their industry is shackled, prohibitions to break up meadow land, to sow flax, to plant tobacco, &c. &c. all imposed by foolish fears, or by ignorance, and confirmed by the selfish views of land stewards, who naturally wish the dependence of farmers on their will and pleasure. God knows, Scotland is physically barren enough, situated in a high latitude, composed of ridges of high mountains; yet, in my opinion, moral causes contribute still more to its sterility.

“I urge the zealous prosecution of your labours, as a general change of system and sentiment is only to be effected slowly; your maxims are destined first to revolt mankind, and, long after, to reform them. There never was a less successful apostle than I have been. In a mission of forty years, I cannot boast of one convert. I still find the tenants of my nearest neighbours and my best friends, cutting down the laird's corn, while their own crops are imperiously calling for their sickles. I am much pleased with the rotations you suggest; and as those topics are very favourite ones with me, they occupy no small portion of my leisure moments.

“The Highland Society being silent on the subject of the emigration of the Highlanders who are gone, going, and preparing to go, in whole clans, can only be accounted for by those who are more intimately acquainted with the state of the Highlands than I pretend to be. One would think the Society were disciples of Pinkerton, who says, the best thing we could do would be to get rid entirely of the whole Celtic tribe, and people their country with inhabitants from the low

country. How little does he know the valour, the frugality, the industry of those inestimable people! or of their attachment to their friends and country! I would not give a little Highland child for ten of the highest Highland mountains in all Lochaber. With proper encouragement to its present inhabitants, the next century might see the Highlands of Scotland cultivated to its summits, like Wales or Switzerland, its valleys teeming with soldiers for our land army, its bays, lakes, and friths with seamen for our navy. But this is a long chapter. A Roman orator says, arms must give way to the gown — A modern orator might say, with more truth, arms must give way to the wool the gown is made of.

“At the height of four hundred feet above the level of the sea, and ten miles removed from it, I dare not venture on spring wheat, but I have had one advantage from my elevation, my autumn wheat has been covered with snow most of the winter, through which its green shoots peep very prettily. I have sometimes believed that this hardy grain is better calculated for our cold climate than is generally thought, if sown on well cleaned and dunged land, very early, perhaps by the end of September, so as to be in ear when we get our short scorch of heat from 15 July to 15 August, and to profit by it.

“I was pleased with your recommending married farm-servants. I don't value mine a rush till they marry the lass they like. On my farm of 120 acres, I can show such a crop of thriving human stock as delights me. From five to seven years of age, they gather my potatoes at 1*d.* 2*d.* and 3*d.* per day, and the sight of such a joyous busy field of industrious happy creatures revives my old age. Our dairy fattens them like pigs; our cupboard is their apothecary's shop; and the old casten clothes of the family, by the industry of their mothers, look like birth-day suits on them. Some of them attend the groom to water his horses; some the carpenter's shop, and all go to the parish school in the winter time whenever they can crawl the length.”

Mr. Dempster now beheld the approach of old age, but it was without a sigh. He had always considered it to the full as natural to die, as to live; and the increasing debility and

infirmity incident to his time of life, rendered a separation from his family and his friends, less painful and unpleasant, than they might otherwise have been. Of the latter indeed, he had survived by far the greater portion: Hume, Robertson, Johnson, Boswell, had been all snatched away; and few or none remained with whom he had any connection in his early youth. Professor Ferguson indeed, was an exception to this rule; as was also in some measure, Sir John Sinclair; whom he had only known, however, after he had become a public man. He engaged heartily in all that Baronet's agricultural plans; they had sat for many sessions together in Parliament; and they agreed to meet once a year, during the remainder of their lives. But Sir John's removal to his residence in England had prevented this compact from being exactly filled for some time past.

As in early life Mr. Dempster was accustomed to spend his summers in Scotland, and his winters in London*, so of late years, he has been habituated to enjoy the fine weather, at Dunnichen, and to pass the rest of his time at St. Andrew's. The former of these was endeared to him by early recollections; for in that residence he beheld a new world, created by himself; the latter also, possessed many claims to his attention. There he contemplated his *Alma Mater*, the hallowed, the honoured spot where he had imbibed the first principles of science, and in the classic pages of Greece and Rome found both excitements and models for his own conduct. There too, in the decline of life, resided his old friend Dr. Ferguson, whom we have already mentioned; they had known one another for more than half a century, and never met without renewing the recollections of early scenes, rendered still more dear by comparison.

In respect to the subject of this memoir, there appears to have been a happy exemption from the common frailties and infirmities of mankind. In him were to be seen, all the advantages of old age — calmness, serenity, and a total exclusion

* Finding the capital disagree with his health, the M.P. for Dundee was accustomed to reside at Brompton, for the benefit of a freer and better air.

from the dominion of the passions — without many of its accompanying miseries. He exhibited none of those peevish, fretful, and morose humours, which are supposed by some, to be peculiar to such as have passed their grand climacteric. On the contrary, he was of a kind and benevolent disposition; no one indeed, was more disposed to estimate the blessings of society than himself. As several of his neighbours were fond of whist, he himself cultivated a taste for, and excelled at that game: and in order to enable some old ladies, whose company he greatly coveted, to come to his house in all weathers, he was accustomed to send a vehicle, which he pleasantly denominated “the route coach,” in order to accommodate them. It was thus that time passed, if not merrily at least tranquilly away, until a severe illness, the forerunner of dissolution, preyed upon the remains of life, and finally bereaved him of vital energy.

Thus died in 1818, George Dempster, a man, who to the sturdy virtues of Andrew Marvel, superadded an enthusiasm for commerce, manufactures, and agriculture. To form a just estimate of him, it is only necessary to recollect some of the occurrences of his life. By draining the moss of Dunnichen, he at once rendered the air more salubrious, and both increased and meliorated the superficial contents of his estate. Having found, by the experimental operation of boring, that his lands abounded with marl, arising from the deposition of innumerable shells, with the rich animal substances contained in them, in consequence of some great revolution of nature*; he immediately rendered this discovery profitable.

The peat bog of Resteneth, consisting of three-score and ten acres, proved for a long time unassailable by all the efforts of human art; but it also was at length subdued, and the fortunate projector was enabled to improve the remainder of his estate, by the residuum. After draining the water and

* This spot is an elevation of about 400 feet above the level of the sea; and the testaceous tribes here alluded to, chiefly consist of the *Helix Animal Limax*, and the *Tellina Animal Tethys* of Linnæus.

paring the surface, a quantity of marl, estimated to be worth 14,000*l.* was dug from its bottom.

Oliver Goldsmith has admirably painted the "Deserted Village," in poetical colours that will never fade; but how exquisite would have been his feelings and enjoyments, had he beheld the village of Letham in Forfarshire. The patriotic projector but shook his magic wand, and the walls arose, the roofs were seen to move, and the streets to cross each other at right angles, as if by enchantment. His own benefit was but a secondary consideration: for he *feued*, that is to say, he granted the town-lots in perpetuity to the industrious and enterprising, at a trifling ground-rent. Here he beheld the peaceable inhabitants thriving by the manufacture of yarn and brown linen; and here for their encouragement, he instituted a weekly market for the sale of these articles. In all these undertakings he succeeded; and where he failed, the failure proceeded from circumstances over which he had no controul.

Mr. Dempster was the best of landlords, and his goodness appears to have originated with himself alone. At the time he came into possession of his estate, which luckily occurred at an early period of life, the most barbarous feudal customs were still practised; the farmer termed his landlord "master," and the peasant was but little better than a slave. As no leases were granted, the most implicit submission was paid and exacted; they were obliged to employ the blacksmith of their lord, however distant might be his residence, and however incompetent his skill; while the system of agriculture practised was inferior to that of some civilised Indian tribes, and the little adjacent village, scarcely one degree in point of comfort, above the Kraal of the Hottentots.

He commenced his operations by granting long leases, which placed his tenants out of the reach of caprice; he permitted them to cultivate their farms, in whatever manner they pleased, by avoiding the insertion of any covenant whatsoever, of a directory nature; and if a war, of unusual length and unrivalled expenditure, prevented him from supplying half

Europe with the produce of the Scotch fisheries; he at least contrived to provide London with fresh salmon, amidst the heats of summer: for it is to him we are indebted for the modern custom of packing it in ice, and thus at all times and seasons, supplying a most elegant and nutritious food.

As a member of Parliament, he stood conspicuous. In his quality of a legislator, he proposed many good, and opposed many bad measures; he was also the means of introducing several excellent bills, connected with the best and dearest interests of the empire. Without exhibiting great eloquence, or embroidering his speeches with fanciful imagery, or rhetorical tropes and figures, Mr. Dempster contrived, whenever he arose, to arrest the attention of the House.

Nature had conferred on him a prepossessing figure, which Cicero, although he did not possess it himself, lays down as a very advantageous adjunct to the powers of an orator: and he also exhibited what the ornament of the Roman forum has omitted in his estimate and enumeration of the good qualities of a public speaker, the "*integer vitæ scelerisque purus*;" not only a reputation for worth, but a consciousness of integrity. Thus it was, that with a cordial distaste to faction, corruption could never lay hold of him. When he commenced a speech, no party knew on what side he intended to declare; and when he gave his vote, no one could deny that it was a conscientious one.

Both as a senator and an author, he profited greatly by the early instructions of the elder Sheridan, and the aids derived from the Society "for the Improvement of the English Language in Scotland." Throughout life he courted the company of literary men; and so fond was he of the society of Dr. Johnson, that when Mr. Boswell, in 1763, complained of hurting his nerves by the late hours of the great Lexicographer, the subject of this memoir gaily replied, "one had better be palsied at fifty, than not keep company with such a man."

To conclude the character of Mr. Dempster, both in public and private life he was highly estimable; and as he lived honoured and beloved, so he died respected and lamented.

AFTER the above Article had been written and transmitted to the Printer, the Editor was favoured by the kindness of the Right Hon. Sir John Sinclair, Bart. with a packet containing the correspondence of Mr. Dempster with that gentleman, from 1792 to 1815. As it was then unhappily too late to insert extracts and letters, the following selection is now made for the gratification of the reader.

Emigration.

“ Emigration is now at your door. A ship full I see is gone for ever from Thurso; Twelve hundred families, man, woman, and child, were removed last Thursday. — What a crime! and in these times! We can't help the avarice of others; but we can correct it in ourselves. Why not follow my example, and give those virtuous people leases, and exempt them from personal services.

“ I was lately on my death-bed, and no retrospect afforded me more satisfaction than that of having made some scores — hundreds — of poor Highlanders happy, and put them in the way of being rich themselves, and enriching the future lairds of Skibo and Portrossie.” Dunnichen, 2d Nov. 1807.

“ Recipe for the Cure of Emigration.”

“ Take a sheet of stamp paper, and write on it the following words:

‘ I A. B. laird of C. give you G. H. a lease for nineteen years, and also your life of the little spot D. which you found a barren muir, and on which you have built a house, and which you have, with your own hands trenched, manured, and inclosed, and which now produces potatoes and bear (barley), sufficient to maintain you, your wife, four sons, and two daughters, and your old grandmother.’

“ Apply this kindly to the heart of the patient, and immediately he will cling to the spot. The seducing arts of the recruiting officer for emigrants, may as well try to make emigrants of the Paps of Caithness, as of G. H. G. D. M. D.”

Men more advantageous to a Country than Sheep.

“ It is beyond the power of logic to persuade me, to prefer *greenifying* the hills by sheep, to fructifying them by men, women, and children; who would first make them green, and then defend their verdure. Jean Jacques said, when hard pushed by a French infidel: ‘ *Monsieur sache, que je me pique d’être Chretien.*’ But look at Skibo, peopled and cultivated to the summits of its hills; for there is but one mountain, *Clebrick*, in that county. Was not Wales? was not Switzerland cultivated without depopulation? we did want the climate of those mountainous regions; but since the use of Swedish turnip, and early potatoes, a fig for climate!” Dunnichen, 22d May, 1814.

The Mildness and Fertility of certain Portions in North Britain.

“ Any communication from you will find me passing the winter at this Scotch Baia (a seat in the county of Sutherland), chiefly on account of the mildness of the air, and absence of frost and snow; to such a degree does situation counteract the influence of latitude. The northern banks of an arm of the sea, or frith, sheltered from the north and east winds by neighbouring hills, and on the eastern side of our island, be the latitude what it may, form enviable human abodes for every month in the year. Ripe walnuts, and luscious peaches, green gages, and pears, are, or have been, the constant deserts of our Skibo family dinners, for these last two months.” Skibo Castle, near Tain, 4th Nov. 1804.

“ I have just read Mr. Williams’s book on your climate, — he is among the first authors who have given electricity its full share in vegetation. — Would it be foreign to the purpose of a board of agriculture to correspond with the best *weatherists* in each county or town; to court their barometrical, thermometrical, and electrical experiments, &c. Might not an attention to these help sagacity to conjecture concerning the future state of crops, — the nature of the winter to ensue, and to take their measures accordingly? May not the provision of electric matter, bestowed by God on our globe, be considered as a more precious fund of agricultural improvement, than

even lime and marl, which I call the bountiful author of nature's dunghills." Dunnichen, Forfar, 30th June, 1808.

The Advantages of Life Boats, as applied to Rivers, Arms of the Sea, &c.

"Life-boats at Cromarty, Inverness and Inver-Gordon, and Mickle Ferry, would bring every body beyond those ferries, two days nearer home, and remove the danger of never reaching it.—Life-boats would be more useful still at Holyhead and Bristol, than in Scotland; also of sovereign use at Portpatrick. Why not life-vessels, Sir John, as well as life-boats? A stout vessel, filled even with empty porter casks, would defy all winds. Their pinnaces and long-boats, if *lifen'd*, in case of rocks and sand banks, which no vessel can withstand, would save the ship's crew and passengers. Please suggest this to the Irish members. A word from them, and the Post Office Packets would be all *alive* within the year, and so would the boats and yawls of the packets. It is an improving age." Dunnichen, 11th Feb. 1808.

The two following letters to the Right Hon. Sir John Sinclair, Bart. have been selected as both curious and interesting:

No. 1. "Skibo Castle by Tain, 10th Aug. 1809.
" *Mira cano, vera cano!*

"My dear Sir John,

"What we call see-saw at the game of whist, the French call *renvoyer le ball*. The jealousy subsisting between Caithness and Sutherland in Marvels, as well as other points, induced me to take some pains to ascertain the truth of recovering the health and growth of apples fallen from the tree by the inclemency of the elements, from their first blossom till they are pretty well formed. Mr. Wm. MacCulloch, tacksman of Sidera, and captain of local militia, declared to Capt. Dougald Gilchrist of Espisdale, and Capt. Fraser of Dornoch, that in a garden belonging to a Mrs. Gallie, widow, he had, within a few days, seen an apple tree loaded with fruit pro-

cured by the following process. The blossoms or young apples fallen from the tree were stuck on it again with moist clay, and were growing most prosperously. My impatience to return the ball is very natural, in a contest of this kind. Capt. Gilchrist and Capt. Fraser are on their way, at this moment, to the spot where this prodigy is performing. I tremble for their return before the dispatch of our mail, being suspicious the miracle, like many others, and like the rainbow, will disappear on approaching it. At present, I report nothing but what I heard yesterday from the mouths of the two captains. I defend your mermaids with all my rhetoric. Last night our ladies expressed their surprise, considering the prolificness of fishes, at the scarcity of the mermaids. My answer to this objection was, that the male mers, were either abroad in the wars of the ocean, or had emigrated to the Pacific Ocean, and that the females whom the schoolmaster and minister's daughters had seen, were probably on the look-out for husbands. I see, in the Gentleman's magazine of this year, an account of a sister of theirs that had appeared off the Yorkshire coast, probably on the same errand. I wish we could have given our philosophic bishop some account of the manners and religion of these submarine amazons. Be on the look-out from the windows of Thurso Castle; perhaps you may be favoured with ocular demonstration of this prodigy. The testimony of the schoolmaster and minister's daughters would be much corroborated by that of the president of the Board of Agriculture. I fear I shall remain one of the detestible class of infidels, till a mermaid become the property of Mr. Pidcock, and be exhibited riding on the rhinoceros at Exeter-change. At present, my belief extends no farther than that the schoolmaster and ladies have seen an old seal, grown, like my own skull, bare and white with years, and green by some other means; why did not the ladies speak to this disconsolate maid? She was nearer them, and in a more *questionable* shape than the ghost in Hamlet? Pray, my dear Sir John, step up the water of Thurso a few miles, in search of Headrick's chalk rock. The Dr. of the town will show

you where he found very fine marl, when in quest of this rock, for Mr. Guthrie of Craigie, two years ago. If the marl should be in any quantity, it will amply compensate the trouble, marl being, in my opinion, unconsolidated chalk, more applicable than chalk itself, to the improvement of the county. I pray my best respects, and remain, very affectionately, my dear Sir John, yours, &c. &c. &c. GEORGE DEMPSTER."

" Post Scrip. 11th Aug. 1809.

" The Captains are returned. They could not find a boat to cross the Kyle; for I am forced to confess what, for the honour of our county, I meant to conceal, that this *Lusus Nature* belongs to Rosshire; failing to get to the spot, they went in quest of Captain MacCulloch, and examined him more particularly. This precognition has cost us half the miracle; but it has discovered a part of the gardening art, which might have remained for ever a secret had not this accident revealed it. The Captain says it was only the blossoms blown off by the wind, which were gathered up, and he does not know but slits in the tree might have been made, and the blossoms inserted and secured by wetted clay; thus extending inoculation to blossoms bearing fruit the first season. What a discovery for our northern orchards! It may be worth your while to bid your gardener try this experiment next spring. And now for mermaids. The Reverend Mr. Rainie, minister of Creich, dined here yesterday. The Caithness mermaids were introduced. I observed some symptoms of impatience, and jealousy, and envy in the good old gentleman's countenance. He then told us, that in May last *two very fine young lads* bathing at Spinningdale had been drowned; and that it was universally believed by all his parishioners, that they had been seized by two mermaids, and dragged under water and held till they were drowned; but let go again, on discovering them not to be mer-men; and as little fitted for their purpose, as an old school-master and two young Caithness ladies. The contents of this letter and P. S. are faithfully and literally narrated by G. D.

“Should this discovery of *blossoming* trees succeed, it would spoil a little of the spirit of our Angus epigram, translated from the French by a pleasant neighbour of mine. He was asked by a Kentish gentleman :

“ Why plant fruit-trees, where, in no year,
Or apple grows, or plumb, or pear ?
I'll tell you why — be it understood,
We plant for nosegays, and for wood.
My wife at church, in blossom season,
Sports a nosegay like a besom ;
An apple-tree our dinner *bears* ;
A cherry *bears* our tea ;
Our plumbs, and pears, make beds and chairs,
That *bear* my wife and me.”

No. 2.

“ Skibo Castle, 12th Aug. 1809.

A rainy day.

“ My dear Sir John,

“ At Dunnichen, I have an *Album*, which in imitation of *Noctes Atticæ*, I call *Dies Pluviales Dunnichisences*. Had I been there now, and farther from you, it should have received an extract from the Roman Encyclopedia, Pliny's Natural History, which if not already in your memory, you will not, perhaps, dislike to see. It may furnish a Quotation or Motto for some recommendatory exhortation to the perseverance in agricultural pursuits. Cato, says Pliny, the first of the name, famous for his triumphs and censorships ; but still more famous for the wisdom of his precepts, particularly on agricultural subjects, tells us, he had ten culeos of wine from one jugerum (like ten bolls of wheat per acre) ; and Pliny adds, *monstrans efficacissimis exemplis, non maria plus temerata conferre mercatori, non in Rubrum littus, Indicumve, merces petitas, quam sedulum ruris larem*. That farming is a surer road to wealth than the command of an Indiaman. It is singular, that the Hon. John Cochrane bid my brother quit his ship if he wanted 50,000*l.* and buy 50,000 acres of Highland mosses. This advice was given twelve years ago, long before Lord Meadowbank's or Mr. Smith of Sevenridges moss improvements were known by

your means to the public. Would to God it had been later than them, for it might perhaps have been followed.

“ I purpose making a voyage to Rosshire, to examine the miraculous apple-tree. The discovery won't be more accidental, and to us northern gardeners, who have all had the small-pox, not less interesting than Dr. Jenner's discovery of the cowpox, or Dr. Franklyn's discovery of stilling the sea by oil. A secret known to the tacksmen of St. Kilda, a century before, mentioned indeed a century before by Martin, who tells us when overtaken in his way from collecting the rents of that remote island by a storm, he (the factor) suspended fat St. Kilda puddings *superstitiously* from the stern of his boat into the sea. In my younger days, while I had teeth, an old woman sent me to say certain words at a certain well, *holding a key for some minutes* between my teeth. The loadstone has since been accidentally discovered to be a cure for the tooth-ache. Might it not be worth while to inquire if other superstitious pranks may not have some foundation in natural causes? I hope you discover the cause of my boring you with these trifles. It is not only because *hæ nugæ ad seriâ ducant*, but also because I am very sincerely and respectfully, yours, &c. &c. &c.

“ GEORGE DEMPSTER.”

LIST OF THE WORKS

Of the late George Dempster, Esq.

1. Discourse on being nominated Chairman of the Society for extending the Fisheries of Great Britain, 1789.
2. An Account of the Magnetic Mountains of Cannay, an island twelve miles in circumference, which possesses many columnar appearances, similar to those of Staffa.
3. Several Papers in the Transactions of the R. S. of Edinburgh.
4. Several Letters in the Agricultural Magazine.
5. Some printed Speeches delivered in Parliament.

No. VII.



RIGHT HONOURABLE GEORGE ROSE,

LATE M.P. FOR CHRIST-CHURCH, IN THE COUNTY OF HANTS, CLERK OF THE PARLIAMENT, TREASURER OF THE NAVY, PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF TRADE, KEEPER OF THE RECORDS IN THE EXCHEQUER, DEPUTY WARDEN AND KEEPER OF THE NEW FOREST, ONE OF THE ELDER BRETHERN OF THE TRINITY HOUSE, AND A MEMBER OF HIS MAJESTY'S MOST HONOURABLE PRIVY COUNCIL, &c. &c.

[*With an Account of his Works.*]

THE life of this active and diligent statesman, at once elucidates and exemplifies the position, that England affords a fairer field for intellect and industry than any other country in Europe. The late Revolution in France presented many opportunities indeed, for both the display and triumph of military talents; but there were few instances of mere Civilians attaining eminence, and fewer still of any permanent security for wealth and honours. Fouche, Duke of Otranto, was indeed a provincial schoolmaster, anterior to the late commotions in his native country; while Roland, before he

became a minister, lived during many years in a station almost equally obscure; but the one took refuge from proscription in death, and the other now lives in exile, and perhaps in insecurity. On the contrary, the subject of the present memoir rose by slow but certain gradations; he acquired both fortune and honours, without incurring any danger; he resided among us during a long life in security; he, at length, died in affluence, and calmly transmitted his wealth, as well as a portion of his political influence, to his children.

George Rose was a native of Scotland, having been born at Brechin *, a royal borough in Angushshire, on June 11th, 1744.

His father, the Rev. David Rose, of Lethnot in the shire of Forfar, was bred a clergyman; but he was not of the *established* religion, being a member of the Church of England, and consequently, accounted a Dissenter. In addition to this, he was one of those Episcopalian ministers, who were looked on with an evil eye, under the name of *Nonjurors*, because they would not swear allegiance to the Brunswick race, deeming the expatriated House of Stuart, the only true and legitimate sovereigns of this country! We are now astonished at such narrow notions of government, and a liberal and enlightened posterity will scarcely believe that they ever existed.†

His mother, who bore the same maiden name, and who might perhaps, also, have been of the same family as her husband, was the daughter of Donald Rose, of Waterclunie. If she possessed but little fortune, she could however boast of "gentle blood," for she claimed her descent from the Roses of Kilravrock or Kilraak, an ancient family in the county of Nairn, that furnished a prolific stock of petty barons during the feudal times, when all who were not either slaves or dependents, appear to have been chiefs.

As a nonjuring minister in the north of Scotland, it cannot be supposed that the elder Mr. Rose could possibly enjoy much affluence. On the contrary, his income was so extremely

* This obscure town is about eight Scotch miles from Montrose.

† On the demise of Charles Stuart, the last direct male heir of that line, the Nonjurors immediately swore allegiance to his present Majesty George III., and have been since treated with great consideration and kindness.

slender, that recourse was had to a different mode of life, for the maintenance of his family; and soon after the birth of his son, it was deemed prudent to remove him under the protection of a near relation settled in England. Accordingly, at a very tender age*, and before he could possibly receive any education in his native country, George was sent hither, and placed under the auspices of an uncle who kept an academy in the immediate vicinity of Hampstead. Here he obtained but a very slender education, for the first rules of arithmetic, and a slight knowledge of the Latin language, were all the prefatory studies the boy ever engaged in; but he never forgot what he had once learned; and possessed ample resources in his own mind. The chief object was to be placed as soon as possible in some situation by which he could earn his bread, and George accordingly, appeared destined to compound the drugs, feel the pulses, and administer prescriptions, to the inhabitants of the neighbouring hamlets. But these professional avocations were not found congenial to the young man's inclinations; and there is reason to suppose, that the indentures were cancelled by mutual consent: as his master, who resided at Hampstead, was not anxious to retain an unwilling apprentice.†

Meanwhile, a great change had taken place in the situation of his father. The late Earl of Marchmont, a nobleman of considerable talents and influence in the south of Scotland, had been originally educated in what were then called Tory principles; and feeling for a man who appeared to have been beggared, and almost proscribed, on account of his sturdy adherence to the political faith which they both professed in early life, conceived a great attachment to him. Accordingly, the elder Mr. Rose soon after became the Mentor of Lord Polworth ‡, and from that moment, the protection of this powerful family was extended to his son.

* Between his fifth and sixth year.

† This curious fact, in the early life of an extraordinary man was communicated by one of the greatest of our London physicians, who added "that Mr. Rose, on more than one occasion, had tendered all his influence for the advancement of his first profession." ED.

‡ The son of Lord Marchmont.

How, when, in what manner, and in what capacity the future treasurer of the navy entered into His Majesty's service on board the fleet, is not at present distinctly known. Certain it is, that he was still very young; but it is not at all probable, as has been asserted by some, that it was in the humble station of steward. It is most likely, indeed, that, as is the case at the present day, he was received on board the first ship in which he embarked, under the appellation of captain's clerk. This obviously and necessarily leads to the higher department of purser; and as the subject of this memoir was always a man of equal punctuality and dispatch, we doubt not when once he attained this step, then the object of his highest ambition, that he performed all its duties with becoming propriety. While in this latter station, he rendered himself known to the old Earl of Sandwich, who then presided at the Admiralty Board, and in his own person, united the two singular and discordant qualities, of an aptitude for business, with an unaccountable passion for pleasure and dissipation. This nobleman was his first official patron, and had he but continued under his immediate protection, there is no doubt but he would in due time have obtained some respectable employment at one of the public boards appertaining to this department.

He himself appears, however, to have thought otherwise, for we soon after find him occupying a situation * at Whitehall, most probably through the influence of Lord Marchmont. Here his habits of regularity proved highly serviceable; and he was no sooner appointed, to the superintendance of the public records, than he undertook the arduous task of selecting, arranging, and placing them in due order. The *new keeper*, accordingly commenced, and persevered in his Herculean labours, until at length, he had bundled, ticketed, and placed in alphabetical arrangement, all and every document appertaining to his department. Formerly a *search* was found difficult, if not impossible,

* His first land appointment is said to have been deputy-chamberlain of the tally court of the exchequer.

amidst an undigested mass of public papers, laid carelessly on shelves, or loosely and negligently scattered in the apartments. But when he had once finished his operations, the treasury or any other board, was no longer at a loss; for, on the title of any document being transmitted, the original was immediately produced, without hesitation and without delay. Such a sudden change occasioned favourable impressions, and at length recommended Mr. Rose to the notice of Lord North, then Premier, who, during the course of the American war, was frequently obliged to recur to a variety of obsolete dispatches, sometimes at the instigation of his political adversaries, and not unfrequently for his own justification.

Nor did Mr. Rose's exertions remain long unrewarded. In 1767, a new field opened for the display of his unwearied and indefatigable industry. He was at that period appointed to superintend a work of no common magnitude, the completion of the Journals of the House of Lords, in thirty-one folio volumes! A task which would have appalled other men, only furnished new wings to his activity; and it must be allowed, that this immense, laborious, and expensive operation, was conducted in such a manner, as to reflect credit on that court of Parliament, which by its votes first enjoined, and afterwards liberally paid, for its accomplishment.

From this period, Mr. Rose was constantly employed by nearly all succeeding ministers, with an exception of Mr. Fox, and at length rose so high in the favour of his Sovereign, after becoming a senator, as to have obtained the invidious appellation of "one of the King's friends."

It ought not to be here forgotten, that when the Earl of Shelburne*, at the conclusion of the American war became Premier, he found Mr. Rose a very useful assistant in a subordinate capacity. Soon after his retreat, the administration of which Mr. Pitt was the head, no longer considered him as a clerk, but as a coadjutor. Although both he and his country-

* Afterwards created Marquis of Lansdowne, and the father of Lord Henry Petty, who on the death of his brother the second Marquis, succeeded to the family honours and estates.

man Mr. Dundas, were doubtless of different political sentiments from those at first professed by this young, able, and ambitious minister, yet they soon perceived, that his talents and his eloquence, superadded to the name and exploits of his father, were calculated to produce no small degree of effect in the councils, as well as fortunes of the nation which had given him birth. They accordingly harnessed themselves to his triumphant car; and willingly sang *Io Pœans* before it. The consequences are well known. They were both admitted into the cabinet; both obtained high and lucrative offices, while one of them actually was ennobled, and the other doubtless might have exhibited his coronet also, had it been an object of his ambition!

The rise of Mr. Rose was now equally rapid and secure. On the disgrace of the Coalition administration, he had readily obtained a seat in parliament; while his appointment to the important office of joint-secretary to the treasury in 1784; rendered him acquainted with all the affairs of the state; in short, with all the *Arcana Imperii*.

Great and increasing wealth, the produce of commendable economy and unceasing application, at length rendered an investment in land a desirable acquisition. He had by this time married a lady, connected with one of the West India Islands *, by whom he had several children; and as Mrs. Rose's sisters lived at Southampton, perhaps a residence in the vicinity of that town, was originally selected; but be this as it may, the house and estate of Cuffnells in the same county, finely situate in the bosom of the New Forest, and in the immediate neighbourhood of that element on which he had passed his earlier days, were now purchased. This proved a most fortunate speculation, as it led to a permanent and indissoluble connection with the borough of Christchurch, while his son, when grown up, aspired to and obtained a moiety of the representation for Southampton.

Mr. Rose now turned his thoughts to the melioration of the finances. His early knowledge of a sea-faring life, his ocea-

* Dominica.

sional residence on the shores of the British channel, and above all his habits, and his researches had rendered him familiar with the severe but very inadequate fiscal regulations then in force. Accordingly it was he who first conceived the idea of putting down smuggling, and improving the income of the state, by decreasing the amount of duties exacted at the custom-house.

By means of this and other financial measures, in all of which Mr. Rose participated and assisted, the revenue was increased; while trade, which had been greatly depressed by the American war, assumed a more flourishing aspect. His love of order, his attention to details, his regularity and sober habits, extended from the treasury to the long-room; and all the public boards, were kept on the alert by his vigilance and industry.

But his labours were not confined to his official duties alone. Mr. Rose extended them to other objects, and these too, of a most delicate and difficult nature. It was he who animated a large portion of the inhabitants of Westminster, to oppose the re-election of Mr. Fox for that city; it was he who contrived to keep up the contest and continue the scrutiny, until all parties were wearied with the trouble and expense. On this occasion, he had the celebrated John Horne Tooke for a coadjutor, of whom he conceived a high opinion, and was ever after accustomed to speak of his talents and integrity with respect.

Meanwhile, in 1792, Mr. Rose was fated to encounter a charge of malversation, in his capacity as secretary of the Treasury. This accusation was founded on a trial in the Court of King's Bench, arising out of one of the many incidents of the Westminster election, with which, as has been already observed, he had connected himself as a friend to Lord Hood, and consequently a foe to Mr. Fox. One Smith, a publican, at Whitehall, was the plaintiff, and according to his statement, having been convicted by the Board of Excise, in a penalty of 50*l.*, he had applied to Mr. Rose through the medium of the present General Gascoigne, for a remission of the fine.

A promise to this purpose was stated to have been obtained, and the dealer in beer, to show his gratitude, immediately commenced a very active scrutiny, to detect the bad votes polled for Lord John Townshend. But on however learning soon after, that he was still liable to a moiety of the fine, and that it was actually about to be levied, he presented a bill of 110*l.* to Mr. Rose, and on his refusal to pay the same, soon after commenced an action in Westminster Hall, where he recovered, by the verdict of a jury, the full amount of his supposed services.

On Tuesday, March 13th, Mr. Thomson, then M.P. for Evesham, introduced the charge in the House of Commons, and concluded a long speech by moving for a committee of inquiry, on the ground of public rumour. He was seconded by Mr. Lambton, who mentioned a new case of corruption, in the person of one Hoskins, connected with the lottery department.

Mr. Rose strongly animadverted on “ the extraordinary ground of authority which the Honourable Mover had taken his information from, viz. *public rumour*, and entered into an analysis of that *undefinable personage* called the PUBLIC, who was not to be met any where, and yet was in every person’s mouth. Possibly the Honourable Gentleman found the public in newspaper paragraphs and libellous pamphlets: he would not go the length of saying, that, what the Honourable Gentleman had advanced was his own invention; but he could not avoid expressing his astonishment at the Honourable Gentleman’s credulity, in venturing to bring before the House, in the serious and solemn manner that he had done, charges, which, if he did not, before he sat down, prove to the satisfaction of the House, not only that every part of them was not true, but that they had not in them the smallest degree of truth, nor any shadow or trace of truth whatever, he should be more mistaken than ever he had been in his life.”

Mr. Rose, having said this, proceeded to state the whole of the transactions, of every kind, that had taken place between Mr. Smith and himself; and the greater part of what he said, he supported by written documents. He began with explaining, that Mr. Smith had kept a livery-stable, and that he had

been in the habit of hiring horses of him, to go the first stage out of town ; that he had not seen the man to his knowledge, nor should he have known him if he had met him, before he sent him a petition, inclosed in a letter, in 1789, both of which he would read to the House.

“ The petition stated, that Smith, having had an information lodged against him for brewing beer at home, had been convicted in a penalty of fifty pounds ; that the beer was small beer, for the use of his own family ; that he was a poor man, altogether ignorant that it was contrary to law to brew small beer for the use of his own family, and that he had no intention to commit any offence whatever against the laws of his country. The petition farther stated, that one-third of the penalty went to the poor of the parish, one-third to the informer, and the other to the King. The letter stated that the vestry of St. Martin’s (or St. Margaret’s) were willing to give up their third of the penalty, provided he (Mr. Rose) would procure the remission of the King’s other two-thirds. Thus, Mr. Rose said, the Member of Parliament through whose medium, according to the Honourable Gentleman, Mr. Smith had been introduced to him, was no other than the vestry of St. Martin’s. With the petition, Mr. Rose said, he did exactly what, in the ordinary course of business, he ever did whenever petitions were sent to him, viz. referred it to the board to whose cognizance the subject-matter belonged. Mr. Smith’s petition he enclosed to Mr. Cholmondeley, the Chairman of the Excise Board ; and afterwards, upon other application, understanding that Mr. Cholmondeley was out of town, and the petition with him, he wrote to the Secretary to beg him to get the Board to suspend deciding upon Mr. Smith’s case till Mr. Cholmondeley came to town, and on no other account than merely because Mr. Cholmondeley had the petition with him.

“ But to show the House of what little avail his interference had proved, the petition was rejected by the Board of Excise ; and Mr. Rose read the Secretary’s answer, with the decision of the Board, in which the Secretary declared, ‘ that all the

allegations were untrue; that Mr. Smith was not a poor man; that the beer brewed was strong, and not small beer; that he well knew what he had done was illegal; that he contrived to get the malt into his house so privately, that even his brewer (who was the person that had informed against him) did not know when or whence it came; that he had long been in the habit of brewing and conveying it into his own cellars for sale; and that, if the penalty had been 500*l.* instead of 50*l.* it would not have been adequate to the beer he had brewed.' Here, therefore, Mr. Rose observed, was a clear proof that he had not influenced the Board in their decision. Half the penalty had actually been levied, and the other half was to be paid by instalments. This, he solemnly said, was the whole of the transaction between Mr. Smith and him, as far as regarded the penalty of 50*l.*

“ During the time of the Election for Westminster, Smith came to him, as he was going out, and made a proposition for opening his house. Mr. Rose said, Smith declared, in his entry, that he could detect a great number of bad votes that had been given for Lord John Townshend; when he answered, ‘ Do so, if you can; it will be doing a right thing;’ but as to any proposition on the subject of the election, he must go to Lord Hood’s Committee. He did so, found the bad votes he said he could find, and at length applied to him (Mr. Rose) to be paid. The answer Mr. Rose gave him, he declared, was, ‘ Return to Lord Hood’s Committee, they’ll pay you.’ Smith afterwards again demanded payment of him, Mr. Rose said, and commenced an action, which was tried in the Court of King’s Bench. He would not, Mr. Rose declared, impeach the justice of the Court, nor the integrity of the Jury; such a case was certainly made out as to induce them to give a verdict for Smith. These were the facts; but did any man, in his senses, suppose, that he, (Mr. Rose,) if he had felt the least consciousness of being really indebted to Smith, that he would suffer the cause to have gone into a Court of Justice? Most certainly he would not. He never had sent a man, who had a demand upon him, twice from his door in the whole course

of his life. But he must still think that Smith had not a right to call on him for payment. He had opened no house, (not that he should have done wrong, if he had,) nor made himself responsible in any sort whatever.

In proof of the facts he had advanced, Mr. Rose read a variety of papers; and, after declaring that he had stated the whole of his conduct respecting Smith, as to any thing that might have passed between him and any of the officers of the board of excise, he said, he hoped he was not to be made responsible for them. It was not, Mr. Rose observed, necessary for him to say much of himself, because, however party might influence Gentlemen with whom he was not acquainted, the friends who knew him, he trusted, would find nothing in his character, or any part of his conduct, sufficient to warrant even a momentary suspicion, that he would be mean enough to act so scandalous and base a part as calumny had imputed to him; and even if, for the sake of argument, it were admitted that he could sink so low, did any person living imagine such a man as Mr. Cholmondeley would join with him in such a disgraceful scene? There was not, he declared, in the world, a better friend to the revenue, a man of more unimpeached integrity, nice honour, and high spirit, than Mr. Cholmondeley, as all who knew him, he would venture to say, would readily acknowledge: nor was there, he believed, in existence, a man who would have felt more repugnance to take a part in such a business than the gentleman he was alluding to.

“With regard to the other charge, that respecting the admitting Hoskins to bail, by sham bail, he protested he had never even heard the man’s name before that day; and was it likely that Lord Hood would have desired his agent to act such a part as had been ascribed to him? It appeared to him, Mr. Rose said, that if Lord Hood had permitted his agent to do what had been stated, it would have been nothing less than subjecting him to have had his head put in the pillory. Mr. Rose, before he sat down, averred, that what he had said was the whole of the transaction which he had ever had with Smith; but if any Gentlemen were not disposed to believe him, it did

not depend on his assertions alone; the officers of the excise were at the door, and ready to come to the bar of the House to confirm them. Neither the excise laws, nor any authority that he might be supposed to possess, had ever been made use of for any purpose that could, upon the strictest investigation, be deemed improper, much less for election purposes. He conceived it very unnecessary to make any farther comment on the subject; and should avoid dropping any observations in favour of his own character in life. His conduct would be best vindicated by an examination of his private and public actions; and if he could, for a moment, believe himself capable of the enormity of which he was accused, by defrauding the revenue, he should, at the same time, believe that such a scandalous and disgraceful interference would justly forfeit the future confidence of those with whom he had the honour of acting. The feelings of the Commissioners of Excise would have revolted at the proposition; and he was convinced that the selection of Mr. Cholmondeley for the perpetration of such baseness, whose honour, integrity, and high spirit, were sufficiently known to both sides of the House, would betray a want of judgment, that must immediately defeat the desired effect."

On this Mr. Fox's literary friends had recourse to ridicule. Mr. Rose was accordingly attacked soon after, with no common share of wit, by the authors of the *Rolliad*, a work which reached twenty-one or twenty-two editions; but as the subject of this memoir was a man of strong nerves and resolute temperament, he was not to be intimidated by paper bullets, and was accordingly, one of the first to laugh at their use.

Having made himself useful, and even necessary in the cabinet of a minister, whose mind was so fully occupied with great political objects, that it could not descend into the *minutia* of public business, the subject of this memoir was esteemed by Mr. Pitt as a confidential adviser.

On every subject connected with our trade in particular, Mr. Rose was constantly consulted. He had rendered himself familiar with all questions relative to our commercial intercourse with other nations; and no one was ever better

acquainted than himself, with the maritime claims, rights, and interests of Great Britain.

After filling a variety of high, honourable, and lucrative situations, he retired with his patron Mr. Pitt, on the elevation of Lord Sidmouth to the premiership, and under his banners became an active member of opposition. On the return of his friend once more to power, new honours and new employments awaited him. Having been admitted into the privy council, Mr. Rose now of course became entitled to the usual *prefix* of Right Honourable; he was also nominated first, Vice-president, and afterwards President of the Board of Trade, the business of which was familiar to him; he also at the same time enjoyed the office of Treasurer of the Navy, with a residence, &c. in Somerset-house, in addition to a salary of 4000*l. per annum*. As to the last of these appointments, it had been long considered by others as a *sinecure*, managed wholly by a deputy who superintends the heads of offices; but it only opened a new field for his exertions.

On the death of Mr. Pitt, Mr. Rose was doubtless greatly affected, and that too, with no ordinary degree of sorrow. This statesman had listened to his counsels with complacency, and not unfrequently — particularly on commercial and financial subjects — embraced his plans with zeal, and supported them with ardour.

When Lord Grenville and Mr. Fox formed a coalition, which seated them both in office, we find the member for Christchurch, for the second time in his life, sitting on the opposition bench. On this occasion, intrenching himself in constitutional principles, in 1807, he freely inveighed against the “ministerial influence,” employed in the Hampshire election, and at the same time objected to Lord Ellenborough’s appointment to a seat in the cabinet.

On the death of Mr. Fox, and retreat of Lord Grenville, he once more resumed his former office and influence, both of which were retained by him during the remainder of his life.

As Mr. Rose abounded with practical information, no member of the House of Commons ever presented himself so

often, or on such a variety of occasions, to the notice of the public as this gentleman. When Mr. Pitt became minister, his powers of action had full play, and it must be frankly acknowledged, that his spirit of investigation, his indefatigable labours, and his minute attention even to petty details, proved highly beneficial both to the premier and the country. This was on no occasion more cordially evinced, than at the epoch just referred to. The new minister, at the close of the American war, found the nation clamorous for reform, to which he himself was publicly and solemnly pledged; and the finances at the same time were obviously in a most desperate state. While he cautiously evaded the former measure, he applied all the bent of his talents, and his genius, to restore public credit by augmenting the public revenue. Accordingly, in order to make the income equal the expenditure, he, or rather Mr. Rose, conceived the idea of the "commutation act," by means of which, the duties on tea were to be lessened, so as to preclude all temptation to smuggling, while a large addition was to be made to the window-tax, in lieu of these imposts. During the progress of this plan, in which the member for Christchurch took a most active part, much opposition was experienced from the Minority, who compared it to the *gabelle* in France, a most odious tax subsisting at that period, but since happily annihilated. It is true indeed, that the teapot and the light of heaven, were but little connected with each other, and it appeared absurd to suppose, that the quantity of souchong or hyson consumed in any house, bore an adequate proportion to the number of its windows; yet it must be confessed that one grand object was gained. By this imposition, the public revenue was greatly improved, the number of revenue officers was considerably diminished, and the breed of smugglers almost wholly destroyed. Indeed, until fresh duties were imposed on this popular herb, none of it was imported into England in a clandestine and unauthorised way; and as during the late war with France, we possessed an entire monopoly of the China trade, the addition to the customs from this article alone, became immense.

On all similar occasions, we find Mr. Rose supporting the existing system, and he appears ever to have been a most strenuous asserter of the flourishing state of our commerce and manufactures even at times when other men, less zealous and sanguine than himself, were almost reduced to despair.

In 1810, when a member of the House of Commons asserted, in a committee of supply, "that for all the articles of foreign produce of late imported into this country, we were obliged to make returns in actual specie, and not in produce or manufactures," he instantly rose to answer him. Instead of allowing these assertions to pass current, and unobserved, the member for Christchurch boldly maintained: "that for a very long time past, our export trade had been carried on in manufactures, with a perpetual balance of millions in favour of this country; and to a degree of prosperity superior, not only to any former period of war, but to the most favoured times of peace in the history of the British Empire. It was possible that some parts of our import trade, from particular quarters, might be carried on by individuals, merely by an export of money: this, however, had no sanction from the government of the country, who did every thing in their power to prevent it. It was not improbable, but that some instances might have occurred, such as an honourable gentleman had mentioned, of bullion being bought up at an advanced rate, to be sent out of the country. It was indeed, scarcely possible, in the immense business of issuing licences, but that some abuses might have been practised by individuals. If, however, such were known to the gentleman opposite, and he would have the goodness to point out any possible manner in which they could be either detected or prevented, it might be relied on, that his advice should be thankfully received and vigilantly adopted. But he would find it a difficult thing, to persuade either that house, or the merchants of this country, to adopt such a policy as the suppression of a system, under which the commerce of this country had prospered, beyond all former example."

Soon after this (Feb. 13, 1810.), Mr. Rose introduced a bill to prohibit the use of corn in distilleries. As the novel custom

of extracting spirits from sugar, was thought to favour the West India merchants, at the expense of the growers of corn in Scotland and Ireland, much opposition was given on the present occasion; but he carried the act through by means of a large and triumphant majority.

When Lord Cochrane, soon after, moved for papers, with a view to exhibit the proceedings in the Admiralty court, that Nobleman promised "to expose a system of abuse, unparalleled in this country, and beyond any thing that existed in Spain, under the administration of the Prince of Peace." He complained of the monopoly of practice that prevailed in the court alluded to; and also of a variety of minor malversations, by which the seamen of Greenwich hospital were defrauded of their just claims.

"In respect to the navy, the captors of prizes," according to Lord C., "were sometimes absolutely compelled to pay sums out of their own pockets for the condemnation of vessels: this was the way in which they were not unfrequently rewarded for their vigilance and valour.

"Could it be deemed consistent with common justice, that the whole navy of England should be obliged to employ one single individual to carry on its business before the Admiralty Court? How would any gentleman like to employ an attorney who did business for his opponent?"

After Sir William Scott had been heard with great attention, in reply, Mr. Rose boldly asserted, that in due time it would be seen that the conduct of the High Court of Admiralty had been unobjectionable.

"This was a subject which he had investigated with a care and attention, for which he supposed the noble Lord would not give him credit. He had, however, bestowed upon it many days and many nights; and he was convinced, that if the noble Lord were to succeed in throwing into other hands, the business which was now confined to the King's proctor, he would extremely injure the interests of the Navy, depreciate the character of the country unnecessarily, annoy the neutral trader, and very much embarrass the British merchant."

Soon after he became treasurer of the Navy, it had been strongly represented to him, that many abuses existed in this respect. He had consequently inquired into the subject, and had no less than 153 of these cases before him, nine of which were now before the judge of the High Court of Admiralty, in consequence of the enormous charges which the accounts contained. In one case, the charges of one agent at Portsmouth, who had 62,000*l.* to distribute, amounted to 9462*l.*, of which sum 1200*l.* was stated to be for postage. In another instance 1250*l.* had been charged by an agent, when not a shilling had been paid! Large sums too, were kept in hand by these agents for many years, the accumulated interest of which was lost to the rightful owners." Mr. Rose then added, "that he had appointed a person to inquire into and rectify these abuses; and that a common sailor having complained to him of being cheated by his agent, a suit was instituted, and the seaman had recovered his money out of the penalty." Notwithstanding all this, he concluded by lamenting, "that instead of making a desultory complaint of abuse, he had not put his finger on a single case in point; else he would have found him as ready as himself to bring it before the consideration of the House."

On March 19, 1810, Mr. Rose found himself violently attacked relative to a recent publication, in which he had maintained "that the influence of the crown had not increased since 1780." One gentleman, by means of a comparative statement, endeavoured to show that the increase of the army, navy, and public debt; the erection of new boards, together with the creation of new employments, had added not a little to the swarm of dependents on the throne. Another, treated the pamphlet in question, as one of the greatest delusions that had ever been sent forth to gull and deceive the public, and instanced the increased patronage of all India, in respect to civil, judicial, and military promotions.

The member for Christchurch, in reply, asserted that the first gentleman had misquoted a pamphlet which he had never

read. As for the army or navy; "these were departments he was so wholly unacquainted with, that he could not speak to any influence that might be exercised in either; for he protested he had no knowledge of the disposition of above twenty commissions in both services, ever since he entered into office; and he knew that Mr. Pitt was perfectly chaste in these points. As to the second speaker, he blamed "the severity of his abuse of a very dull performance:" and maintained "that he had ascribed unjust and unworthy motives to his conduct." With respect to the subject of licences, and its influence on the mercantile world, he positively denied, that he had ever evinced any partiality; and he was prepared publicly to avow "that not a single contractor to his knowledge, now sat in that house, in defiance of an act of parliament, as had been so recently asserted."

A few days after this, he defended ministers against a charge made respecting their incapacity in the conduct of military affairs, and more particularly relative to the late failure of the Walcheren expedition. He maintained, that the conquest of Flushing alone, (could it have been retained,) was a sufficient object to justify and indemnify us, for the expense of an expedition, estimated at 800,000*l*.

"By the possession of that port, where twenty sail of the line could lie in the basin, fully equipped, and ready to come out with an east wind, we should avoid the greater expense of keeping two fleets on different stations, to watch the enemy. By possessing Flushing, we utterly annihilated Antwerp, and all the fleets in the Scheldt, and the service of destroying the navigation of that river alone, which was practicable, would have justified all the expenditure. In fine, when the country had given itself time to estimate the various considerations, by which the ministers had been actuated, he was convinced that their judgment would be altogether in favour of the wisdom which planned the expedition, and the policy by which its great objects were endeavoured to be retained." This speech was the shortest and best defence exhibited on the part of the existing administration.

During the proceedings relative to the Regency Bill (Jan. 17, 1811,) the member for Christchurch contended, in opposition to some insinuations from the Rt. Hon. George Tierney, that no new or odious restrictions were intended to be imposed on the heir to the crown. He asserted, that in the time of Henry VI. a similar plan with that then proposed had been recurred to. On this occasion, he argued from constitutional doctrines, and reminded the house "that even with an army at his back, a former Duke of York was obliged to submit to restrictions;" "and this shows," added he, "the jealousy of our ancestors in respect to regents."

Soon after this, Mr. Rose moved for leave to bring in a bill "for taking an account of the population of Great Britain, and of the increase or diminution thereof." He prefaced this proposition by many pertinent remarks on the benefits which had already resulted from the last measure of a similar nature, and he insisted on the advantages which had already accrued, both in a financial and a military point of view from the antecedent act of parliament.

In 1811, we find him again defending the conduct of the Court of Admiralty, the tedious and expensive operations of which had been once more loudly condemned by a distinguished naval officer.* On this occasion, it was asserted by the subject of this memoir, "that there was no other country in the world where justice was administered, not only with such purity, but also with such dispatch." He at the same time, afforded a very remarkable instance of his own industry, as Treasurer of the Navy, by stating, "that since the passing of the New Act in June 1809, no fewer than nine thousand cases had been made out under his own immediate direction, and so arranged, that if any boatswain, or other person, belonging to any ship, applied to him respecting the prize-money to which he might think himself entitled, he could in one hour let him know when the prize was condemned, and what was the amount of his share. Six hundred of these cases had been made out by himself: their amount in money was

* Lord Cochrane.

4,000,000*l.* sterling. He had exerted himself also, to the utmost, to benefit the captors, by putting their money out to interest, and relieving them from the extortion of agents. One agent had as much as 300,000*l.* out at interest, to his own advantage. This had been put a stop to, and the benefit transferred to the captors. In the charges of agents' accounts alone, he had saved 12,000*l.* *per annum* to the captors; and also 50,000*l.* *per annum* salvage. The droits, amounting to 2,000,000*l.*, which were not taken cognizance of, he had caused to be regularly registered; in short, he had attended to the best interests of the navy; he had ever listened to the complaints of claimants; and always given them the best information in his power."

On May 6th, 1811, Mr. Rose presented himself to the Speaker, for the express purpose of opposing the report of the bullion committee, which had been introduced by a most able and luminous speech, on the part of the Chairman, the late Mr. Horner.* On this occasion, the member for Christchurch exerted his utmost powers to justify the stoppage of metallic currency at the Bank; to prove the competency of notes for all the purposes of civil life; and also to endeavour to show, that none of the many predicted evils, attached to the issue of large sums in paper, had occurred.

"My opinion has invariably been," observes he, "that although it is extremely desirable, that a considerable proportion of the circulation should consist of the precious metals, yet in case of their unavoidable absence, the deficiency may be supplied by the circulation of paper, without any serious inconvenience. I am moreover convinced, that the issue of Bank of England paper can have no possible effect on the price of gold, or on foreign exchanges; which will be proved from the experience of near a century."

The advantages derived to this country from the institution of the Bank of England were, according to him, self-evident;

* For a life of Mr. Horner, and an analysis of this celebrated speech, see Annual Biography for 1818, page 252.

he dwelt much on the position that notes were equivalent to money, for every common and legitimate transaction in life, except *foreign remittances*; and even for these, according to his statement, the access to Bank discounts afforded great facilities, by enabling the merchant to make provision for heavy payments for exports, and to await a sale for imports, for which, from various causes, there might not be any immediate demand.

“It has been contended,” added he, “that the rapid advance which has taken place in the price of our commodities, is attributable to the excess of Bank paper. That they have risen rapidly in value, is beyond dispute; but has there been no rise of commodities on the Continent, even in those countries where specie alone is in circulation? I am disposed to think that the great and sudden increase in the price of corn here, has been the cause of the advance in other articles; and the rise of that great necessary of life, I attribute, in a considerable degree at least, to the advance of importation prices by the acts of the legislature. An advance indeed had taken place between 1791 and 1804, of no less than thirty-one and one-half *per cent.* on the prices, previous to the former of these years.”

After these details, Mr. Rose contended that the committee had fallen into a great error, by asserting “that there exists no actual scarcity of gold;” and he referred to a variety of facts and documents, to prove the contrary. He was also of opinion, that the report was erroneous on the subject of exchange, as well as relative to the position, that our exports are considerably increased by a large foreign expenditure. Having animadverted on a pamphlet lately published by Mr. Huskisson, which, according to him, combined many extraordinary positions relative to the value of gold, and the ease of obtaining it in the foreign market, the member for Christchurch, continued as follows:

“On looking lately into the minutes of the Admiralty, in King William’s time, which were in my possession, but which I have since presented to that Board, who had no copy of them, I found the following extraordinary entry:

“ Admiralty Office, Monday evening, 14th March, 1695.

“ Present, The Earl of Orford, Sir George Rooke, and three other Lords.

“ The Secretary of State to be acquainted, that Captain Long is ready to proceed on his intended expedition, with His Majesty's ship, the Rupert's Prize, to *find Gold*, and that the Board will give him directions to follow His Majesty's orders.”

“ This struck me as a very singular measure when I read it, but I profess I think it less extravagant than many of the suggestions of my honourable friend. The ship might, by an odd accident, have fallen in with an island in some unknown sea, where the streets were paved with the precious metals: but the places to which he would have directed the Bank, must have assuredly failed them.”

Mr. Rose concluded as follows: “ If I have shown satisfactorily to the Committee, that the Report is not only full of errors, but is contrary to the whole of the evidence, with the exceptions before alluded to — which exceptions, if attended to, strengthen the case against the Report — that the Bank, with the best inclination to procure gold, could by no possibility attain it; and that if they could obtain a large supply, the public could not derive the most trifling advantage or accommodation from it, unless the price could be reduced; I may venture to hope, that the learned Gentleman will not prevail with the Committee to concur with him in the resolution he has proposed, to compel the Bank to pay in cash at a stated period, even if he shall be disposed to make that a later one than eighteen months.

“ No one can be more disposed to give the members of the former Committee the fullest credit for the purity of their intentions than myself; they are well entitled to the most favourable construction of their motives; but carried away by opinions previously formed, they seem not to have been aware of the effects likely to flow from the adoption of them. I feel this most strongly, and am persuaded the worst enemy of this country could not propose a measure more likely to be injurious to its best interests, in a commercial point of view, than

that which is now under our consideration. Garnier, a minister of Bonaparte, was the first who held out an expectation of the depreciation of Bank notes; and every other minister since him, has invariably dwelt upon the ruin in which this country must be involved by our Bank paper losing its credit. I trust we shall not be instrumental in aiding this speculation.

“ It is now ten years since I ventured to represent, that on Great Britain rested the hopes of returning happiness, independence, and security among nations; — that she was the bulwark against the flood, which threatened to overwhelm the world. That bulwark, God be praised! has stood firm; — my anxious hope is, that it may not be shaken; and my earnest entreaty to the Committee is, that whatsoever injury it may suffer, may not be the work of our own hands.”

In the spring of 1811, we find Mr. Rose opposing the claims of Mr. Palmer of the Post-office, for remuneration and indemnification.* On this occasion, an event of rather a singular nature occurred; for on a division taking place, the objector was found to be in the minority.

In 1812, on the motion for printing the comparative statement of the population of Great Britain in the years 1801 and 1811, the member for Christchurch, congratulated the house and the country at large, on an increase of no less than one million and a half of inhabitants, within the short space of ten years. “ In England,” he observed, “ the increase appeared to be, in a ratio of fourteen *per centum*; in Wales of twelve, and in Scotland of thirteen. This increase in the amount of the population, exhibited an extent and duration, unexampled in the history of this country; and what rendered it still more surprising, was, that the increase of the males was as great as that of the females. The total population of England, Scotland, and Wales, in 1801, was 10,472,048; at present it amounted to 11,911,644; making an increase of 1,439,596 persons, actually resident in the country; which added to

* Mr. Palmer at length obtained the sum of 54,702*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.* in liquidation of all his claims.

170,000 comprised in our army and navy abroad, made a total amount of 1,609,498.

“ Much had been said as to the means of supplying such an immense multitude, and it would appear that the imports of grain, and the prices of the same, had greatly increased between the years 1775 and 1810, having risen in average quantity from 564,413, to 1,471,005 quarters, and in average price, from 30s. to 60s. During the last year, not less than 4,271,000*l.* went out of the country for the sustenance of the inhabitants. To meet the growing wants of an increasing population, without having recourse to foreign countries, was a most important object; and he was firmly persuaded, that no such effectual mode existed, as encouraging and extending the cultivation of potatoes, which would grow in those soils that were unfit for the cultivation of grain. There is also another source of supply,” adds he, “ I mean the fisheries. It is strange that in a maritime country like this, fish is rarely to be seen, but at the tables of the rich: for the poor received little or no benefit from that nutritious description of aliment.

“ There might be some prejudices existing against the use of fish; but the exertions of gentlemen in the different parts of the country, if rightly directed, would do them away. He himself had been enabled, at a time when the quartern loaf was extremely dear, to supply the poor in his immediate neighbourhood, with twenty-two pounds of good potatoes, and nine herrings for fifteen-pence. If the hints he had now thrown out, were acted upon, it would tend to introduce a variety of nutritious food amongst the lower orders of society, save a sum of 3,500,000*l.* annually in the country; increase the agriculture of the kingdom; and by extending the fisheries employ a hundred thousand persons in the way, which more than any other was calculated to uphold the naval greatness of the empire.”

The next important subject, in which we find Mr. Rose engaged, was the defence of himself and ministers, in consequence of a motion made on the part of Mr. Brougham,

“that a select committee might be appointed for the purpose of taking into consideration the present state of the commerce and manufactures of the country, and particularly with reference to the orders in council, and licence trade.” On this occasion, he entered into a variety of interesting details; but as the projects in question were afterwards abandoned for a time, it would be unnecessary to mention them in this place.

On the defalcation and evasion of Mr. Chinnery, the treasurer of the navy, in a very manly manner, exculpated himself from all blame, relative to that public officer. Having been recommended to his notice by Lord Thurlow, whose private secretary he was, while Lord Chancellor, Mr. Rose took an opportunity of introducing him to office. He acquitted himself for some time, with great propriety, but after the expiration of four or five years, got into a very expensive mode of living. On this he remonstrated with him on account of his extravagance, and even wrote to him on the same subject, telling him freely: “he had always found, when a man exceeded his income, there was but little security for his honour.”* He never went to any of his private concerts, lest he should be supposed to countenance them; and the only time he was in his house, was when he stood god-father for his son.

On June 16th 1812, we find Mr. Rose once more defending the “Orders in Council,” and objecting to the proposed repeal by Mr. Brougham. He allowed that the evidence produced in the committee, had proved, that there did prevail a very considerable degree of distress among the manufacturers. He contended, however, that the distresses did not arise out of the cause alluded to; and that these “orders” had been issued by way of retaliation on the enemy. France said: “No vessel shall be allowed to enter England from the continent, under the penalty of being *denationalized*.” England to this replied: “If that be the case, no vessel shall enter a French port, except from those of Great Britain.”

* It appeared in the course of debate, that Mr. Chinnery allowed he had 4000*l.* per annum in salary, agencies, &c. but that he spent about five times that sum.

Such, however, was the pressure of the times, and so violent the outcry of the manufacturing and commercial interest, that the ministers were obliged to give way, and the "orders" in question were happily countermanded.

To enumerate all the speeches made, and mention the part taken in the course of so many sessions by the right honourable gentleman, would be to detail all the important occurrences in parliament, during the last thirty-six or thirty-seven years. It may be proper, however, to observe that he was a great encourager of friendly societies, for the purpose of supporting poor tradesmen, manufacturers, labourers, and others, during sickness and old age, by means of weekly or monthly assessments, obtained from their earnings. He actually brought in a bill, to protect their property, which was before liable to depredation; and by his means, frauds of the kind alluded to, were very properly rendered felonies by an act of the legislature. To him also, the public is indebted for an extension of this plan, to associations of a similar nature.

In 1817, he moved for "leave to bring in a Bill, for the Protection and Encouragement of Provident Institutions or Banks for Savings." He was of opinion: "that when these institutions were once properly understood, they would gradually do away the evils of the whole system of poor laws. When it was considered that no less a sum than seven millions was annually raised at present, for the benefit of the poor, and yet that complete relief was not afforded to them, it must be allowed that any measure which tended to alleviate the pressure of the poor rates, and to meliorate the condition of the lower orders of society, was of the utmost importance, and deserved, in the greatest degree, the protection and encouragement of the legislature. This bill," he added, "was exactly the same as that brought in last session; and although neither had been solicited by the parties, yet it would be recollected, that the excellent act, which passed both Houses of Parliament, in 1795, and had done so much good, was precisely in the same predicament.

"Not only would there arise from this parliamentary

interposition, a protection and security for the poor man's savings, but what was better, habits of industry, honesty, and sobriety, would be duly encouraged and matured among the lower orders, while one leading evil of inferior life, would be checked, if not prevented—the contracting of early and improvident marriages.”

One of the last acts of Mr. Rose's life was an opposition to the motion for abolishing, or at least, greatly modifying the duties of salt, so as to be able to substitute it for agricultural purposes on one hand, and on the other, to relieve such an oppressive load of taxation from the people at large. He was decidedly of opinion “that a substitute should be named before they could enter upon so serious a consideration as the abolition of a revenue of 1,500,000*l.* a year.” It was remarked by him at the same time, with his usual acuteness and research, that in consequence of this very proposition, the defalcation in the last quarter's revenue from this commodity alone, amounted to 80,000*l.*; he contended that it was impossible that the poor man's consumption of salt amounted to a twentieth of his income; for according to his calculation, a family of five persons did not use more than twenty-eight or twenty-nine pounds *per annum*. The motion, however, was lost by only a majority of nine.

It may be here proper to pause, in order to consider the literary labours of the subject of this memoir.

As an author, Mr. Rose was certainly a voluminous writer, and would have been still more so, had he not been prevented by the pressure of public business. The following is a passage from one of his numerous works: “Vertot's Account of the Revolutions of Rome has been found very useful by persons who have read the Roman History; but the best model that I have met with for such a work as appears to me to be much wanted, is a short history of Poland, which I translated near forty years ago, but did not publish; the manuscript of which His Majesty at the time did me the honour to accept, and it probably is still in His Majesty's library. I then thought of attempting a history on the same plan for this country; but I gave up the

intention, more from a sense of my incompetency, than from the close employment which occupied nearly my whole time. I heartily wish some one more equal in all respects to the task, may embark in it, and execute it usefully."

In 1767, when the House of Lords passed a vote for publishing a superb *engraved* edition of Domesday book, Mr. Rose was appointed to superintend this grand national work. We have been told that it cost an immense sum, and it has always been allowed that the editorship was conducted with due care and undeviating fidelity.

A great mistake has hitherto prevailed, relative both to the *quantum* and *nature* of the assistance afforded by the subject of this memoir, to Mr. Nash, in his "Collections for the History of Worcestershire." On turning to the second volume of that work, the whole will be found very faithfully recorded on an engraved plate, as follows —

To GEORGE ROSE, Esq.

KEEPER OF THE RECORDS,

THIS PLATE,

AS A PUBLICK TESTIMONY OF ESTEEM AND GRATITUDE, FOR HIS DISINTERESTED AND JUDICIOUS ASSISTANCE, IN THE COMPLETION OF THIS FAC-SIMILE COPY OF

DOMESDAY,

RELATING TO WORCESTERSHIRE,

IS INSCRIBED,

BY HIS MOST OBEDIENT AND OBLIGED HUMBLE SERVANT,

T. NASH.

In 1799, Mr. Rose published a work on the Finances, which made some noise. It was entitled "A brief examination of the revenue, commerce, and manufactures of Great Britain, from 1792 to 1799." On this occasion, his view of our situation was favourable in the extreme; and it would almost appear evident from his statement, that the pressure of taxation, and the continuance of war, were evils too light in themselves, to be put in competition with our encreasing prosperity, and our brilliant prospects. To this work, a table is annexed by way

of appendix, and for the conveniency of reference, which is said to have been the result of an elaborate investigation, by some gentleman connected with the Administration, and well qualified for the task. It would appear, from this publication, that in 1793, the first year of the war with France, our imports were 19,256,000*l.* our foreign and colonial produce 5,784,000*l.*; the export of British manufactures 18,892,000*l.*, and the total 19,676,000*l.*; with an exception to the year 1797, the progress had been gradual, but certain; and in 1798, our imports amounted to 27,857,000*l.*; while our foreign and colonial produce had risen to 10,617,000*l.*; our British manufactures exported are estimated so high as 19,672,000*l.*, the grand total amounts to 30,289,000*l.*, producing an average total for seven years, of upwards of twenty-five millions and a half pounds sterling.

In 1809, Mr. Rose printed a pamphlet with his name annexed, in which he broached the singular political paradox, that no increase of the influence of the royal prerogative had occurred since Mr. Dunning's famous motion.* This produced many replies, particularly one from Mr. Martin, a member of the finance committee, who entered into a comparative estimate of the army, ordnance, number of generals, amount of public debt, &c. &c. in 1782 and 1810, whence he deduced a far different result, and appealed to the candour of his right honourable opponent for the truth of his positions; but Mr. Rose remained inflexible, and supported his former position by means of new arguments.

In 1809, also appeared: "Observations on the Historical Work of the late Right Hon. Charles James Fox; by the Right Hon. George Rose: With a Narrative of the Events which occurred in the Enterprize of the Earl of Argyle, in 1685; by Sir Patrick Hume." 4to. about 300 pages.

Mr. Rose observes, in the introduction, that in his former publications he was actuated by a sense of public duty; but on the present occasion, he obeyed more immediately the im-

* That the influence of the crown was increasing, had increased, and ought to be diminished.

pulse of private friendship; yet, still, he was not entirely without hope, that he might, at the same time, render some small service to his country. On reading Mr. Fox's historical work respecting James II., Mr. Rose felt that degree of interest which a long experience of his splendid talents, and the particular bent of his powerful mind, to political and historical subjects, had naturally produced. He was led to expect, that this celebrated man would be scrupulously exact in weighing the evidence of every fact that he related; but on reading his work, considerable disappointment ensued. Accustomed to official accuracy, it appeared to him that some facts were either mistaken or mis-stated, and deductions formed on very insufficient grounds.

Among a variety of miscellaneous observations, our author affirms, that the first election of members by the commonalty, was at the end of the reign of Henry III.; but he denies that the peers and commons of England ever sat in the same house, as was the custom in Scotland, even at the period of the Union.* Nothing can be more liberal than the following observations: "What is usually called the Revolution of 1688, was nothing more than a declaration of what our rights were, antecedently to that event, and some improvements in our laws to guard more effectually in future against such encroachments as had been made on those rights. The great charter of King John, confirmed in parliament in a subsequent reign, was of a similar nature: the Petition of Right in 1628, the discussion of which occupied much of the attention of both houses † in that session, and to which the King reluctantly gave his assent in full parliament, and soon afterwards departed from in many instances, was likewise a mere declaration of existing rights, which the two houses thought had been violated. On the last occasion of the sort, when the act of settlement was passed in the beginning of the last century, nothing more was done than asserting

* See Report on the Records.

† Journals of the House of Commons. At the first conference, Sir Ed. Coke affirmed, that this mode of proceeding, by petition, was the ancient way, until the unhappy divisions between the houses of York and Lancaster.

what had been long established, and adding a few provisions for still further securing our religion, liberties, and laws."

Mr. Rose was induced to the publication of this work, by a conviction of Mr. Fox's partiality. "The adoption," observes he, "of such severe and unmerited reflections on the ancestor of a man, by whom I was, during a great portion of my life, treated with the kindness and affection of a parent, would not allow me to remain silent. The late Earl of Marchmont at his death, deposited with me, his sole executor, as a sacred trust, all the MSS. of his family, with an injunction to make use of them, if I should ever find it necessary *: this necessity seems now to exist, and powerfully to call on me for a vindication of the character of his ancestor. I allude to the censure contained in the third chapter of Mr. Fox's work, on Sir Patrick Hume, afterwards the first Earl of Marchmont, and grandfather of my friend the late Earl; affecting equally the honour, the courage, and the talents of that eminent man. Those virtues and talents his Sovereign had acknowledged and rewarded; but honours are of little value, if not sanctioned by the suffrage of the country, and the approbation of good men. Such suffrage and such approbation had hitherto attended the honours of Sir Patrick; but these the censure which Mr. Fox had adopted, was calculated to tarnish or to destroy, if suffered to pass uncontradicted; and having the materials for this contradiction in my hands, I felt it a duty which I could not resist, to lay them before the world."

The "Observations," consist of various sections; the first of which is occupied with remarks on the periods into which Mr. Fox divides the English history, the circumstances attendant on the execution of Charles I. and the attainder of

* This last Earl was keeper of the Great Seal of Scotland, and was distinguished for learning, for brilliancy of genius, and for parliamentary experience: he was elected for the town of Berwick in 1734; the same year in which the late Lord Chatham and the first Lord Lyttleton entered on their parliamentary lives; and with them distinguished himself remarkably in the house of commons, soon after he took his seat there. He died in January 1794, in his 86th year. The estimation in which he was held by his cotemporaries early in life, may be judged by his close and intimate friendship with Lord Cobham and Sir William Wyndham (the former of whom gave his bust a place in the Temple of Worthies at Stowe), and by the mention of him in Mr. Pope's well known inscription in his grotto at Twickenham.

the Earl of Strafford — the charges against General Monk, for omitting to make conditions with Charles II. — the treatment of the corpse of the gallant Blake, and for furnishing evidence against the Marquis of Argyle—and an enquiry into the question as to the perfection of the constitution after the Restoration. Mr. Rose, on this occasion, examines the merit attributed by Mr. Fox, to the publicity of the trial and execution of Charles I.; he apologises, at the same time, as much as possible, for the duplicity of Monk, and praises “his secrecy, management, and adroitness.” The treatment of the corpse of Blake rests solely, we are told, on the statement of the Puritans; and he doubts, in opposition to the text, the great theoretical perfection to which the constitution had attained, in the reign of Charles II.

Our Author, in sect. ii. denies that there is any authentic proof of the treachery of Charles to his ministers, or of his ministers to him. He condemns the Earl of Clarendon for his early participation in those intrigues with France, which disgraced the English sovereign; and speaks with just indignation of “the profligacy of the monarch in becoming the pensioner of France.”

In sect. iii. is considered that portion of Mr. Fox’s history, relative to the re-establishment of the Catholic religion; and the proceedings of James II. for erecting the banner of the Romish Church in England, Scotland, and Ireland, &c. Here Mr. Rose differs but little from Mr. Fox, and this part concludes with an energetic eulogium “on the energy of the constitutional principles of our government, and the native love of liberty in the country.”

Sect. iv. is chiefly occupied with the corrupt intercourse between the French and English monarchs; the charge against Sir John Dalrymple, of withholding criminating matter against James II. is said not to be well founded; and it is, at the same time, contended, that Mr. Fox has not made any new discoveries on the subject. The whole of section v. is chiefly occupied with introductory remarks respecting Sir Patrick Hume. It is here allowed, that torture was customary in Scotland;

and at the same time, it is asserted, that it was never practised in England.

After this follows "Sir Patrick Hume's Narrative of Occurrences, in the Expedition of the Earl of Argyle, in 1685." This interesting and authentic document, comprehends a letter to his wife, whom he styles "My Dear Heart." In this he reminds her of his perilous escapes from death, as well as the miseries experienced, both by herself and children. His own exploits are mentioned with great modesty; and the impetuosity, uncertainty, and perplexities of Argyle, his leader and his companion in arms, serve to show, that he was but a very indifferent general.

In 1810, Mr. Rose published a pamphlet, which reflects great credit on him in every point of view. It is entitled "A Letter to the Right Honourable Lord Viscount Melville, on the subject of his Lordship's letter to the Right Honourable Spencer Perceval, respecting a Naval Arsenal at Northfleet." The subject of this memoir was employed officially by the Premier of that day, to consider the 15th Report of the Commissioners for Naval Revision; and the observations now alluded to were the result.

In his address to Mr. Perceval, dated Cuffnells, January 6, 1810, he insists, that the maintenance of our naval superiority is unquestionably paramount to all other considerations whatsoever. If, therefore, an indispensable necessity, or even a pressing urgency for the naval arsenal at Northfleet existed "to the extent proposed," the amount of the expense ought not to prevent the adoption of the measure; "although there has been no period in our history when there existed stronger reasons for carefully avoiding every charge not essentially necessary for the safety of the country."

It appears, that the cost of the whole of the works proposed at Northfleet, had been estimated in the *first instance* at 6,000,000*l.*; and it was suggested, that the expense would be nearly compensated by the savings of fifteen years, supposed to amount to 5,900,000*l.* But it is the opinion of Mr. Rose, that the completion of this immense work, to which

ought to be superadded, the cost of the extensive fortifications necessary for its defence, in a situation more exposed than Chatham, could not be effected for any sum less than 10,000,000*l.*; and to pay the interest of this, taxes must be found and levied, to the amount of nearly 600,000*l. per annum.* He frankly admits the advantages to be derived from the introduction of new engines, more especially those worked by steam; the convenience and economy of railways for carts; and also, perhaps, the building all the large ships of war, and making the whole of the cordage and anchors in His Majesty's dock yards; but it is deemed unadvisable to introduce manufactures of canvas there.

However, the question under consideration, is simply, whether the superior benefits to be derived from the new arsenal, are sufficient to justify the unavoidable expense that would be incurred? He decides in the negative, and thinks that many material parts of this project can be carried into effect, at this moment, in the present yards, and that too, at a limited expense. For the "laying of cordage by machinery," operated on by steam, he professes a perfect conviction, that sufficient room may be found in the existing establishments. The forming of railways cannot be difficult, although they would not prove of so much advantage, as if the buildings, &c. had been constructed with a view to them. The increasing insufficiency of the depth of water in our dock-yards, is a most serious evil; but it is supposed not to extend to Plymouth, where ships of any draught of water can enter the harbour, and be docked: and equal conveniency has been afforded, by modern improvements, so far as respects Portsmouth: for there, it is not the small depth of water that is complained of; but the bar near the spit, at the entrance of the port. At Sheerness, indeed, no ship larger than one of sixty-four guns can be docked; but at Chatham first-rates may be taken in.

The objections to the yards at Woolwich and Greenwich, arise principally from the want of water in one or two of the reaches above Gravesend; at Erith in particular. As high as Long Reach, vessels of any draught may be navigated with

perfect safety; but ships of great burthen, are lightened there, and wait for spring-tides before they go higher up. The large Indiamen, draw twenty-three or twenty-four feet of water, within a few inches of a seventy-four gun ship. The depth of water in the stream of the Thames, continues nearly the same (though the shores are covered with mud), by the exertions of the Trinity House, who take up 300,000 tons of gravel yearly from the bed of the river: the collection of mud is about equal to this, yet in particular spots, the depth has been somewhat improved.

And here may arise, two questions for consideration:

1st. Whether the shoal in Erith Reach can be removed, and at what expense?

2dly, If that be found either impracticable or too expensive; what would the charge be, for making a cut from Purfleet to Blackwall, sufficiently deep for ships of the largest draught of water to pass through?

The latter question is the more important, as it is of great consequence to the trade of the capital, as well as the naval yards in the river; and it is probable, that the expense, either of that, or of deepening Erith Reach, might be defrayed by a charge on the trade of the port of London; which would be compensated by the savings arising from obviating the present delays, frequently very expensive and inconvenient. In either of these cases, the yards of Woolwich and Deptford might perhaps be enlarged, and rendered more useful.

Mr. Rose hints that the commissioners have been hurried away by their zeal for improvement, and indulged in exaggeration, when they mention our not possessing the means, to "give the large ships sufficient depth of hold to carry their ports so high out of the water, as the ships of our enemies, owing to which, the large ships of France and Spain, are frequently enabled to use their lower-deck guns, at a time when the lower-deck ports of our ships are under water, and the guns rendered incapable of being brought to bear upon the enemy." To controvert this statement, he compares four British ships of seventy-four guns, with four French ones of the same class, and thence shows, that the actual height of

the lower-deck ports in our vessels of this description is about the same as those of the enemy.

Mr. Rose has always understood, that in the Medway alone, at least double the usual number of ships may be moored, as there is sufficient depth of water between Gillingham and Standgate creek; in the Southampton river, which is "smooth water," there is a space above Calshot Castle of nine miles, in which moorings might be laid down; in the Hamble, which empties itself into the Southampton river, there is a range of four miles from Bursledon, where seventy-four gun ships are built; and in the Beaulieu river, there is also a considerable vacancy fit for this purpose, between Buckler's Hard, (where also seventy-four gun ships are built,) and the mouth of the river.

Nor ought it to be asserted, "that no exertions have been used for making improvements in our naval arsenals, to keep pace with the increase of our navy:" for at Portsmouth alone, twenty-three acres have been added, since the end of the seven years war, in 1763; that yard now contains one hundred acres; and in the new part are slips for building three ships of the largest size, and two for small ones. The great basin there has also been deepened and enlarged; the middle dock, south dock, and south-east dock, in the great basin, have been made new; the four jetties have been enlarged; the north basin both deepened and enlarged; the channel leading to the basin converted into a dock for frigates; and the entrance formed into a lock for receiving a ship occasionally. Within the same period too, the coppering of our men of war has come into general use, so that the provision made for docking them, should be reckoned at two or three-fold. After adding that some improvements have been lately made at Chatham, and some at Sheerness, he finds it difficult to understand the allusion of the commissioners, so far as respects, "the decline of our dock-yards." Their argument too, about our present ports (Portsmouth and Plymouth) being on "a lee shore, can have reference only to these arsenals being on the most inconvenient sides of the harbours

because the opposite shores of the channel belong to the enemy;" yet however prevalent the wind from the westward is, it does not frequently happen, that a ship could sail down the channel from a French, when she could not do so from an English port on the opposite coast; and "applying this objection to a lee shore, to the extent of preferring one side of the river Thames to the other on that ground seems to be pressing it very far."

The "loss by embezzlement of stores," principally applies to Deptford and Woolwich; the delay incident, even there, is but inconsiderable; and the expense of the craft employed but trifling.

Portsmouth and Plymouth are as good dock-yards as can be found for channel-service, Falmouth excepted; and inquiries have been made by skilful men, as to this last port, who are of opinion, that it might materially contribute to the naval service of this country. Chatham and Sheerness are well situate for the north sea as to equipment; in the former of which, large ships may be built, and receive thorough repairs; while those in the river are used for building large ships, and giving thorough repairs to frigates. "If the arsenal at Northfleet should be erected, I apprehend its principal use, (exclusive of containing the ships in ordinary,) must be to supply the defects of the eastern yards; it cannot answer for docking and refitting ships for the westward, on account of the length of time usually occupied in ships going from the Nore to Spithead, and Plymouth, for which different winds are necessary." This last position is explained by recurring to the prevalence of westerly winds in the channel; and it is further added, as a circumstance not improbable, that a ship might sail from Plymouth to the West Indies, while another was getting from Gravesend to Plymouth.

This important pamphlet was soon after reprinted with additions; and the effect produced by it on the public mind, as well as at the treasury board, proved highly advantageous, by preventing the expenditure of so many millions, during the heat of a protracted and expensive war.

In 1814 was published "the speech of the Right Hon. George Rose, in the House of Commons on the 5th of May, 1814, on the subject of the Corn Laws." Although a reference has already been made to this measure, it may not be improper here to state, notwithstanding this Bill was deemed less objectionable by him, than that introduced in the former year, yet he was led to oppose it :

1. On the ground of its allowing of the exportation of corn at all times, without any restraint whatever ;

And 2. Because the House is called upon to legislate permanently, in consequence of a late unexampled, and temporary pressure.

The position laid down by the Committee, viz. "that if the regulating price for allowing importation is made a *very high one*, it is the best possible protection the grower can have," is almost the only assertion in the whole Report, with which he can agree.

The Committee, however, not satisfied with the attempt to make wheat very dear, also recommended a total prohibition of the importation of flour, which would entirely cut off our supply from America in times of scarcity, wheat being too bulky an article for so long a voyage.

That the exportation of grain should be regulated by the aggregate price in England, Scotland, and Ireland, he deems "a very considerable innovation ;"

And he cannot accede to the Resolution, that there should be no restraint upon the export till wheat shall be at 90s. 2d. a quarter ; and that till wheat shall be 84s. a quarter, and other grain in proportion, the importation shall be subject to a prohibitory duty.

"My own view of the subject is," continues he, "that the grower of corn should be very effectually protected, to the extent of the price being high enough to ensure his being able to pay a fair rent, and to have a reasonable profit to himself ; but when that object shall be secured, the consumer should then have every possible facility of supply, at a price not exceeding the protecting one." In other points of view, too,

he objects to the change of the existing system, as tending to produce very impolitic effects on our poor rates, and the price of labour. Mr. Rose also animadverted on the injustice "of rendering the price of bread permanently double of what it was before the unexampled miseries of the late war were inflicted on us," and that too, "to those descriptions of people who have borne the pressure with a degree of patience that cannot be too highly commended."

Two things are remarkable on the present occasion: the first is, that this Bill passed into a law by the union of the landed interest, on both sides of the House of Commons; and the second, that as Mr. Rose had been generally occupied during the whole of his parliamentary career, in imposing fiscal regulations, he now almost for the first time, felt for, and spoke with a considerable degree of ardour in behalf of the great body of the nation.

In these various occupations life stole almost imperceptibly away. Of three-score and fourteen years, more than half a century had been spent in public business; and yet the iron hand of time seemed, until of late years, to have pressed lightly on his head.

Mr. Rose delighted greatly in his beautiful residence in the New Forest, which he contrived to enrich by the acquisition of many fair acres. He spared no expense in embellishing the house; and he also greatly enlarged it, on the death of Lord Marchmont, to whom he was left sole executor, by adding a suite of rooms, to receive the noble library, and collection of medals, left him by that nobleman.

He also enjoyed the satisfaction of beholding his children prospering under his auspices. His eldest son, who was then M.P. for Southampton, had been for some time Minister to the court of Berlin, and on him was to devolve the profitable reversionary office of Clerk of the Parliament, which he himself had enjoyed for so many years. He possessed ample means of enriching others of his relatives; and leaving all dear to him independent. He thus enjoyed all the satisfaction derivable from wealth, and was solaced by all the consolations

arising out of independence; nor were his last moments like those of Pitt, Fox, and Sheridan, embittered by debts, and distracted by cares.

Mr. Rose died at Cuffnells, near Lyndhurst, on Jan. 13th, 1818, after a short illness, without a struggle, and amidst great serenity both of mind and countenance. He had attained the 75th year of his age, although in point of appearance and activity, he might have passed for a much younger man: thus, a long life solely dedicated to business, appears to have made but little impression either on his bodily or vital powers.

In person, he was of the middle size, and of that shape and form which bespeak longevity. To this perhaps, he contributed not a little by temperance, early rising, and constant but regular exercise, not only on foot but on horseback.

On Friday the 23d of January, his remains were interred in the family mausoleum, under the Countess of Salisbury's Chapel, at Christchurch. On the succeeding Sunday, Jan. 25th, 1818, the Rev. F. Compton delivered a suitable discourse from the pulpit at Lyndhurst church, commemorative of the virtues and talents of the deceased. After this, he delivered a written paper to be read by the Clerk, the contents of which will be mentioned hereafter.

The will of Mr. Rose has been since proved in Doctors' Commons, by his son George Henry Rose, Esq. one of the executors of it, the contents of which are here briefly mentioned. In the first place, it contains a provision for his wife and children; he then mentions that he has secured the reversion of the office of Clerk of the Parliament held by him, to his eldest son George Henry; as also the place of Reading Clerk, and Clerk of the Committees of the House of Lords, and the succession of Assistant Clerk, upon the death of himself and his eldest son, for the benefit of his youngest son, William Stewart Rose.

Amongst other bequests, in one of the codicils are the following: "To my eldest grandson, George Pitt Rose, my enamelled repeating watch, set with brilliants; and a walking cane which belonged to his godfather, the late incomparable Right

Hon. William Pitt, whose memory will always be dear to me so long as my own endures — it has the crest of that great man set in gold on the head of it.” — “To my grandson, Hugh Rose, my steel mounted sword, which was presented to me by the manufacturers of Birmingham, as a token of their regard.” — “To my grandson, William Rose, a gold-headed cane, which was presented by King William to the grandfather of my late invaluable friend, the last Earl of Marchmont.” — “To every male inhabitant resident within the manor of Burgh Christchurch and Lyndhurst, county of Southampton, who shall be poor enough to accept the same, and who shall attend divino service at their respective churches (except they are prevented through illness) on the Sunday after my funeral, the sum of ten shillings each.”

In speaking of himself, he says, “Fortunate, greatly fortunate as I have been in this life, yet there is no part of good fortune on which I set so inestimable a value, as the qualities of those on whom my happiness depended. My children have been a blessing to me during a long series of years, such as seldom occurs, and never caused me one hour’s pain.” — He appoints his wife and two sons executors. His personal property sworn to is under 36,000*l*.

In private life, Mr. Rose is said to have displayed many amiable qualities, and we never hear of his having absorbed either his time or his fortune in that species of profusion, so unjustly dignified with the name of hospitality; or in that love of wine which endeavours to veil its disgusting excesses, under the appellation of conviviality.

As a man of business, he was indefatigable, being both early and late at his desk, and consequently, an invaluable acquisition to any administration. While other members of the cabinet retired to enjoy their pleasures, he withdrew to his office, where he arranged and prepared every thing for the succeeding day. No man of his time was more intimately acquainted with the trade and manufactures of this country, the assistance they wanted from the state, or the resources which might be derived from them in return. As a

member of parliament, he proved highly serviceable to the public on a variety of occasions. In him, the new and excellent system of saving banks, found an active friend and patron; he placed the property of friendly societies under the protection of the laws; he produced an enumeration of the inhabitants of the island, and thus demonstrated the immense increase of our population. He also improved our revenue laws, and by lessening the duties on excise for a time, prevented smuggling, by removing all the temptations to it. It was not, until the principles laid down by him were departed from, that a contraband trade once more prospered.

As a writer, Mr. Rose did not aim at being elegant or refined; but, on the other hand, he was accurate and able, although somewhat voluminous. His compositions were of a miscellaneous nature, but he chiefly excelled when the subjects were commerce, revenue, and finance. On all these subjects he was a decided *optimist*.

No gloomy predictions are to be found in any of his numerous pamphlets. While some public men were planting their pillows with thorns, and commenting on the decay of trade, the failure of our resources, the miserable state of our finances, &c. he appears to have enjoyed all the golden visions, arising out of the hopes of uninterrupted prosperity. The subject of this memoir was accustomed, in the worst of times, to felicitate the nation on the flourishing situation of its commerce and finances; he would occasionally compare the situation of Great Britain with that of all or any one of the neighbouring kingdoms; and maintain, notwithstanding the pressure of the income and other taxes, that the people of England actually "reposed on a bed of roses!" Nor was he ever at a loss for a reply to those who constantly augured dismay, ruin, and destruction, from long and expensive wars. As he was acquainted with all the departments of the state, he was the first to point out increase of income in any one branch of our public revenue; and when this did not happen, he then predicted more fortunate events, and prophesied of happiness to come.

On one great subject of national policy, we have some reason

to suppose that the member for Christchurch differed essentially from all his colleagues : this was the operation of the late Corn Bill. He well knew, it was to the produce of her trade and manufactures, that England was indebted for that wealth, which had enabled her more than once to maintain a contest with all Europe. He was aware that *cheap bread* produced *cheap labour*, and that without this, it would be impossible, notwithstanding our machinery, to enter into any profitable competition with the spinners, and weavers, and capitalists of France, Brabant, and Germany, on the close of hostilities. He, however, soon discovered, that not only the cabinet, but those who generally opposed it, were in favour of the new system, the popular aim of which is, by obtaining high prices for our home produce, to render this an agricultural country, and consequently, one that can exist independent of the supplies of other nations.

His speeches, like his writings, although somewhat diffuse, were appropriate and peculiar to himself. Indeed, they were unadorned with any fine tropes or similes ; he never affected the ludicrous or the satirical ; he never exhibited any of the gay sallies of a lively imagination ; he never dazzled his auditors by any sudden and unexpected burst of eloquence ; he never rivetted the attention of the public by the rapturous fervour of patriotism.

But if cold, he was correct ; if monotonous, deep ; and if sometimes prolix, he was generally clear, unembarrassed, and comprehensible. Thus while many of his orations *smelt of the lamp*, and were the sole produce of official intercourse and calculation ; they at least displayed great accuracy and correctness, and as they were usually supported by whole columns of *figures*, it was no easy matter to overcome his calculations or set his arithmetic at defiance.

Much has been said as to his fortune, but his hands appear to have been clean, for he was never accused of peculation. Indeed, we never find him but once, during a long political life, charged with an undue exertion of his influence. His annual revenue was great, and his means of acquiring wealth were various and immense ; he obtained much both for himself and

family; but had his desires been commensurate with his opportunities, he might have died one of the richest subjects of Great Britain, as his expenditure was trifling, and he detested excess of every kind.

LIST OF THE WORKS

Of the Right Hon. George Rose.

1. A Translation of the History of Poland, still in MS. in the King's library.
2. A Report on the Records, 1 vol. folio.
3. A fac-simile Copy of Domesday Book, published by the House of Lords, and edited by him.
4. Journals of the House of Lords, arranged and edited by him, in 31 volumes, folio.
5. A fac-simile Copy from Domesday Book, in Nash's History of Worcestershire, was superintended by him.
6. A brief Examination into the Increase of the Revenues, Commerce, and Navigation of Great Britain, 1792, 3 editions.
7. A Tract on Friendly Societies.
8. Considerations on the Debt due by the Civil List, 8vo. 1802.
9. Observations on the Poor Laws, 1805, 8vo.
10. Observations on the Historical Work of the late Right Honourable Charles James Fox; with a Narrative of the Events which occurred in the Enterprise of the Earl of Argyle, in 1605, by Sir Patrick Hume, 4to. 1809.
11. A Letter to Lord Viscount Melville, relative to the Erection of a Naval Arsenal at Northfleet, 8vo. 1810.
12. Observations respecting the public Expenditure, and the Influence of the Crown, 8vo. 1810.
13. Substance of a Speech delivered in the House of Commons, May 6, 1811, in a Committee of the whole House, on the Report of the Bullion Committee, 1811.
14. Substance of a Speech relative to the Corn Laws, 1814.

No. IX.

CHARLES BURNEY, D.D. LL.D. F.R.S. and A.S.

LATE RECTOR OF ST. PAUL'S DEPTFORD, RECTOR OF CLIFFE, PREBENDARY OF LINCOLN, CHAPLAIN IN ORDINARY TO HIS MAJESTY, PROFESSOR OF ANCIENT LITERATURE IN THE ROYAL ACADEMY, AND HONORARY LIBRARIAN TO THE ROYAL INSTITUTION.

[*With a List of his Works.*]

THE Burneys have been long celebrated for their abilities, indeed, they actually form a constellation * of talents, and have occupied for many years a distinguished place in our literary hemisphere. There is reason to suppose, that they originally came from the county of Salop; we are certain, indeed, that the father was born at Shrewsbury in 1726, and also that he received the early part of his education at the free-school of that town. After this he finished his studies at Chester, where he was placed for some time under the tuition of a half brother, with a view to the profession of music. In 1744, while in his eighteenth year, he repaired to London, and remained for three years under the care of the celebrated Dr. Arne.

* 1. Charles Burney, Mus. D., F.R.S., a Member of the National Institute at Paris.

2. James Burney, Esq. a post captain in the royal navy, who accompanied the celebrated Cook, in one of his voyages round the world, and has lately been occupied in a Chronological History of the discoveries in the Pacific Ocean.

3. Charles Burney, D.D., &c. his brother, the subject of the above memoir, whose son, the Rev. C. Parr Burney, is also an author.

4. Mrs. Frances D'Arblay, the widow of a Major-general, in the service of Louis XVIII. This lady distinguished herself as an author at eighteen years of age, and has produced the celebrated novels of Evelina, Cecilia, Camilla, the Wanderer, and also the tragedy of Edwin and Elgiva.

5. Miss Sarah Harriett Burney, her sister, is author of Clarentine, Geraldine, Fauconberg, and Traits of Nature; of the last of these, the first edition was sold in three months.

6. Mr. Richard T. Burney received a good education, and was sent to India many years ago. He settled at Calcutta, and died there, about 1807. Two sons and a daughter are now in England for education.

Nine years were afterwards spent in obscurity, as Organist at Lynn, in Norfolk; but in 1760, the elder Mr. Burney returned to London, obtained a degree from the University of Oxford, and on the death of his master, began to be considered as having arrived at the head of his profession. This of course led to wealth, as well as reputation: and in 1770, we find him travelling through France and Italy, with the laudable view of collecting materials for a history of Music, which he published in 4 vols. 4to. in 1781.

This was followed by another tour through Germany, the Netherlands, and the United Provinces: the account of this peregrination was published in 2 vols. 8vo. in 1773. Such were the talents, and so excellent the arrangement of these works, that Dr. Johnson did not scruple to tell Boswell, that he had looked to the writings of that "clever dog Burney" as a model for his own journey to Scotland. At this period, he resided in the house of Sir Isaac Newton, near Leicester Square.

Dr. Burney at length obtained the situation of Organist to Chelsea Hospital, where he spent the remainder of his days in peace, tranquillity, and respect. He was twice married, and had in all no fewer than eight children.

Charles Burney, the second son of the preceding, was born at Lynn, in Norfolk, on the 4th of December, 1757. But he could have received little or no part of his education in that town, as his father left it, and brought his family along with him to London, while he was of a very tender age.

On February 17th, 1768, young Burney was admitted on the foundation of the Charterhouse, where he appears to have remained for some time.

At length, in quality of a scholar belonging to this excellent institution, he repaired to Caius College Cambridge, where he soon distinguished himself by the depth of his literary researches, and his extraordinary skill in the Greek language.

His stay here, however, was but short; for he soon after removed to King's College, Old Aberdeen, where he took the degree of M.A. in 1781. In 1782, we find this accomplished scholar commencing his career as a classical instructor, at an

Academy at Highgate. But he did not remain long there, for his friend Dr. Dunbar, professor of Moral Philosophy in one of the Scottish Universities, with whom he had formed a friendship during his residence in the north, recommended him in the warmest manner to the late Dr. Rose of Chiswick, who for many years superintended a most respectable Academy at that village. Mr. Burney now became his assistant, and we have heard from an officer of the Guards, who not unfrequently smarted under his castigations, that, like the learned Busby, he was a great asserter of the *ancient discipline*.

It was here too, that the subject of this memoir first distinguished himself as a man of letters. Dr. Rose, in conjunction with Mr. Cleveland, is supposed to have instituted the Monthly Review, a periodical publication, celebrated for many years, on account of the learning, ability, and liberality, displayed in its pages. He still occasionally continued his labours; and it was undoubtedly by his intervention, that Mr. Burney became a critic. The Rev. George Isaac Huntingford, author of an introduction to the writing of Greek, having published a collection of verses in that language, under the title of "*Monostrophica*," he commenced a powerful attack on this work, through the medium of the publication referred to above. This, which there is some reason to suppose, was his first effort, attracted the attention of the public, and fixed his reputation as a Grecian.

Sometime after this, Mr. Burney married a daughter of Dr. Rose in June 1783, and in 1786, opened a school on his own account at Fair Lawn House, Hammersmith; whence, after the lapse of seven years, he removed to Greenwich, and there established the very respectable and flourishing academy, over which his representative at this day so worthily presides. Nor were academical honours wanting to grace and adorn his career, for the degree of LL.D. was conferred on him by the universities of Aberdeen and Glasgow in 1792, while that of D.D. was received from the Archbishop of Canterbury in 1812.

We understand, however, that it was not until late in life, that Dr. Burney entered into holy orders. If he had

assumed the ecclesiastical garb at an earlier period, there can be but little doubt, that the highest honours in the church would have been conferred upon him.

Meanwhile his reputation proved very serviceable to his scholastic avocations: and he now began to be considered as one of the three learned Greeks of England, his name being always united with those of Porson and Parr.

So early as 1789, he superintended, while in the press, an Appendix to Scapula's Lexicon, and two years after were printed his "Observations on the Greek Verses of Milton." His edition of the letters of Bentley and other celebrated men was read with great eagerness by the learned; and, as an appropriate introduction to his ecclesiastical functions, he abridged Bishop Pearson's exposition of the creed, of which two editions have appeared. About five years before his death, he published a sermon, delivered by him in the cathedral of St. Paul's.

Meanwhile, wealth flowed in apace, and enabled Dr. Burney to indulge his ruling passion, the collection and formation of a classical library, in the pursuit of which he not only displayed great taste and industry, but exhibited a most munificent spirit; its chief feature, as in his own character, was *Greek*. By means of the Pinelli Library introduced into this country, in consequence of a fortunate speculation on the part of an adventurous bookseller, (the late Mr. Edwards,) he added greatly to his collection of Greek dramatic authors; nor was he inattentive to the progress of the English stage, as appears from the biographical materials left behind him, as well as many thousands of theatrical prints.

After the death of the late Mr. Townley, Dr. Burney obtained the fine manuscript Homer, which passes under his name, and has been rated so high by some connoisseurs, as to have been lately estimated at the sum of 1000*l*. The vellum copy of the Greek orators must be deemed invaluable, as, in addition to a purer text, it contains certain parts of their speeches never hitherto published. Of the printed books some were of a very rare description, in high preservation, and bound with

an unrivalled degree of taste and richness. The number amounted to nearly 14,000, and many of these obtained additional value from the manuscript notes of H. Stephens, Bentley, Markland, and himself, with which the margins are sometimes crowded.

This rare collection, at one and the same time, presented the history of every book, together with its various stages of improvement. Here was to be found a work in its first concoction, exactly in the state as when originally presented to the public; by its side was to be seen every subsequent stage of perfection, in regular succession.* A comparative estimate has been published of the number of editions of certain celebrated works, and it thence appears, that the Burneian collection, on an average, contained at least four times the number of those in the British Museum.

The doctor had also a few excellent pictures, and a large assemblage of prints, which were almost exclusively theatrical.

In these pursuits, the silent lapse of time produced a succession of years and of incidents. A life so spent must have been accompanied by many agreeable recollections; but there were others of a different kind, that gave to it at intervals a sombre cast and colouring. His wife, Mrs. Burney, who was of a delicate habit, had been occasionally subject to low spirits; while his own health began gradually, but perceptibly, to decline, and that too at a period, when his father was not only alive, but still continued to give proofs of both bodily and mental vigour.

As Dr. Burney had now obtained independence, though not opulence, he resigned his school, in favour of his only son, the Rev. C. P. Burney †, who had acted for some few years as his assistant. About this period, he retired to his rectory at St. Paul's Deptford, to which he had been inducted about nine

* On inquiry, the writer of this article has discovered, that Dr. Burney was enabled to arrange the Greek tragedians principally, in the manner above described.

† This gentleman, who was educated at Merton college, Oxford, has also laid claim to the *literary character*, a distinguishing characteristic of his family, having published a sermon preached at Lambeth, before the primæ, on the consecration of the present Bishop of Oxford. He also wrote a prize essay, while at college, "On the Love of our Country."

months before, whence he occasionally visited his friends in the capital; and it was there, after a gradual decay, that he resigned all worldly cares on the 28th of December 1817. His death was sudden, being occasioned by apoplexy, with which he was first seized on the morning of Christmas day, and under which he languished but three days.

Dr. Burney, during the last twenty-five or thirty years of his life, maintained a high character as a scholar. He, indeed, ranked absolutely in the first line of eminence, and although in a general point of view, his precise station cannot be exactly ascertained, yet in respect to an intimate acquaintance with the Greek drama, he might perhaps have justly claimed the first. His critical acumen was commensurate with his extensive learning, while the native energies of his mind assisted not a little, both at table and in the closet, to attain for him a pre-eminence, which would only have existed in a smaller degree, had he been less addicted to books.

In addition to these claims, that munificent disposition, in consequence of which he expended a large portion of his hard-earned gains on the acquisition of a library, seemed to shed a lustre around his head, while it communicated a certain portion of it to his family, relations, and friends. Since the days of the Medicis, no private person had before his time been seen to employ agents both at home and abroad, to purchase whatever was rare, valuable, and learned. Few men, with such limited means, have achieved so much in this way; no obstacles prevented, no sum, however large, obstructed, no difficulties, however formidable, deterred him in his pursuit. By devoting nearly the whole of his fortune to this particular propensity, he was enabled to achieve great things; and some of the richest of our nobility were startled at a competition, in which a private gentleman, with but very scanty resources, fairly outbid the proprietors of large hereditary estates.

To the honour of Dr. Burney, neither envy nor jealousy seem to have formed any portion of his character. It is pleasant, in the republic of letters, to behold a friendship subsisting among the most conspicuous of its chiefs.

On the birth of a son, the subject of this memoir did not look around him, either to the more dignified among the clergy or the laity, in order to single out a future patron, for the hope of his family. On this occasion he reared an altar to literature and friendship, and inscribed it with the name of PARR, which is still borne by his successor. This is a little anecdote highly honourable to all parties. With Porson too, he lived for many years in unreserved intimacy: and as he was accustomed to estimate a man by his learning, this singularly gifted genius, of course, maintained a distinguished place in his esteem. *

Dr. Burney was of a sociable disposition, and all, who knew him must confess, that he was both hospitable and generous, and that, on all occasions, his wit and pleasantry were conspicuous. As he possessed an inexhaustible fund of anecdote, his company was of course greatly courted. Such indeed, and so various were his powers, and his means of conveying pleasure at the festive board, that of late years he has been generally invited to take the chair, at all those beneficent meetings, the avowed objects of which were to raise sufficient funds for the maintenance of the wives and children of those, who had entitled themselves to the gratitude of the public, either by their literary or scholastic labours.

Among his peculiarities at home, were two of a very innocent kind; the first was the possession of the best wine, of the best vintage; the next a dread of a fresh current of air. Shut the door! was the first salutation uttered by him to any one, who entered his apartment, and but few of his associates ever neglected this rule. This custom it seems, did not abandon him, even on the most critical and trying occasions; for it is said, that having been robbed while returning home one evening in his own carriage, along the Greenwich road, by a couple

* Mr. Beloe in his preface to the 3d vol. of "Anecdotes of Literature and Scarce Books," after stating his obligations to Earl Spencer and the Bishop of Ely, mentions those to the subject of the present article, in the following terms: "I return also my cordial thanks to Dr. Charles Burney. It is very unnecessary to expatiate on the value of his friendship. But I have much pride in informing the world that I enjoy that friendship; and that in the account of the Greek books printed before the year 1500, I am particularly indebted to the use of his manuscript observations on this subject."

of footpads, who were more eager in obtaining his money, than contributing to his accommodation, he called them back in a peremptory tone, and while they were wondering at what he wanted with them, he exclaimed in his usual manner, and with his own peculiar emphasis: "Shut the door!" A voice, accustomed to command, produced the desired effect, and he was instantly obeyed.

A great number of able men, educated under his inspection, and partaking in some measure of his celebrity, have lately met under the auspices of his distinguished pupil, Doctor Kaye, Regius Professor of Divinity, in the University of Cambridge, and subscribed for a monument to his memory in Westminster-abbey. This is the noblest tribute, that can be paid by the surviving scholar, to his deceased master. A Bust of Dr. Burney by Nollekens, was exhibited in the Model Room of the Royal Academy, in 1802.

Inscription on a Monument erected in 1818, to the memory of Dr. Burney, executed by Goblet, in form of a pyramid, with a medallion of the deceased, by the inhabitants of the parish of St. Paul's Deptford.

CHARLES BURNEY, D.D. F.R.S. F.S.A.

RECTOR OF THIS PARISH, AND OF CLIFFE IN THIS COUNTY,

PREBENDARY OF LINCOLN,

AND CHAPLAIN IN ORDINARY TO HIS MAJESTY.

BORN DECEMBER 3, 1757, DIED DECEMBER 28, 1817.

IN HIM WERE UNITED

THE HIGHEST ATTAINMENTS IN LEARNING,

WITH MANNERS AT ONCE DIGNIFIED AND ATTRACTIVE;

PECULIAR PROMPTITUDE AND ACCURACY OF JUDGMENT,

WITH EQUAL GENEROSITY AND KINDNESS OF HEART.

HIS ZEALOUS ATTACHMENT TO THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

WAS TEMPERED BY MODERATION;

AND HIS IMPRESSIVE DISCOURSES FROM THE PULPIT

BECAME DOUBLY BENEFICIAL,

FROM THE INFLUENCE OF HIS OWN EXAMPLE.

THE PARISHIONERS OF ST. PAUL'S, DEPTFORD,

ERECTED THIS MONUMENT

AS A RECORD OF THEIR AFFECTION

FOR THEIR REVERED PASTOR, MONITOR AND FRIEND,

OF THEIR GRATITUDE FOR HIS SERVICES,

AND OF THEIR UNSPEAKABLE REGRET FOR HIS LOSS.

On the death of Dr. Burney, it became a subject of general disquietude, lest such a noble collection should be separated and distributed. At length it was determined, that it should become the property of the nation, and consequently be preserved as one great whole. Accordingly, on February 23d, 1818, Mr. Bankes presented a petition from the Trustees of the British Museum to the House of Commons, praying for parliamentary aid to purchase this rare and extensive library. He described it "as a collection of a very superior kind, having been accumulated by the labours of many years, on the part of its possessor, who was a man of great taste and learning, and who had spared no reasonable expense in the collection.

"Under the circumstances, in which Dr. Burney had left his family, it became a desirable object, that his library should be disposed of for their benefit *; and when it was considered how important it was to deposit so valuable a collection in the British Museum, Mr. Bankes hoped, that the House would be disposed to listen to the prayer of the petition."

The Right Hon. Nicholas Vansittart, Chancellor of the Exchequer, bore testimony to the learning and abilities of Dr. Burney, and agreed, that the present opportunity of obtaining so valuable a collection of books and manuscripts to the British Museum, ought not to be neglected.

Accordingly a Committee was immediately nominated, and the sum of 13,500*l.* recommended to be given to the proprietor. This having been objected to, on account of its largeness, Sir James M'Intosh immediately replied: "that the restoration of the true reading in one single oration of Demosthenes was worth the whole sum of money to a free country." On this the report was immediately agreed to.

Here follows an exact copy of it, as printed by order of the House of Commons.

* This was meant kindly, but we believe it to be *gratuitous*, as the circumstances of Dr. Burney's family by no means rendered it imperative.

“ REPORT

From the Committee on Petition of Trustees of the British Museum, relating to the Collection of the late Dr. Burney.

[Ordered, by the House of Commons, to be printed 17 April 1818.]

“ The Committee, to whom the Petition of the Trustees of the British Museum, submitting to the House the propriety of purchasing the Collection of the late Dr. Burney for the use of the Public, was referred,

“ HAVE directed their attention, in the first place, to inquiring into the component parts or principal classes of literature, of which this library consists; secondly, into their value; and thirdly, as to the importance of purchasing the whole at the public charge, for the purpose of adding it to the Collection now existing in the British Museum, having ascertained that Dr. Burney's executor was unwilling to separate one portion from the rest, or to treat for the sale of the Collection otherwise than as entire and undivided.

“ One of the large classes consists of Manuscripts of classical and other ancient authors; among which that of Homer's Iliad, formerly belonging to Mr. Townley, holds the first place in the estimation of all the very competent judges, who were examined by your Committee; although not supposed to be older than the latter part of the thirteenth or beginning of the fourteenth century, it is considered as being of the earliest date of the MSS. of Homer's Iliad known to scholars, and may be rated as superior to any other which now exists, at least in England; it is also extremely rich in scholia, which have been hitherto but partially explored.

“ There are two copies of the series of Greek Orators, probably written in the fourteenth or fifteenth centuries, of which that upon vellum was brought to this country by Mr. Cripps and Dr. Clarke, and is esteemed as extremely valuable; an account of the Orations contained in it was drawn up by Dr. Raine, late Master of the Charter-house, and of the

collations which he had made in comparing it with the Aldine edition.

“ This manuscript of the Rhetoricians is indeed one of the most important manuscripts ever introduced into this country, because it supplies more lacunæ than any other manuscript; there is contained in it a portion of Isæus, which has never been printed: there is only one printed oration of Lycurgus in existence, which is imperfect, and this manuscript completes it; there is also an oration of Dinarchus, which may be completed from this manuscript.

“ Among the rarer manuscripts in the Collection, there are two beautiful copies of the Greek Gospels, of the tenth and twelfth centuries. The Geography of Ptolemy is another of the finest MSS. enriched with maps, which, although not older than the fifteenth century, yet, from the circumstance of all the other known copies of this work in the original language being in the collection of different public libraries abroad, the possession of this copy is rendered particularly desirable. There is likewise a valuable Latin manuscript of the Comedies of Plautus, written in the fourteenth century, containing twenty plays; which is a much larger number than the copies already in the Museum, or those in foreign libraries in general contain, most of which have only six or eight, and few, comparatively speaking, more than twelve plays. A beautiful and correct manuscript of Callimachus of the fifteenth century; a very fine copy of Pappas Alexandrinus' collection of Mathematical Treatises, of similar date; and a manuscript of the *Asinus Aureus* of Apuleius, an author of extreme rarity, deserve also particular notice. The whole number of manuscripts amounts to about 385, but those above mentioned are the most important and valuable.

“ Exclusive of the manuscripts already noticed, there is a very large number of Memoranda and Criticisms, in Dr. Burney's own hand, (exclusive of the *Fragmenta Scenica Græca*, and books with Dr. Burney's own notes;) three or four articles of which seem nearly prepared for the press. In this part of the Collection there are several small

Lexicons of the Greek Dialects, with numerous remarks on ancient Authors; the merit of which, though certainly considerable, can only be thoroughly appreciated by patient investigation.

“ There are also many original letters of Isaac Casaubon, who maintained an extensive correspondence with many of the learned men of his time, whose letters to Casaubon have never been published.

“ Among the printed books, the whole number of which is from 13,000 to 14,000 volumes, the most distinguished branch consists of the collection of Greek dramatic authors, which are arranged so as to present every diversity of text and commentary at one view; each play being bound up singly, and in so complete, but expensive a manner, that it has occasioned the sacrifice of two copies of every edition, and in some instances of such editions as are very rare: the same arrangement has also been adopted with regard to Harpocration, and some of the Greek grammarians; and both the editions of and annotations upon Terentianus Maurus are particularly copious and complete. It appears, indeed, that this collection contains the first edition of every Greek classic, and several of the scarcest among the Latins, and that the series of grammarians, lexicographers, and philological writers, in both languages, is unusually complete. The books are represented to be generally in good, though not in what may be styled brilliant, condition; the whole having been collected by Dr. Burney himself, from the different great libraries, which have been of late years brought to sale, beginning chiefly with the Pinelli collection.

“ To enable the House to form an opinion upon this branch of the collection, your committee subjoin the words of one of the witnesses, whom they examined; who says, ‘ The great feature of this eminent Scholar’s library is that part, which relates to Greek literature, whether ancient or more recent. In this respect it is probably the most complete ever assembled by any man, as it comprises all the materials, requisite

for classical criticism. In Latin classics, and in the criticism connected with Roman literature, it is not so copious as in the Greek; but nevertheless it contains a number of rare and valuable books, which would considerably enrich the stores deposited in the Museum.

“The same witness, with reference to the collection of Memoranda above alluded to, further says,

“The books with manuscript notes may be divided into three portions; first, those, which have their margins more or less crowded with remarks, collations, &c. in the hand-writing of many very eminent scholars, viz. Bentley, Burmann, Casaubon, &c.; secondly, the books with manuscript notes by Dr. Burney. The greater portion of the books thus enriched, are the Greek tragedians, and the ancient Greek lexicographers. To illustrate the Greek drama, and to add to the stores of the ancient lexicographers, Dr. Burney seems to have directed the greatest portion of his industry, and to any future edition, these remarks and additions would prove a most interesting acquisition. Another important portion of this collection may be called the Variorum collection; this is, perhaps, one of the most remarkable series of books in the whole library: in it, Dr. Burney has so brought together the comments and notes of many celebrated scholars upon several Greek, and particularly the dramatic writers, that at one view may be seen almost all that has been said in illustration of each author; it extends to about 300 volumes in folio and quarto. One portion of this remarkable collection consists of a regular series of 170 volumes, entitled *Fragmenta Scenica Græca*, which comprises all the remains of the Greek dramatists, in number not less than 300, wheresoever they could be traced.

“The great copiousness of Dr. Burney’s Library in Greek literature, may be collected at once from the following comparative statement of the editions of several authors, in that collection, and in the library of the British Museum.

Authors, &c.	British Museum.	Dr. Burney.
<i>Works entire or in part.</i>		
Æschylus - - -	13 Editions.	47 Editions.
Anacreon - - -	17 —	26 —
Anthologia - - -	19 —	30 —
Apollonius Rhodius - 4 —	—	12 —
Archimedes - - -	2 —	5 —
Aristænetus - - -	3 —	6 —
Aristophanes - - -	23 —	74 —
Athenæus - - -	6 —	10 —
Athenagoras - - -	4 —	9 —
Callimachus - - -	7 —	16 —
Chrysoloras - - -	2 —	16 —
Demetrius Phalereus.	4 —	10 —
Demophilus - - -	2 —	5 —
Demosthenes - - -	18 —	50 —
Dion Nicæus - - -	—	2 —
Etymologicum Magnum	2 —	5 —
Euripides - - -	46 —	166 —
Gaza - - -	1 —	21 —
Gnomici Scriptores -	6 —	14 —
Gregorius Corinthus	1 —	3 —
Gregorius Nazianzenus	14 —	28 —
Homer - - -	45 —	87 —
Isocrates - - -	11 —	30 —
Sophocles - - -	16 —	102 —

“ Another, and a very different branch, of this Collection comprises a numerous and rare series of Newspapers, from 1603 to the present time, amounting in the whole to 700 volumes, which is more ample than any other, that is supposed to be extant. A large collection of between 300 and 400 volumes in quarto, containing Materials for a History of the Stage, from 1660 to the present time, and particulars relating to the biography of Actors, and persons connected with the Stage, may be classed after these daily journals.

“ Dr. Burney's collection of Prints has been principally

made with reference to this object, comprising the most complete series, that probably exists of theatrical Portraits; beginning in the latter part of Queen Elizabeth's reign, which is the period of our earliest engravers of portraits, such as Geminie, Hogenburgh, Elstracke, and the three Passes, and continued to the present time. The number of these theatrical Engravings is about 5,000, many of which are bound together in ten volumes; besides these, there are about 2,000 other engraved Portraits, principally of Authors, Commentators, and other learned persons.

“ With respect to the Value of the Manuscripts, the Homer is rated by the different witnesses at from 600*l.* to 800*l.*, and one of them supposed it might even reach so high a price as 1000*l.*; the Greek Rhetoricians are estimated at from 340*l.* to 500*l.*; the larger copy of the Greek Gospels at 200*l.*; the Geography of Ptolemy at 65*l.*, and the copy of Plautus at 50*l.* One witness estimates the whole of the ancient Manuscripts at upwards of 2,500*l.*; and an eminent Bookseller at 3,000*l.* The set of Newspapers, from the year 1603 to the present time, is valued at from 900 guineas to 1000.

“ The books with manuscript notes, together with Dr. Burney's Variorum Compilation, including the Fragmenta Scenica Græca, are estimated by one at 1000*l.*, and by another as high as 1,340*l.*; who likewise computes the Materials for the History of the Stage at 140*l.*

“ The Prints are judged to be worth the sum of 450*l.*; and the Bookseller above referred to, who has examined the whole (except the engravings) for the purpose of enabling the present proprietor to set a value upon them, estimates the printed books in the Library at 9000*l.* some other books in his study adjoining and a great number of tracts at 500*l.*; and the whole, exclusive of the prints, at 14,500*l.*

“ A considerable expense would necessarily attend the selling of this, or any other library, by public auction, which usually amounts either to 15 or 17½ *per cent.* upon the gross produce of the sale; but your Committee having questioned the last witness alluded to, Mr. Payne, found it to be his opinion, that

the net money-price of the Library in question, after deducting all expenses, might amount to 14,500*l*.

“ The persons examined by your Committee, as being particularly competent to assist them in forming their judgment, have been Henry Ellis, Esq. the Reverend Henry H. Baber, and Mr. Smith, from the British Museum; Richard Heber, Esq. the Reverend T. F. Dibdin, the Reverend J. Cleaver Banks, Mr. Payne, and Mr. Evans; the substance of whose testimony, your Committee have endeavoured to put the House in possession of.

“ The importance of acquiring for the British Museum, a Library stored with such literary treasures as have been enumerated, is sufficiently apparent from what has been already stated; but it is obvious, that, in purchasing the entire Collection, much more will be bought than it will be necessary to retain; and that a considerable number of the printed books, being duplicates of those already in the British Museum, must be sold again; and that this cannot be done otherwise than at the expense of $17\frac{1}{2}$ *per cent.* upon the produce of such sales, whatever the amount may be. It is also to be borne in mind, that, even if the purchase should be completed without delay, these duplicates could not be sorted and examined, so as to bring them to sale in the course of the present session.

“ Your Committee therefore suggest, that, for the ensuing year, the net amount of such Sale (which may be estimated at from 3000*l.* to 4000*l.*) should so far be refunded to the Public, as to go in diminution of the annual grant to the British Museum; and also, that, in consideration of so ample and costly an accession being made to the existing stock of Books, it may be proper to suspend or reduce, for a time, the annual grant of 1000*l.* to the Book Fund, with the exception of such parts of that annual sum as are applied in subscriptions to Works now in the progress of publication.

“ Upon the whole matter, your Committee venture to recommend as the result of the best consideration, which they have bestowed both upon the importance and just value of the entire Collection, that the Proprietor, being ready to dispose of it

for the sum of 13,500*l.*, it will be a very material addition to the public stock of Literature, and purchased at a price, which cannot be deemed unreasonable.

17th April, 1818."

LIST OF THE WORKS

Either composed or edited by the late Rev. Dr. Charles Burney.

1. Appendix ad Lexicon Græco-Latinum, a Joan. Scapula constructum, &c. Lond. 1789.
2. Remarks on the Greek verses of Milton, published at the end of Mr. T. Warton's edition of Milton's Minor Poems, 8vo. 1791.
3. Richardi Bentleii, & Doctorum Virorum, Epistolæ, 4to. 1807.
4. Tentamen de Metris ab Æschylo in choricis cantibus adhibitis, 8vo. 1809.
5. Bishop Pearson's Exposition of the Creed, abridged, 12mo. 1810, 2d edition, 1812.
6. Philemonis Lexicon Græcè e Biblioth. Parisiens. 4to. 1812.
7. A Sermon, preached at the Anniversary Meeting of the Stewards of the Sons of the Clergy, at St. Paul's, May 14th, 1812, 4to. 1813.
8. Several Criticisms on Classical and Learned Works, published occasionally in the Monthly Review.

No. IX.

SIR RICHARD CROFT, BART.

ACCOUCHEUR, &c. &c. &c.

SIR RICHARD CROFT was descended from a very ancient, opulent, and distinguished family in Herefordshire. Croft Castle was in its possession during the time of the Saxons, and many individuals of this name and lineage are mentioned with great honour in different periods of the English history. It is stated by Holingshed that in the 11th year of Edward IV. after he had gained the battle of Tewksbury, "Prince Edward was taken, as he fled towards the town, by Sir Richard Crofts, and kept close; after the field was ended, a proclamation was made, that whosoever could bring forth Prince Edward, alive or dead, should have an annuitie of a hundred pounds during his life, and the Prince's life to be saved, if he were brought forth alive. Sir Richard Crofts, nothing mistrusting the King's promise, brought forth his prisoner, Prince Edward, being a fair and well proportioned young gentleman." King Edward did not, however, fulfil his pledge, of preserving the life of the Prince, and Sir Richard Crofts, being extremely offended with this base conduct, retired from court in disgust.

Another Sir Richard Crofts is mentioned with honour in the reign of Henry VII., and a Sir James Crofts was made Lord Deputy of Ireland in the time of Edward VI. Some years afterwards, in the reign of Elizabeth, this Sir James Crofts was sent on an expedition against Scotland, under Lord Greie of Wilton, in which he behaved with great gallantry as a soldier, and afterwards acted the part of an able negotiator between the Queen Regent, her French party, and the Scotch nobility.*

* See Holingshed's Chronicles in various parts.

One of the most distinguished representatives of this family in modern times, was Dr. Herbert Croft, Bishop of Hereford in the reign of Charles the Second.* In the year 1671, the title of baronet was conferred on this family, in which Croft Castle still continued; but the entail of that estate was cut off about sixty years ago, the family being then in reduced circumstances.

Herbert Croft the father of the late Sir Richard, being brought up to the profession of the law, became one of the six clerks in the Court of Chancery, and was for some years receiver or treasurer of the Charter-house. He was first married to Miss Young, a lady of considerable fortune, near Midhurst in Sussex, and he had by her six children; Richard, who was the youngest, was born the 9th of January, 1762. For his second wife, he married Miss Mary Chawner, sister of Mr. Chawner, a surgeon and apothecary of respectability at Burton-upon-Trent.

Richard was first sent to a school in the neighbourhood of London, and resided afterwards for several years at Mr. Manlove's academy, at Derby. At a proper age, he was articled as an apprentice to Mr. Chawner; when the period agreed upon had elapsed, he attended anatomical and medical lectures in London for two or three seasons; and while a pupil at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, lived with his father in the Charter-house. When his education was finished, he became the partner of his former master, Mr. Chawner, at Tutbury in Staffordshire, and succeeded him in his business there, on Mr. Chawner removing to Burton-upon-Trent. He continued at Tutbury in considerable practice during four or five years, much respected and beloved by all ranks of people. He afterwards settled for a short time as a surgeon at Oxford, upon the supposition that Sir Charles Nourse was about to retire from business; but in this idea he was mistaken, and he soon left that city with a view of settling

* Mr. Herbert Croft was educated at the English college of Jesuits at St. Omer; but converted to the Protestant religion by the arguments of his friend Dr. Morton, Bishop of Durham. He appears to have greatly increased the patrimonial estates of the family: and his only son, Herbert, who served in parliament as knight of the shire for the county of Hereford, was created a baronet in 1671. Ed.

in London, While he was at Tutbury, he had become acquainted with Dr. Joseph Denman, a physician of eminence at Buxton, who being pleased with his manners, his active mind, and his honourable principles, gave him a letter of introduction to his brother, Dr. Denman of London. This naturally led to occasional visits at his house, and a few months afterwards, Mr. Croft was married to Margaret, the eldest of Dr. Denman's twin daughters, with the entire approbation of her parents.

Soon after his marriage, in consequence of the suggestion of his father-in-law, who was unable to attend in person, Mr. Croft repaired to Paris, to assist the Duchess of Devonshire, when she was brought to bed of the present Duke; and as on this occasion, he gave the most entire satisfaction, it led to a great increase of business after his return to London. His connection with Dr. Denman was likewise extremely favourable to his views on a variety of occasions; and long after that gentleman had almost entirely withdrawn from the exercise of his profession, Mr. Croft's business continued gradually increasing, until in point of respectability, it had become equal to that of any former *accoucheur* in the metropolis. For nearly thirty years he continued to practise with the highest credit and success, and when the late much lamented Princess Charlotte became pregnant, he was chosen by Her Royal Highness to attend, during her confinement. This he did with the most anxious and unwearied zeal, and notwithstanding the heart-rending event, with the greatest judgment and most unquestionable skill. It is not surprising that public disappointment should find a vent, in censure on individuals; and that unlooked for calamity, though resulting from circumstances beyond human controul, should be imputed to those who have failed in the execution of trusts, so generally and so deeply interesting. Such feelings however will hardly be sufficient to explain the persevering obloquy, which so long laboured to convert the general grief into unjust indignation. In this instance, the party assailed laboured under peculiar disadvantages: for while the criticisms on his medical treatment could only be

answered by a publication of the whole case, respect for the august family to which the patient belonged, tenderness towards the feelings of an afflicted husband, and even a due regard to decency and propriety, equally forbade the disclosure of minute particulars. — But other circumstances were also strangely misrepresented. Sir Richard Croft was censured for not earlier desiring the assistance of Dr. Sims. The fact is, that he first proposed sending for him, and before any alarming symptom, except the protraction of the labour, had been exhibited. When that skilful physician arrived, he had only to recommend a continuance of the treatment which had been adopted: and though he did not at first see Her Royal Highness, this was the consequence of his own and Dr. Baillie's opinion that his introduction, at that time, might produce an injurious alarm on the mind of this amiable Princess, without any immediate necessity, as the labour was proceeding naturally although slowly at that period. It was likewise stated, that in the course of the night which terminated the existence of Her Royal Highness, Sir Richard Croft retired to rest, and abandoned an amiable and illustrious Princess, at the moment of extreme sufferance and danger.

Without adverting to the powerful ties of gratitude and interest which attached him to the Princess, it may safely be affirmed, that no patient of Sir Richard's will believe this statement. Even where his skill as a physician was most conspicuous, his attentions as a friend have left a still deeper impression: his care was unremitting, his zeal indefatigable, his anxiety almost amounted to a fault!

During the whole of this severe trial, Sir Richard conducted himself with the utmost fortitude and self-possession, but after its fatal and afflicting termination, he exhibited an agonizing despair, which was succeeded by great depression of spirits. This state of mind sometimes appeared to be soothed by the kind and considerate attentions of the royal family, and by the attachment and sympathy strongly expressed for him upon this occasion, by the respectable part of his own profession, and by his numerous patients, who were generally

eager to show, that their confidence was undiminished. His friends were sometimes flattered with the hope, that his spirits were gradually recovering, but his grief continued to return occasionally with increased violence; and about three months after his attendance upon the Princess, his former agonizing feelings were renewed, by a still more lingering labour, which had required his presence from Sunday night to Friday morning, with every appearance of the same fatal termination.

It is generally known that exhausted by anxiety and fatigue, he had been reluctantly persuaded to retire into a bed-room, where loaded pistols were unhappily left within his reach, and that after midnight, in a moment of distraction, he put an end to his own life. But although this was performed during a temporary derangement of mind, he had never in his former life shown any symptom of insanity, nor can that disease be traced in any of his family.*

Sir Richard Croft may be justly described as a man of the most honourable principles, and the most generous disposition; while his sound practical knowledge in his profession has been acknowledged by all capable of deciding on such a subject. No man more entirely commanded the affectionate attachment of his family and friends, and their regret at his dreadful death, is at once embittered and consoled by the reflection, that it was occasioned by an excess of those feelings which do most honour to the human heart. He succeeded to the title of Baronet on the demise of his brother, the Rev. Sir Herbert Croft, in 1816. His wife survives him, and he has left a daughter and three sons, the eldest of whom is in the Grenadier Guards. The fortune they inherit is not considerable, for Sir Richard had no patrimony, and, the small fortune of his wife excepted, he possessed nothing but what arose from the profits of his profession, which might have been greater, but for the liberality of his disposition, which showed itself in every part of his conduct through life.

* The patient was never informed of this melancholy event which happened 13th February, 1818, but she died a few days after giving birth to a daughter. The child survives. It may be worthy of remark, that the whole of this season was particularly fatal to lying-in women, and that an unusual number were delivered of dead children.

No. X.



RIGHT HON. WARREN HASTINGS, LL.D. and F.R.S.

LATE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF BENGAL, AND A MEMBER OF HIS
MAJESTY'S MOST HONOURABLE THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

WARREN HASTINGS, the son of an obscure clergyman, and a man destined alike by nature and by fortune, to produce no inconsiderable effect on the fate of Asia as well as of England, was born in 1733. The precise spot where he first saw the light, is unknown to the writer of this article; but it could not have been at Daylesford House, as has been supposed, this mansion having been sold full eighteen years before, by one of his progenitors. Certain it is, however, that he passed part of his infancy in that neighbourhood, and had imbibed such an attachment to the spot, that he never was happy until he had become the possessor.

The period that elapsed between his birth, and his employment in a public capacity was so exceedingly short, as to afford but few materials for biography. That his parents

were not in great affluence may be readily conjectured, when it is recollected, that the remainder of the family estate had been recently disposed of; and yet, on the other hand, his maintenance and education for several years at a great public school, followed by a respectable appointment in the service of the East India Company, at the moment he was enabled by law to fulfil its duties, would seem to infer no deficiency either of substance or connections.

As Mr. Burke, during the memorable impeachment of this gentleman, was pleased to assert, that the origin of "the prisoner at the bar of the House of Lords was low, obscure, and vulgar," some pains have been bestowed to refute this assertion, and prove it to have been at least *gratuitous*. It appears evident, from Nash's History of Worcestershire, as well as the records in the heralds' office, that a family of this name flourished many centuries ago in that county. Indeed, Mr. Penynston Hastings an antiquary, who happened to be rector of Daylesford, after much research, derives the pedigree of this branch from the famous Hastings the Dane. Astrophe Hastings was possessed of certain lands in Warwickshire, so early as the time of William the Conqueror; and of this family were the ancient Barons of Abergavenny, who by the marriage of John Hastings, Baron of Abergavenny with the heiress of Acmar de Valentia, became Earl of Pembroke. At length, John the last Earl, dying without issue, his earldom reverted to the crown, while the Barony of Abergavenny was transferred by marriage to Reginald Lord Grey: and here, it ought not to be omitted, that the right of it was long contested by a Mr. Hastings, descended from the second son of John Lord Abergavenny, who claimed as male heir.

From a younger branch of this family sprung the Earls of Huntingdon, who have altered the arms, and bear a *Manche Sable* in a field *Argent*; whereas the original arms of Hastings, and those that have been always borne by the Hastings of Daylesford, were a *Manche Gules* in a *Field Or*.

The estate of Daylesford, and the patronage of the living, continued in the family of Hastings for many generations, as

will be seen from the following list, extracted from Dr. Nash's Survey :

Thomas de Hastyngs	-	-	-	A.D. 1281
Rolandus de Hastyngs	-	-	-	1325
Thomas de Hastyngs, Dominus de Daylesford,				1335
Thomas Hastyngs,	-	-	-	1419
Edward Hastyngs,	-	-	-	1466
John Hastyngs,	-	-	-	1525
Simon Hastyngs,	-	-	-	1593
John Hastyngs,	-	-	-	1646
John Hastings,	-	-	-	1661
Penyston Hastings,	-	-	-	1690
Samuel Hastings,	-	-	-	1701
To this list ought to be added Warren Hastings,				1789

The ancient manor-house having fallen into decay, the family chiefly resided at Yelford, in Oxfordshire, called Yelford-Hastings, in old writings, until the time of Charles I. when John Hastings, great-great-grandfather of Warren Hastings, having spent four manors in defence of that king, is said to have conveyed Yelford to the speaker Lenthall, for the purpose of saving the rest of his estate. Daylesford, however, continued in the family, until 1715, when it was sold by Mr. Samuel Hastings, to Jacob Knight, grandson of Sir John Knight, of Bristol.

It thus appears, that from 1281 to 1715, being a period of above 400 years, the manor of Daylesford was vested in the progenitors of Mr. Hastings, although the fortune of his ancestors had been greatly diminished in 1651, by the attachment of one of them to Charles I. And it is not a little remarkable, also, that he himself, after an acquisition of twenty-eight or twenty-nine years, at length died in possession of this very manor, which had so long formed part of the patrimonial estates of his family.

Having thus incidentally mentioned the descent of the late Governor-General of Bengal, the remainder of this article, shall be dedicated to his biography. Mr. Warren Hastings

received his education at Westminster school, a seminary then, as now, famous for the proficiency of its scholars. Of all his class-fellows, it is supposed, that one only remains alive; this is the celebrated antiquary, Mr. Jennings, who brought the famous dog of Alcibiades from Rome, and after selling and spending lands, worth at this moment above 100,000*l.* in the purchase of *vertú*, now lives in the greatest possible obscurity. Another was the late Sir Elijah Impey, Knight, who afterwards repaired, in the character of Chief Justice, to Bengal, and was repeatedly threatened with an impeachment, in consequence of his co-operation in many of the acts of his *quondam* playmate.

The residence of young Hastings at Westminster could not have been long, for even supposing that he had been sent thither at ten years of age, it did not exceed five or six. The precocity of his talents was however noticed by Dr. Nichols; for the early marks of genius discovered on his part attracted the notice of this master; and he accordingly withdrew, with the character of one of the best scholars of his day. It was intended at one period that he should finish at Oxford, but time was wanting to complete this arrangement.

In 1750, when in the seventeenth year of his age, Mr. Hastings was appointed a writer in the service of the East India Company, and had the peculiar good fortune to be nominated to Bengal. There was no college in England, at that period, as now, destined for instruction in the Eastern languages; and indeed, no private tutor, capable of undertaking the task. It was not, therefore, until after his arrival in Asia, that this gentleman was enabled to acquire any notion of the dialects of India. It struck him forcibly, however, that a knowledge of these might serve the purposes of his ambition, and he was not mistaken; for he is chiefly indebted for his rise to his early proficiency.

Accordingly, immediately after the completion of his voyage, our young adventurer applied himself, with equal assiduity and success, to acquire the Persian and Hindostanee languages. As these were very rare, and consequently very

valuable acquisitions, on the part of an European, more than half a century ago, the fortunate possessor of this talisman, soon attracted the notice and favour of his superiors.

At the period alluded to, the East India Company still continued to retain its primitive character; it had been instituted for the purposes of trade, and its governors abroad were merely merchants, whose dreams of ambition extended not beyond the guiltless gains to be obtained by fair and honest traffic. The dreams of the conquest of kingdoms, and a sovereignty, extending over millions of Asiatics, were visions doomed to be fully realised at a later period: but it would have been madness to have anticipated the career of history. Their great object then, was to open new sources of trade, and discover a new vent for the commodities of Europe. It was accordingly in pursuit of these objects, that the subject of the present memoir was actually chosen as the fittest person, to establish a factory in the interior of Bengal; for as no European had ever hitherto appeared in those parts, one acquainted with the languages of the country was alone proper for the undertaking. This commercial enterprise, however, proved unsuccessful; notwithstanding which, Mr. Hastings found means to conciliate the friendship of the principal natives; and when he was afterwards taken prisoner by the army of Surajah Dowlah, the sworn foe to the English name, his knowledge of the Persian secured both respect and attention to his person.

At length however, a new and memorable epoch occurred; Lord Clive, himself originally a clerk, but destined to give a military preponderance to Great Britain in the East, appeared at the head of a feeble yet victorious army; and the fortunes of Asia were suddenly changed. Surajah Dowlah, now in his turn, was doomed to feel the inconstancy of fortune; for he was defeated, dethroned, and finally murdered by his successor Meer Jaffier. From this epoch, the East India Company became a great military power.

The unhappy catastrophe of one prince, and the immediate elevation of his rival, were events which, although seemingly

unconnected with the personal history of Mr. Hastings, yet powerfully contributed to his rise in life. It now became necessary to select a man of talents as resident minister at the *Durbar* of the Nabob Jaffier Ally Cawn. With a familiarity in the Oriental languages, it was necessary to unite a perfect knowledge of the interests of the Company; to display an equal degree of skill and finesse in unravelling the intricacies of Eastern politics, and defeating the manifold intrigues incident to a court of this description. Colonel, afterwards Lord Clive, on that occasion, displayed all the intuitive skill and discernment which so strongly designated his character, and contributed not a little to render his plans successful; for it was he, who in 1758, pitched on Mr. Hastings, as the most proper person to guard the interests of the Company, as its diplomatic agent with the new Nabob. In this capacity, he accordingly deported himself with such skill, prudence, and ability, as to give ample satisfaction to his employers. After a residence of some duration, he was recalled to Bengal in 1761, in consequence of having become, by seniority in the service, a Member of the Administration there.

After a stay of about fourteen years in India, Mr. Hastings returned to England, with his ambition ungratified, his hopes blasted, and his fortune unmade. So moderate indeed were his acquisitions, and so humble his wishes at that period, that he panted for academic ease in Europe, and resigned every idea of realising those golden prospects which had at first induced him to visit the banks of the Ganges. In this situation of affairs, he became acquainted with Dr. Samuel Johnson, and frankly communicated his poverty, and his projects to our great Lexicographer.

But in the course of four or five years, brighter days seemed to await him; for in 1769, he found himself amply gratified by the sudden and unexpected appointment of second in council at Madras. On his voyage out, Mrs. Imhoff, now Mrs. Hastings, happened to be a passenger on board the same ship. This distinguished female was married to a German, then on his way to India, in the capacity of a portrait

painter. At once handsome and majestic in her person, she rendered herself agreeable also, by her talents for conversation : in fine, although she had been for some time a wife and a mother, this lady contrived to captivate the affections of Mr. Hastings, and became so dear to him, as to render a closer union necessary to his happiness.

Having landed at Madras in 1770, he remained there for the space of two years only ; for early in 1772, we find him once more in Bengal, in consequence of an appointment on the part of the Directors at home, to be President of the Supreme Council. This elevation, from a state almost bordering on despair, to that of managing the affairs of the first settlement appertaining to the Company, was equally sudden and propitious. In addition to this, after a variety of delays incidental to a divorce, he was enabled in 1777, to present Mrs. Imhoff to the world in the character of his wife. On this lady, he immediately settled a lack of rupees, which sum, by an accumulation of interest, and the sale of some jewels, was afterwards increased to 30,000*l.* the whole of which was placed under her own controul.

So early as 1767, the House of Commons had deemed it proper to inquire by what right the Company possessed territorial possessions in India; and at that period its affairs, both in Asia and in Europe, exhibited one entire and uniform appearance of general distress. This was attributed partly to the gross mismanagement of its servants, and partly to a departure from the ancient prudential maxims on which it was originally founded. No longer a mere association of merchants, factors, and traders, it had lately become a military power, and affected conquest, which is ever incompatible with trade ; for the sword and the balance do not exactly accord when consigned to the same individual. As on a late occasion, the different Presidencies, all of which claimed equal powers, had not coalesced in a friendly manner, it was determined to create a paramount jurisdiction, and accordingly Mr. Hastings, at this critical period, was invested with supreme authority, as Governor-General of Bengal.

Meanwhile, the situation of England had also become criti-

cal in the extreme. The fatal attempt to coerce America, produced an alliance between her and France; Holland and Spain soon after joined in the same league, and a long, sanguinary, and expensive war ensued, the events of which soon extended to India, and finally involved the best and dearest interests of the Company. Hyder Ally, a warlike Prince, at that period wielded the sceptre of Mysore, and having collected a formidable army, and formed many considerable alliances, particularly with the Mahrattas, threatened havoc and destruction to the English. He accordingly made an irruption into the Carnatic, which occasioned the immediate flight of the chief in command at Madras. The defeat of the British army under Sir Hector Munro produced new fears and confusion; but when a strong detachment under Colonel Baillie was cut off, a panic terror ensued for a time, and much doubt was engendered in respect to the issue of the contest.

It must be allowed by all, that on this great and trying occasion, the conduct of the Governor-General was replete with ardour. Undismayed by the combination against him, he stretched forth a succouring arm from Calcutta to the remotest of the British settlements in Hindostan; sometimes by means of the most refined policy, he dispelled a formidable league, and sometimes by means of money bought off an enemy. On other occasions, he had recourse to open force, and with a new and formidable army under Sir Eyre Coote, carried all before him.

However, in the midst even of his victorious career, some murmurs were heard both in England and India. He was accused on one hand of squandering the public money in improvident contracts; and on the other, of obtaining supplies from allied and dependent states, by means of injustice and oppression: his peace with the Mahrattas in particular, was declared dishonourable. His friends however pleaded necessity for some of these measures, and seemed to think, that the end in some degree justified the means. They deprecated inquiry, and ridiculed the idea of the Governor-General of a distant settlement being able “to weather the storm in India

by an European compass." At first however, no charge of speculation existed, and it seemed to be allowed on all hands, that the lofty mind of Mr. Hastings scorned to stoop to low and sordid considerations.

However, so early as 1776, it was evident that the Government at home was displeased with his general conduct, and measures were accordingly adopted at the India House for his recall; but a majority of the Court of Proprietors being of a different opinion, he was suffered to remain. On May 28th, 1782, the House of Commons declared that it was the duty of the Court of Directors to remove him. The motion for this purpose was made by Mr. Dundas, afterwards Lord Melville, on the arrival of a dispatch, containing the account of an act "of the most flagrant violence and oppression, and of the grossest breach of faith, committed against Cheyt Sing, the Rajah of Benares." A second order for the recall of Mr. Hastings was accordingly issued; but this also was afterwards rescinded, in consequence of a second vote of the Court of Proprietors in his favour. On these however, as on all other occasions, the capacity and talents of this gentleman for supreme command, were freely allowed and universally acknowledged by all parties; while it was at the same time frankly confessed, that the Company had greatly increased both its territories and its revenue under his administration.

Meanwhile, however, a regular plan had been formed at home, to bridle his power, and circumscribe his authority, if at any time it should be exerted for unwise or unworthy purposes. With this view, three gentlemen were selected of known ability and high consideration: these were, the present Sir Philip Francis, K.B. General Clavering, and Colonel Monson, who had seats at the council board, and to whom were also assigned competent salaries. On their appearance they were not treated with the customary respect, and soon after their arrival, many disagreements took place; but as they constituted a majority, they carried all questions by a plurality of votes. Mr. Hastings's policy did not always meet their approbation, and many of his projects seemed to them, to be big with ruin;

accordingly they frequently entered their protest, and sternly refused their assent to several of his measures.

In consequence of express orders from the Court of Directors, they now proceeded to inquire into all acts of bribery, speculation, and oppression, committed by any of the Company's servants.

On this Nundcomar, a native of high consideration, perceiving their divisions, gave information of certain charges of corruption, to the Supreme Council, and challenged the Governor-General, who was implicated, to a denial of them; but without ever declaring they were false, Mr. Hastings refused either to meet or refute them. He however vilified his accuser, and repeatedly dissolved the council, by which measure, his colleagues were prevented from proceeding in their inquiries. Some progress however was made, for the evidence of Nundcomar, together with that of his son Rajah Gourdass was obtained; in the course of which, it appeared that they themselves had conveyed large sums of money to him, in the name of Munry Begum. So particular were they in their details, that they mentioned all the intermediate agents, the very species of coin in which the bribe was paid, the colour of the bags delivered; and the rate of exchange paid on the occasion. The whole was corroborated by a letter from Munry Begum herself, and to crown all, it was desired that Canto Baboo, Mr. Hastings's Banyan, might be examined in respect to all these points. The Governor-General however, refused to allow him to be produced; he himself also declined to meet his accusers; and to these specific charges, merely opposed the integrity of his character.

A sudden stop, by means equally new and unexpected, was put to this inquiry. Nundcomar was instantly arrested on a charge of forgery, and having been committed to the common jail, was soon after tried before Sir Elijah Impey the chief justice, convicted and executed for the breach of an act of Parliament that did not extend to Scotland, and was supposed incapable of being applied to Asia.

The sudden death of General Clavering, followed by that of Colonel Monson, gave Mr. Hastings once more a preponderance in the council; soon after which, Mr. Francis

returned to Europe, but not until he had fought a duel with his opponent.

From that moment the latter conducted the affairs of his government in a triumphant manner; for by his casting vote, he nullified the propositions of Mr. Wheeler; and when Mr. Barwell afterwards acted as his colleague, this gentleman acceded to all his measures, and contributed every thing in his power to their success. On the other hand, the Governor-General conducted the war against Hyder with extraordinary ability; the want of money was supplied by the resources of his own mind, fertile in invention; the Company's revenues were increased under his administration, and his influence both in India and England seemed to be unbounded.

At length, on the 9th of February, 1785, Mr. Hastings deemed it prudent to embark for Europe, and although fully conscious that he was returning to pass through the fiery ordeal of an impeachment, his mind appears to have been unmoved by the approaching contest. This cannot be better exemplified than by the following verses, written by him during the passage, and addressed to John Shore, Esq. now Lord Teignmouth, who accompanied him home, being a passenger in the same ship.

(*Imitation of HORACE, Book ii. Ode 16th.*)

For ease, the harassed seaman prays,
 When equinoctial tempests raise
 The Cape's surrounding wave;
 When hanging o'er the reef, he hears
 The cracking mast, and sees, or fears,
 Beneath, his wat'ry grave.

For ease, the slow *Mahratta* spoils,
 And hardier *Sic*, erratic toils,
 While both their ease forego;
 For ease, which neither gold can buy,
 Nor robes, nor gems, which oft belie
 The covert heart below;

For neither gold, nor gems combin'd,
Can heal the soul, or suffering mind.

Lo! where their owner lies,
Perch'd on his couch, distemper breathes,
And care, like smoke, in turbid wreaths,
Round the gay cieling flies.

He who enjoys nor covets more,
The lands his father held before,
Is of true bliss possess'd :
Let but his mind unfetter'd tread,
Far as the paths of knowledge lead ;
And wise as well as blest.

No fears his peace of mind annoy,
Lest printed lies his fame destroy,
Which labour'd years have won ;
Nor pack'd committees break his rest,
Nor avarice sends him forth in quest
Of climes beneath the sun.

Short is our span : then why engage
In schemes, for which man's transient age
Was ne'er by fate design'd ?
Why slight the gifts of Nature's hand ?
What wanderer from his native land
E'er left himself behind ?

The restless thought, and wayward will,
And discontent attend him still,
Nor quit him while he lives ;
At sea, care follows in the wind,
At land, it mounts the pad behind,
Or with the post-boy drives.

He, who would happy live to-day,
Must laugh the present ills away,
Nor think of woes to come,
For come they will, or soon or late,
Since mix'd at best, is man's estate,
By heaven's eternal doom.

To ripen'd age, Clive lived renown'd,
 With lacks enrich'd, with honours crown'd,
 His valour's well-earn'd meed ;
 Too long, alas ! he liv'd to hate
 His envied lot, and died too late,
 From life's oppression freed.

An early death, was Elliot's * doom,
 I saw his op'ning virtues bloom,
 And manly sense unfold ;
 Too soon to fade ! I bade the stone
 Record his name † midst hordes unknown,
 Unknowing what it told.

To thee, perhaps the fates may give, —
 I wish they may — in health to live,
 Herds, flocks, and fruitful fields ;
 Thy vacant hours in mirth to shine,
 With thee, the muse already thine,
 Her present bounties yields.

For me, O Shore, I only claim,
 To merit, not to seek for fame,
 The good and just to please.
 A state above the fear of want,
 Domestic love, heaven's choicest grant,
 Health, leisure, peace, and ease.

Mr. Hastings, after a passage of four months and a few days, arrived in England, where he was eagerly expected both by friends and enemies. It was not, however, until the 17th of February, 1786, that Mr. Burke moved for papers ; and on April 4, presented to the House several separate articles charging him with high crimes and misdemeanors, of which, here follows the substance : viz.

* A younger brother of the late Earl of Minto.

† Mr. Elliot died in October, 1778, in his way to Naugpore, the capital of Moodajee Boosla's dominions, being deputed on an embassy to that Prince, by the Governor-General and Council. A monument was erected to his memory on the spot where he was buried ; and the Mahrattas have since built a town there, called *Elliot Gunge*, or Elliot's town.

1. With exhibiting gross injustice, cruelty, and treachery, against the faith of nations, in hiring British soldiers for the purpose of extirpating the helpless people who inhabited Rohillacund.
 2. With bereaving the Great Mogul of considerable territory, and withholding forcibly the tribute of twenty-six lacks of rupees, for holding in his name, the Duannee of the valuable provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa.
 3. With extortion, followed by expulsion, in respect to the Rajah of Benares.
 4. With the numerous and insupportable hardships to which the royal family of Oude had been reduced.
 5. With having, by no less than six revolutions, brought the fertile and beautiful province of Farruckabad to a state of the most deplorable ruin.
 6. With impoverishing and depopulating the whole country of Oude, and rendering that country, which was once a garden, an uninhabited desert.
 7. With a wanton, unjust, and pernicious exercise of his powers, and the great situation of trust which he occupied in India, by overturning the ancient establishments of the country, and extending an undue influence, by conniving at extravagant contracts, and appointing inordinate salaries.
 8. With receiving money against the orders of the Company, the act of parliament, and his own sacred engagements, and applying that money to purposes totally improper and unauthorised.
 9. With having resigned by proxy, for the obvious purpose of retaining his situation, and denying the deed in person, in opposition to all those powers under which he acted.
 10. With having conducted himself with treachery to Muzuffer Jung, who had been placed under his guardianship.
 11. With enormous extravagance and bribery, with a view to enrich his dependents and favourites.
- All these were afterwards restricted to the four following points; Benares — the Begums — the presents — and the contracts.
- On May 1, Mr. Hastings was called to the bar of the House

of Commons, and read his defence, which occupied two whole days in the recitation. He commenced by observing, "that the grounds of crimination were ill founded, aspersive, and malicious; that the various publications of the times contained the most unwarrantable observations on his conduct, and that the press daily teemed with the most gross libels upon every part of his administration in India.

"He was obliged, on the present occasion, to reply to charges containing nothing specific; they might indeed be called historical narratives, with voluminous commentaries. He had been in India from a schoolboy; and during a period of thirty-six years servitude, he had always the happiness to maintain a good and respectable character. By the evil machinations of a few individuals, men of notoriety, he now appeared in an unfortunate situation; but he chose to come forward on the occasion and meet his fate, rather than be subjected to the continual threats of a parliamentary prosecution.

"In respect to his public conduct he had ever acted according to the emergencies of the times; and he had been frequently reduced to such extremities as to defy the sanction of any precedent. No man had ever been in more perilous situations; and amidst his disasters, he was entirely left to the resources of his own mind. He had resigned the government of India amidst the regret of his fellow subjects; he had repeatedly received the thanks of his employers, the Directors of the East India Company; he had the satisfaction of discharging the trust reposed in him, with unanimous approbation; and he believed that no other power on earth had a right to call his conduct in question."

On June 1, the House of Commons rejected the first charge, and voted that Mr. Hastings' conduct in the Rohillah war "was not impeachable;" but the second, respecting the Rajah of Benares was carried by a great majority, on which, it was declared, that Mr. Burke should carry up the impeachment, and that Mr. Hastings be committed to the custody of the serjeant at arms. On February 15, 1788, the trial having commenced, Mr. Burke, in a most eloquent exordium, recapit-

tulated the history of India, since its connection with England. After remarking, that the arts of plunder had not been exhausted under Lord Clive, he observed, that the prisoner had introduced in his defence, a species of geographical morality, — “a set of principles suited only to a particular climate, and that what was peculation and tyranny in Europe, lost both its essence and its name in India.”

He next touched on his supposed delinquencies. Nund-comar, a man of high rank, had become the accuser of Mr. Hastings; but he was soon taken off by a prosecution for felony. Yet he was not the only accuser, for one of the most illustrious Princesses in Bengal had declared on oath, that Mr. Hastings had received from her, or her agents, a bribe of 40,000*l.*, sterling. Another bribe was obtained for a judgment relative to the descent of land!

He next accused him of employing Congo Burwant Sing, and Devi Burwant Sing, two notorious criminals, one of whom had lately become a bankrupt, in high situations of trust, under the Company, for corrupt purposes; and then entered into such a detail of cruelty, injustice, and extortion, practised by these men against the natives, as seemed to shock the feelings of all his auditors. He concluded with a powerful appeal to the justice of the House.

On the sixth day was opened the Benares charge. Mr. Burke attributed the prisoner's original hatred to the Rajah, to the circumstance of his sending a vakeel, or ambassador, to congratulate Sir John Clavering, on his supposed accession to the post of Governor-General. This circumstance would appear natural and inoffensive, to any person who considered the humiliation to which the princes of India are reduced; but in the mind of Mr. Hastings, it was sufficient to excite a rancour which could not terminate but in the ruin of its object.

The orator now stated, that a subsidiary treaty had existed between the Company and Cheyt Sing, the latter of whom was *recommended* to keep up a body of 2000 cavalry for their mutual security. On this proceeding the Governor-General had founded a claim of arbitrary power; and accordingly,

finding his submission kept pace with every insult, he turned the *recommendation* into a *demand*, and required the 2000 horse to be found, not at the expense of the Company, as had been agreed on, but of the Rajah. On this "Cheyt Sing declared, that he had but 1300, five hundred of which he offered to furnish, and to supply the deficiency with five hundred matchlock-men, all at his own expense." At the same time, he attempted to conciliate the friendship and protection of Mr. Hastings, by a present of 20,000*l.*, which he afterwards received for the use of the Company; as if such a voluntary gift was to be expected from a man worn out with extortion: whereas it was obviously meant as a bribe to purchase a rescue from future oppression. Yet, with all these concessions, Mr. Hastings declares, that his patience is exhausted, and taking upon himself the character of judge, accuser, and witness, demands a fine of 50 lacs, or 500,000*l.*, for his disobedience, and proceeds himself to Benares to enforce the requisition.

"By imposing a disproportionate punishment, the Governor-General had placed venial error on a footing with absolute guilt. Their Lordships should take care to avoid an opposite extreme, and to affix a punishment to the crimes of Mr. Hastings, equal, if possible, to their enormity." Mr. (now Lord) Grey followed, and stated the arrest and deposition of the unfortunate Rajah, in terms truly affecting. The arrangement of the evidence, which was allotted to Mr. Anstruther, occupied many days.

The second charge, respecting the Begums or Princesses of Oude, was undertaken by Mr. (now Lord Chief Commissioner) Adam, who represented Oude as a great and flourishing country, and observed that the Begums, the mother, and grandmother of the reigning Nabob of Oude, were ladies of high birth and quality. These princesses were legally in possession of great estates, both real and personal, which had been *guaranteed* by the East India Company, and thus it was the bounden duty of Mr. Hastings to maintain them, in the undisturbed possession of their property so guaranteed: — but on the contrary, he had invaded and compelled their own nearest

relation to spoil them of it. These ladies indeed, were treated with the greatest indignity, and reduced to the most deplorable distress; and for the purpose of giving a colouring to his own unwarrantable proceedings, he had, by means of affidavits taken by the chief judge of India, Sir Elijah Impey, to the great discredit of justice, slandered the Begums as the abettors of Cheyt Sing.

After stating it to be Mr. Hastings's intention to obtain a resumption of the jaghires bestowed on those ladies, he animadverted on the odious and cruel means used for this purpose by his agent, Mr. Middleton, and dwelt with great force on the reluctance with which the personage so nearly related to them, had been obliged to violate every thing deemed sacred on earth. "Thus," adds he, "their Lordships will see, that though this Prince had regard for his character as a son, a man, and a sovereign, and felt the horror at violating an oath, Mr. Hastings was above all such trifling considerations; and was not satisfied until he had forced this unfortunate Prince to break through all the ties of nature and religion, and rob those of the means of supporting life, from whom he had derived his own existence. As to the hardships and distress, which the other wives and children of his father were made to endure — such as their want of food, (the Princesses who had hitherto supported them being plundered,) these were so great that the brothers of the Nabob begged they might be suffered to go forth into the world, to earn their bread by their daily labour; while the women, who in India think the sight of a man, not their husband, or near relation, a downright pollution, expiable only by death, were become so outrageous for food, that they forced their way out of the Zenana, but were beat back with bludgeons by the sepoy's."

Mr. Sheridan occupied three whole days and part of a fourth in summing up this charge. "The seizure of the treasures and the jaghires," observes he, "was the effect of a dark conspiracy, in which no more than six persons were concerned. Three of the conspirators were of a higher order, — these were, Mr. Hastings, who might be considered as the

principal and leader of this black affair; Mr. Middleton, the English resident at Lucknow; and Sir Elijah Impey; — the three inferior or subordinate conspirators were Hyder Beg Khan, the nominal minister of the Nabob, but in reality the creature of Mr. Hastings; Colonel Hannay; and Ali Ibrahim Khan.” After animadverting on the character of each of these in succession, he represented Mr. Hastings as a man, “who affected to ensure to the allies of the Company, their prosperity and his protection” the former he secures, by sending an army to plunder them of their wealth, and to desolate their soil! — His protection is fraught with a similar security; — like that of the vulture to the lamb — grappling in its vitals! thirsting for its blood! scaring off each petty kite that hovers round — and then, with an insulting perversion of terms, he calls this *prosperity and protection!*

“The deep-searching annals of Tacitus — the luminous philosophy of Gibbon — all the records of man’s enormity, from the period of original sin up to the present period, dwindle into comparative insignificance of enormity — both in aggregation of vile principles, and the extent of their consequential ruin! — the victims of this oppression were confessedly destitute of all power to resist their oppressors; but debility which from other bosoms would have claimed some compassion, with respect to the mode of suffering, here excited but the ingenuity of torture! Even when every feeling of the Nabob was subdued, nature made a lingering, feeble stand within his bosom; but even then, that cold, unfeeling spirit of malignity, with which his doom was fixed, returned with double acrimony to its purpose, and compelled him to inflict on a parent that destruction, of which he was himself reserved but to be the last victim!”

After this, the parliamentary accusers proceeded to the sale of the jaghires, which was not followed, as had been promised, by a pecuniary compensation! The goods and jewels taken from the ladies, were sold for a low price, at a mock auction, and their ministers imprisoned, to exact the deficiency. “And yet these are but petty frauds, in comparison

to the enormities of Mr. Hastings. After extorting upwards of 600,000*l.* he forbade Mr. Middleton to come to a *conclusive settlement*. He knew that the treasons of our allies in India had their origin solely in the wants of the Company. He could not therefore say, that the Begums were entirely innocent, until he had consulted the general Record of Crimes — the last account at Calcutta. “And this prudence of Mr. Hastings was fully justified by the event — for there was actually found a balance of twenty-six lacks more against the Begums; which 260,000*l.* worth of treasure had never been dreamed of before.

“Talk not to us,” said the Governor-General, “of their guilt or innocence, but as it suits the Company’s credit! We will not try them by the code of Justinian, or the Institutes of Timur. We will not judge them either by the British laws, or their local customs! No! we will try them by the multiplication table, we will find them guilty by the rule of three, and we will condemn them according to the sapient and profound institutes of Cocker’s arithmetic!”

On May 5th, Mr. Burke opened the charge relative to the acceptance of presents, which had been taken in direct opposition to the orders of the East India Company; particularly to the acceptance of three lacks of rupees, from Rajah Nobekissen, an inhabitant of Calcutta; and also for the corrupt appointment of Munry Begum, who had been a dancing girl, to the head of the government of Bengal, instead of an able, honest, and intelligent man, such as he was bound to select by the express orders of the Court of Directors.

On this occasion, much of the evidence was rejected by the Lords; and Mr. Hastings, towards the conclusion of the session, made a powerful appeal at the bar of the House, in the course of which he very feelingly demanded, “if his whole life was to be consumed in this impeachment?”

On February 16, 1791, being the fifty-fifth day, Mr. Anstruther resumed the charge relative to presents, and accused Mr. Hastings of having received a bribe of 40,000*l.* from Goonga Govin Sing, “the most infamous man in all Hin-

dostan," for being placed at the head of the Company's revenue. He also inferred similar corruption, from the appointments of Deby Sing, and Nundolol, men covered with opprobrium, and utterly unworthy of being trusted.

The Hon. St. Andrew St. John, opened the fourth article, which respected corrupt and illegal contracts; particularly one entered into with Mr. Stephen Sullivan, the son of the chairman of the East India Company, respecting Opium, who sold it to Mr. Benn, while the latter received from Mr. Young for the same, no less a premium than 60,000*l.* He also accused Mr. Hastings of engaging the Company in a *smuggling trade* to China, whence great loss and disgrace had ensued; of giving the Bullock contract, without advertising the same, in pursuance of instructions from the Company; of assigning the agency to Mr. Auriol, for supplying the presidency of Madras in time of scarcity with provisions, and agreeing that he should account—not by means of vouchers—but *upon honour*, &c.

On the seventy-third day, and fifth year of the trial, Mr. Law (now Lord Ellenborough,) entered on the defence of his client. In the course of this long and able oration, he called the attention of their Lordships, to the critical situation in which the Governor-General had found Bengal, with an empty treasury, and in the midst of dangerous and powerful enemies. After detailing all the principal events of the Governor's administration from 1773 to 1780, he stated that the Carnatic, which was then invaded, had been saved solely by the spirit and prompt decision of the prisoner at the bar. He considered the attack on Goonga Govin Sing as mere invective, and his conduct as, perhaps, culpable; but assuredly not criminal—his offences only existed in the splendid oratory of the managers!

The learned counsel deemed the demand of fifty lacks of subsidy from Rajah Cheyt Sing to be legitimate. The deductions from the Nabob's revenue, he justified on the ground of necessity: "the Nabob was relieved by Mr. Hastings from all the cares of sovereignty, and had thus what

appeared to be the *ultimatum* of Asiatic happiness, a large income, a great deal of money to waste, and nothing to do.”

He then entered into all the charges contained in the several articles, and concluded the whole with a most eloquent peroration, in which he praised the character and conduct of Mr. Hastings, whom he represented as an injured man, pure, spotless, and unstained.

After this, evidence was adduced in behalf of the prisoner, on which occasion, some of the assertions of the managers were disproved, and a high character of Mr. Hastings given by them all.

In the debates that afterwards ensued in the House of Lords, it was maintained that many of the “bribes,” were sums usually given for entertainments, such as had been accepted by Lord Clive and others; that some charges of a similar nature were not made out, while the lesser accusations were not proper subjects of impeachment. On this occasion, two great law authorities widely differed, Lord Thurlow having contended for the complete, and entire innocence of the prisoner, while Lord Loughborough, who had now become chancellor, deemed his conduct in many points highly culpable.

It was on Thursday June 2, being the 73d day of the trial, that Mr. Hastings entered on his memorable defence before the Lords, and in presence of the Commons of England, who were his accusers. After lamenting the length of the proceedings, and expressing the greatest confidence of an acquittal, from the evidence adduced by the prosecutors themselves; he adduced the numerous testimonials of the natives, by way of answer to the charge of having oppressed them; he referred to the statement of the expenses of Bengal, both in peace and war, as a reply to the charge of having squandered away the public treasure; and he justified his disobedience of the orders of the Directors, by the absolute necessity of the case.

As to the Benares charge, he denied Cheyt Sing to be an independent Prince, he was merely a Zemindar, our subject,

and consequently liable to all the demands of his superior, in time of war. The sum required, was only five lacks, and the demand was not made, until we had commenced hostilities with the Mahrattas.

“ I need not enter into a detail of the various objections, difficulties, and delays, which Cheyt Sing made in the payment of the required aid. It is sufficient to acknowledge, that I went up the country determined to call him to account for his misconduct. The result was. his imprisonment and rescue, a rebellion, and his consequent expulsion from the country. The fine of fifty lacks of rupees was undoubtedly large, but it by no means exceeded the ability of Cheyt Sing, to pay it with ease, as is evident from the treasures he left behind, after he had employed all his carriage cattle, to export his gold and jewels to a foreign country.”

As to the usage of the Begum, Mr. Hastings frankly confessed that he *consented* to the resumption of the jaghires, and the treasure, in consequence of his opinion that she was disaffected to our government — this put an end to the guarantee! “ If she was deprived of her treasure, she was only deprived of that some years later, of which she could make no use, and which she ought most certainly to have given up some years sooner. My Lords, I speak thus on the equity of the case; for although it may be contended, that the Begum had a right to the treasure, by the Nabob’s concession, and our guarantee, yet, she never had, nor could have an *equitable* right to retain it.”

As to the charge respecting the “ presents,” Mr. Hastings maintained, that no proof existed of his having accepted any more than the common *zeafut*, or money for entertainment, bestowed on all former governors; and he utterly denied the receipt of any bribe whatsoever, from Nundcomar.

As to the contracts, he disavowed all knowledge of the transaction between Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Benn, respecting Opium; and if he disobeyed the Company’s orders as to a public sale, it was because he was desirous to place a man at

the head of this department, incapable of fraud and falsification.

Towards the conclusion, the Ex-Governor-General of Bengal, enumerated all his services, in a most eloquent and affecting peroration. "During my last residence of thirteen years, while Great Britain lost one half of its empire, and doubled its public debt, the territories over which I presided, were not only preserved entire, but increased in population, wealth, agriculture, and commerce. The form of government established for the provinces of Benares and Oude, with all its dependent branches of revenue, commerce, judicature, and military defence, was suggested, and superintended by me, and still subsists unchanged; two great sources of revenue, opium and salt, were of my creation: in short, I maintained all the provinces under my immediate administration, in a state of peace, plenty, and security, when every other member of the British empire was involved in external wars or civil tumult.

"In a dreadful season of famine, I repressed it on its approach to the countries under the British dominion; and by timely and continued regulations prevented its return; and lastly, I raised the collective annual revenue of the Company's possessions, during my administration, from three to five millions sterling.

"I am arraigned in the name of the Commons of England, for desolating the provinces of their dominion in India—I dare to reply, that they are the most flourishing of all the states of India,—and it was I who made them so. The valour of others acquired; but it was I, who enlarged, and gave shape and consistency to your dominions. I maintained the wars, which were of your formation—not mine—I dispelled a confederacy of the native powers—I neutralised their efforts, I divided their members.

"I gave you all, and you have rewarded me with confiscation, disgrace, and a life of impeachment."

At length, on Thursday April 23d, being the eighth year of the trial, sixteen distinct questions were separately put to

the Lords *, who pronounced the prisoner "Not guilty." On this the Lord Chancellor declared, "that a large majority of the lords then present, having answered the sixteen questions then propounded to them, in the negative, Warren Hastings, Esq. is acquitted of the articles of impeachment exhibited against him for high crimes and misdemeanours, and all things contained therein."

Having thus concluded the prosecution against Mr. Hastings, which lasted during the unexampled period of 148 days, it may now be permitted to follow him into private life. Major Scott had been sent to England before him, and he himself arrived with his family as has been already stated, in 1785. An idea had gone forth, of his immense wealth, and his name, and that of his wife, were never mentioned, without being associated with crores of rupees, bulses of diamonds, ivory bedsteads and chairs, together with all the articles of Asiatic luxury. Their establishment, however, did not realise any of these presages, for he hired a ready furnished house, first in St. James's-Place, and afterwards in Wimpole-Street, until the year 1790, when Mrs. Hastings purchased a large house in Park-Lane. A little before this, Mr. Hastings had bought a small estate at Old Windsor, called Beaumont Lodge, but it was sold again without loss, after keeping possession during three years. On this he purchased the manor of Daylesford, which had been formerly vested in his family, during a series of several centuries, and had only been seventy-four years out of its possession. There he himself had spent his early years, and felt for it an affection of which a stranger could not be susceptible. In the acquisition of this property, he expended the sum of 54,400*l.* and while it was preparing for his reception, he rented a house in Berkshire during two

* Of twenty-nine Lords of Parliament, then present, the twenty-one following, viz. Lords Douglas, Fife, Somers, Thurlow, Hawke, Boston, Sandys, Middleton, Bishops of Rochester and Bangor, Viscounts Sidney and Falmouth, Earls of Dorchester, Beverley, Warwick, and Coventry, the Marquis Townshend, Dukes of Bridgewater and Leeds, and the Archbishop of York, voted, "not guilty."

The eight following, viz. Lord Walsingham, Earls of Carnarvon, Radnor, Fitzwilliam, Suffolk, Duke of Norfolk, Earl of Mansfield, Lord Chancellor Loughborough, "guilty," on one or more of the charges.

years; dividing his time pretty regularly between that and London, where the winter was constantly spent. According to his own statement, during the first ten years his expenses did not exceed 3500*l.* *per annum.*

Meanwhile, a debt of 71,080*l.* owing for law-expenses during the impeachment, bore heavy on the Ex-Governor-General, and although the sum of 17,000*l.* had been transmitted by private individuals from Bengal, in the course of the prosecution; yet he was uneasy, both in his mind and circumstances; for he solemnly declared, that at no time had he been ever worth 100,000*l.* and that in 1786, after paying his various debts, the sum total of his fortune amounted to no more than 65,313*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*

On this his friends determined to reimburse the Governor-General, out of the revenues of the Company, which he had so powerfully contributed to improve and augment, and it was resolved accordingly, by a Court of Proprietors: "that the charges made against Warren Hastings, Esq. having been founded on the public acts of his government in Bengal; it is highly reasonable, that the said Warren Hastings Esq. should be indemnified for the legal expenses incurred by him in making his defence;

2. "That it is the opinion of this Court, that in consideration of the long, faithful, and important services of Warren Hastings, Esq. and to mark the grateful sense entertained by this Company of the extensive benefits they have received from these services, a grant of an annuity of 5,000*l.* from the 1st of January, 1795, to issue from the territorial revenue, during the term of the Company's exclusive trade, to Warren Hastings, Esq. his heirs, executors, &c. be prepared by the Court of Directors, and be submitted to the Board of Commissioners for the affairs of India, for their approval and confirmation, pursuant to the act of Parliament."

Some legal difficulties however intervened, and the original vote was never fully completed. It was not indeed until March 2d, 1796, that the then chairman, Sir Stephen Lushington, was enabled to inform a general court, "that a vote for an

annuity of 4000*l.* *per annum* for 28 years and a half, had been passed by the Court of Directors, and confirmed by the Board of Controul, and that the law expenses should also be cleared, although the precise mode had not yet been settled."

Thus all parties were discontented by the result of this celebrated impeachment. The managers objected to the decisions of the Lords on several secondary questions, as being unaccompanied with reasons; and to the opinions of the judges, as arising out of queries not stated in the presence of either the prisoner or the accusers. One of them also asserted in the House of Commons, that the general acquittal on all the charges, only afforded a proof of *legal innocency*. On the other hand, Mr. Hastings had to complain, that after a trial of one hundred and forty-eight days, followed by a complete acquittal, the whole of his law expenses * had not been paid, and the sum voted him by his constituents, had not been granted. Indeed, he obtained about ten years of this pension in advance, but as he lived thirty-three years after, he appears to have survived it for a considerable period.

From this moment, Mr. Hastings seems to have courted obscurity. His lady, indeed, went to Court, and was received with distinguished respect by Her Majesty, in whose *suite* she is said to have entered the drawing-room. He, however, obtained no mark of royal favour, until after the death of Mr. Burke, Mr. Fox, and most of those who had managed the prosecution against him; for it is very lately, that the rank and distinction of a privy counsellor have been bestowed upon him.

The remainder of his life was spent at Daylesford, in adorning his grounds and improving his estate. Every field recalled to his mind the scenes of his boyish days, and pro-

* LAW CHARGES.

Mr. Shawe the Solicitor's bill and interest	£.66,080
Mr. Smith's estimated at	3,500
Messrs. Law, Plumer & Dallas, for drawing Answers to the Articles of Impeachment	1,500
	<hr/>
	£.71,080

duced pleasing and even delightful associations. Here it was, that he consoled himself for the persecution of his enemies, the luke-warm attentions of his friends, and the utter neglect of his superiors. He indeed lived long enough to behold many of his plans realised, through the agency of others: for the brilliant acquisitions of the Marquises of Wellesley and Hastings, are to be considered but as the early projects of a man whose gigantic ambition had grasped at the subjugation of all Asia. At length, having attained his 75th year, he died August 22d, 1818.

The lofty mind, the powerful talents, and unbounded success of Mr. Hastings, have been acknowledged even by his enemies; but it is extremely difficult to pronounce finally on his character and government. His conduct to Cheyt Sing and the Begums, although it produced a large sum of money, and that too at a critical period, to the treasury of the Company, was long viewed with an unfavourable eye in Europe, and stigmatised by more than one vote of the House of Commons.

The *extermination of the Rohillas*, as the war against that unfortunate nation was termed, had also for its object an accession of wealth*; but as it does not form an article of the impeachment, it might seem invidious to dwell upon it here.

The contracts appear to have been exorbitant; more especially that of opium, granted as a boon to the son of the chairman of the East India Company. At this period indeed, according to his own account, he was surrounded by some thousands of young men, belonging to the most powerful families in England, all of whom were clamorous for places and employments, from a man about to be impeached; and who therefore could refuse nothing to their combined credit and influence.

On the other hand, it must be allowed, that the conduct of a man, who had been near thirty-two years in the service of the East India Company, and during twelve Governor of Bengal, had been examined with a scrupulous and inquisitorial

* The sum demanded and paid, has been estimated at 400,000*l.* of our money.

eye; nor ought it to be forgotten, that he achieved much for the permanent benefit and advantage of his employers. When a young man, he opened a short and speedy communication between this country and India, by the way of Suez; and Pondicherry was besieged and taken at an early period of the American war, by means of the intelligence thus conveyed from Europe. During his administration indeed, an intercourse took place with the most distant regions of Asia; he was the first Governor who ever sent an ambassador to the Grand Lama; and it must be allowed, that he rendered the English name and exploits known to the most distant regions of India.

If his character is to be estimated by the advantages derived on the part of the Company from his administration, without entering on the question of right or wrong, then he ought to stand high indeed in their esteem. The stoppage of the tribute to the Mogul of 300,000*l.* together with the sale of Corah and Allahabad to the Nabob of Oude, for half a million: are objects of notoriety, yet both of these measures were condemned by Parliament in 1782, "as contrary to policy, and good faith." However, on referring to the transactions in Westminster Hall, which by the verdict of "not guilty," appear of a less equivocal nature, the sum gained by his employers is immense, as will appear from a statement made at that period, viz.

"By the expulsion of Cheyt Sing, 200,000*l.* permanent revenue in future, which, together with the past years, amounts with interest, to

£ 5,300,000

The money taken from the Zenana of the Begum amounted to 600,000*l.* which, with interest, makes

1,800,000

The presents received by Mr. Hastings with the interest, would amount to

900,000

£ 8,000,000

To two other sources of revenue, opium and salt, no guilt can possibly attach, and for the immense revenue arising out of these, the Company is solely and exclusively indebted to Mr. Hastings.

Whether his general policy was just ; whether extension of territory on the part of a distant European nation, be strength or weakness, is a problem which history alone can decide with accuracy and precision. Certain it is, however, that from the time of Clive, in whose school Hastings was educated, the India Company has uniformly followed this track to wealth and to greatness ; until a country of unknown extent, and containing nearly forty millions of inhabitants, bends at this day to the policy and dictates of a few men, who, under the name of a Court of Directors, govern the greater part of Asia from their counting-house in Leadenhall street.

In private life, Mr. Hastings has always been represented as amiable, conciliating, and seductive. At an early period, he cultivated the muses ; and all the terrors of an impeachment did not prevent him from sacrificing at their shrine, during his second voyage to Europe. At a later period, while writhing under a seven years' prosecution, he is said to have produced an epigram, the bitterness of which could alone be excused by his situation * : for although Mr. Burke at the moment he was stung by it, complained loudly to the House of Lords, yet no one, on due consideration, will be inclined to think that it justly applied to this great ornament of the British senate. There can be no doubt but his friends are in possession of many of his poetic effusions ; and it is well known, that his prose compositions are models of elegance, precision, and ability.

LIST OF THE LITERARY WORKS

Of the late Right Hon. Warren Hastings.

1. A Narrative of the Insurrection at Benares, 4to. 1782.
2. Memoirs relative to the State of India, 8vo. 1786.
3. A Treatise on the Means of guarding Houses, by their construction, against Fire, 8vo. 1816.
4. Fugitive Poetry, consisting of Imitations of Horace, &c.

* " Oft have I wonder'd that on Irish ground

" No pois'nous reptiles ever yet were found ;

" Reveal'd the secret stands, of Nature's work ;

" She sav'd her venom to create a BURKE !"

No. XI.

RIGHT HON. JOHN EARL OF UPPER OSSORY,

BARON GOWER OF THE KINGDOM OF IRELAND; AND A PEER OF ENGLAND, BY THE STYLE AND TITLE OF BARON UPPER OSSORY, OF AMPHILL, IN THE COUNTY OF BEDFORD; LORD-LIEUTENANT OF BEDFORDSHIRE; KEEPER OF WALTHAM FOREST, IN THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN; AND OF ROCKINGHAM FOREST IN THE COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON.

Motto — “*FORTIS SUB FORTE FATISCET.*”

THE name of Fitzpatrick is familiar to all such as are acquainted with Irish history. The ancient family, of which this branch was transplanted to England, flourished for many centuries in that portion of the sister Isle called Ossory; whence they derived the title of princes in former times, and of earls during a more modern period. In short, they deemed Heremon the first monarch of the Milesian race their ancestor; many of them were still *Toparchs* or chieftains, before and at the English invasion, and ruled according to certain laws and regulations, that extensive territory, of which they appear to have been considered as lords paramount. On the conquest, they of course yielded a reluctant submission; and like other chieftains, balancing their interests, according to circumstances, sometimes appeared in arms for, and sometimes against England. It was evidently the interest of this country, to cherish and conciliate such men; yet the viceroys, and lords justices, did not always govern, according to the rules of sound policy; but not unfrequently in a manner consonant to their own private interests. All were at one period deemed rebels, whose estates were desirable objects, for the avarice or ambition of their enemies; and had the same liberal policy which has been generally extended to Ireland, during the middle and latter end of the present reign, been employed

in that of Elizabeth and James, the whole country would have been cultivated like a garden; and the entire population, happy, loyal, and content!

It was not until the time of Henry VIII. that due pains were taken to obtain the submission, and conciliate the feelings of this family. Barnard Fitzpatrick, then styled Prince of Ossory, was found in arms by that monarch. Knowing that he was an enterprising man, and the leader of a numerous body of followers, devoted to his person and interests, notwithstanding the noted stubbornness of the King of England's temper, he yet yielded so far to the wise counsels of those around him, as to court his submission, by promising both indemnity and honours, to himself, and descendants. He was accordingly created Baron of Upper Ossory, in 1541. His son Barnaby, the second Lord, became the favourite of Edward VI. and had that Prince lived, greater power, and additional honours, would doubtless have followed. The letters of this Prince to him, which are still preserved, attest His Majesty's personal regard for that powerful chief. In the succeeding reigns, the friendship of this great family was no longer cultivated; perhaps their interests were thwarted, and even their rights invaded: for we find the Fitzpatricks in arms against the English government; and Bryan the seventh Lord, after being defeated by superior skill and numbers, was exposed to all the penalties accompanying rebellion and attainder.

Richard Fitzpatrick, however, one of the leaders of this numerous and powerful clan, having become an officer in the English navy, found means not only to make his peace, but also to enrich himself; and as the former title had been forfeited, a new one, that of Baron of Gowran, was conferred in 1715, together with many of the forfeited estates of others. The family of Brunswick was now happily seated on the throne of these realms; and by recurring to dates, it will be readily perceived, that the conciliation of Ireland had become the wise, as it has ever been, the obvious policy of the English government, for Scotland was at that precise moment in arms,

in behalf of the Stuart family, who claimed the succession to the crown, on the obsolete, and ridiculous pretexs of "passive obedience, non-resistance, and indefeasible succession." Three years after, as if to prove the manifest propriety of the means then recurred to, this Irish nobleman came over to this country, and became the husband of Anne, second daughter and coheirss of Sir John Robinson of Farmingwood in the county of Northampton, Bart. by whom he had issue, one son and three daughters.

John, his only son, was created Earl of Upper Ossory, in 1751. He also married into an English family, having chosen for his wife, Evelyn, daughter of John, first Earl Gower, the ancestor of the present Marquis of Stafford. But the nuptials appear to have been concluded in an evil hour; for a separation and divorce took place, and she soon after became the wife of Richard Vernon, Esq. by whom she had two daughters, one of whom was the Countess of Warwick, and is, we believe, still alive.

John Fitzpatrick, second Earl of Upper Ossory, and son of the first Earl by Lady Evelyn Gower, was born May 7, 1745. After the usual preliminary studies *, under the title of Lord Gowran, he succeeded to the family honours and estates, while yet a minor, his father having died in 1758. As he was a young man of some promise and considerable pretensions, he was sent on his travels at an early age, and visited most of the courts of Europe, in company with a tutor. It was not then, as now, the fashion, to wander beyond the limits of Italy, in order to visit Constantinople, and reside for some time at Athens; the *grand tour*, therefore, was deemed sufficient.

Soon after his Lordship's return, and when only twenty-four years of age, he became the husband of the Honourable Anne Liddel, only child and heiress of Lord Ravensworth, whose former marriage with Augustus-Henry, late Duke of Grafton, had been dissolved by act of parliament. By this

* We believe he passed some time at Eton, along with his brother Richard.

lady the issue consisted of only two daughters, Anne and Gertrude.

The Earl of Upper Ossory now settled at his family seat of Ampthill in the county of Bedford, and continued to reside there, during the long period of half a century, with the exception of about eighteen months. In the winter he came to London, but a country life appeared to agree best with his health and his habits. Soon after the death of John, Duke of Bedford, on Jan. 24, 1771, he was nominated Lord Lieutenant of that county, whence that illustrious house derives its ducal title. This high and honourable office was accepted, not courted by him, on the implied condition, that he should be permitted to resign it, on the late Duke's attaining the legal age. His lordship was so amiable, however, that notwithstanding his own readiness, sincerely and repeatedly expressed, a performance of this agreement was never exacted, either from the former or the present Duke. It was not until his own death, when it was conferred on another family, that these circumstances were disclosed by a letter, which has since been published.*

As to politics, like his younger brother the late General Fitzpatrick †, he usually voted with the opposition. Indeed they were both firmly attached to, and intimately connected with Mr. Fox, the Dukes of Devonshire, Portland, and Bedford, and all the great whig families in the kingdom. Until he obtained an English peerage, His lordship was constantly returned for the county in which he resided.

Of this nobleman, the following character is extracted from the tenth edition of a popular work, published in 1792, which was more celebrated for satire, than panegyric:

“There are men, who, possessing eminent talents, suffer them to rust in obscurity. The present nobleman may be reckoned of this description. Lord Ossory is certainly a sensible well-informed man; but whatever his merits may be, a knowledge of them is confined merely to the circle of his

* See a letter from the Duke of Bedford, published in 1818.

† See an account of the Right Hon. Richard Fitzpatrick annexed.

own private friends and acquaintance, and he seems even desirous to conceal them from the public.

“ Many years ago, when David Hume was *chargé des affaires* at Paris, he pronounced him the most promising young nobleman of all the English then abroad; yet he has represented the county of Bedford in several parliaments, and never given any specimen of his abilities, further than as a mover or seconder of those fulsome addresses*, which degrade the dignity of the senate, and are equally dishonourable to either party; to those who offer, and to him who consents to receive such flimsy compositions of adulation and absurdity.

“ The countenance of this nobleman denotes a cold phlegmatic disposition, which we believe to be his true character; nevertheless he has occasionally relaxed from his native severity, by repeated acts of liberal indulgence conferred on an extravagant brother.

“ He once seemed very much devoted to the pleasures of the turf, where he united the *utile dulci*, being uncommonly successful. His stoical apathy qualified him to succeed eminently in that line, and we are therefore surprised, that he has of late years wholly given it up, which we must ascribe to disgust, at the many infamous characters introduced into the society. At present, he lives chiefly in retirement, making London his residence only during the months that parliament is sitting, where his (political) conduct is wholly guided by his friend and relation Mr. Fox, in whom he reposes implicit confidence.

“ Had this latter gentleman continued in office, Lord Ossory would have been a British Peer, but His Majesty is reported to have set his negative on any addition to the peerage, nominated by that administration, and perhaps such an exclusion forms its most brilliant panegyric.

“ It is natural to suppose a good brother to be a kind and hospitable neighbour, and we have heard nothing to contradict the presumption. He has been long married to the divorced

* This was obviously written during the Coalition administration.

lady of the (late) Duke of Grafton, and we believe has always enjoyed a considerable portion of domestic happiness."

At length, on August 12, 1804, the English peerage, so long promised, was conferred: for the Earl was created Baron of Upper Ossory of Amphill, in the county of Bedford. On this occasion his brother Richard was returned in his room for the county. His lordship died, February 5, 1818, leaving behind him, the character of a good and amiable man. His remains were interred in the family vault in Bedfordshire; and of his estates, those in Ireland, descended to his two daughters, while those in Bedfordshire, with the house at Amphill, according to the term of settlement, are now the property of Lord Holland.

As reference has been made more than once, in the course of this memoir, to Lord Upper Ossory's brother, who died some time since, a short memoir is here annexed.

No. XII.

RIGHT HON. LIEUT.-GEN. RICHARD FITZPATRICK.

MR. FITZPATRICK was born Jan. 24, 1748, and sent when almost a child to Eton, a circumstance not a little favourable to his future views and advancement in life :

“ *Salve, magna parens doctrinæ, Etonia Tellus magna virum !*”

Here he became acquainted with Lord Morpeth, now Earl of Carlisle ; Mr. Hare, famous for the elegance and correctness of his verses, which were hung up in the hall as models of composition ; Mr. Anthony Storer, a Creole of the island of Jamaica, who united a taste for chemistry with a love of literature ; Lord Ophaly, afterwards Duke of Leinster ; and Charles James Fox, his junior by a year.

At the age of eighteen, young Fitzpatrick obtained an ensigncy in the Guards, and soon after a lieutenancy, which enabled him to rank as a captain in the army ; while scarcely of the age allowed by law, he also acquired a seat in the House of Commons, as M. P. for the borough of Oakhampton, which, strange as it may appear, to those unacquainted with the fascinations of hunting, was afterwards exchanged by one of his ducal friends, for a dog kennel and stables !

In 1774 he was nominated for Tavistock, and returned for that same borough, during the seven following parliaments ; until, at length, he nearly became the *father* of the House of Commons.

Captain Fitzpatrick was so peculiarly and so delicately situated, as to be obliged, as we have been told, from a high sense of honour, to fight in favour of that cause in America, against which he had voted in St. Stephen's chapel, West-

minster. In 1779, when a lieutenant-colonel, we find him acting as the second of Mr. Fox, in the duel with Mr., now Baron Adam, which ended in a very amicable manner, and became the prelude to a long and lasting friendship. In 1781, he supported Mr. Sheridan's motion, censuring the disposition of the military force during the preceding memorable and disgraceful riots, on great constitutional principles. In 1782, he accompanied the late Duke of Portland to Ireland, when that nobleman was appointed viceroy, as his secretary; and obtained the rank of privy counsellor, in that kingdom, as he afterwards did in England. In the course of the next year, Colonel Fitzpatrick was nominated to the honourable and important office of Secretary at War, during the short reign of "the Coalition administration."

On their retreat, we find him once more embattled with the opposition squadron; and on the impeachment of Warren Hastings, he, in 1787, was nominated one of the managers, in conjunction with Burke, Fox, Burgoyne, Windham, Sheridan, Sir Gilbert Elliot, Sir John Anstruther, Lord Lauderdale, then Viscount Maitland, the Right Hon. T. Pelham, &c. in short, with most of the memorable men of that day.

Colonel Fitzpatrick strenuously opposed the late war with France from the very first; and after its commencement, both spoke and voted against its continuance. But his *master-speech* was delivered December 16, 1796, for the purpose of rescuing General the Marquis de la Fayette and his followers from an Austrian dungeon, where they had been strictly immured, although merely prisoners of war. In the course of this oration, which extracted the applauses of Mr. Pitt himself, he asserted "that this gallant but unfortunate officer, together with M. Latour Mabourg and M. Bureau de Pusy, were not the prisoners of the Emperor of Germany, but of the Allies, and he had the authority of that Prince himself, for the position." Mr. Fitzpatrick then alluded forcibly and feelingly to the heroism and the sufferings of the Countess de la Fayette.

"This admirable pattern of female heroism and virtue, providentially escaped from the fangs of the relentless Robes-

pierre, (for it is the glory of her husband to have been equally an object of hatred to tyrants of all descriptions) had seen her mother, her sister, together with all her nearest and dearest relations, dragged to a miserable death upon a scaffold, on which, during a whole year, she had been in the daily expectation of ending her own melancholy existence. She availed herself of the liberty the fall of her persecutor restored to her, to fly from the prisons of anarchical tyranny to the succour of her husband languishing in the dungeons of what is called a regular and legitimate government. She had the good fortune (for without some dexterity and contrivance it could not have happened) to obtain an audience of the Emperor at Vienna, together with her two daughters, the eldest not yet seventeen years of age — she threw herself at his feet, imploring his clemency for her unfortunate husband: but if his liberty was too great a favour to be hoped for, soliciting, at least, that his family might, by partaking, be permitted to alleviate the misery of his imprisonment, and suffered, in the melancholy gloom of his dungeon, to administer those endearing consolations of conjugal affection and filial duty, which, under the most bitter afflictions, might sustain the fortitude of a husband and a father. The House will readily believe, that the person to whom these supplications were addressed could not listen to them without emotion. The present Emperor has not reached a time of life, he has not been long enough either in the world, or upon a throne, to have acquired that callous insensibility which too frequently is found to harden the hearts of those by whom the councils of sovereigns are directed. He received her solicitations with kindness and indulgence; he applauded and expressed his admiration of the generosity of her conduct. To the request of joining her husband in his prison, he immediately acceded; but with respect to the more material subject of her entreaties, he used these remarkable expressions: ‘With respect to his liberty, it is a complicated affair upon which my hands are bound.’

“Of the truth of this declaration of the Emperor having been conveyed in these words, I hold in my hand, and am

ready to produce, the incontrovertible testimony of the interesting person to whom they were spoken. This fact, thus authenticated, I defy His Majesty's ministers to contradict; and upon this fact I appeal to the House, whether I am not warranted in the assertion I have made, that La Fayette is not the prisoner of the Emperor of Germany. Before I state what strikes me as the irresistible inference from this fact, perhaps the House may be desirous of learning the sequel of the melancholy tale I have been relating. This incomparable woman, having thus obtained the Emperor's consent to be admitted into the prison of her husband, hastened to Olmutz, the place of his confinement. It should seem that the favour she had obtained was, by some persons of authority in the Imperial Court, considered as too great an indulgence to have been granted: for, upon her arrival, no means were left unattempted to dissuade her from the execution of her virtuous purpose.

“ An officer employed in the immediate guard of the dungeon, acquainted her that her husband, having attempted his escape, was subjected to the utmost rigour which the severe regulations of these prisons prescribed: that before she took the final resolution of immuring herself with him, it was just to apprise her that she could not be exempted from them. These menaces were not capable of shaking the firmness of a mind like hers; but it is truly painful to relate, that these menaces have been carried into the strictest execution. What a scene must the re-union of this unhappy family have presented in the circumstances under which they met! In her interview with the Emperor he had assured her, that she would find her husband treated with lenity and indulgence. It is melancholy to reflect, that monarchs, in absolute governments, should so often be made the instruments of oppressions of which they are themselves unconscious!

“ Having received these assurances, what must have been her feelings when she found her husband sinking under the aggravated severities of his imprisonment! Emaciated, debarred the sight of every human being, except his merciless

gaolers, deprived of the benefit of fresh air, though labouring under a pulmonary complaint, which made it peculiarly necessary for him ! When she learned, that the first change of raiment he had been allowed, was in consequence of her arrival, when the tattered rags which scarcely covered his body had been exchanged for a garb of the coarsest materials; an indulgence, however, not given without the insult of informing him, that the coarsest materials had been purposely sought, as such alone he was worthy to be clothed with ! For the treatment she herself was to expect, what must have been her sensations, when her request, that herself and her daughters might be allowed the services of an attendant of their own sex, was peremptorily refused ! By the rigid laws of the prison strictly enforced, it is only during day-light that any prisoners are permitted to be absent from their respective cells ; consequently, during these dreary winter months, their innocent and unoffending daughters, by a solitary confinement of sixteen hours, in their own dungeon, purchase the permission of devoting the remaining eight to the duty of consoling their unhappy parents.

“ It may, perhaps, be thought, I know indeed it has been said, that these are exaggerations unworthy of credit : that such enormities should appear incredible, I am not surprised ; but that they are literally true, I have, from evidence incontrovertible, the fullest conviction. But why should we disbelieve these instances of barbarity, when they are equalled, if not surpassed, by others, of which the public is in possession of authentic proof ? Whatever trials the fortitude of a female mind may resist, the delicacy of a female frame is not formed to encounter so rude a treatment ; accordingly we find, that the health of this unfortunate lady has suffered under it severely. For the benefit of medical advice and assistance, she petitioned to be allowed, for a short time, to repair to Vienna. What a refinement of cruelty, what a savage delight in accumulating afflictions upon an afflicted mind, does the answer to her request exhibit ! After a solicitation of three months, this answer was procured, and delivered

to her by the governor of the fortress: 'That his Imperial Majesty had been pleased to determine, that, on no consideration whatever, she should be permitted to go to Vienna; but that she might quit the prison, on condition of never returning to it.' The permission to go to Vienna, where possibly another interview with the Emperor might have opened the eyes of this unfortunate Prince to the enormities of which his ministers made him the instrument, was, at any rate to be guarded against; but the request to quit the prison for medical assistance was acquiesced in. Observe, however, the inhuman, the diabolical condition annexed to it: 'Yes: you may quit the prison of your husband to seek medical advice; but mark, it is to return no more: you have sacrificed your health to obtain the society of your husband; you shall now sacrifice the society of your husband to obtain the recovery of your health.' There is really an ingenuity of conception in this refinement of barbarity which seems to disgrace the genius of the dramatic poets of all ages, who have endeavoured to paint tyranny in its most odious and detestable colours.

"I will now read to the House the patient, calm, and affecting reply of the unhappy sufferer to this savage insult, upon the best and tenderest feelings of which the human heart is capable.

"Letter of Madame de la Fayette.

" 'The Commandant of Olmutz informed me yesterday, that, in answer to my request of being allowed to go for eight days to Vienna for the purpose of consulting the faculty, his Imperial Majesty signified, that on no consideration whatever I am to be permitted to visit that capital; and that he will consent to my quitting this prison only on condition of never entering it more. I have the honour to reiterate the answer which I made to the Commandant. To solicit the assistance which the state of my health requires, is a duty which I owed my family and my friends; but they are sensible that it is not possible for me to purchase it at the price at which it is offered. I cannot forget, that while we were both on the point of perish-

ing — myself, by the tyranny of Robespierre; M. de la Fayette, by the moral and physical sufferings of his captivity — that I was not allowed to obtain any account of him, or to inform him that his children and myself were yet in existence; and nothing shall tempt me to expose myself a second time to the horrors of such a separation. Whatever, then, may be the state of my health, or the inconveniences which may result to myself and my daughters from this habitation, we will all three avail ourselves with gratitude of the goodness of his Imperial Majesty, who permits us to share his captivity in all its details.’

“ This letter, the authenticity of which cannot be questioned, reveals to us another instance of atrocious cruelty to which she had been exposed. She cannot forget, that while they were on the point of perishing in their respective dungeons, she had not been allowed to obtain any account of him, or to inform him that his children or herself were yet in existence. Why, let me ask, are the circumstances I have related to be supposed exaggerated statements of barbarity, when such barbarities as these are in proof before us? With a sorrow, which I am certain all who hear me will partake, I have to inform the House, that in this alarming state of health she has been to this hour suffered to languish in a prison, which there is too much reason to apprehend, will shortly become the tomb of so much virtue.

“ Among all the horrible crimes to which the French Revolution has, in its progress, given birth, those who love to contemplate human nature in its more favourable points of view, will derive some consolation to their wounded feelings from its having given occasion to the display of such exemplary virtue. Those who consider religion as the best and surest foundation of all virtue, will learn with satisfaction, that, until her misfortunes gave scope to the exertion of the great qualities of her mind, the eminent piety of this lady had been the most distinguishing feature of her character. But what will those friends of religion think, when they are told that, by those governments who have hypocritically affected to be waging war

in the cause of religion itself, that piety by which she was distinguished has been converted into an additional instrument of torture ! By the tenets of the Roman Catholic persuasion, we know how very strictly the duties of confession and of hearing mass are enjoined. If, in the poignancy of her afflictions, the accumulated injuries of her oppressors could be supposed, in a mind of such angelic purity, to have excited a momentary emotion of resentment, and have disturbed the meek tranquillity of Christian resignation, it is a torment to her conscience not to be suffered, in the acknowledgement of it, to fulfil that duty which her religion has prescribed. The opportunity of fulfilling these duties, by sincere and devout Roman Catholics, considered as sacred and indispensable, have, by a Government pretending to be fighting the cause of that very religion, been absolutely refused to her repeated and pressing solicitations."

But although Mr. Fitzpatrick failed in obtaining the immediate intervention of the English Government, yet he finally succeeded in his main object, which was the release of La Fayette and his partners in captivity, an event produced by the mere effect of public opinion alone.

After this, with a view of benefiting the profession in which his early life had been spent, he introduced a very excellent clause into the mutiny bill, by which all the members of a court-martial are sworn to try and determine *according to evidence*. In 1806, by which time he had attained a high rank in the army, General Fitzpatrick became once more Secretary at War, on which occasion he procured two acts of parliament, for the more convenient liquidation of the half-pay of officers, both in Great Britain and Ireland ; and also, for regulating the allowances granted out of the compassionate list.

So much for him as a legislator ; in his character of a poet, he was the author of many fugitive pieces ; he wrote the prologue to General Burgoyne's "Heiress ;" the lines inscribed in the Temple of Friendship, at Mr. Fox's at St. Ann's Hill, &c. &c. He also lent his talents to the " Probationary Odes and the Rolliad." The following lines from the Eclogue entitled "the Lyars," has been praised with an unwonted

degree of enthusiasm, by the author of "the Pursuits of Literature."

- " Say what the mineral brought from distant climes,
 " Which screens delinquents, and absolves their crimes ;
 " Whose dazzling rays confound the space between
 " A tainted strumpet and a spotless queen ;
 " Which Asia's princes give, which Europe's take ;
 " Tell this, dear doctor, and I yield the stake ?"

After attaining the rank of a lieutenant-general in the army, with the 47th regiment of foot annexed ; serving in parliament both as a burgess for two burghs, and knight of the shire for the county of Bedford, and having been a member of the Privy Council for both England and Ireland, the subject of this short memoir died unmarried, April 25th, 1813, in the 66th year of his age. An inscription written by himself, in an obscure but romantic church-yard, near to the place of his former residence, within the verge of Windsor forest, points out the spot where his remains are deposited.

No. XIII.

HUMPHRY REPTON, Esq.

ARCHITECT AND LANDSCAPE GARDENER, &c. &c.

[*With an Analysis of his principal Work.*]

THIS ingenious artist was a native of Suffolk, and not of Norfolk, as has been erroneously supposed and maintained by some of his contemporaries. He was born at Bury St. Edmunds, in 1752, on a small paternal estate; and his father appears to have been an intelligent man, from whose conversation he gleaned several useful facts, and many shrewd observations. The old gentleman seems to have possessed some idea of planting and embellishing grounds; and was eager to point out to his son, those characteristic features, that constituted the difference between the *Old* and the *New School*, both of which had originated within his own time. Every one is aware, by what trifling circumstances, a certain bias, called a *ruling passion*, is instilled into the minds of youth, and it would not perhaps be carrying conjecture too far, were we to suppose that an incident of this kind may have operated powerfully, as to the future destination of the subject of the present memoir.

Be this as it may, young Repton appears to have obtained a good education; to have possessed a taste for rural and romantic scenery; to have displayed at an early period, a happy facility with his pencil; and to have loved the country with a degree of enthusiasm peculiar to young and ardent minds. He married too, at an early period of life, and the prospect of a family may have enhanced and endeared retirement, to a mind naturally inclined to study and contemplation.

At the age of twenty-three, we find him residing in a neighbouring county to that where he drew his first breath. It is not at all improbable, but he might have been first attracted thither, in consequence of the marriage of an only sister, to Mr. Adey, a respectable solicitor at Aylesham. Having remained during the space of eight years, in the county of Norfolk, it was his good fortune, during that period, to become acquainted with the late Right Hon. William Windham, a man of a bold, daring mind, who possessed an original stile of thinking, and was enthusiastically attached to literature and science.

By residing for a considerable time, in the immediate vicinity of Felbrigg, the favourite residence of that statesman, frequent opportunities of intercourse, and even of intimacy took place. They were nearly of the same age; their pursuits were in many instances congenial; while the objects of their dislike, were also of a similar kind and tendency. They possessed but little relish for hunting or shooting. Instead of occupying their time, like the neighbouring squires, in the breeding or breaking in of puppies, the physicking of horses, or the rapturous enjoyment of partridge-shooting, they chiefly delighted in books, and indulged in political and philosophical inquiries. This affinity of mind led first to friendship, and afterwards to an official connection; for Mr. Windham having been appointed in 1783, to a high station in Ireland, Mr. Repton voluntarily offered to accompany him thither: a proposal in which he appears to have been actually anticipated by the new secretary of state* for that kingdom.

* The following is a copy of Mr. Windham's letter, on this occasion, which has been communicated to the public by Mr. H. Repton, for the purpose of obviating some gross mistakes concerning his father:

“ Dear Sir,

“ You may think it perhaps a sufficient attention to your *letter*, that I answer it by return of post; but I have done more for your *wishes*, by answering *them* in my own mind before they were known to me. It happens very whimsically, that your proposal is just an echo to a wish I was about to express to you; if you will allow me an image, when talking of Irish affairs, that makes the echo come first. From the moment this business was determined (with the determination of which I will not profess myself over happy), having got myself into a scrape, my first thought was, how I might bring my

Thither he accordingly repaired, and was soon inaugurated in an honourable, rather than a lucrative situation at the castle. But both the patron and the client enjoyed but a short glimpse of political power and prosperity, for the whig administration at home was dissolved; the new viceroy was recalled; and the two friends returned to England, not only unenriched by employment, but absolutely disgusted with the politics of such an unlucky, and unprosperous period.

Fortunately for Mr. Windham, however, he possessed a considerable patrimonial estate, and now became a man of such eminence in the estimation of his own party, that he was brought into parliament soon after, for the county of Norfolk; and when some of the noble leaders of opposition joined the banners of Mr. Pitt, was afterwards appointed to a very high and honourable situation, during the late war. But the case was widely different in respect to Mr. Repton. With very scanty means, and a young and increasing family, he found on his return to England, that he had still a profession to seek: for he had neither obtained a pension, nor even a permanent establishment, during his short residence in the sister-kingdom.

Happily, as has already been hinted, in addition to an inventive imagination, he possessed a fine taste for drawing; this enabled him to display to advantage, one of a different and a superior kind: a taste for architecture, and landscape-gardening. Determined to court notice, by means of these talents, he settled with his family in the vicinity of the metropolis, and soon met both with admirers and employers, in his new calling.

friends in with me; and in that light I had very early designs upon you. Nothing delayed my discovery of my wishes, but some difficulties not quite removed, respecting the situation I might have to offer, and some uncertainty of your willingness to accept any offer I might have to make. As the latter of these is now at an end, and no impediment found in your own likings, other difficulties may, I trust, be got over; and I think I may positively say, that some situation shall be found, which shall afford me the advantage and satisfaction of your company and assistance, with a fair prospect of benefit to yourself. If you, as soon as is convenient, will come to town, you may be of great immediate use to me, and we can then more commodiously talk of other matters.

Yours, with best compliments to Mrs. R. W. W.

Brown appears to have been his first model. This ingenious and singular man, who, on account of his practical talents, acquired the cognomen of "Capability," towards the latter end of the last century, struck out a new path for himself; and by following it, not only reached the highest honours of his art, but attained no mean degree of fame and fortune. Whatever may be the opinion now entertained, as to the merits of this gentleman, after a long *paper-war* between two men of acknowledged taste, and the lapse of many years, have in some measure weakened his pretensions, certain it is, that he introduced much grace and beauty on one hand, while he removed many striking deformities on the other, from our parks and gardens. He constantly attempted to beautify and adorn nature, and if the dress with which he clothed her, was not always correctly chaste, yet it certainly appeared less formal and cumbrous, than in the time of his predecessors. At his approach, all the remaining giants, windmills, birds, and beasts, clipped into due and appropriate form in yew, suddenly disappeared; while the long avenues and straight roads, passed over by the eye, before the reluctant foot had actually touched them, were all curved and serpented by him, with a view to obtain novelty, variety, and beauty. He appears to have been not only an able artist, but an honest man; for on being requested to improve the grounds at Hampton Court, he actually declined the hopeless task, out of respect to himself and his profession.

This gentleman had been then dead, about ten or twelve years, but his memory was still fresh in his works; while the connoisseurs yet mentioned his name, with no common degree of respect and veneration. Among this number may be enrolled the subject of the present memoir, who, from his earliest youth, had viewed and examined his labours, both with delight and enthusiasm. Not content with barren admiration, he now professed his intentions, to follow his track at a humble, and respectful distance; and accordingly commenced his literary career by taking part in the memorable dispute,

already alluded to.* On this occasion he attacked all those who had presumed to question the taste of his master; he warmly defended all his principles, against modern innovators; and it was not until either his own experience, or a deference to public opinion, had in some degree weakened the ardour of his attachment, that he allowed the bare possibility of improving any of the labours of his skilful prototype.

Mr. Repton was nearly forty years of age before he attained any considerable notice; but after that period, he soon began to distinguish himself both as an artist and a literary character. About the year 1791, his assistance was invoked by the present Lord Darnley, at Cobham Hall. There, in the double capacity of architect, and landscape gardener, he certainly contrived to render a palace, of the age of Elizabeth, at once comfortable and magnificent; for while the noble gallery, and the capacious hall, still retained an air of ancient grandeur, the interior arrangements were convenient and commodious in no small degree. The approaches too were altered, and the grand entrance was changed; while new and extensive plantations attracted the eye, and embellished the landscape.

By this time his fame had reached "the bowers of Woburn," which had recently escaped from the improvements of a gentleman, eminent indeed as an architect, but who had never been distinguished as a fancy-gardener. Like his master Brown, Repton was an admirer of *water*, and he accordingly suggested an artificial river, fed from those very springs formerly so useful to the ancient monks. Here too, he altered the approach; called in all the beauties of the country, and proposed the construction of a *winter-garden*. The beautiful corridor formed under his immediate inspection, and after his own plan, was fully completed, and he ever after spoke of this as one of his darling achievements.

In 1805, when the King invited Lord Sidmouth to reside in his neighbourhood, the subject of this memoir advised many

* Messrs. Price and Knight were the principal combatants. The former of these gentlemen published a poem, in 4to. entitled, "The Landscape;" the latter composed a work "On the Picturesque, as distinct from the Sublime and Beautiful."

alterations at White Lodge in Richmond Gardens. Some of his plans were adopted, but the treillages, and garlands of flowers suggested by him, and of which he was a great admirer, were never completed.

At Ashbridge too, his hand is still visible; and the gardens there were always considered "as his youngest favourite — the child of his age and declining years."

He had by this time, as already hinted, cooled somewhat in his admiration of his first preceptor; and it is not a little to his credit, that instead of increasing, he diminished many of the useless expenses lavished by him and his pupils. The offensive smell arising from cabbages, and recent compost, immediately after rain, had induced them to remove the kitchen garden to such a distance — sometimes one, and sometimes two miles, — from the body of the mansion, that it proved almost wholly inaccessible, either in summer or winter. This glaring defect was happily remedied by Mr. Repton on every occasion, where he was allowed to superintend and direct. Yet he constantly retained the *Ha! Ha!* by which are united, in appearance, two surfaces, necessary to be kept separate; or in other words, "the dressed landscape adjoining the house, and necessary for the comforts, and even the security of its inhabitants, from the grazing ground of deer, sheep, and oxen." He was also very particular as to aspect; a subject not only connected with cheerfulness, but with health, and indeed, with all the comforts required in a permanent residence. Mr. Repton was accustomed to exhibit a compass on such occasions, in which all the points were designated by their characteristic qualities of good, bad, and indifferent. Accordingly that of S.E., which was his own favourite aspect, always occupied the place of distinction.

As an author, his labours were of an anterior date, for he first distinguished himself many years since, as a *statistical writer*, having presented the public with an account of the Hundred *, in which he had resided during several years. He was accustomed about this period, to frequent all the exhi-

* North Erpingham, in the county of Norfolk.

bitions of pictures in the metropolis, and thus acquired a certain degree of taste, the result of which, in the shape of occasional criticisms, was freely communicated by him to the public. The prints which accompanied most of his subsequent publications, were all executed after his own drawings, and coloured under his own inspection.

In 1816, appeared Mr. Repton's last and greatest work, of which an analysis is here attempted. It is entitled, "Fragments on the Theory and Practice of Landscape-Gardening; including some remarks on the Grecian and Gothic Architecture, collected from various manuscripts in the possession of the noblemen and gentlemen, for whose use they were originally written; the whole tending to establish fixed principles in their respective arts." On this occasion, he appears to have been assisted by his son, J. Adéy Repton, F.A.S. It is finely printed on royal 4to. and illustrated with fifty-two plates, some of which are highly coloured, and all copied, we believe, from his own drawings.*

We are assured in the preface, "that the following fragments have been selected from more than fourteen hundred different Reports in MS." and it is easy to perceive that the materials are both copious and interesting. "The Art of Landscape-gardening" (which more peculiarly belongs to this country), we are told, "is the only Art which every one professes to understand, and even to practise, without having studied its rudiments. No man supposes he can paint a landscape, or play on an instrument without some knowledge of painting and music; but every one supposes himself competent to lay out grounds, and sometimes to plan a house for himself, or to criticise on what others propose, without having bestowed a thought on the first principles of landscape-gardening or architecture.

"That these two sister arts are, and must be inseparable, is obvious from the following consideration. The most beautiful scenes in nature may surprise at first sight, or delight for

* 1 Vol. price 6l. 6s.

a time, but they cannot long be interesting unless made habitable; therefore the whole art of landscape-gardening may properly be defined, *The pleasing combination of art and nature, adapted to the use of man.*

“During the last ten years,” continues our author, “the art of Landscape-gardening, in common with all other arts that depend on peace and patronage, has felt the influence of war and war-taxes, which operate both on the means and the inclination to cultivate the arts of peace. These have languished under the impoverishment of the country, while the sudden acquisition of riches by individuals, has diverted wealth into new channels; men are solicitous to increase property rather than to enjoy it; they endeavour to improve the value, rather than the beauty of their newly purchased estates. The country-gentleman in the last century took more delight in the sports of the field than in the profits of the farm; his pleasure was to enjoy in peace, the venerable home of his ancestors: but the necessity of living in camps, and the habit of living in lodgings, or at watering places, have of late totally changed his character and pursuits; and at the same time, perhaps, tended to alienate half the ancient landed property of the country.

“It is not therefore to be wondered at, that the art of landscape-gardening should have slowly and gradually declined. Whether the influence of returning peace may revive its energies, or whether it is hereafter to be classed among the ‘*artes perditæ*,’ the author hopes its memory may be preserved a little in the following pages.”

Fragment I. On Rural Architecture. — Mr. Repton disclaims the idea, that the whole science of Grecian architecture consists in the five orders of columns; and that of Gothic in pointed arches and notched battlements. When a professional man is employed, recourse is had to the best specimens and proportions of columns, pilasters, entablatures, pediments, &c. represented in books, or copied from remains of ancient fragments in Greece, or Italy. “But unfortunately all these relate to temples or public edifices, and consequently to make the dwelling habitable in this climate, modern sash windows must

be added to these sacred forms of remote antiquity. Thus, some Grecian or Roman temple is surprised to find itself transported from the Ilyssus or the Tiber, to the shores of the Thames, or to the tame margin of a modern *stagnant sheet of water*.

“ If the Gothic character be preferred, the architect must seek for his models among the fragments of his own country : but again, unfortunately, instead of houses, he can only have recourse to castles, cathedrals, abbeys, and colleges ; many of which have been so mutilated and disfigured by modern repairs, by converting castles into palaces, and changing convents into dwelling-houses, that pointed arches and battlements have become the leading features of modern Gothic buildings. The detail of parts is studied, but the character of the whole is overlooked. No attention is given to that bold and irregular outline which constitutes the real basis and beauty of the Gothic character ; where, instead of one uniform line of roof and front, some parts project, and others recede : but wherever the roof is visible over the battlements, it seems as if it rose to proclaim the triumph of Art over Science, or Carpentry over Architecture.

“ The remaining part of this subject more peculiarly belongs to the landscape gardener, whose province it is to consider the effects of nature and art combined. Let us examine the two different styles in two separate landscapes. In the quiet, calm, and beautiful scenery of a tame country, the elegant forms of Grecian art are surely more grateful and appropriate than a ruder and severer style ; but on the contrary, there are some wild and romantic situations, whose rocks, and darting mountain-streams, or deep umbrageous dells would seem to harmonise with the proud baronial tower, or mitred abbey, ‘ embosomed high in tufted trees,’ as tending to associate the character of the building with that of its native accompaniment. The outline of a building is never so well seen, as when in shadow, and opposed to a brilliant sky ; or when it is reflected on the surface of a pool : then the great difference betwixt the Grecian and Gothic character is more peculiarly striking.”

Fragment II. Symmetry.— In all plain fronts, symmetry, we are told, becomes essentially necessary; and therefore we expect to see the door in the centre of the building. This arrangement in small houses, however, tends to destroy interior comfort, by dividing from each other the chief apartments, which a family is now supposed to occupy.

“ If the principal rooms command a south-east aspect, (which is doubtless the most desirable,) the entrance in the centre, with a hall or vestibule, destroys that uniformity of temperament, so obviously useful to the comfort of an English dwelling; and therefore, in at least one half of the houses submitted to my opinion, I have found it necessary to change the hall into a saloon, or the vestibule into an anti-room; making the entrance either in the side, or at the back of the house, and converting the lawn to the south, into pleasure ground, or flower garden, or a broad terrace dressed with flowers. This of course makes a total change in the arrangement of all those appearances in which the comfort of the houses in the country differ so much from those in town; in the latter, the offices of every description are under ground; and the various court yards, &c. for which there is no space, (as in the country), must be provided for in areas or cellars under the street.

“ If the centre of a building be marked with a portico, or such a visible entrance as invites the stranger to approach it, some impediment or obstruction becomes necessary to counteract the habitual respect for symmetry, and prevent our inclination to drive up to a door, which is no longer the principal entrance, and this requires a fence, to indicate that it is the garden front and not the entrance front.”

Fragment IV. Concerning Cobham-hall, Kent.— We are told, that in point of extent, magnificence, or comfort, but few places can vie with this seat of the Earl of Darnley. When our author first visited it, the outside was deficient in uniformity, while all within was cold and cheerless. Mr. Repton converted the great hall into a music-room; the rest of the central building was fitted up for a library, looking into a

flower-garden; while the entrance was removed to the north front.

“The operations were begun by enveloping the whole of the premises in plantations, shrubberies, or gardens; and these, after the growth of twenty-five years, have totally changed the character of the place. The house is no longer a huge pile, standing naked on a vast grazing ground; its walls are enriched with roses and jasmines; its apartments are perfumed with odours from flowers surrounding it on every side; and the animals which enliven the landscape, are not admitted as an annoyance. All around is neatness, elegance, and comfort; while the views of the park are improved by the rich foreground, over which they are seen from the terraces in the garden, or the elevated situation of the apartments.

“On the whole, Cobham furnishes a striking example of artificial arrangement for convenience, in the grounds immediately adjoining the house, contributing to the natural advantages of its situation and scenery, and enriched by the most luxuriant foliage and verdure. The home views give a perfect idea of what a park ought to be, without affecting to be a forest; for although its extent of domain might warrant such a character, there is a natural amenity in the face of the country, that is more beautiful than romantic, more habitable than wild; and though in the valleys, the view is not enlivened by water, which in a chalk soil is not to be expected, yet from the elevated points of the park, two of the most important rivers of England, the Thames and the Medway, form part of the distant prospect.”

Fragment V. On Dates of Buildings.—A cottage, or keeper's house, having been deemed necessary at Apsleywood, about three miles from Woburn-abbey, the Duke of Bedford expressed a desire to have one “of the style and date of buildings prior to the reign of Henry VIII.” of which only some imperfect fragments now remain. Adjoining to this little building, of which a plate is given, an attempt has been made to assimilate a garden in the same style and character, and the annexed plate, furnishes an example of both.

“A communication of some curious specimens of timber-houses was made to the Society of Antiquarians in 1810, which were ordered to be engraved and printed for the *Archæologia*. But this building does more than any drawing, to exemplify many of the parts which have been thus rescued from the effects of time.” Mr. Repton appears to have displayed much taste, and to have spared neither pains nor money on the present occasion.

Fragment VI. On Castles.—The author here presents an imaginary specimen, in form of a drawing, to explain certain leading principles, for all of which combined he could refer to no irregular Gothic buildings, except such as were in ruins.

“Although many attempts have recently been made to produce modern Gothic castles, yet the great principle on which the picturesque effect of all Gothic edifices must depend, has too generally been overlooked: viz. irregularity of outline; 1st, at the top by towers and pinnacles or chimneys; secondly, in the outline of the faces or elevations by projections, and recesses; thirdly, in the outline of the apertures, by breaking the horizontal lines with windows of different forms and heights; and lastly, in the outline of the base, by the building being placed on ground of different levels.

“To all these must be added detached buildings, which tend to spread the locality, and extend the importance, of the principal pile, in which some one feature ought to rise boldly above the rest of the irregular mass, while the whole should be broken, but not too much frittered into parts by smaller towers, or clusters of lofty chimneys. After all, no building can appear truly picturesque, unless in its outline the *design* be enriched with vegetation, (such as ivy, or other creeping plants;) and the *colouring*, by those weather-stains, which time alone can throw over the works of art, to blend them with the works of nature, and bring the united composition into pleasing harmony.”

Fragment IX. Concerning Windows.—“There is no subject connected with landscape-gardening of more importance, or less attended to, than the window through which the land-

scape is seen. In some ancient houses, the windows were glazed in small lozenges, containing the family arms or crest. To this Shakspeare alludes in King Richard II. 'From mine own windows torn my household coat:' of course the light was so obscured, that no view could be expected; "and, indeed, in some old mansions, the windows are so placed, that it is difficult to make the rooms comfortable in the interior, while the exterior character is preserved." Some of the ancient windows were too small in the apertures to be pleasant; and for these have been frequently substituted by Mr. Repton, a style of windows of the same date, glazed with plate-glass, which "are more cheerful within, and more characteristic in the outside than any modern bow with three sashed windows could have made it." One circumstance should be more attended to: this is the situation of the *bar*, which is too apt to cross the eye, and injure the view or landscape. It ought never to be more than four feet nine inches, nor less than four feet six inches from the floor; so that a person in the middle of the room may be able to see under the bar when sitting, and over it when standing. The best position is four feet six from the floor.

"In treating of windows, some notice may be taken of the modern improvement, borrowed from the French, of folding glass doors opening into a garden; by which the effect in a room is like that of a tent or *marquée*, and in summer delightful. This, although more applicable to Grecian than Gothic houses, may be adapted to the latter, by making the munion in the centre to open."

It may be here necessary to observe, once for all, that Mr. Repton thinks the garden should be exactly suitable to the style of the house; that he is anxious to cut down elms to make way for oaks near a castellated mansion; and wishes to reserve the fir and its whole family, for the trim little villas near the metropolis. He believes, that fruit may be so blended with flowers and vegetables, as to prove interesting on every occasion: for the delight of a garden, highly cultivated and neatly kept, is amongst the purest pleasures which man can enjoy on earth.

"The pleasures of a garden," adds he, "have been much

neglected of late. About the middle of the last century, the introduction of landscape operated to the exclusion of the old gardens of England, and all strait gravel walks, glades of grass and clipped hedges were condemned as formal and old-fashioned; not considering that where the style of the house preserved its ancient character, the gardens might with propriety partake of the same. After this, a taste, or almost a rage for farming, superseded the delights of a garden; in many cases for the mercenary reason, that a sack of potatoes would sell for more than a basket of roses, or lavender. It is with peculiar satisfaction that I have observed some few venerable gardens belonging to parsonage or old manor-houses, where still may be traced the former grass walks and box-edged borders, with thick and lofty hedges of holly, quickset, or other topiary plants, which like the yew or ivy, seem to display a peculiar satisfaction in yielding a fence, at once secure and neat, and opaquely trim."

Among minuter objects, he observes, "that the entrance to a park or grounds, may serve as an example for a general remark, which will frequently be applicable to other places. If the gate be set back a few yards, the trees, by being thrown out into the road, will give that degree of importance to the place which we may suppose belongs to the manorial right; while a pale, enclosing every tree and bush near the road, counteracts this impression." One other general hint may be useful, however trifling, viz. "Although the interior fences (to be less visible) may be *dark green*, yet the entrance gate, and its immediately attached fence, should be *white*, a little subdued, to avoid the offensive glare of paper whiteness, yet sufficiently white to prevent accidents which an invisible gate is apt to occasion after sun-set."

Mr. Repton thinks there are more specimens of bad taste in the road from Ludlow to Worcester, than in most parts of the kingdom; and while travelling along, he was disgusted with plantations of "firs, and larches, and Lombardy poplar." To these were superadded "new red houses," with all the fanciful apertures of Venetian and pseudo-Gothic cottages, which disgust the traveller, who looks in vain for the picturesque

shapes and harmonious tints of former times. He also ridicules the discordancy of wild scenery, with the three window-bows of those "*modern scarlet sins*, against good taste;" and he remarks, "how sprucely would these glitter near the white-washed villa in the neighbourhood of the capital."

Fragment XI. Beau-desert. — This fine seat of the Marquis of Anglesea, situate in a romantic portion of the county of Stafford, seems to have occupied the attention of our author for many years. It having been asserted by some, that every thing here ought to be on a large scale, to correspond with the large scale of its domain, our man of taste makes a very proper distinction, and after ridiculing the *great wig*, and *great jack-boots*, to be seen in the pictures of the reign of Louis XIV. he contends, "that every thing should be rather great than large." "A large massive pile, worthy of the rank and antiquity of its possessors, has been placed on the verge of the forest, containing a royal demesne, and free warren, with paramount rights over the surrounding country: but though built in a forest, it is evident from its name and style, that it was not meant to be situated in a desert, the haunt only of wild beasts: on the contrary, it was to be a desert beautified — *un beau desert*, rendered habitable with all the elegance, magnificence, and comfort, of which it was capable."

"It may perhaps be presumptuous in me to assert," adds he, soon after, "that the natural beauties of the situation of Beau-desert are very little known, even to those who are best acquainted with the spot. Yet I will venture to assert, that those beauties which are at present hidden, and almost totally lost, far exceed those which are obvious to every eye. The materials by which Nature produces the chief beauties of landscape, are four in number, viz. inequality of ground, rocks, water, and wood; yet at Beau-desert, it is only the latter which abounds, and to which the three others have all been sacrificed.

"Inequality of ground is apt to be obliterated by trees, which grow taller in the valleys than on the hills; and consequently the surface of a wood, and the surface of the ground

on which it grows, are often very different; but at Beaudesert this levelling principle of vegetable growth has actually almost effaced the ravines, where tall ashes in the bottom rise above the oaks on the steep acclivities."

Our author recommends to cut down some of the ancient wood in the valley, in order to present "a glitter of water in the bottom," as the most desirable feature that can be suggested to increase the beauty of the scenery; together with the union of a number of streamlets, which, by means of a dam, would form a lake of such shape as to appear large enough for its situation; because its size would be indefinite, the natural slope of the ground favouring the concealment of its terminations." He also proposes to plant in a manner congenial to the soil and climate. "Instead of the conic shaped trees, which so ill accord with an English forest, and belong rather to Norway or the Highlands of Scotland, let the staple of our plantations be oak and Spanish chesnut; let the copse be horn-beam and hazel, and let the trees used as nurses be birch: but above all, let there be at least five or six thorns and hollies for every tree that is planted; these will grow up with the trees, perhaps choke and destroy some, but they will rear many, and in a few years will become an impenetrable thicket, as a cover for game, and a harbour for deer, when the temporary fences will be no longer necessary."

Fragment XIV. Wingerworth in Derbyshire, a Seat of Sir Windsor Hunlock, Bart.—The elevated situation of this house on one of those broad hills peculiar to the most picturesque county in England, would at once stamp a character of importance on the place, whatever the style of the building may have been: "for wherever we see a large pile of building on the summit of the hill, we are naturally led to compare its relative importance with the scenery to which it belongs. And here we shall be surprised on approaching the mansion, to find it so much larger, richer, and more dignified, than it appears from a distance; the reason is, that the mansion is one square mass, almost a cube; and every building which partakes of this form, however great its proportions, always appears

less than it really is, because the eye is not attracted either by its length, depth, or height, each being nearly equal; and it is only from a subordinate building placed near it, that we form any idea of its real magnitude.

“The house at Wingerworth is one of those magnificent piles which were copied from the modern palaces of France and Italy, before our more fastidious architects had discovered the remains of ancient Greece, and applied the peristyle and the portico of a Grecian temple, without any windows, to a dwelling-house in England, requiring more than a hundred such useful apertures. But the true admirer of pure Grecian architecture is apt to forget the difference betwixt the hypæthral temple without a roof, and the English mansion not habitable without doors and windows, and chimneys.”

All here recommended on the part of the landscape-gardener, is to flood a large field, now in pasture, so as to gratify the eye with the view of a lake from the house.

Report concerning a Villa at Streatham, belonging to the Earl of Coventry.— We are told, that the essential characteristic of a *villa* near the metropolis, consists in its seclusion and privacy; and Mr. Repton maintains that the walk which is only separated from the highway by a park-paling and a few laurels, is not more private, though far less cheerful than the path in the highway itself. When he considers that an acre of land which may be worth 2*l.* in Worcestershire, is worth 5*l.* *per annum* in this part of Surrey for cattle only; and when appropriated to the use of man, may produce 20*l.* a-year in vegetables, he deems it “no waste of property to recommend such an establishment at Streatham, as may make it amply worth the attention of the most experienced gardener, to supply the daily consumption of a town-house, and save the distant conveyance or extravagant purchase of fruit and choice vegetables: especially as this arrangement will add to the beauty and interest of the grounds, while it greatly increases their value. “The house at Streatham, though surrounded by forty acres of grass-land, is not a farm, but a *villa in a garden*; for I never have admitted the words *ferme ornè* into my ideas of taste, any

more than a butcher's shop, or a pig-stye, adorned with pea-green and gilding."

Fragment XXII. — Under the head of "Aspects and Prospects," we are told it was a remark of the venerable Mr. Carr of York, after fourscore years experience as an architect, that to "build a house, we had only to provide all that was wanted and no more; then to place the best rooms in the best aspects, and the best views." "Simple as this apothegm may appear," adds our author, "it contains more truth in theory, and more difficulty in practice, than all the rules which have ever been laid down in books by architects, or the remarks of all the admirers of rural scenery, with whom I have conversed. The former never think of *aspects*, and the latter only think of *prospects*." He considers that in this climate a southern aspect is desirable; that a south-east however is the best; a north-west is tolerable; but a south-west, the worst of all possible ones. "The aspect *due north* is apt to be gloomy; because no sunshine ever cheers a room so placed, secondly, the aspect *due east* is not much better, because there the sun only shines while we are in bed; thirdly, the aspect *due west* is intolerable, from the excess of sun dazzling the eye through the greatest part of the day. From hence, we may conclude, that a square house, placed with its fronts duly opposite the cardinal points, will have one good, and three bad aspects."

Fragment XXIII. Of Variety. — Under this head, the author recommends not to place the entrance on the same side of the house with the principal apartments; notwithstanding which, we are told, "that nine times in ten, the entrance must be on the north side; and notwithstanding the absurdity of a magnificent portico towards that aspect, where no sunshine can illumine its columns, or require its shade, almost all the finest porticoes in England are placed to the north; and I have myself from necessity been compelled to do so in many instances, against my better judgment. The late Sir William Chambers asserts, that the entrance to a house, like a nose on a face, was the principal feature, and ought to be the most prominent. Yet in *his own villa at Whitton*, he

had five doors in the principal front: that in the centre opened into a shell-work grotto, used as a dairy. Such is the difference betwixt theory and practice, even where the professor may be supposed to have been uncontrolled."

Fragment XXVIII. Extracts from the Report of Woburn Abbey. — "The original situation of this monastery was judiciously chosen, in those times when water was considered, as it still is indeed, one of the essential necessities of life. It was here at hand; for at the period alluded to, hydraulic engines to raise it from the valleys to the hills, although known to the ancients, might have been deemed one of the *lost arts*. It is far too late to inquire, why the present scite was preferred; or why the residence of a noble family still retains the name of an abbey, when every vestige of the original pile has been destroyed." And since it is impossible to raise the house in reality, or alter the actual situation; it is here suggested, to do it in appearance, or at least to be careful to avoid every thing which tends to diminish the character, which so obviously belongs to Woburn Abbey, as now altered from a monastic to a ducal residence.

"We must, therefore, study the convenience of the mansion, to which the ground about it must be altered in the way most conducive to its uses and appearance, without fettering the plan by any fancied resemblance of nature. I am quite sure, that the old magnificent taste for straight lines, and artificial shapes of ground adjoining to a palace, was more consonant to true taste, and greatness of character, than the sweeping lines and undulating surface of modern gardening.

"Such is the convenience derived in the country, from having the principal floor on a level with the ground, that I must highly commend the disposition of the summer apartments at Woburn; where the earth is raised to give a ready communication with the pleasure ground, without descending a flight of steps. The intention was good, but the mode of execution has proved defective; and had the same idea been continued in the north and west fronts (as once proposed), it would have been fatal to the character of the house, without

altering its situation; because it would have reduced it one story in height, a defect for which even the proposed raising of the attics could never have compensated."

Mr. Repton considers the large circular pond in front, as exhibiting the appearance of a "Cheshire meer." He accordingly proposes to improve it, by means of a projecting promontory or tongue of land, so as to disguise the dam, while an island, bays, &c. might contribute to improve the shape of the pool. The new plantations would at the same time hide the low ground beyond it: for although water in nature is really on high ground, yet in appearance it fills the lowest place, because we seldom see ground below the water; either the descent is so gradual, or the obstruction so bold, as to conceal the different levels, and deceive the sight."

Under our author's management, the disposition of the grounds, &c. at Woburn, was considerably altered, and doubtless much improved also:

1. By means of a corridor, or covered way, a sheltered communication has been made from the mansion to the stables, conservatory, flower-houses, tennis court, riding house, Chinese dairy, game-larder, &c.

2. The dressed, or what he is pleased to term, "the architectural pleasure-ground," was separated from the menagerie, by a door, in a pure and simple style:

3. The forcing garden, "an object of winter comfort," was commenced:

4. The Chinese buildings were proposed to be decorated by an assemblage of Chinese plants, such as the hydrangia, cameilla japonica, &c.

5. An American garden was also suggested, which was to have been accompanied by an appropriate botanical arrangement of all the grasses.

Our author admires that part of the drive, where evergreens alone prevail, and he considers it as a circumstance of grandeur, novelty, and "winter comfort," which he never saw adopted in any other place, on so magnificent a scale.

"The contrast of passing from a wood of deciduous trees,

to a wood of ever-greens, must be felt by the most heedless observer; and the same sort of pleasure, though in a weaker degree, would be felt in the course of a drive, if the trees of different kinds were collected in small groups, or masses by themselves, instead of being blended indiscriminately. I do not mean to make separate groves, or woods of different trees, although that has its beauty, but in the course of the drive, to let oaks prevail in some places, beech in others, birch in a third, and in some parts to encourage such masses of thorns, hazles, and maple, or other brushwood of low growth, as might best imitate the thickets of a forest."

Fragment XXIX. Concerning the Luxuries of Gardens.
— The fruit or kitchen garden, as it is generally cultivated, we are told, is little better than "a ploughed field, where crops are sown in drills;" "for this reason" adds our author, "it has frequently by Brown, and always by his followers, been banished to a distance, where it might no longer be an unsightly object. I have occasionally found gardens so placed, at two miles from the house, and consequently the choice fruits are removed with as much care and trouble, in the package and conveyance, as if they came from Brentford to Covent Garden market."

Mr. Repton considers a *Ferme Ornée* as a solecism in language, but thinks that a *Jardin Ornée*, may be made one of the most interesting luxuries of a country residence. In villas, he recommends to surround a garden with a screen, the interior fence of which is to consist of hollies, roses, gooseberries, or barberries. In large establishments, this necessary appendage should be placed, if possible, near the mansion, as at Cobham hall.

"As the walks of a kitchen-garden are apt to be uncomfortably exposed to the sun's heat, he proposes the training of espaliers on hoops over the walks, to make shaded alleys, or covered *berceaux*, whence the apples, pears, and plums, are seen hanging within our reach; and grapes so trained, will sometimes ripen without artificial heat. If the garden be situate on ground hanging to the south, it should be formed

into terraces one above another; this is peculiarly applicable to strawberries, and also to flowers of every kind."

About thirty-two years have now elapsed, since Mr. Repton settled at Hare Street, near Rumford, in the county of Essex, where one of the earliest efforts of his taste was displayed, in the embellishment of his own residence. His newly-acquired tenement, originally exhibited an appearance, at once incommensurable, mean, and groveling; while every thing in the immediate vicinity, consisted of vulgar and unpleasant objects. In short, the foot-passengers, waggons, and stage-coaches, passed close to the entrance; and a butcher's stall, garnished with legs of mutton, and shins of beef, was distinctly visible from his windows.

A speedy transformation, immediately ensued, both within and without. His apartments were rendered commodious and even tasteful; he did not aspire at being the proprietor of a villa, but obtained all he aimed at, as the possessor of a beautiful little cottage, secluded from observation. By procuring leave to remove the paling only twenty yards, "a frame to his landscape" was immediately acquired; and he took care to adorn and embellish this, in a simple, but appropriate manner. The obnoxious and disgusting shop, replenished with various joints of meat, was now concealed by baskets of roses, while the extension of his premises prevented all annoyance from carts and carriages. It was here, that he spent the prime of his life; and here also, that he experienced its decline. Lassitude, weakness, and disease, at length ensued, and he contemplated in this favourite spot, the approach of death, with calmness and resignation. Indeed he felt his "ruling passion," strong and powerful, at the very brink of the grave; for so long as health would permit, he was eager to revisit the flowers and the shrubs, which he himself had sown and planted, while during the two winters that immediately preceded his dissolution, he was busily employed in collecting the materials for his last and most splendid work.

"I have lived," observes he in 1816, "to see many of my plans beautifully realised, but many more cruelly marred, some-

times by false economy; sometimes by injudicious extravagance. I have also lived to reach that period, when the improvement of houses and gardens is more delightful to me than that of parks and forests, landscapes, or distant prospects. I can now expect to produce little that is new; I have therefore endeavoured to collect and arrange the observations of my past life. This has formed my amusement during the intervals of spasm, from a disease incurable, during which I have endeavoured to call up (by my pencil), the places and scenes of which I was most proud, and marshalled them before me; happy in many pleasing remembrances, which revive the sunshine of my days, though sometimes clouded by the recollection of friends removed, of scenes destroyed, and of promised happiness changed to sadness."

During his latter years, Mr. Repton delighted chiefly in his own home. He there felt "how many joys, and comforts, and luxuries, may be preserved beyond that period of life, when youth and health require no special indulgences." "Having so long dedicated the active part of my professional career, to increasing the enjoyment of rural scenery for others," adds he, "my own infirmities have lately taught me, how the solace of garden scenery, and garden delights, may be extended a little further, when the power of walking fails, and when it is no longer for decrepid age to reach the ground, to gather fruits, or to pluck, and smell and admire those humble flowers, which grow near the earth."

He also discovered, that "the loss of loco-motion may be supplied by the Bath chair;" but, at the same time, he constantly testified his abhorrence of "the grinding of the wheels along a gravel walk, when the shaking and rattling soon become intolerable to an invalid." Accordingly, with his usual professional zeal, he recommends glades of fine mown turf, or broad verges of grass, both for ease and comfort.

Meanwhile, old age crept on apace, and aggravated the infirmities produced by disease. At intervals however, he still continued to cultivate those studies and pursuits, which had ever been dear to him; but at length he became unable to revisit

his favourite haunts, or to contemplate his little parterres, filled with the choicest flowers; yet even then, his port-folio occasionally afforded him delight, until his pencil was arrested by the hand of death, in the year 1818.

Mr. Repton was an artist of singular merit, and not unfrequently displayed great taste and elegance, both in his own original plans, and the improvement suggested by him in respect to the labours of others. Notwithstanding the moisture and uncertainty of our climate, he wished occasionally to introduce flower beds, small cascades, and even *jets d'eau*, into the home grounds; but on the other hand, he admired the ancient style of gardens, and in some cases preferred the grandeur of straight avenues to the artificial curve of modern times. He is supposed by good judges, to have excelled in the embellished Gothic as to architecture; and in home views, in landscape gardening. On the whole, considering the time of life at which his professional career commenced, it is impossible to withhold our admiration, on contemplating the changes either meditated or effected by him.

Of his family, consisting of several sons and daughters, one of the former was bred a solicitor at Aylesham, in Norfolk, under a near relation; while another, originally brought up under Mr. Nash as an architect, has lately married a daughter of Lord Chancellor Eldon.

Among his friends, he numbered Mr. Windham, as has already been mentioned, and also Mr. Wilberforce; the latter of whom first recommended Dr. Milner's "Theory of Colours" to his attention. At Hollwood, he had opportunities of seeing Mr. Pitt more than once; and while there, he endeavoured to imbue the mind of that celebrated statesman with a love of nature and the delights of a country life.

The last hours of his existence were gratified by the well-timed remembrance of a celebrated man, who stated, in a kind and obliging communication, "that the sort of taste which he had so eminently contributed to promote and diffuse, has a peculiar tendency to sooth, refine, and improve the mind;

and consequently to promote most essentially the true and rational enjoyment of life."

Mr. Repton both lived and died in *character*. His mind and time had been uniformly occupied with his professional pursuits during a long series of years; and he concluded his life and labours, with a quotation from the works of a celebrated foreigner, who possessed congenial taste and feelings with himself:

"Allons mes amis, il faut cultiver nos Jardins !"

LIST OF THE WORKS

Of the late Mr. Repton.

1. An Account of the Hundred of North Erpingham, in the County of Norfolk; with a Preface, 1781.
2. Variety, a Collection of Essays, 12mo. 1788.
3. The Bee, or a Critique on the Exhibition of Paintings at Somerset-House, 8vo. 1788.
4. The Bee, a Critique on the Shakspeare Gallery, 8vo. 1789.
5. Sketches and Hints on Landscape Gardening, 4to. 1794.
6. A Letter to Uvedale Price, Esq., on the same Subject, 8vo. 1794.
7. Observations on Landscape Gardening, 4to. 1803.
8. Observations on the Changes of Taste in Landscape Gardening and Architecture, 4to. 1806.
9. Odd Whims; being a Republication of some Papers in "Variety," with a Comedy, and other Poems added, 2 vols. 1804.
10. On the Introduction of Indian Architecture and Gardening, 1 vol. 1808.
11. Observations on the Theory and Practice of Landscape Gardening, 1 vol. 2 editions.

12. Fragments on the Theory and Practice of Landscape Gardening, including some Remarks on the Theory and Practice of Grecian and Gothic Architecture, 4to. 1816.

Several of Mr. Repton's works were embellished with plates, originally sketched by his own pencil; he furnished the vignettes, for twenty years, to the "Polite Repository Pocket-book;" and has also left behind him a large port-folio of original drawings, together with a variety of sketches of either real or intended improvements.

In addition to all this, two MSS. volumes of "Recollections of his past Life," are in possession of his family.

No. XIV.

JOHN GIFFORD, Esq.

EDITOR OF THE ANTI-JACOBIN REVIEW, &c. &c. ONE OF THE
MAGISTRATES UNDER THE POLICE ACT FOR THE CITY OF WEST-
MINSTER, AND HONORARY SECRETARY TO THE PITT CLUB.

[*With an Analysis of his principal Works.*]

JOHN RICHARDS GREEN, afterwards known by the name of John Gifford, was born in 1758. He appears to have been the only son of John Green, who was bred to the profession of the law, but died soon after the birth of this child, while his own father and mother were still alive, and consequently before he had inherited the family estate of his grandmother's ancestors, the Richards's of Bromley, in Worfield, Shropshire.

In consequence of the early decease of his father, the care of the infant devolved on his paternal grandfather, and grandmother, the former of whom (Mr. Green) appears to have held a place in the General Post-Office; the latter, called Susanna, had been a Miss Corbett, of the county of Salop. Most probably on account of convenience, he resided in Tash street, in the parish of St. Andrew Holborn; and it was here that the grandson spent the early portion of his life.

At the age of fourteen (1772,) he unfortunately lost his grandfather, who was provident enough, however, to leave him three guardians: these consisted of two relations; Richard Corbett of Shiffnal, in Shropshire, Joseph Wilkes of Over Selle, in the county of Leicester, and a friend, who by residing in London, might be enabled to superintend his progress in life.

As considerable property had thus devolved by the death of so near a relative, on young Green, it was deemed pr per

to complete his education, which had commenced at Repton under the late Dr. Prior. After the usual initiatory steps, he was sent to Oxford, and with more vanity than prudence, obtained admission as a gentleman commoner in St. John's college. This occurred in 1775, when he was only seventeen years of age; a period assuredly too early, to trust a raw, untutored young man, unpractised in the ways of the world, with the entire management of his own conduct. There is indeed reason to suppose that the discipline of this celebrated university, was at that period more strict, than it may have been since; but his *garb*, by connecting him with the sons of the first commoners in England, is supposed to have introduced certain habits of expense, that never forsook him, until he had exhausted the whole of his patrimony.

After a short stay at Oxford, and without taking any degree, Mr. Green, as he was still called, repaired to London with a view of studying the law, and being called in due time to the bar. As he was not yet of age, and his guardians very properly refused any longer to countenance the extravagance of their ward, he had recourse to the money lenders, and by ensuring his life, and borrowing at usurious interest, was enabled to continue his career.

He now took chambers in Lincoln's Inn, to which was superadded a country house, and by the usual means of anticipating all his future enjoyments, he contrived to assume an appearance, far beyond his wealth and situation in life. At length the age of twenty-one arrived, when, instead of the happiness usually attendant on that epoch, he found himself reduced to a very unenviable situation. Accordingly, he was instantly surrounded by clamorous creditors, who dunned and threatened him by turns, and of course rendered his life wretched. So critical indeed was his situation, that in the course of two years afterwards, we find him obliged to dispose of his property in Shropshire, which had been in his family ever since the reign of Charles II. In addition to this, he had also spent the ready money, saved during a long minority of more than twenty years. But all this did not suffice to

pay his *bonâ fide* creditors, without taking any notice of those whose claims originated in money lent, at upwards of twenty-five *per cent.*

The hour of reflection had now arrived. All the airy visions of happiness, arising out of dissipation, were dispelled; the sorcerer's wand of pleasure was no longer waved over his head; but the horrors of a jail, and the miseries of dependence, actually stared him full in the face. Although obviously the architect of his own ruin, it is utterly impossible to contemplate the situation of a young man at the age of twenty-three, obliged to avoid the threats of creditors, and the reproaches of friends, and fly for refuge and for safety to a foreign land, without feeling for this victim of inexperience and the passions.

We accordingly find him under the necessity of seeking an asylum in France, in 1781, or rather in 1782; and it was perhaps, at this period, that perceiving the necessity of concealment, he changed his original name of John Richards Green, for that of John Gifford, which he retained ever after.

Having repaired to Flanders, the subject of this memoir settled in the city of Lisle, where he remained for a considerable time. As he was doubtless acquainted with the principles at least, of the French language, his stay in this city enabled him to acquire a certain degree of facility, both in pronouncing and speaking it. He afterwards appears to have returned to England for a short time; and thence, after crossing the channel a second time, to have repaired to Normandy. He now took up his abode in the vicinity of Rouen, and there is every reason to suppose, that his time was profitably occupied in rendering himself well acquainted with French literature. This exile proved advantageous in many points of view, for he laid in a fund of information, which proved highly serviceable to him in future. It was during this period indeed, that he became an adept in French history, by the perusal of Mezeray, Daniel, and the other annalists of that nation; this afterwards enabled him to compile a work of the same kind, some years after, when he had again settled in England.

Louis XVI. was at this period on the throne. He had just finished the only advantageous war *, which had been waged against England for centuries past, and was then greatly beloved by his subjects. The French who had thus gratified their national vanity, by a blaze of glory, had only one thing more to long for; and this was liberty, which, according to the popular leaders, many of whom had sprung from the lower ranks of society, could not be obtained without a new constitution, and a representative government. At length, the disorder of the finances; the opposition of the parliaments; and above all, the secession of the army from its legal and hereditary chief, contributed to produce a revolution, the effects of which, are still felt throughout all Europe.

At the period we now allude to, no actual change had taken place; but the thunder even then rolled at a distance, and an approaching storm was already apprehended. Most of the English residents in France, and all the literary men who travelled thither, prognosticated approaching convulsions, but they never dreamed that they would prove so long, so sanguinary, and so fatal. The subject of this memoir, manifested a more decided opinion, for although he removed before the *lava* had begun to flow, yet he perceived that the throes of this new *Ætna*, portended all those horrors that afterwards ensued.

Mr. Gifford returned to England in 1788, and resided for some time in the parish of Stepney. Here he commenced his career as a man of letters, and henceforth applied all his time and talents, to pursuits of this kind. The materials for the first work which he published, were collected in the kingdom he had just left. A good history of France, was, and is perhaps still wanting in our language. The occurrences of 1789 had rendered every thing concerning that country of great importance. It became desirable and even necessary for those who witnessed the origin and progress of the Revolution, to become acquainted with antecedent events; to read the annals of the civil wars; to obtain a knowledge of the motives that led

* The contest ended in the independence of America.

to the famous *league*, and the disturbances in the time of the *Fronde*. The exploits of the famous Provost of Paris had now found a parallel in modern events; but there was no Richelieu on the side of the crown, to bear down all resistance to royal authority, to overwhelm the Protestants a second time; and to rivet the chains of despotism anew. The epoch, indeed, was exceedingly favourable to our author, who commenced his labours at a period, when all the sovereigns on the Continent, and all the emigrant nobility of France, implored our assistance; and he did not finish them until we ourselves had engaged as principals, in the revolutionary contest.

The zeal and writings of Mr. Gifford on this occasion, at length recommended him to the notice of ministers. His pen was found to be keen and serviceable; he himself was always among the first to advocate their measures, on one hand, while he rode in the foremost ranks of the battle, and hewed down their political adversaries on the other. It is well known, that before the late contest, no inconsiderable multitude of both writers and readers existed in this nation, who admired the principles which gave birth to the French Revolution, and deprecated the idea of a war with that country. These were doubtless reinforced by "the Rights of Man," written by a person of some celebrity, who had acted a distinguished part during the disputes with America. Mr. Paine had now left the Trans-Atlantic Continent, and after visiting France, landed on the shores of his native country, with a declared intention to overturn the existing political fabric.

To combat this invader, with his own arms, the subject of this memoir now published "An Address to the People of England," to which he annexed "An Abstract of Paine's Life and Writings." This was published in 1792, some time before the declaration of hostilities, and circulated every where. As his assertions were bold, his language bitter, and his zeal warm, and even fiery, he had a number of readers and admirers; and doubtless found his advantage in the air of sincerity and enthusiasm, infused into his writings. It is a

well-known fact, that the press at this period was hostile to ministers, and that the speeches of the opposition in parliament, together with the books and pamphlets then in circulation, had produced considerable effect on the public mind.

When the war had been declared, his writings assumed a still fiercer aspect. He termed all those who considered themselves merely as advocates for Gallic liberty, traitors, and upholders of sedition; while the French nation was denominated "our common and hereditary enemies." Soon after this, he attacked the Earl of Lauderdale, and the Honourable Thomas Erskine, on account of their doubts relative to the justice of the contest on our part, with no inconsiderable degree of asperity. He lived long enough, however, to see the one an ambassador to France, and the other a peer of parliament and Chancellor of Great Britain, and that too, before the conclusion of this very war.

Nor, on the other hand, was he wanting in his partiality to the French emigrants, whom he considered as so many gallant and unfortunate men, who had been sacrificed on account of their attachment to their God and their loyalty to their king. He was accordingly induced to translate the celebrated pamphlet, written by Lally Tollendal in their vindication; while he tried to overwhelm their enemies, both here and in France, by an English version of General Danican's little volume, entitled, "the Banditti Unmasked."

To support the Government at home, by an address in praise of the "Loyal Associations," was the next object of Mr. Gifford's zeal, and no fewer than 100,000 copies were published; as these were, at first, in no great favour with the people, and their chairman was afterwards prosecuted by the House of Commons for a libel, his praise was considered as well-timed, and his panegyrics quoted by his admirers with applause.

Mr. Cobbet was, at this period, in America, where he distinguished himself, by his zeal in behalf of the English government, and a pamphlet has been attributed to him, intitled, "A Bone to gnaw for the Democrats. By Peter Porcupine,

Author of the Bloody Buoy." On its republication in England, in 1797, a new Preface made its appearance, denominated "A Rod for the Backs of the Critics; containing an Historical Sketch of the present State of Political Criticism in Great Britain; as exemplified in the Conduct of the Monthly, Critical, and Analytical Reviews, &c. &c. Interspersed with Anecdotes, by Humphrey Hedgehog."

As this was said, at that period, to be written by Mr. John Gifford, and since his death has been claimed for him by his friends, it may not be altogether uninteresting to notice it in this place.

We are told by way of introduction, that the same motives which induced the republication in England, of the "Bloody Buoy *," have led the same Editor to promote the circulation of the present production of the same author.

"To impress the minds of his countrymen with a proper sense of the atrocities which have resulted from the propagation of revolutionary principles in France, he conceived to be the best means of averting the dangers to be apprehended from the industrious diffusion of similar principles in England."

He then commences an eulogium on "Honest Peter," whom he defends on account of his first production entitled, "Observations on the Emigration of Dr. Joseph Priestley." He deems it no wonder, that this work, "which tended to expose the grand leader of the presbyterian clan, to the scorn and indignation of the honest and upright part of mankind, should subject him to the scurrilous invectives of that party in England, who have long been labouring in the same vineyard with the emigrant Doctor, and *charitably* exerting their utmost zeal to promote the success of the same good cause."

He next attacks the Editor of the "Critical Review," whom he terms the hireling of a jacobin; and asserts, that the generality of Critics, "mostly consist of the worthy disciples of John Calvin, a moody, brooding, ruthless, set of disappointed

* It appears from the preface, that this republication passed through three editions.

Presbyterians, inheriting all the malignant inveteracy of John Knox, which led to the subversion of the state, and the murder of his lawful sovereign; and displaying the dark, gloomy spirit of the Roundheads of the last century, with all their hypocrisy, and more art than ever they possessed.

“ These men, enraged at the failure of their efforts to procure the repeal of that salutary law (the Test Act), which acts as a safeguard both to our civil and religious establishments, which are so intimately blended with each other, as to render their *separation* and *dissolution* synonymous terms, have long had it in contemplation to *undermine* the fabric which they have vainly endeavoured to take by storm.

“ The writings of PRICE and PRIESTLEY, the grand champions of their party, having been ably and successfully opposed by some distinguished members of the established church, and in particular by the learned Dr. Horsley, who alike signalized his zeal and his talents in defence of those doctrines, and those principles which were the objects of his adversaries' attacks; for which conduct he is at this moment honoured with the fixed hatred of the whole SECT, recourse was had to more insidious manœuvres, to means less perceptible, but apparently more certain in their operation.

“ The most deep-laid, and, at the same time, the most daring scheme, which the spirit I have described, ever projected, was now conceived. This was the publication of a Dictionary of the English language, on the grand scale of the Italian dictionary *Della Crusca*, in which all the words were to be illustrated by quotations from authors who enforced the political and religious opinions of the SECT; so that, if this notable project had been carried into execution, the youth of Great Britain, while employed in the study of the English language, would have imperceptibly, but infallibly imbibed the rankest spirit of democracy and presbyterianism.

“ Fortunately for the nation, the insidious design was detected by the active vigilance of a society formed for the express purpose of preserving the morals and the principles of the rising generation from depravity and corruption. In this case exposure

was tantamount to defeat; the scheme was rendered abortive, and it became necessary to change the battery, and to employ less audacious, less decisive means. But the vigilance of the society to which I have adverted, was not confined to the mere frustration of the project which first excited their attention. They knew the temper and spirit of the enemy which they had to encounter, they knew that disappointment and defeat would only stimulate them to additional efforts; they knew their perseverance to be equal to their malignity; they knew that though in their labours they resembled the *mole*, in their views they resembled the *eagle*. In consequence of this knowledge, the society wisely resolved to supply an *antidote*, for any poison which they might deem it expedient to administer in future, and therefore encouraged the establishment of THE BRITISH CRITIC."

Immediately after, "Humphry Hedgehog" condemns both the House of Commons and Mr. Pitt, for their conduct in the prosecution of Mr. Reeves, the chairman of the Loyal Associations, and he laments that the former, "who has the ability to soar," should ever "stoop to crawl." In addition to this, he abuses all the public prints as "equally abject," on that occasion; but the author consoles himself with the idea, that a jury had acquitted the prisoner.

At this period, it seems, the poison of disaffection was supposed to be conveyed to their pupils, by those who presided over the education of youth; and "another hot-bed of disloyalty was to be found in our Inns of Court." "But to return," continues he, "to that grand instrument upon which they place their chief reliance — the Press. — They have the command of *three*, out of the four regular reviews, the Monthly, the Critical, and the Analytical. Of seven daily papers, the Morning Chronicle, the Gazetteer, the Morning Post, the Courier, the Star, the Express, and the Evening Chronicle; besides two weekly papers, and one that is published twice a week; — of various Magazines, and of the *New Annual Register*. These constitute their regular forces, in addition to which, they have a constant supply of light-armed troops, in the shape of hand-bills, pamphlets, and detached

volumes; to say nothing of their auxiliaries in the provinces known by the appellation of *Country Papers*."

At the conclusion, Mr. Gifford recommends every person connected with the government of the country, or the administration of its laws, to exert the utmost energy in the discharge of his duty. "In every department of the state," adds he, "let prudence and economy be carefully observed, and meanness and parsimony as sedulously avoided; the hand of the statesman will easily trace the line of separation, and his mind will readily acknowledge that the former tends to preservation, while the latter facilitates destruction.

"Let the political principles of all candidates for place or power, be scrupulously investigated; in times like these, such precautions are essential: it is not different shades of opinion, if I may so say, on particular questions, that can now create divisions among public men; the difference is radical; its object is not embellishment but substance, not the superstructure, but the basis.

"Let those who are entrusted with the police of the kingdom in general, and of the metropolis in particular, be careful to observe a strict observance of the laws. Abuses of the most scandalous nature are suffered to exist with impunity. If the public prints may be credited, though the fact, I confess, is so atrocious as scarcely to justify belief, the very wretches who are confined for treasonable practices in the gaol of Newgate, are enabled to live as much at their ease (and many of them more so), as when they were at their own houses: they are allowed not only to compose seditious pamphlets, but to perform every part of the business that is necessary (with the single exception of printing), previous to publication; and *it is said*, that one of the apartments is even painted with the *national colours of France*; and a French inscription on the door, *Citoyen, palais d'Egalité*.* If this be true, and the fact is easily ascertained, what blame must attach, not only on the keeper of the prison, but on the Sheriffs of London?"

The next subject which falls under the animadversion of our

* True Briton.

author, is the "Debating Societies," where certain persons here named, produce such great effect "on their respectable audience," by their oratorical talents, that "the greasy rogues throw up their caps and cry, 'Long live Sedition!'" To both state and ministry, our author doubtless thought he did much service by the publication of the "British Critic," a review published monthly, with an intention to counteract what he was pleased to consider as "the political poison," infused into the other periodical works of the same kind. It may be easily guessed, how and by whom it was countenanced, and Mr. John Gifford, with whom it originated, seems to consider it as possessing no little efficacy and importance, during the struggle with "the moderate reformers of England."

"Their joy," observes he, "had experienced a temporary interruption from the establishment of the Loyal Associations, whose vigilance and activity were employed to expose the views, and to thwart the machinations of the SECT; and this wise measure, together with the publication of the Prospectus for the British Critic, staggered them not a little, and soon after stimulated them to the exertion of that wily prudence, which they are known to possess in so eminent a degree, and to the adoption of a system correspondent therewith. The grand engine on which they placed the greatest reliance for ensuring success to their schemes, was, as I have before observed, the press; the immense importance of which had been too fatally exemplified in their favourite land of anarchy, France; where it had destroyed the throne, the altar, the laws of the state, and the morals of the people.

"Independently of the positive advantage which resulted to the cause of truth and virtue, from the publication of the British Critic, another benefit, merely temporary indeed, was derived from its appearance, which had not been expected; for it occasioned an alteration in the language and spirit of the most distinguished advocate and agent for the opposite cause, that astonished all who observed it. The fact is, that the change was not imputable to any newly acquired moderation in its conductors, but solely proceeded from motives

of worldly interest. For the *circulation* of the Review was soon found to be materially affected by the competition it had to encounter; and it was therefore deemed expedient to adopt a new tone, or at least so far to moderate the old one, as to render it more conformable to what was now found to be the taste and principles of no very inconsiderable part of their readers."

Thus it was, that our author thought he contributed not a little to the support both of church and state, by his literary labours. And indeed, so great was his zeal, that he made no scruple of attacking those whom he supposed to be their enemies, by name. In addition to this, he occasionally invoked the arm of power, in his support; nay, he sometimes presumed to blame Mr. Pitt "as too tame," and to accuse the Attorney-General of that day, with "supineness."

In 1796, Mr. Gifford undertook the management of two newspapers; the one a morning, the other an evening one; and on the cessation of the "Anti-Jacobin, or Weekly Examiner," in 1798, he established the "Anti-Jacobin Review."

The last and perhaps his most important work, was "the Political Life of the Right Honourable William Pitt, including some Account of the Times in which he lived." This first appeared in a 4to. size, but on the publication of a second edition, it assumed the 8vo. form, with a dedication to Earl Spencer, who had held a high office, under this minister. To the late premier, Mr. John Gifford, was indeed greatly indebted. His labours in the political vineyard, first recommended him to his notice, and he had at length obtained an office in the magistracy, which if it did not produce all the luxuries of life, yet assured a certain and respectable income, so as to place its possessor above want.

Previously to entering on his subject, the biographer insists on the difficulties attendant on the history of contemporary times; and laments "that this should be enhanced by a disregard of the potent consideration, that delicacy to individuals should ever be made to yield to the public good." "While I am greatly indebted," adds he, "to the free and open com-

munications of some distinguished personages, I have reason to complain of the apathy and reserve of others; and according to my sense of public duty, their notions respecting it are very erroneous, who think it no breach of it, to withhold any information tending to elucidate facts which may instruct, or to correct errors which may mislead the public mind. Fortunately, however, for the historian, the circumstances and transactions of Mr. Pitt's administration are not locked up in the cabinet, or confined within the bosom of any individual; they have all been subjected to public analysis, and submitted to public discussion. He has in fact been the historian of his own measures, the expounder of his own principles, and the herald of his own deeds. Mr. Pitt's actions required no subterfuge to disguise, no artifice to conceal them; — the

“ Nil conscire sibi, & nullá palleescere culpá,

was the true characteristic of his feelings. With the pride of conscious integrity he solicited investigation, and courted publicity. In his luminous and comprehensive speeches in parliament, he has explained his motives, and unfolded his views, his objects, and his designs; and has thus, by the supply of an invaluable fund of materials, greatly facilitated the labour of his political biographer, which might, indeed, be said chiefly to consist in the proper use, application, and arrangement of those materials.”

The work itself commences with a cursory view of the state of Europe, previously to the administration of the subject of the biography. “It has often been observed, in the political progress of kingdoms and states, that there is a certain point of elevation, beyond which they cannot advance; but from which on the contrary, they must, as if impelled by the controuling hand of Providence, descend step by step, towards their decline, until they reach the lowest point of depression, and every vestige of their former greatness is effaced.” This observation, which is here said to be more specious than solid, was applied by the prophetic politicians of that day, to the state of Great Britain at the peace of 1762.

Subsequent events seemed to justify these predictions; "for in our American colonies, rebellion encouraged by success, soon hoisted the standard of independence." France and Spain, at length took a decided part with "the rebels," while Russia, after settling her differences with the Turks, and putting an end by the peace of Teschen, to the contest between Prussia and Austria, had placed herself at the head of a maritime confederacy, the object of which was, to destroy one of the effects of the naval superiority of Great Britain. She engaged Sweden, Denmark, and Holland in her plan; and the alliance was consolidated by a treaty, concluded at Copenhagen, on the 19th of July 1780, "under the false denomination of the *Armed Neutrality*."

In Asia, the flames of war had begun to rage with unusual fury; there too a hostile league was formed against us, fomented by the intrigues, and combined by the artifices of France. Hyder Ally, the most able and experienced of all the native chiefs, who was placed at its head, immediately poured on the Carnatic with an immense force, and bearing down all resistance, took the capital of Arcot by assault, and threatened to render himself master of Madras: the fate of British India seemed to be suspended by a thread.

At home a desperate mob, "headed by a mad enthusiast, professing alarm for the security of the Protestant church, but actuated solely by a wish for anarchy, and by the hope of plunder," had in the preceding year endeavoured to controul the parliament, while they rendered the capital a scene of violence and conflagration. They wanted but a fit leader to upset the government; and although at length overthrown and punished, yet the rabble had learned the awful secret of their own physical strength.

It was at this period (1781) that William Pitt, second son of the Earl of Chatham, then in his twenty-second year, having been born on the 28th of May, 1759, made his first entrance into public life. "He had been educated at home, till the age of fourteen, during which time, Dr. Wilson, (afterwards Canon of Windsor,) was his tutor; but as may be easily sup-

posed, his illustrious father superintended his education, with a vigilant eye, and marked, with anxious solicitude, the progressive attainments of a mind, which at a very early period, had displayed strong indications of the bounty of nature, and afforded great promise of future excellence.

“ At an age when with the generality of youths, much indeed, remains to be learned at school, Mr. Pitt was found fully qualified for the university; and accordingly, as soon as he had completed his fourteenth year, he was entered at Pembroke Hall, Cambridge; where, he had the good fortune to obtain for his tutor Dr. Prettyman, the present Bishop of Lincoln. During his residence at college, he was distinguished alike for the closeness of his application, and the process of his efforts, in rendering himself master of those subjects, to which his studies were particularly directed. Nor was he less remarkable for the regularity of his conduct, and for his strict attention to that discipline which is more necessary for a military, than for an academic life.

“ Mr. Pitt's stay at college was unusually long; nor did he leave it until his mind was as perfectly formed as it could be by theory, unaccompanied with the advantages of experience. Soon after his quitting the university, he went to the Continent, and passed a short time at Rheims, the capital of Champagne. Early in the ensuing year, he was called to the bar, and went the western circuit *once*. His success during this short experiment, was amply sufficient to encourage him to pursue his legal career; and to render him certain of obtaining all the wealth, and all the honours, which await the able and industrious labourers in the vineyard of the law. But he was destined to pursue a different and a nobler path; not to devote his superior talents to the indiscriminate defence of right and wrong; but to appropriate his endowments, both natural and acquired, to the high purposes of framing laws for the government of a free state — of taking an active part in the regulation of her destinies — and even in directing all her moral and physical resources to the preservation of her cha-

racter, the security of her welfare, the promotion of her prosperity, and the consolidation of her grandeur.

“ Before he had completed his twenty-second year he was returned, (on the 23d of January 1781,) member for the borough of Appleby, and on the 22d of the following month, he made his first speech on Mr. Burke’s motion for an economical reform in the civil list. On this occasion, the attention of the House was riveted on the youthful orator, who, totally unembarrassed by the novelty of the situation in which he had been so lately placed, but for which he had been so long and so sedulously prepared, delivered himself with an ease, a grace, a richness of expression, and soundness of judgment; a closeness of argument, and a classical accuracy of language, which not only answered, but exceeded all the expectations which had been formed of him. He took the same side in debate with the opposition, because it probably appeared to him to be the right side; but without becoming a member of the party. He followed the example of his father, in early and strongly expressing his reprobation of the principles on which the American war had been undertaken, and, with much more reason, though not with more warmth, on the manner in which it had been conducted.”

Early in the spring of 1782, Lord North having been driven from office, was succeeded by the Marquis of Rockingham; but Mr. Pitt did not choose to be included within the new arrangements. In little more than four months, however, this administration was dissolved by the death of the premier. On the formation of a new one under the auspices of the Earl of Shelburne, Mr. Pitt, then in his twenty-fourth year, was nominated Chancellor of the Exchequer, having from the first determined, to accept of no subordinate situation.

A peace, now became the grand object of the Government; but it was difficult to obtain an honourable one, as all further prosecution of offensive war had been interdicted by a vote of the House of Commons. This intervention is deemed most “unwise and impolitic, at least, if not unconstitutional,” by our

author, who adds, "that during the progress of that war, rebellion had met with her most able advocates in an assembly of men bound by the most sacred ties, not only to discourage, but to reject and to destroy her, wherever she may rear her blood-stained front." Notwithstanding all this, a peace was at length concluded: but as it was not deemed sufficiently advantageous by the popular branch of the legislature, the ministry withdrew, and Mr. Pitt once more became a private man. Before his retreat however, he entered into an eloquent justification of Lord Shelburne, to wound whom, he averred, was the object which had raised the storm of faction, and the aim of that "unnatural coalition," which had just taken place. "If, however," added he, "the baneful alliance is not already formed, if this ill-omened marriage is not already solemnized, I know a just and lawful impediment, and in the name of the public safety, I forbid the bans."

The triumph of his rivals however was but of short duration, for they themselves soon after lost the confidence of the King, and were obliged to retire in their turn; on which, Mr. Pitt became Prime Minister of this country, before he had completed his twenty-fifth year. He now proceeded with great boldness, notwithstanding he was in a minority, and having dissolved that parliament, and obtained an accession of strength in the next, a new bill was introduced for the government of India, while an advantageous mode of obtaining a loan was adopted. We next find the minister contending for a reform of the House of Commons, by purchasing the franchises of decayed boroughs, to the amount of thirty-six, and transferring the members to the county representation. If any so small and so decayed should remain, as to fall within the size to be fixed on by parliament, such should have the power to surrender their claims for an adequate compensation to such flourishing and populous towns, as might desire to enjoy such privilege.

"Such," observes his biographer, "was this plan of parliamentary reform, which after the maturest deliberation, Mr. Pitt thought proper to propose to the House of Commons, and to

recommmend to the country. And if it be examined with coolness and impartiality, every previous prepossession being dismissed from the mind, it is apprehended that it will be found to contain nothing inimical to the spirit and principles of the British Constitution; nothing resembling the wild chimerical notions of modern anarchists; nothing from which the sober and dispassionate friend of his country could derive the smallest ground for apprehension and alarm. This at least, is the impression produced on our mind, after the closest examination of the plan, and of the means proposed for carrying it into execution."

The defeat of Mr. Pitt on this memorable occasion did not at all lessen his influence on other subjects. We now find him introducing his plan for the establishment of a permanent sinking fund, and also commencing a variety of fiscal regulations, many of which did great credit to his administration. The account of the impeachment of Mr. Hastings; the deposition of the Stadtholder, and his restoration by the Duke of Brunswick; together with a summary of the state of France at the "dawn of the Revolution," completes the present volume.

It is impossible to follow Mr. Gifford in a regular manner, through the five remaining ones of the 8vo. edition, as they not only include a very long and most important period in our history, but also transactions of no ordinary magnitude on the Continent. The project of an union with Ireland, the war with France, the alliances with foreign powers, the state of our domestic affairs, and the various and most important speeches in parliament, are all detailed by this indefatigable Biographer, who not unfrequently differs with Mr. Pitt, as to some of the objects of his government; and what is not a little extraordinary, relative to these very points in which he obtained the suffrages of his very enemies. Thus, in particular, he is inexorable, as to the Irish Catholics, whom he for the most part, denominates "Irish Papists." He also objects to the very idea of moderation in respect to them; and he even blames "the lenient measures of Lord Cornwallis"

for being carried to excess;" while he praises "the vigorous policy of Lord Camden."

Vol. VI. commences with an account of the good effects derived from the victory of the Nile, which undoubtedly produced a great change both at home and abroad, while it tended not a little either to restore or confirm public confidence in respect to ministers. We now find the Premier forming a new confederacy against France, and producing the tax upon income, then estimated at ten millions, to enable the state to carry on the war with due energy. He next granted a subsidy to Russia; and obtained acts of parliament for the suppression of "seditious societies," "the affixing of the names of printers to handbills," and the registration of all "printing presses."

Mr. Pitt having matured his plan, introduces and carries his grand measure for an union between Great Britain and Ireland. The defeat of the victorious French by Suwarrow; the invasion of Holland by the English; the conquest of Surinam, in addition to our other acquisitions in both hemispheres from the enemy, and the withdrawing of the Allies from the Dutch territories are all in turn submitted to the notice of the reader. Meantime, the expedition of Bonaparte into Italy, the victory of Marengo, and the irruption of Moreau into Germany, followed by the peace of Luneville, had realised the ambitious project of extending the French dominions to the banks of the Rhine. In this state of affairs, Mr. Pitt endeavoured to secure the gratitude of the Irish Catholics, by removing all religious restrictions; but he was opposed by the King, who is greatly praised for his conscientious firmness upon this occasion. On this, the Minister and his friends withdrew, and Mr. Addington, who had been Speaker, was nominated his successor; a choice which does not seem to please our Biographer, who while he admires his principles, seems to think "his abilities over-rated."

"When Mr. Pitt left office," observes he, "he carried with him the esteem of his sovereign, the affection of his colleagues, and the confidence of his country. Lord Grenville, on his resignation, obtained, in addition to some other sources

of emolument during his own life, a pension for that of his lady. Mr. Dundas was soon created a Peer, by the title of Viscount Melville, and the East India Company settled on him, by an unanimous vote, an annuity of two thousand pounds. Lord Loughborough, besides the pension allotted to all Chancellors when they retire, was made Earl of Rosslyn, with a limitation of his title to his nephew.

“ Mr. Pitt’s services however, were no otherwise rewarded upon this occasion, than by the approving voice of his own conscience, and the honest plaudits of a grateful public. He received neither title nor pension, having no other place than that of Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, of which he had been possessed many years. Neither did Lord Spencer nor Mr. Windham receive any mark of the royal favour.”

“ Notwithstanding his retreat from power, Mr. Pitt, defended the treaty of Amiens, and refused to accept of any place, without the participation of Lord Grenville; but on the resignation of Mr. Addington, he once more became Premier. His health appears at this period to have been in a declining state, for in a short time, he was obliged to retire to Bath, whence he repaired greatly enfeebled to his seat near Putney, and there expired, “ about a quarter past four on Thursday morning, the 23d of January 1806 — the anniversary of that day on which five and twenty years before, he had first become a member of the British Senate. — He breathed his last without a struggle, and without pain. He was then in his forty-seventh year.”

“ As a statesman, the resources as well as the firmness of Mr. Pitt’s mind, have been amply demonstrated by the measures which he adopted, to meet the various and unforeseen difficulties with which this nation was surrounded, during the period of his administration. Abroad, he had to struggle with the most gigantic power which ever raised itself in opposition to the greatness of his country; while at home, he had to support at the same time, commercial and national credit, to allay the turbulent spirit of mutiny, to extinguish the raging flames of rebellion, to provide even for the important calls of famine. The energies of his mind were most eminently exert-

ed upon these important occasions; and in spite of internal distractions, he carried the power of the nation to a greater height than it had ever attained at any former period.

“ It will not ever be forgotten with what industry and effect, he applied himself to the management of the revenue, and how speedily he restored order to the confused state of our finances. By simplifying the public accounts, he rendered a subject easily intelligible, which before had been involved in extreme intricacy, and, by pointing out the defects of former plans, and suggesting new and more approved systems, he carried with him the sense of the nation in providing for that heavy expenditure, which the peculiar exigency of the times brought upon the State. Nor was he less fortunate in removing, upon difficult occasions, those embarrassments in which the trade of the country was involved, and which at one period, threatened it with total stagnation; and when they, who from their habitual pursuits, might have been thought best qualified, and most likely to suggest a remedy for these evils, were lost in astonishment, distrust, and dismay, he dispelled their fears as it were by a charm, revived the confidence of our merchants and manufacturers, and restored our commerce to its accustomed activity and enterprise.

“ The plan of commercial exchequer bills; — the establishment of the sinking fund; — the suspension of cash payments at the Bank; — the system of war taxes; — were measures which originated exclusively with himself; and were calculated with profound ability, to meet the various exigencies to which they were applied. Even his enemies, who were disposed to deny him almost every other merit as a minister, acknowledged him to be the ablest financier whom the nation had ever produced; and while they made this acknowledgement, they did full justice to the pure disinterestedness, and the inflexible integrity with which he conducted that branch of the public business.

“ As a parliamentary orator his powers were various. In statement he was perspicuous, in declamation animated. If he had to explain a financial account, he was clear and accurate.

If he wanted to rouse a just indignation for the wrongs of his country, he was rapid, vehement, glowing, and impassioned. And whether his discourse was argumentative or declamatory, it always displayed a happy choice of expression, and a fluency of diction, which could not fail to delight his hearers. So singularly select, felicitous and appropriate, was his language, that it has often been remarked, a word of his speech could scarcely be changed, without prejudice to its harmony, vigour, or effect. He seldom was satisfied with standing on the defensive in debate; but was proud to contrast his own actions with the avowed intentions of his opponents. These intentions, too, he often exposed with the most pointed sarcasm; a weapon which, perhaps, no speaker ever wielded with more dexterity and force than himself. He admired much in Mr. Fox, the happy effect with which he illustrated his arguments, by the application of well-known anecdotes, or by passages from modern authors; but he did not imitate him in this respect; — on the other hand, he used to condemn his habit of repetition.

“ Mr. Pitt’s love of amplification has been sometimes urged, as detracting from his excellence as an orator; but it was his own remark, that every person who addressed a public assembly, and was anxious to be distinctly understood, and to make an impression upon particular points, must either be copious upon those points or repeat them; and that as a speaker, he preferred copiousness to repetition. Of his oratory, it may be observed generally, that it combined the eloquence of Tully with the energy of Demosthenes. It was spontaneous; always great; it shone with peculiar, with unequalled splendour, in a reply, which precluded the possibility of previous study; while it fascinated the imagination by the brilliancy of language, it convinced the judgment by the force of argument; — like an impetuous torrent, it bore down all resistance, extorting the admiration even of those who most severely felt its strength, and who most earnestly deprecated its effect.

“ It is unnecessary, and might be presumptuous, to enter more minutely into the character of Mr. Pitt’s eloquence; — there

are many living witnesses of its powers; — it will be admired as long as it shall be remembered. A few of his speeches in parliament were published by his friends, and some of them under his own superintendence; but it has been observed, that they were considerably weakened in effect by his own corrections; that if they gained any thing in accuracy, they lost more in vigour and spirit, and that he had not himself the power of improving upon reflection, the just and happy expression, in which his thoughts were conveyed as they occurred in the course of debate.

“ As a public man, Mr. Pitt trusted his character to his public conduct; he rejected those arts and aids to which inferior men have sometimes had recourse, to prop their fame; and he disdained to court popularity at the expense of unbecoming condescension; he never failed to be generally esteemed, where he was generally known; but his public avocations did not permit him to enjoy much of the pleasures of private society, and his hours of retirement and relaxation were chiefly confined to the circle of a few friends, which circle he did not seem inclined to extend. Those hours, indeed, were few, for his life may be said to have been devoted to the public service; and, perhaps, to have been sacrificed by that devotion; for his health had gradually declined for the last five years of his life; but the vigour of his mind was unimpaired, and directed, in spite of a feeble frame, with the most unremitting anxiety to promote the interests and welfare of the country. With him, indeed, his *country* was ever the *first* object, *self* the *last*.

“ It would be highly unjust, however, to dismiss the character of Mr. Pitt, without correcting the erroneous impression which has too generally prevailed, that he was in society, cold, distant, and reserved. So far from it, that, in the relations of private life, he was no less amiable than he was eminent in his public conduct, and in the company of his select friends, none charmed more by the ease, playfulness, and variety of his conversation. He possessed a peculiar sweetness and equanimity of temper, which, under all the varying circumstances of health and sickness, of good and adverse fortune, was never ruffled.

“The victory of Trafalgar, though he felt at it, the honest pride of an Englishman, elated him to no unbecoming height; nor did the overthrow of his dearest hopes at Austerlitz, though it affected him most sensibly, sink him to an unmanly dejection. Yet his calmness and self-possession arose, not from any apathy or coldness; on the contrary, the varied expression of his countenance, and the fire of his eye, showed him to be, what he really was, exquisitely sensible to every feeling; — but they were the natural result of a strong and well-regulated mind — of the conscious rectitude of his measures, and of the happy mildness of his disposition.

“The same benevolence and simplicity of heart strongly marked his manners and deportment, which were, in the highest degree, prepossessing. They bespoke the total absence of every thing like moroseness in his nature. With the most playful vivacity, he assumed no superiority in conversation; nor ever oppressed any man with the strength of his talents, or the brilliancy of his wit. It was matter of surprise, how so much fire could be mitigated, and yet not enfeebled by so much gentleness, and how such power could be so delightful.

“Modesty was a striking feature in Mr. Pitt’s character; he was attentive to the humblest, and kindly patient to the weakest opinions. No man was ever more beloved by his friends, or inspired those who had the happiness of living in his society, with a more sincere and affectionate attachment. In his conduct he was rigidly just and strictly moral; and as his virtues were greater, so were his feelings less, than fall to the lot of most men.”

These volumes, which must have occupied much of the author’s time, were doubtless written *con-amore*; but yet, both in the dedication to a noble lord, as well as in the text, we repeatedly find the author maintaining his own opinions with a considerable degree of boldness. Indeed, he appears to have possessed more zeal than any of his patrons; for not only in respect to the American, but throughout the whole of the French Revolution, all those are branded with the epithet of “Rebels,” who presume to oppose the existing authorities.

One work attributed to Mr. Gifford, appears to have passed through three editions: this is entitled "A residence in France, during the Years 1792, 3, 4, and 5, in a Series of Letters, by an English Lady." He was, however, only the editor, and might indeed have amended the text, and corrected the proofs, but as he was, at the period alluded to, in England, he could not possibly have been the author. In short, as the title page implies, this assuredly was the genuine production of an "English Lady," and indeed, he himself publicly disclaimed it for his own, at a period, when, from its reception, it would not have done him any discredit.

It has already been hinted, that Mr. Gifford did not remain unrewarded. His first appointment as a police magistrate was to the office in Worship-street, Shoreditch; and thence in rotation, he removed to the politer air of Marlborough-street, Westminster. By way of relaxation, he was accustomed to retire, when not on duty, to Bromley in Kent, whither he appears to have wholly withdrawn * towards the latter end of his life, which was concluded there, March 6th, 1818, in the 60th year of his age.

Mr. Gifford was twice married. By his first wife, who died in 1805, he had not any issue; but by his second, the daughter of Walter Galleper, Esq., he had several children. He was a strenuous member of the Church of England, and deemed her prosperity and security essentially necessary to the state.

He watched with a jealous eye, the progress of other Christian communions; and appears to have been equally averse, from the repeal of the Test Act, on account of the Presbyterians, whom he denominates "sectaries," and the Catholics, whom he stigmatises as "Papists." His politics savoured of his religion. He was truly loyal, and supposing the mass of the people to be actuated by anarchy, republicanism, and treason, he occasionally displayed a zeal that bordered on enthusiasm, for their conversion. To his credit, it must be recollected, that he appears to have been uniform in his principles and

* His chief object in selecting this place, was to be near a medical adviser, in whose skill he placed the most unlimited confidence.

opinions. It must be fairly allowed, therefore, that if he received no other reward, his scanty emoluments as a magistrate under the new Police Act, for which he must have been duly qualified, by early education and professional skill, were not fully commensurate with those literary and political labours, which had at once occupied and consumed the better part of his manhood.

LIST OF THE WORKS

Of the late John Gifford, Esq.

1. The History of France, from the Earliest Times to the Death of Louis XVI. 5 vols. 4to. 1791-1794. N.B. These were originally printed at different times.
2. A plain Address to the Common Sense of the People of England, containing an Abstract of Paine's Life and Writings, 8vo. 1792.
3. Narrative of the Transactions relating to Louis XVI. from June 21st, 1791, to his Death on the 21st of January 1793, 4to.
4. The Reign of Louis XVI. and Complete History of the French Revolution, 4to. 1794.
5. A Letter to the Earl of Lauderdale, containing Strictures on His Lordship's Letters to the Peers of Scotland, 1st edit. 8vo. 1795; 2d edit. 1800.
6. A Residence in France, during the Years 1792, 3, 4, and 5, described in a Series of Letters from a Lady, 2 vols. 8vo. 1796. Of this he was only Editor.
7. The Banditti unmasked, or Historical Memoirs of the present times, from the French, 8vo. 1797.
8. A Letter to the Hon. Thomas (now Lord) Erskine, containing Strictures on his View of the Causes and Consequences of the War, 8vo. 1797.
9. A Defence of the French Emigrants from the French of Lally Tollendal, 8vo. 1797.
10. Address to the Members of the Loyal Associations, on the present State of Public Affairs, 8vo. 1797, 5 editions.

11. Address of Camille Jourdan to his Constituents, from the French, 8vo. 1798.

12. History of the Political Life of the Right Hon. William Pitt, and of the Times in which he lived, 3 vols. royal 4to. and 6 vols. 8vo. 1809.

13. Mr. G. was Editor, and principal Writer in the Anti-Jacobin Review, commenced in 1806.

14. Also Editor of an English Edition of "the Bloody Buoy," originally published in America, and of

15. "A Bone to gnaw for the Democrats," by Peter Porcupine, to which he prefixed: "A Rod for the Backs of the Critics," by Humphry Hedgehog."



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The civil virtues are the growth of particular states and according to some of particular climates. England has ever been distinguished by her situation in the respect that she has a more equal law, distance and continuity to the rest of Europe are restricted to no order of society. The rest of a plebeian may debate his brow exalted with a mine, or his penmanship raised by the embellished robe of a chancellor. Thus both wealth and high estate are common to the same country. The most distinguished men, as in the present instance, are distinguished by the same accomplishments, the profound lawyer, and the distinguished patriot, are united in one and the same person.

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No. XV.



SIR SAMUEL ROMILLY, KNIGHT.

ONE OF HIS MAJESTY'S COUNSEL LEARNED IN THE LAW, LATE
SOLICITOR-GENERAL, AND M.P. FOR THE CITY OF WESTMINSTER.

“ His saltem accumulem donis, et fungar inani

“ Munere.”

VIRG.

THE civic virtues are the growth of particular states, and according to some, of particular climates. England has ever been deemed peculiarly felicitous in this respect; for in addition to equal laws, distinctions are confined to no *cast*; honours are restricted to no order of society. The son of a plebeian may behold his brow encircled with a mitre, or his person dignified by the embroidered robe of a chancellor. Thus, both wealth and fame are the sure concomitants of distinguished excellence, more especially when, as in the present instance, the accomplished orator, the profound lawyer, and the enlightened patriot, are united in one and the same pers.

Samuel Romilly, a name that will be long remembered with mingled sensations of esteem and regret, was born in Frith-street, Soho, Westminster, on the 1st of March, 1757. His family and history are closely connected with civil and religious liberty; for his ancestors, both by his father and mother's side, were driven by the flaming sword of persecution from the kingdom of France.*

From his earliest years he was distinguished by the possession of all those qualities, both of the understanding and of the heart, which give the promise of future excellence, and bear the stamp of a superior mind. He was ever remarkable for the benevolence of his disposition, his deep and generous sensibility, his high sense of honour, the quickness of his apprehension, and the extraordinary maturity of his judgment. Young Romilly had received from nature that happy temperament, which united great vivacity and a constant flow of animal spirits with a powerful imagination, a retentive memory, and the strongest and most durable affections. He possessed a correct taste in literature and the fine arts, and retained through life a keen relish for the beauties of nature. In the selection of his friends, he was peculiarly fortunate. His intimacy with the Reverend Mr. Roget, in particular, who was endeared to him by congeniality of tastes and dispositions, and who afterwards became nearly related to him by marrying his sister, had a very material influence in giving a direction to his talents, and a steady impulse to his exertions. Sir Samuel has frequently declared, that he owed much of the success which has attended

* His great-grandfather, who possessed a large estate near Montpellier, which had descended to him from a long line of ancestors, was zealously attached to the Protestant faith, and to that conscientious principle he did not hesitate to sacrifice his patrimony, his connections, and his country, on the memorable revocation of the Edict of Nantz. He sought with his family an asylum in England, choosing for himself and his descendants, that country where freedom had established her seat, and where virtue and industry were secure from molestation, and might aspire to honourable distinction. The father of the subject of this memoir was born in London, where applying himself to business, he acquired great eminence as a jeweller, and realised a handsome fortune. His mother's maiden name was Garnault; she was also descended from a family of French Refugees. Sir Samuel Romilly was the youngest of nine children, only three of whom reached the age of maturity.

him through life, to this bosom friend of his youth, who discerned in his character the elements of future greatness, and urged him, by judicious encouragement, to cultivate those powers which were destined to raise him to the lofty station he afterwards attained.

Amidst a variety of obstacles, some of which appeared almost insurmountable, this youth, as yet unconscious of the extent of his abilities, was destined to become the architect of his own fortune, and the founder of a family. Accordingly, without the aid of a patrimonial estate, the assistance of an university, or even of a great public school, he exhibited early proofs of that mental superiority, which insures, in every walk of life, the certainty of future eminence to its possessor. The *abnormis sapiens* was fully realised in respect to him: at least, he soon evinced what it was in the power of a self-taught student, gifted with extraordinary parts, and an original mode of thinking, to achieve. It now became necessary to choose a profession, and luckily, that of the law was selected. The Inns of Court, at one of which his name was enrolled, no longer affords either the means or the opportunity of obtaining a legal education. The *Tyro* is left entirely to himself: the ancient *mootings* are forgotten; and even the *Term Lectures* have been suspended for nearly half a century. Happily for Mr. Romilly, his habits, even then, were duly formed to study and application; and he had already acquired some little notion of business, in one of the public offices *, connected with that tribunal, in which he intended to practise.

He was called to the bar in 1783, and first distinguished himself, by his accuracy and precision, as an *Equity Draughtsman*; but he soon aspired to the highest branches of the profession, and succeeded in no common degree. The Court of Chancery was the arena in which he was to combat, and a Scott, and a Mitford, were the legal gladiators with whom he was destined to contend in presence of a Thurlow. These were great names, and they have left few equals behind them; it was,

* He remained for some time in the "Six Clerks Office," of the Court of Chancery.

therefore, glorious that he should, in so short a time, be selected as their opponent: but he had drawn his knowledge from the fountain head, and disdained mediocrity of all kinds.

At length one of these succeeded to the woolsack, in England; while another became Lord Chancellor of Ireland. Mr. Romilly's stuff gown was now deemed a match for all the remaining silk ones at the bar; he accordingly became a leader, and was retained in almost every cause. His indefatigable industry, his unwearied patience, his comprehensive acuteness, his deep knowledge of the law, his correct notions of the practice of the court; were all calculated to give due weight to arguments selected with skill, propounded with modesty, and enforced by a chastened eloquence.

He now began to feel himself raised to independence; but his efforts did not relax by prosperity; and fortune, as well as honour, attended his career. In the profession he had chosen, the best portion of life has often passed away before this degree of success is attained; and even the subject of this memoir had reached the age of 40 before he had formed a domestic establishment. At length, in the year 1798, he led to the altar a blooming bride, with whom for many years he enjoyed great domestic happiness. She was the daughter of Francis Garbett, Esq. of Knill Court, in the county of Hereford. It was during the summer of 1797 that he first beheld this lady, while arrayed in all the charms of youth and beauty, at the seat of the Marquis of Lansdowne, formerly Lord Shelburne, a nobleman of great discernment, who not only foretold the future honours and reputation that awaited his guest, but seemed desirous to connect his own fame with that of one seemingly destined to attain the highest dignities of his profession. He had fostered the talents of a Dunning, a Barré, and a Pitt; and, had opportunity been given, to these splendid characters he would have added the name of a Romilly.

Become a husband and a father, the subject of this memoir applied to business with additional eagerness and industry; and when Mr. Fox and Lord Grenville assumed the reins of

government in 1806, he was nominated Solicitor-General, and received the honour of knighthood. It was at first uncertain what office he should hold during that administration; for it had been proposed, at one time, to reward such distinguished merit, by entrusting the great seal to his custody: but this pre-eminence was reserved for another.

It is much to the credit of Sir Samuel, as well as of his colleague *, that the press, like the air, during their time, in the language of the great Lord Chatham, became "a chartered libertine." Party contention was at that moment at its height; and political disputes were carried still higher than before. Yet, whatever provocations might have been given to the administration of that day, no prosecution for libel ensued.

Far higher objects occupied his mind, and engaged his attention. Sir Samuel, who had long meditated his project in silence, now determined to commence a reform of English jurisprudence, by altering, amending, or repealing certain laws which still continued to disgrace our statute-book. He commenced his career by an anomalous case arising out of the rigours of the feudal system, and which, when applied to modern times, was productive of fraud, injustice, and even of murder. Accordingly, in 1807, he obtained leave to bring in a bill, "For making the freehold estates of persons liable to the bankrupt laws, who might die indebted, assets for the payment of their simple contract debts."

Notwithstanding this bill was lost on a division, yet the effect produced by it did not prove wholly useless, for the legislature soon after granted its sanction to an amended act, by means of which the debts of traders have been more effectually secured, for the benefit of the public.

Nearly at the same time, he assisted as a manager at the trial of the late Viscount Melville, who, after being Treasurer of the Navy, had presided for some years over the affairs of the Admiralty. On this occasion the whole arrangement of

* Sir Arthur Piggott, then Attorney-General.

the evidence and documentary papers was entrusted to his charge; and he summed up the proofs in a speech of considerable length. After animadverting with much severity "on the suspicious fact of burning the vouchers," he dwelt on the circumstance of "two 10,000*l.* bank-notes having been traced to the private use of the noble defendant;" and the refusal "to account for the sum of 10,000*l.* which he confessed to have misapplied." Sir Samuel concluded thus:

"The crime, my Lords, with which the noble Viscount stands accused, is that of a wilful violation of the law, in the breach of an act of parliament, and the appropriation of money to his own purposes; both of which are, in fact, resolved into one and the same crime. The managers for the House of Commons charge him with the misapplication of 10,000*l.*, the manner of employing which he has left no means of tracing. The accused has no possible excuse for his conduct: for when the law ordained that he should not apply the public money but for public purposes, he received an additional salary in compensation for not doing so; and to wind up the climax of his criminality, this very law which he had violated was one of his own production."

A reply having been made by Sir Thomas Plomer, now Master of the Rolls, Lord Chancellor Erskine, after some previous deliberation, declared: "that a majority of the Lords had acquitted Henry Viscount Melville of the high crimes and misdemeanours charged upon him, by the impeachment of the Commons of England, and all things contained therein."

When the ministers of that day were at length enabled to effect the abolition of the slave trade, his speech was listened to with particular attention. Indeed, a circumstance occurred, singular in itself, and seldom before witnessed in the House of Commons: for one prominent passage, uttered by him with an uncommon degree of animation, is said to have been honoured by three distinct plaudits. It is greatly to be lamented, that this oratorical effusion, has never been correctly reported.

On the dismissal of the new ministers, after an administration of only one year's duration, Sir Samuel defended their conduct, and graced their retreat, in an oration worthy of his acknowledged talents and intrepidity. He alluded with an honest pride, to the abolition of the slave trade, so often promised, so often delayed, so often eluded by their predecessors. Their conduct, in respect to the emancipation of Ireland, had his most hearty concurrence; and he justified the refusal to give the King a pledge not to renew the Roman Catholic question, on constitutional principles. He concluded by a powerful appeal to the House, in respect to the recent impeachment; and he deprecated the return of Lord Melville to office, notwithstanding his acquittal, as no one had hitherto presumed to move for rescinding the vote against him. In this last proposition, he was fully gratified, as the Viscount was never after employed.

One other great object, nearly at the same period, occupied the attention, and afforded scope to the labours of the subject of this memoir. Considering the present as an enlightened age, he deemed this a proper time to attempt a reform of our criminal code. Those who are acquainted with the writings of Beccaria, and have carefully studied his scale of crimes and punishments, must be astonished that a nation equally enlightened and humane, should be governed by laws, so sanguinary in their nature, that like those of Draco, they may be fairly said, to have been written in blood! Who could have supposed, that there is no other country in the world, where such a variety of actions are accompanied with the loss of life, as in England? Or that punishments are so little commensurate with offences, that a petty culprit is subjected to the same awful doom, as the robber, the ravisher, and the midnight assassin?

It was in order to rescue humanity from this outrage, and to wipe away such a deep stain from our jurisprudence, that the Ex-Solicitor-General wished for the repeal of certain laws, equally cruel in their provisions, and ineffectual

in respect to their execution.* Accordingly on the 18th of May 1808, he moved for leave to bring in a bill for that purpose; and in this, was introduced a most provident, and humane clause, for affording compensation to such as were unjustly accused and tried.

Sir Samuel soon after published a pamphlet †, to justify his conduct and explain his views; he also introduced some new arguments, and enlarged those already adduced in refutation of the theory of Dr. Paley. In this little work, he animadverted on the barbarous act of Queen Elizabeth, which rendered it a capital offence “for any person above the age of fourteen, to be found associating for a month, with persons calling themselves Egyptians,” and he quoted the respectable authority of Lord Hale, to prove that thirteen persons, coming under its provisions, had been executed upon it at one single assize. Who would have thought, that until recently, it was a capital offence for soldiers and “mariners to wander and beg without a pass?” And yet this law continued in full force until two years after the epoch of which we here treat. ‡

“Let it be remembered, as is now universally admitted,” observes this judicious writer, “that the certainty of punishment is much more efficacious than any severity of example for the prevention of crimes. So evident is the truth of this maxim, that if it were possible that punishment, as the consequence of guilt, could be reduced to an absolute certainty, a very slight penalty would be sufficient to prevent almost every species of crime, except those which arise from sudden gusts of ungovernable passion. If the restoration of the property stolen, and only a few weeks, or even but a few days imprisonment, were the unavoidable consequence of theft, no theft would ever be committed.

* By the acts of 10 & 11 William III. 12 Ann, and 24 George II. the crimes of stealing privately in a shop, goods to the value of five shillings; or in a dwelling-house, or on board a vessel in a navigable river, property to the value of forty shillings, are capital felonies, and as such, incur the pains of death!

† “Observations on the Criminal Law of England, as it relates to Capital Punishments, and on the Mode in which it is administered. By Sir Samuel Romilly.” This has passed through three editions.

‡ This Statute was not repealed till 1812.

“No man would steal what he was sure he could not keep; no man, by a voluntary act, would deprive himself of his liberty but for a few days; no man would expose himself to certain disgrace and infamy, without the possibility of gain. It is the desire of a supposed good, which is the incentive to every crime: no crime, therefore, could exist, if it were infallibly certain that not good, but evil must follow as an unavoidable consequence to the person who committed it.

“This absolute certainty, it is true, can never be attained, where facts are to be ascertained by human testimony, and questions are to be decided by human judgments. But the impossibility of arriving at complete certainty, ought not to deter us from endeavouring to approach it, as nearly as human imperfection will admit, and the only means of accomplishing this, are a vigilant and enlightened police, rational rules of evidence, clear and unambiguous laws, and punishment proportioned to the offenders guilt.”

It has already been stated, that Sir Samuel distinguished himself greatly in the important debate, which was a prelude to the “Abolition Bill;” and when the House of Commons, in 1814, took into consideration that article in the treaty of peace, which allows of the prosecution of the slave trade, for a period of five years, his indignation was aroused, to find that the ministers of this country had acceded to any convention, in which this was a prominent stipulation.

If the King of France has since relaxed on his part, and declared the trade in human beings to be annihilated, so far as concerns his own dominions, it is to Sir Samuel Romilly, and those who supported him on this occasion, that we are to attribute the change. It is lamentable, however, to think, that the subjects of Spain and Portugal are still permitted to carry on this nefarious traffic with impunity. Are not the plunderers of ships on the high seas punishable with death by the law of nations? and ought not the plunderers of men to be also, deemed pirates?

The next great public occasion, in which we find the subject of the present memoir engaged, respected the Court in

which he daily practised. In order to facilitate public business, and ease the indefatigable labours of the Lord Chancellor, a new judge was proposed to be appointed, and a new tribunal to be instituted. This was objected to in the House of Commons by Sir Samuel, as an innovation, without being an improvement; and he prognosticated, that neither the great officer who presided in the Court of Equity, nor the suitors of that court, nor the public in general, would profit by the change. How far his prescience extended on this occasion, may be now gathered from the result of two or three years experience.

While that project was but as yet in embryo, he published a little pamphlet*, containing his opinions on this subject, the general result of which was, that the new division of Chancery into two Courts, and the creation of an intermediate Court of Appeal, between it and the House of Lords, would tend greatly to enhance the expense of suits "already grievously and oppressively high," to multiply the business of the Court, and to protract the final decision of causes.

"The remedy, my Lord, which I have to propose, is a very simple one, but I am much afraid, considering the force of several expressions which I find scattered in your Lordship's pamphlet, that you will think me disrespectful even in mentioning it. You have however," adds he, "really left me no choice. You have imposed upon me the necessity of being deficient in what you will think due respect, in order to avoid the reproach of being deficient in what you have made my duty. The remedy, then, my Lord, seems to be, *That the House of Lords, like all inferior tribunals, should, when they are pressed with an unusual quantity of business, sit on a greater number of days and at unusual hours, in order to dispatch it.*" †

His last, and according to some, his best speech, was delivered against the "Alien Bill," at the close of the late parliament,

* "Objections to the Project of creating a Vice-Chancellor of England," 8vo. 2d Edit. 1818.

† "A Letter to a noble Lord," 8vo, 2d edition, 1818.

and so powerful were his arguments, that the amendments introduced by the Lords were, on his suggestion, thrown out.

“ I do not know,” said Sir Samuel, “ what course the House is about to take on this subject, although I cannot help suspecting what that course will be — a course utterly unwarrantable to the individuals more immediately concerned, and utterly repugnant to the spirit of all parliamentary proceeding. Deeply involved as our privileges are in this question, yet as this parliament will in all probability be dissolved in a very short period, I fear its last act will be an act of signal injustice. Such, Sir, will be a fit close for the greater part of our proceedings. Apprehending that we are within a very few hours of the termination of our political existence, before the moment of dissolution arrives, let us recollect for what deeds we have to account. Let us recollect that we are the parliament which, for the first time in the history of this country, twice suspended the Habeas Corpus act in a period of profound peace. Let us recollect that we are the confiding parliament which intrusted His Majesty’s ministers with the authority emanating from that suspension, in expectation that when it was no longer wanted, they would call parliament together to surrender it into their hands — which those ministers did not do, although they subsequently acknowledged that the necessity for retaining that power had long ceased to exist. Let us recollect that we are the same parliament which consented to indemnify His Majesty’s ministers for the abuses and violations of the law of which they had been guilty, in the exercise of the authority vested in them. Let us recollect that we are the same parliament which refused to inquire into the grievances stated in the numerous petitions and memorials with which our table groaned — that we turned a deaf ear to the complaints of the oppressed — that we even amused ourselves with their sufferings. Let us recollect that we are the same parliament which sanctioned the use of spies and informers by the British government — debasing that government, once so celebrated for good faith and honour, into a condition lower in character than that of the ancient French police. Let us

recollect that we are the same parliament which sanctioned the issuing of a Circular letter to the magistracy of the country, by a secretary of state, urging them to hold persons to bail for libel before an indictment was found. Let us recollect that we are the same parliament which sanctioned the sending out of the opinion of the King's attorney-general and the King's solicitor-general, as the law of the land. Let us recollect that we are the same parliament which sanctioned the shutting of the ports of this once hospitable nation to unfortunate foreigners flying from persecution in their own country. This, Sir, is what we have done; and we are about to crown all by the present most violent and most unjustifiable act. Who our successors may be I know not; but God grant that this country may never see another parliament so regardless of the liberties and rights of the people, and of the principles of general justice, as this parliament has been [Loud cries of Hear, hear !]."

We thus behold Sir Samuel on all occasions suspending the exercise of his professional pursuits, and careless of his private interests, when the public good was concerned. No sacrifice either of person or fortune, or health, appeared too great. His studies generally commenced with the dawn of day. The fatigues of the court of justice were frequently concluded by an attendance on long and tedious debates in the senate; while in preparing any of his publications for the press, he was obliged either to infringe on the hours of sleep, or neglect a practice, the emoluments of which, exceeded those of any former jurisconsult in our annals.

It is but little wonderful that such disinterested labours as these should endear him to his country. We accordingly find many respectable inhabitants of the city of Bristol, in which he was a stranger, making a bold but ineffectual attempt to return him to a former parliament.* At the last

* In a speech which he made at a dinner given by such of the electors at Bristol as had invited him to become a candidate to represent that city in parliament, he took occasion, in allusion to some reports which had been raised to his prejudice for electioneering purposes, to give the following interesting account of the circumstances which attended the emigration of his family:

general election he was proposed, under more auspicious circumstances, as a fit representative for the place of his nativity. The citizens of Westminster, as if proud of such a candidate, determined, on this occasion, to elect him free of all trouble, expense, and solicitation on his part. Some doubts, indeed, were entertained as to their second suffrage; none, in respect to the first; and, after a speech at once expressive of his gratitude and his principles, his name, which stood at the head of the poll, was triumphantly proclaimed amidst the unanimous applauses of an immense body of electors.

We at length behold the distinguished subject of this memoir about to occupy his proper place in the House of Commons. No longer the nominee of petty, obscure, or dependent boroughs, he was now chosen for the second city in the empire. Great were the expectations of the people in respect to his conduct in the new parliament. In Romilly they were certain to behold a strenuous supporter of their liberties; a man equally ready to uphold their rights, and to vindicate their wrongs. They knew his principles to be just, correct, and liberal; equally averse from the doctrines

“ It has been published in this city that I am a foreigner, and that if you elect me you will send a foreigner to represent you in a British parliament. Gentlemen, I was born and educated, and have passed my whole life in England, with the exception of a short interval, which was spent in visiting foreign countries. My father, too, was born and educated in England, and spent his whole life in it. My grand-father, it is true, was not an Englishman by birth, but he was an Englishman by choice. He was born the heir to a considerable landed estate at Montpellier, in the south of France. His ancestors had early imbibed and adopted the principles and doctrines of the reformed religion, and he had been educated himself in that religious faith. He had the misfortune to live soon after the time when the edict of Nantz, the great toleration-act of the Protestants of France, was revoked by Louis XIV., and he found himself exposed to all the vexations and persecutions of a bigoted and tyrannical government, for worshipping God in the manner which he believed was most acceptable to him. He determined to free himself from this bondage; he abandoned his property, he tore himself from his connections, and sought an asylum in this land of liberty, where he had to support himself only by his own exertions. He himself embarked in trade; he educated his sons to useful trades; and he was contented at his death to leave them, instead of his original patrimony, no other inheritance than the habits of industry he had given them; the example of his own virtuous life; an hereditary detestation of tyranny and injustice; and an ardent zeal in the cause of civil and religious freedom. To him I owe it, among other inestimable blessings, that I am an Englishman. Gentlemen, this is my origin; and I trust that I need not blush to own it.”

of those men who would govern either by the mob, or the bayonet; they were aware that their new political pilot kept his eye steadily fixed on the great landmarks of the constitution; that he knew liberty and license to be utterly incompatible with each other; and that no one could more ably discriminate between that moderate and salutary reform, which produces safety and stability, and those visionary and pernicious doctrines which lead to ruin and destruction.

His constituents already counted the months and the days that must elapse before they beheld their champion, clad in the panoply of a sainted character, and armed with talents and abilities of the highest proof, entering the lists, and challenging the combat: but alas! their hopes were not destined to be realised; for, like Hampden, and Russel, and Sidney, he was destined to be cut off prematurely, and by the hand of violence, leaving the nation to bewail the untimely doom of one whose character is fully entitled to the respect of the present age, and cannot fail to be recollected with delight by our posterity.

However painful the task of recording the mournful circumstances which led to the sudden termination of a life thus dedicated to the service of mankind, thus ennobled by every virtue, thus crowned with the highest honours which a grateful and admiring Public could confer; it is yet a task which his biographer, in justice to that unsullied fame and exalted character, must not shrink from performing. An adored wife proved the talisman by which he was bound to existence; and the death of Lady Romilly was the immediate precursor of his own. Her declining health had already, for nearly a year, been the source of great and increasing anxiety to her husband. During their residence at their country house at Tanhurst, in Surry, in the month of August, 1818, she had a long interval of comparative health, and hope again established itself in the bosom of her family. In the expectation that the mild air of the Isle of Wight, the charms of a beautiful scenery, and the recreation of agreeable society would tend to confirm her convalescence, they accepted, in the beginning of Sep-

tember, the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Nash, to spend the remainder of the vacation at their hospitable castle, at East Cowes.

Lady Romilly, while there, had a fresh attack of illness, of a nature still more serious and distressing than any she had yet experienced: and Dr. Roget, the nephew of Sir Samuel, was immediately sent for to her assistance. The continual fluctuations of her disorder, sometimes affording gleams of hope, at other periods indicating urgent danger, kept Sir Samuel for a long time in a state of the most fearful suspense. He was daily witness to her sufferings, and with an imagination, which always entered deeply into the distresses of others, while he was proportionally regardless of his own, his sympathy was on this occasion more than ordinarily acute. The image of a beloved wife, languishing for an indefinite period under a protracted and incurable disease, presented itself in the darkest colours to his vivid imagination: it pursued him by day; it haunted him by night. The continuance of this state for many weeks, was more than a frame, already exhausted by the violent alternations of hope and fear, could possibly endure. Sleep fled from his pillow; or came but to agitate him with some terrific dream, from which he awoke with a deep and lasting impression of horror. On one of these occasions, starting from a slumber, in which he had appeared greatly distressed, he mentioned to his friend, Mr. Dumont, who sat by him, that he felt a burning sensation in his head. We mention this circumstance, because it was the only time during his illness that he complained of this, or of any other uneasy sensation in his head.*

He now became alarmed about himself, and was anxious

* The evidence given by Mr. Dumont at the coroner's inquest, as it is reported in the newspapers, differs in this as well as in some other particulars, from that of the medical attendants. This difference is readily accounted for by the great perturbation of mind which that gentleman suffered while giving his evidence, and which betrayed him into many inaccuracies of expression, and into a want of attention to distinctions of great importance, in judging of the case in a medical point of view. That he was led into these mistakes from this and other causes, he has himself very candidly acknowledged in a letter to Dr. Roget, which we have seen.

to obtain relief. A variety of medicines were administered with a view to procure rest, and allay his nervous feelings : but, under the unfavourable circumstances in which they were given, their efficacy was inconsiderable, and their operation transient. He frequently expressed his surprise that his want of sleep did not interfere with his bodily health, that his appetite and digestion continued in full vigour, that no indication of fever existed, and that he felt no uneasy sensation in his head. In conversing with Dr. Roget and Mr. Dumont he dwelt much on this apparent anomaly, and drew from it the most ominous presage as to the probability of its ending in insanity, an apprehension which unfortunately took deep root in his mind. Although in all other respects, he was perfectly in possession of his faculties, yet on this subject his imagination was certainly disordered, and we may trace, in the intensity of this dread, the incipient stage of mental derangement. A striking instance of this feeling appears in one of the testamentary papers written by him about this time, in which he gives particular directions as to the management of his property, the care of his children and the custody of his person and estate, in the event of his becoming a lunatic. It may be remarked also, that the circumstance of his in a great measure losing sight of the primary cause of his grief, and of his fixing his attention so much upon his own feelings, was so opposite to his natural disposition, as in itself to constitute a strong feature of aberration. This was also shown on the arrival of his sister, Mrs. Roget, who, with her daughter, had, at his request, come expressly to the Isle of Wight, in order to console him during his affliction, and for whom he had, throughout his whole life, always evinced the warmest attachment which a brother could feel. Though he expressed to her in strong terms his gratitude for this fresh proof of her affection, he was yet unable to shed a tear, or yield to the emotions which he felt at seeing her on so melancholy an occasion. He appeared equally unmoved by his interview with the two sisters of Lady Romilly, who came to Cowes two days before her death.

Lady Romilly died of dropsy in the chest, in the night of

the 29th of October. Sir Samuel was informed of the event the next morning by Dr. Roget; he received the intelligence with calmness and resignation, and without any effusion of grief. In the course of the day it was proposed to him to quit the scene of his sorrows, and return by easy journeys to London; he immediately and without hesitation agreed to the plan, and directed the arrangements necessary on the occasion. On his arrival at Murrel-Green, the following day, he declared that he was so much exhausted that he could proceed no farther that day, which accordingly was passed at the inn: and towards the evening he became composed. Dr. Roget, who constantly passed the night in his room, observed that, although in general restless, he yet, at intervals, enjoyed tranquil sleep. At no period did he betray the smallest sign of impatience or irritability. The next day he resumed his journey, but as he approached London, his agitation increased, and he once complained to his daughter that his head was disturbed.

In the evening of his arrival at his house in town, after having eaten his dinner with his usual appetite, he expressed a desire to see Dr. Marcet, but did not assign any particular reason for this wish. It has been erroneously reported, that he at that time felt a distressing sense of burning heat in his head. It is, however, certain that, except in the instance above alluded to, which occurred in the Isle of Wight, he never, at any period of his illness, complained of any feeling of this kind. Dr. Marcet directed his inquiries very particularly to the state of the head: and the constant answer of Sir Samuel was, that he had no head-ache, nor any uneasy sensation whatever in his head. The symptoms present were those of a high degree of nervous irritation, unaccompanied by fever or any inflammatory action; but they were of a nature to excite considerable alarm as to the state of his mind. Though he refrained from giving vent to his feelings, it was evident from his manner and from the expressions which dropped from him, that he despaired of his recovery, in spite of every endeavour to inspire him with hope and comfort

Various steps were recommended with a view to allay his extreme irritation; but he objected to all of them in succession, and insisted upon being allowed to go to bed without making any attempt to procure relief, on the ground that he felt he must necessarily pass a wretched night, and that if he were to use any medical prescription it would only have the effect of taking away all his confidence in the powers of medicine.

During the greater part of the night, Dr. Roget, who lay on a bed in the same room, observed that he was perfectly tranquil, and apparently asleep, although when this was mentioned to him the next day by Dr. Roget, he assured him that he was mistaken, and that although quiet, he had never, for an instant, dropped asleep. The next morning he was worse; the restlessness had returned, accompanied with symptoms of fever. We understand that his tongue, which had been clean the night before, became white during the night, and that his pulse rose, at one time, in frequency, to 130 in a minute. Dr. Marcet was immediately consulted, and at his suggestion ice was procured in order to be applied to the head, and it was proposed to have recourse to cupping, for the purpose of preventing determination of blood to the brain, the affection of which organ was now a leading object of consideration: but before taking any decisive measure, it was thought advisable to procure further assistance, and an urgent message was dispatched to Dr. Babington, requesting his immediate attendance. He came with the utmost expedition: but by the time he arrived the state of excitement in Sir Samuel had subsided, and much relief had been experienced in consequence of the breaking out of a copious perspiration. There was still no uneasy sensation in the head, nor was he unpleasantly affected by the glare of day-light.

A consultation was immediately held, in which the propriety of drawing blood from the head and of applying ice, was fully discussed; it was decided, upon mature deliberation, that the adoption of these measures, under the actual circumstances, would not be expedient: other remedies of an active

nature were prescribed: the physicians agreed to meet again at five o'clock in the afternoon: and injunctions were given that any change in the symptoms of his disorder should in the mean while be attentively watched. He took the medicines that had been ordered, without the least reluctance, and continued tranquil and apparently asleep, till about two o'clock. His daughter was then by his bed side; on his awaking, she observed him becoming restless and agitated. To her first inquiry whether she should go and call Dr. Roget, who was in an adjoining room, he answered in the negative; and to her second, he gave a faint assent, Dr. Roget hastened to obey the summons: but in the short interval of Miss Romilly's absence, a sudden paroxysm had seized him, had hurried him from his bed, and had armed his hand against his own life. The razor, with which he had inflicted the fatal wound, was yet in his hand, when Dr. Roget entered his apartment. Before he expired, he made signs that he wished to write, but though supplied with pen and ink, nothing intelligible could be collected from his attempts. He then desisted from making them, and joining his hands, appeared from the movements of his lips and eyes, to be absorbed in fervent prayer. It is hardly necessary to state that the jury summoned on the coroner's inquest, brought in a verdict, that the deceased had destroyed himself while in a state of temporary mental derangement.

United in death, as in life, Sir Samuel and his lady were interred at the same time, and in the same grave, at Knill, the seat of Lady Romilly's ancestors, in Herefordshire.* The funeral, according to the wishes expressed in the will of the deceased, was private, and attended only by his nearest relations, and most intimate friends. Six sons and one daughter have thus been left to deplore, in unison with a multitude of relations and friends, and a sorrowing country, a catastrophe at once so awful and so calamitous.

* It is a singular circumstance that in the parish church of St. Bride, Fleet Street, there is a simple undecorated tablet placed against the wall, with an inscription on it to the memory of Mr. Isaac Romilly, F.R.S. who was the uncle of Sir Samuel, and who died, in 1759, of a broken heart, seven days after the decease of a beloved wife

Thus died in the 62d year of his age, on the 2d of November, 1818, Sir Samuel Romilly, a man inferior to no one in modern, and who might indeed, challenge a comparison, with most of the celebrated names of ancient times.

Eminently gifted by nature with all those qualities which lay the foundation of intellectual superiority, and of moral excellence, few persons have so much improved those gifts by constant and studied cultivation, as the illustrious subject of this memoir; and never, perhaps, have efforts thus directed attained more complete success in every pursuit to which he applied the gigantic powers of his mind. The variety of great and important objects in which he was engaged, throughout the whole course of his public life, sufficiently attest the astonishing extent of his activity, his prodigious facility in the dispatch of business, the immense range of his inquiries, and the comprehensive nature of his views. There has scarcely ever been an individual in whom zeal to promote the liberties, the moral improvement, and happiness of society was so habitual and so deep rooted a passion. It was the spring of all his public exertions; and to this, perhaps, more than to his great talents and attainments, was the peculiarly impressive character of his eloquence to be attributed.

His oratory was keen, powerful, and discriminating; it was by turns bold, animated, and sarcastic. He scorned to make an appeal to the passions; a sacred regard to truth formed the ground-work of his oratory, accordingly doubt, ambiguity, and equivocation, were never resorted to by him; and all his arguments were so plain, simple, and perspicuous, as to carry uniform conviction along with them. So mildly were his great and comprehensive powers exercised, that the whole body of the profession mourned his loss, as if it had been a common calamity. On that melancholy occasion, the solicitors suspended their practice; the counsel abandoned the courts; while the judge forsook the bench, after he had shed a torrent of tears!

In the House of Commons, Sir Samuel Romilly displayed a lofty independence of character, and an exalted love of liber-

ty, duly tempered and chastened with a love of order, and an implicit obedience to the laws. In what manner, with what ability, and with what uniformity, he conducted himself as a legislator, has been already seen; and although he always addressed an unwilling audience, when pleading for reforms, either parliamentary or juridical, yet it must be allowed, that he at the same time experienced a degree of attention, and even of personal respect, that has seldom fallen to the lot of those who stood in the same predicament.

Modest, humane, temperate, Sir Samuel appeared to strangers, to be imbued only with the severer virtues; but his bosom burned with the love of his fellow-creatures, and when he became animated with indignation, against religious persecution — the slave trade of Africa — or any occasional effort of despotism in Europe — his voice assumed a loftier tone, and his eyes flashed indignation around him.

In one point of view, he was eminently felicitous; for he had never made any unmanly concessions either to power or to interest; he never once capitulated either with his conscience or his duties. The effect of such a virtuous uniformity soon became so conspicuous, that it is scarcely possible either duly to describe, or fully to appreciate it. It seemed to irradiate his head with a new species of glory, while it produced a moral force and energy of character, that carried terror and dismay among his opponents.

In the ages of classic simplicity, a whole nation would have assisted in entwining the well merited garland of civic oak, around his honoured tomb. To such a distinguished citizen, Rome would have erected altars, Greece statues; by both he would have been enrolled among their worthies — their patriots, their legislators, their heroes. Indeed, there was something original in his form, features, and complexion. His bust seemed to have been cast in an ancient mould; and his face, like his character, had nothing of the modern about it!

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES.

No. XVI.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE HILEY ADDINGTON.

LATE M.P. FOR DEVIZES, A MEMBER OF HIS MAJESTY'S MOST HONOURABLE THE PRIVY COUNCIL, AND UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE HOME DEPARTMENT.

THE Addingtons have been educated in, and are members of the Pitt school. They inherited, indeed, considerable wealth; but they were first noticed and brought into power by that celebrated statesman, who, in consequence of the effects produced by powerful eloquence, united with very considerable talents, and an utter disregard of all personal and selfish considerations, contrived to illustrate himself, and enrich his friends.

Dr. Addington, the father of the subject of the present memoir, by the fortune he acquired, and the friendships he formed during a long and extensive practice, may be justly considered as the founder of a family, one of which has occupied some of the highest offices in the state, and attained the peerage for himself and his descendants. He was educated at Trinity College, Oxford, where he took the degree of M.D., in 1744, and in 1756 was admitted of the college of Physicians. Soon after this, he retired to Reading in Berkshire, and for many years kept a private madhouse there. On mar-

rying Miss Hiley, however, with whom he obtained an accession of about 15,000*l.* as her dower, he returned to the capital, and was soon distinguished by an extensive practice. He and the late Dr. Heberden, indeed, appear to have been two of the most eminent, as well as successful physicians, then in the metropolis; and what was thus honourably obtained, was not in his case improvidently wasted. On the contrary, he husbanded his acquisitions with such care as to be able to retire to Berkshire, where he purchased a considerable estate; and there he spent the remainder of his life, which was varied, not altered, by occasional visits to town.

But it was not wealth alone that the late Dr. Addington obtained for his family, as it was his peculiar good fortune to acquire a certain degree of intimacy with the great William Pitt, first Earl of Chatham, and, in some measure, to entail this friendship on his descendants. His political tenets, super-added to his medical skill, had so much endeared him to a man who had obtained the appellation of the "heaven-born minister," that he was nominated on his part to negotiate with Sir James Wright, a friend of the old Earl of Bute, about his return to power. But with a sturdiness of principle that might appear singular in the present age, Lord Chatham protested from the very first, "that he would not enter into any coalition;" on which the plenipotentiaries immediately retired. After this, Dr. Addington returned to the country, where he died March 21, 1790, leaving a very considerable fortune behind him.*

* During His Majesty's unfortunate illness in 1789, the opinions of Dr. Addington produced considerable effect on the decision of parliament. When examined before the House of Lords he drew a favourable augury from the non-existence "of any previous melancholy." He also held out the cheering prospect of a speedy convalescence; and thus enabled Mr. Pitt to obtain a suspense of the Regency bill until that circumstance had actually occurred. It was he, also, who suggested the idea of a *pillow stuffed with hops*, which procured the first refreshing sleep for the Royal patient.

Dr. A. had two sons and four daughters. One of the latter, who died a few years ago, was married to Dr. Goodenough, a physician of Oxford; a second to the late Mr. Sutton, formerly a merchant, who had retired to an estate in Somersetshire; a third to Mr. Hoskins, of North Perrot in Wiltshire, originally a clothier; and a fourth to Mr. Bragge, a barrister, now the Right Honourable Charles Bragge Bathurst, &c.

Mr. John Hiley Addington was born about the year 1759, or 1760. He was a younger son, the present Lord Sidmouth being three or four years older. His Christian names were conferred on him out of respect to his maternal *grandfather, and while an infant in the cradle he was left a considerable fortune by the will of a relation. His education was not neglected; he was sent at a proper age to Cheam school, where he remained for a considerable time, under the tuition of the Rev. Mr. Gilpin; thence he was transferred to Winchester, where Dr. Wharton at that time presided, with considerable dignity; thence he repaired to Dr. Goodenough's at Eling; and finally to Oxford. On all these occasions, he accompanied his elder brother Henry; and what is not a little singular, afterwards became his political satellite, as he had formerly been his scholastic one, until unexpectedly extinguished by a sudden and premature death.

Neither our means nor recollection permit us at this moment to decide, whether Mr. J. H. Addington was entered of Lincoln's Inn. Certain it is, that the present Lord Sidmouth was a student there, and *eat* his way to the bar in conjunction with the late Mr. Pitt, with whom he now renewed and strengthened his former acquaintance. That aspiring young man, founding his hopes on the brilliant administration, and illustrious qualities of a sire, from whom he inherited little but his name and ambition, already languished to distinguish himself. He felt "the mighty spirit of his father move within him," but was for some time unable to afford a display of his talents. At length, the late Duke of Rutland prevailed on Sir James Lowther to nominate him; and he was accordingly returned for one of his northern † boroughs: the vice-royalty of Ireland for the one, and an earldom in England for the other, were afterwards conferred as marks of his gratitude!

Meanwhile, the elder Mr. Addington having become first Recorder, and then M.P. for Devizes in Wiltshire, warmly

* The Rev. Howland John Hiley Clark, an eminent schoolmaster.

† Appleby.

supported his young friend in the House of Commons, and was rewarded with a seat at one of the public Boards. In 1789, he was at length elected Speaker of the House of Commons, and conducted himself with such unvarying propriety, as to become exceedingly popular. On the resignation of Mr. Pitt, he was nominated Premier, an event not at all disagreeable to the King, who conferred on him the Ranger's house in Richmond Park, in order to be near his person at all times. On each of these occasions, the subject of this article experienced a correspondent, but subordinate elevation. It was necessary however, in the first instance, that he should obtain a seat in parliament, and he was accordingly returned for the borough of Harwich. He then acted for some time, as joint Secretary of the Treasury, in conjunction with Mr. Vansittart, now Chancellor of the Exchequer.

In 1785, Mr. Addington married Mary, daughter of — Unwin, Esq., by whom he has issue; and on his death, which occurred on Thursday, June 10th, 1818, at Longford in the county of Somerset, he held the office of Under Secretary of State. The disorder which proved fatal, was a stomach complaint, the operation of which was so sudden, and so violent, that Lord Sidmouth was actually unable to reach his seat, in Somersetshire, before this melancholy event had taken place.

In public life, Mr. Addington's politics were in exact accordance with the notions of his elder brother; in private, he exhibited a most amiable, conciliating, and affectionate character.

No. XVII.

JAMES COBB, ESQUIRE.

SECRETARY TO THE EAST INDIA COMPANY AND AUTHOR OF A
NUMBER OF DRAMATIC PIECES.

OF the early life of this singular man, who affected the rare union, of an attention to business with a love for the stage, but little is known, and the very place of his birth is uncertain. He was born in 1756, and it is obvious that his education must have been of a liberal kind. In particular, he was well-acquainted with the French language, and while a boy, displayed a considerable degree of taste for poetry.

He commenced his career at the India House, in 1771, when only fifteen years of age, and after passing through all the subordinate situations in the Secretary's Office, at length attained the envied and lucrative appointment, which placed him at the head of that department.

In 1800, he married Miss Stanfell, a Hampshire lady, who survives him. In private life, he was liberal, open, and unreserved; and during his social hours, in addition to a certain sprightliness of conversation, exhibited much wit, united with good breeding.

We are now to treat of him as a dramatic writer. By frequenting the playhouses, he conceived a love for the stage, and an attachment to many of those who then trod the boards of Drury Lane, and Covent Garden. His first effort was made at the early period of eighteen years of age, when he composed a prologue for Miss Pope, who delivered it with her usual spirit and effect at her benefit, in 1774. Five years after, that same lady exerted her good offices, and displayed her good acting, in the "Contract, or the Female Captain." He also altered a French farce for her benefit, which was afterwards reproduced at the Haymarket, with considerable effect.

“The Wedding Night” was received with diminished applause; but “the Humourist,” and “Strangers at Home,” which proved to be of a more original cast, made ample amends; the latter was a comic opera.

Nothing now appeared either too great, or too little for his grasp, for he assisted Mr. King in his pantomime of “Hurly Burly,” and ridiculed “Recitations,” one of the fashionable amusements of that day, by means of his “English Readings.”

In 1788, he produced a comic opera called “Love in the East,” and in the course of the same year, appeared his “Doctor and Apothecary,” a farce, which still delights the galleries. This was followed by “the Haunted Tower,” the music by the late Signor Storace, which in the theatrical phrase, had “a long run.” The same composer assisted him in the same manner in “the Siege of Belgrade,” “the Pirates,” and “the Cherokee,” a circumstance which insured success. The “glorious first of June,” to commemorate the signal victory of Lord Howe, over the French fleet, produced crowded houses; but “the Shepherdess of Cheapside” was coldly received, and soon after withdrawn.

In the enumeration of Mr. Cobb’s dramatic labours, the following, although supposed to be chiefly borrowed from the French, ought not to be forgotten:—“Kensington Gardens,” an interlude, 1781; “The Algerine Slaves,” a musical entertainment, 1792; “Ramah Droog,” a comic opera, and “Paul and Virginia,” a musical drama, 1800; “Algonah,” a comic opera, and “A House to be Sold,” a musical piece, 1802; “The Wife of Two Husbands,” a musical drama, 1803; “Sudden Arrivals,” a comedy, 1809.

Since the last of these periods, Mr. Cobb ceased to write for the stage; and indeed, increasing infirmities, if they did not embitter, at least rendered the remainder of his days uncomfortable.

His death and character are recorded in the following monumental inscription:

“Sacred to the memory of James Cobb, Esq. late secretary to the Hon. East India Company, which important situation

he filled with distinguished ability, integrity, and zeal. His moral and social character was marked by the tenderest sympathy for human sufferings, and the most benevolent exertions for their relief. To the graces of an accomplished mind, he united the most endearing virtues. He gladdened life by the charm of his manners, and adorned it by his example. The memory of his worth will be his best and most lasting monument, and has afforded his afflicted family consolation and instruction. He departed this life, after a long and painful illness, the 2d of June 1818, in the 62d year of his age, in the humble and devout hope of salvation through the merits of his Redeemer."

No. XVIII.

MATTHEW GREGORY LEWIS, Esq.

AUTHOR OF THE "MONK." &c.

THIS gentleman was the only son of Mr. Lewis, by Miss Sewell, whose family possessed a very considerable fortune, in the island of Jamaica. After living for some years together, a separation by mutual consent took place; they both agreed however, in one point, and that was a devoted attachment to their son, who was born in 1773.

The elder Mr. Lewis, at this period, held a high and lucrative situation under government, for being a man of considerable talents, great quickness, and unexampled diligence, he occupied, during many years, the post of Deputy-Secretary in the War-Office; supposed, during the height of the American contest, besides an allowance under the name of salary, to have produced from fourteen to sixteen thousand pounds *per annum*! A sum unexampled at the present day! At length

an inquiry having taken place, and the fees being withdrawn, he thought proper to retire, on a very handsome pension.

Young Matthew received his education at Westminster School, after which he was sent abroad, with a very liberal allowance, to learn the German, having already obtained a facility in the French. So soon as he had acquired a certain degree of familiarity with the vernacular tongue, at one of the numerous German universities, he applied himself to attain a notion of its literature, the most prominent character of which, at that period, was the *wonderful*, in which he himself greatly delighted. Instead of studying history, or delighting in biography, the former of which might have stored his mind with useful facts, while the latter would have afforded many brilliant examples for his future conduct, our volatile Englishman addicted himself to romance and the drama, whence he doubtless imbibed that taste for the marvellous, which never wholly abandoned him; accompanied, at the same time, with a certain looseness of expression, which at home, produced disgust instead of approbation. Accordingly, while abroad, he composed the "Monk," a work by which he himself was ever afterwards designated.* For the story, on which it is founded, he was however indebted to his native country; it having originated in a tale in the Guardian.

This publication which appeared soon after his return to England, attracted no small degree of attention. The pruriency of several of the passages, was greatly condemned by some, while others, overlooking this licentiousness, in the first production of a very young man, praised him on account of his early genius.

It was deemed prudent, however, to call in all the copies possible to be obtained; as many parts of the story did not exactly comport with our manners, were not deemed proper for the youth of either sex; and seem but little adapted to the pen of a legislator. It has been said, indeed, that one of our societies for the protection of morals, threatened a pro-

* Monk Lewis.

secution, and that the Attorney-General of that day, actually commenced one, in the Court of King's Bench.

Nearly at the same time, Mr. Lewis, instigated partly by hope, and partly by curiosity, determined to obtain a seat in Parliament; and he was accordingly returned for the borough of Hindon, where he was utterly unknown. But if his mind was fired with ambition, on this occasion, he experienced nothing but disappointment; for he had not been formed either by nature or education, to exhibit that popular species of eloquence, which finds admirers either on one side or another of the House of Commons. He accordingly sat during a whole Parliament, without attracting public notice, or even endeavouring to render himself distinguished. At the dissolution therefore, he retired, from a situation in which the expense proved both great and certain, while no possible advantage could be expected.

Mr. Lewis had no sooner retired from his political duties, than he applied himself to those of a far different but more congenial kind. Having, as has already been observed, failed in the House of Commons, he now deigned to court applause in the Theatre, and the Ex-member for Hindon, in 1797, accordingly obtained great success in Drury-Lane, by his "Castle Spectre," a musical drama, which drew crowded and applauding houses. He afterwards composed several tragedies and comedies, and on the loss of the gallant Sir John Moore, published a poetical tribute to his memory.

On the death of his father, Mr. Lewis came into the possession of very considerable plantations in the West Indies, besides a large sum in money. The former of these bequests imposed a duty upon him, and he accordingly determined to fulfil it, in a manner highly honourable to himself. On this occasion perhaps, the ardour of his imagination proved highly favourable to the best interests of humanity. He was now the master of several hundred slaves, daily subjugated to the whips of their black drivers, who were urged, perhaps, by the cruelty, the caprice, or the malevolence of a white task-master insensible to pity, and hardened by long residence, under a

scorching sun, and the contagion of example, into the grossest insensibility. Was he to remain a co-partner with these men in guilt? Was he to trust a "gang," as it is called, of Negroes, entirely to their management and discretion? Was he to be a participator, although both a distant and unconscious one, in their crimes? Actuated by these generous ideas, he determined to trust no longer to the interested reports of others. Instigated by the noblest, most delicate, and most benign feelings, he resolved to encounter all the inconveniences of a long voyage, and all the dangers of an unhealthy season, in compliance to what he deemed an imperative duty! Mr. Lewis accordingly embarked in 1817, for Jamaica, and after a residence of some time there, took his passage for England. But the climate had already inflicted a mortal disease, and he died in the spring of 1818, while passing through the gulf of Florida.

He was never married, and yet seemed calculated to render that state happy; for his manners were elegant, his wit sparkling, and his conversation polished and agreeable. In his person he was small, but his face was expressive, and his eye keen and penetrating.

Thus died, at the age of forty-five, Matthew Gregory Lewis, a martyr to the cause of humanity. Instigated solely by the commendable desire of ascertaining the happiness or misery of the negro slaves on his plantations, he passed the tropic, and encountered the maladies incident to a climate but little favourable to European constitutions. Alas, the result is not yet, and perhaps never will be known. It is impossible to find either comfort or morals in a state of bondage, and this truth has been consecrated by Homer, more than three thousand years ago. The song and the dance, when the mind is diverted for a moment from its miseries, are but very equivocal proofs of happiness: for we perceive, at this very moment, in some remote portions of Europe itself, many unhappy men, born in a state of villenage, who dance to the clink of their own chains! What the deductions made by personal inspection might have been, we are still ignorant of; but if he determined to alleviate their present sufferings, to

encourage marriage, to promote morals, to afford rewards for meritorious actions, and, above all, to enfranchise, by degrees, the miserable animals (for men they cannot be called) consigned to his protection, he deserves no common degree of applause. In this case, we pronounce him to have been actuated with principles worthy of that best species of heroes — not the destroyers, but the benefactors of the human species.

At any rate, Mr. Lewis deserves a high degree of praise; for he is, perhaps, the first Englishman who ever crossed the Atlantic for the purpose of inquiring into the precise state of those consigned by Providence to his mercy and compassion. May his example incite others to follow so bright a model; and although their motive cannot be more pure, we trust that their fate will prove less disastrous!

LIST OF THE WORKS

Of the late M. G. Lewis, Esq.

1. *The Monk*, a Romance, 3 vols. 1795.
2. *Village Virtues*, a Drama, 4to. 1796.
3. *Castle Spectre*, a Musical Drama, 1797.
4. *The Minister*, a Tragedy, from the German of Schiller, 8vo. 1797.
5. *Rolla*, a Tragedy, 8vo. 1799.
6. *The East Indian*, a Tragedy, 8vo. 1799.
7. *The Love of Gain*, a Poem, 4to. 1799.
8. *The East Indian*, a Comedy, 8vo. 1800.
9. *Adelmorn*, or the Outlaw, a Drama, 8vo. 1801.
10. *Alfonzo*, a Tragedy, 8vo. 1801.
11. *Tales of Winter*, 2 vols. 8vo. 1804.
12. *The Bravo of Venice*, a Romance, 8vo. 1804.
13. *Rugantio*, a Melo-drama, 8vo. 1805.
14. *Adelgitha*, a Play, 8vo. 1806.
15. *Feudal Tyrants*, a Romance, 4 vols. 12mo. 1806.
16. *Tales of Terror*, 3 vols.
17. *Romantic Tales*, 4 vols. 12mo.
18. *Venoni*, a Drama, 1809.

19. Monody on Sir John Moore, 8vo.
20. One o'Clock, or the Knight and Wood Demon, a Historical Romance, 8vo. 1811.
21. Timour the Tartar, a Melo-drama, 8vo. 1812.
22. Poems, 8vo. 1812.
23. Rich and Poor, a Comic Opera, 1812.

No. XIX.

COMMODORE SIR JAMES LUCAS YEO, K.C.B. and K.C.

OF ST. BENITO, LATE OF MERRY OAK, IN THE COUNTY
OF SOUTHAMPTON.

THIS gallant officer was the son of James Yeo, Esq. formerly Agent-Victualler at Minorca, who survives him. Born in 1782, he was educated at the academy of the Rev. Mr. Walter, at Bishop's Waltham, in the county of Hants; and from his very cradle, evinced a most ardent attachment to the naval service of his country.

In this earnest wish, he was fully gratified while almost a child, by being placed on the quarter-deck of the Windsor Castle, on board of which the flag of the late Admiral Cosby was then flying. Admiral Sir John Thomas Duckworth, K.G.C.B. (for an account of whom, see vol. ii. p. 136. of the Annual Biography,) soon after this became his patron, and by his interest, he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant when only fifteen years of age. From this moment, he was indebted to his own merits alone for his subsequent rise in life.

Lieutenant Yeo, however, had the good fortune to be placed under an excellent commander, and also to be stationed on board a ship, which, from its orders and destination, afforded him the most ample opportunity of obtaining notice and dis-

unction. Accordingly, having been detached by Captain F. L. Maitland, then commanding *La Loire*, against some of the enemy's vessels which had taken refuge in the port of *El Muros*, on the coast of Spain, he commenced by storming the fort. Having succeeded by his gallantry in this bold attempt, all the vessels in the harbour became his prize, and he actually contrived to carry the whole off in triumph. In consequence of this exploit, our Lieutenant was immediately promoted to the rank of commander, and appointed with peculiar propriety to the *Confiance*, one of the little *flotilla*, which had been captured by his bravery and good conduct.

After this, he proceeded against the French settlement of Cayenne, and conducting himself there with his wonted gallantry and success, he obtained the rank of Post Captain from the Lords of the Admiralty, and the rank of Knight Commander of St. Benito d'Aviso from the Prince Regent of Portugal.

Having now acquired the character of a bold and enterprising officer, Captain Yeo repaired to Canada, where he was invested with the command on the lakes, and soon attracted universal notice by the boldness and originality of his designs, as well as by the intrepidity with which they were carried into effect. But alas! in the prime of manhood, he was attacked by an atrophy, produced by the ardent temperament of a mind, superadded to the daily exertions of a body, which became at length incapable of supporting such incessant fatigue. A general debility accordingly ensued, and in a short time terminated the mortal career of a man who was ever eager to promote the honour and prosperity of the naval service of his country, in the 38th year of his age.

His remains were brought home in the *Semiramis*, and interred in September, 1818, in the Garrison Chapel of Portsmouth, amidst the naval and military honours due to his rank and merits.

No. XX.

VICE-ADMIRAL SIR RICHARD ONSLOW, BART. G. C. B.

ADMIRAL OF THE RED, AND LIEUTENANT-GENERAL OF THE
ROYAL MARINE FORCES.

THIS naval officer was related to the Onslows, Earls of Onslow, the founder of which family was the Right Hon. Arthur Onslow, Speaker of the House of Commons in five following parliaments, viz. from 1727 to 1761; who on his retreat received an unanimous vote of thanks, "for his constant and unwearied attendance in the chair, during the course of above thirty-three years."

Sir Richard Onslow was a younger son of the late Lieutenant-General Richard Onslow, brother to the Speaker. He was born in 1741, and bred in the naval service of the country, into which he entered at a very early period of his life.

How long Mr. Onslow remained a midshipman is uncertain; but his first appointment as a Lieutenant occurred so early as December 27, 1758.

In July 1761, he was advanced to the rank of master and commander, in which situation he did not continue one year, having been made *post* into the Humber, a ship of forty guns, on the 14th of April 1762.

A long peace now ensued; but soon after the commencement of the American war, we find Captain Onslow serving under Admiral Earl Howe, whom he accompanied in his expedition to Rhode Island, in 1778, in quest of the French fleet. In July 1780, he captured the Dutch ship of war, Princess Caroline, of fifty-four guns.

In 1790, he was appointed to the command of the Magnificent, of seventy-four guns, at a time when a war with Spain

about Nootka Sound was actually in contemplation! Hostilities with France soon after ensued; and in 1793, in consequence of a promotion connected with that event, the subject of this memoir was advanced to the rank of Rear-Admiral of the White.

After acting for some time as Post-Admiral at Plymouth, in 1796, Rear-Admiral Onslow was selected as second in command on board the fleet then fitting out under the orders of the late gallant Lord Duncan. This squadron, on which the eyes of all England, and indeed of all Europe, were now fixed, was destined to act in the North Sea. On that occasion, he obtained the command of the *Monarch*, a seventy-four gun ship, and while his flag was flying on board of her, most powerfully contributed to the defeat of the Dutch naval forces, under Admiral De Winter.

The *Monarch* indeed commenced the action, and sustained greater injury than any one in the English line of battle, the *Ardent* alone excepted; notwithstanding which, the *Jupiter*, of seventy-four guns, and 550 men, with the flag of Vice-Admiral Reritjees on board, was obliged to strike to her.

Here follows a more particular account of this engagement :

“ The equinoctial gales having obliged Admiral Duncan to quit his station, and retire to Yarmouth to repair his ships, the Dutch commander De Winter embraced the opportunity to sail from the Texel, in order to join the Brest fleet. But the British admiral having received intimation of his motions by the cruizers which he had left off the Dutch coast, hastened in pursuit of him. His first object was to place his squadron between the Dutch fleet and the entrance of the Texel, so as to prevent the possibility of returning without being brought to action.

“ On the morning of the 11th of October, he chased the Dutch fleet, and about noon came up with them about nine miles from the shore. The action commenced about forty minutes after twelve, Admiral Duncan in the *Venerable*, broke through the enemy's line, and with his division brought their van to close action, which was maintained with the utmost

gallantry on both sides, for two hours and a half, when all the masts of the Dutch admiral's ship went by the board; still however, the brave Dutchman continued to fight in the most gallant style, till overpowered by numbers, and having lost more than half his crew, he was compelled to strike, and his colours were carried on board the Venerable.

“ About that same time, the Dutch vice-admiral surrendered to Vice-Admiral Onslow; and at four in the afternoon the action ceased, when ten sail of the line and one frigate had surrendered to the English. The remainder of the Dutch fleet, consisting of five sail of the line and several frigates, escaped by favour of the night.

“ This was one of the best contested actions of the whole war. The loss of the English in killed and wounded was 750, and that of the Dutch much more considerable. This victory completely defeated the grand object of the French Directory, and convinced them that it was much more easy to talk of wresting from the British the sceptre of the ocean, than to reduce their threats to practice.”

The gallant conduct of Vice-Admiral Onslow on this occasion was speedily recognised and recompensed by his country. He was accordingly created a Baronet, received the thanks of both Houses of Parliament, and presented with the freedom of the city of London, accompanied by a sword of 100 guineas value.

In 1799, Sir Richard resigned his command in the North Sea fleet, and nearly at the same time was promoted Admiral of the Blue. Subsequently to this, he was nominated to the lucrative sinecure appointment of Lieutenant-General of the Royal Marines, and honoured with the grand cross of the Order of the Bath.

The Admiral died at Southampton, on Dec. 27th, 1817, in the 77th year of his age.

No. XXI.



WILLIAM PRESTON, Esq.

ON the death of great literary characters, the altars usually smoke with incense, statues are erected to their memory, the diurnal press teems with panegyric, and every tongue becomes eloquent in their praise. Amidst the splendour of distinguished talents, it is forgotten that a humble but meritorious class of men exists in this metropolis, who may be termed the *accoucheurs* of literature; for they assist at the parturition of every *tome*, and contribute essentially to the safe delivery of every author. Enthroned in the immediate view of the *chapel*, surrounded by compositors and pressmen, and ministered to by Levites, whom the vulgar call *Printers' devils*, the corrector, on perusing the first sheet of manuscript, immediately feels the pulse, and readily perceives the state, both bodily and mental, of his patient. By means of certain marks and signs, to the full as difficult of comprehension to the uninitiated as the prescriptions of a modern physician, he delicately suggests meliorations

and improvements; questions both dates and facts; and is critically correct, even to a comma, or a semicolon. The author's name is, indeed, affixed to the title-page, and his rank and degrees blazoned forth in due form and order; but it is by an unknown and an unseen hand that the stately quarto, the commodious octavo, or the spruce duodecimo, is ushered into the world, after being bereaved of its numerous errors and excrescences, and dressed out with a certain degree of taste and elegance for public exhibition.

William Preston, who appertained to, and was for many years considered as at the head of, this useful and meritorious body, was a native of Scotland. Born at Edinburgh, July the 28th, 1742, O. S., he was extremely fortunate in respect to his education, which commenced at the High School, and was completed at the university of that city.

As his family was not rich, it became absolutely necessary for him to learn some profession, and luckily that of a printer was pitched upon. It was fortunate, too, that he became an apprentice to one of the Ruddimans, for this led to an intimacy with his learned and celebrated brother, and by becoming his amanuensis, he doubtless acquired a taste for style and composition, which proved highly beneficial to him in future life. Being ambitious of preferment, he repaired to London at the early age of 18, provided with ample testimonials of his character, and a letter of introduction to one of the most eminent printers of his day. This was the late William Strahan, Esq., whose station as Printer to the King, and M. P., however respectable, was in some measure eclipsed by and completely merged in philosophical and literary connections; for he was the friend of Robertson and Blair; the associate of Franklin, at a period when the name of the latter had become illustrious in the annals of science; and the companion and confidant of Johnson, at a time when our great Lexicographer had been placed by his genius and his learning at the head of English literature!

Under the auspices of Mr. Strahan, Mr. Preston not only found employment as a compositor, but in a short time

was advanced to the station of a Reader, and soon acquired a degree of accuracy and precision that rendered him a valuable acquisition. His emoluments increased with his proficiency, and he at length determined to marry. The partner chosen by him on this occasion happened to be a widow, (Mrs. Chapman,) whose maiden name was Sarah Couchman, a native of Kent. As she did not possess much wealth, he was perhaps captivated, among other accomplishments, by a good voice, which enabled her to sing songs in praise of masonry, of his own composition, with considerable spirit and effect; and he himself constantly listened to them with an uncommon degree of eagerness and animation. In the course of a few years, however, death deprived him of his wife.

The subject of this narrative continued with his usual assiduity to superintend the press, while two other objects occasionally occupied his mind and diverted his leisure hours. The first of these was poetry; for at an early age he had courted the Muses, and wrote many a sonnet on the charms both of real and ideal beauties. There is reason, however, to suppose, that as he advanced in years, the ardour of his imagination gradually cooled; or rather, that the pursuit in question was forced to yield to another, which became his master-passion. This was a love for Free-masonry; and never, since the commencement of Cupid's reign, did a youthful lover court his mistress with more fervent devotion than he did this occult and mysterious science. To attain an excellence and pre-eminence in it, he sacrificed his time, his money, and his health; and he was not a little flattered by one of his works on this favourite subject, "Illustrations of Masonry," passing through more editions than any of the most popular novels of the present age.

Whether he had been originally initiated at Edinburgh is now difficult to pronounce; but certain it is, that soon after his arrival in England he was admitted a member of this society, which, so far as it is grounded on universal charity and benevolence, will always be entitled to admiration and respect.

After the usual gradations of service and of honours, Mr. Preston arrived at the dignity of Master of the Lodge of Antiquity, and was invested in due form with all the *paraphernalia* appertaining to that exalted station. But unhappily this branch of the fraternity, for a variety of reasons, was deemed *heretical* by the body at large. It had been guilty, it seems, of certain informalities, and was accordingly declared to be disfranchised, and out of the pale of genuine free-masonry. At length, however, a reconciliation took place, and Mr. Preston lived long enough to behold the Lodge of Antiquity considered not only as the first in rank, but the first in excellence, and distinguished above all others by a Prince* of the blood presiding over its mysteries. At his death he testified his respect for this institution by founding a lectureship, in conformity to the system practised during his "mastership."

His ardour for the masonic art did not however interfere with duties of another kind. The subject of this memoir had now attained considerable eminence as a corrector of the press, and his talents and industry in this branch had merited and obtained the confidence of Mr. Strahan. Having arrived at such a degree of skill as to be entrusted with the manuscripts of the most distinguished men of the age, he was employed to usher in their works to the public. Accordingly the labours of a Hume, a Gibbon, a Johnson, and a Blair, were successively submitted to his inspection and remarks. This necessarily begot an intercourse, and, in due time, an intimacy, with these celebrated men. The *presentation copies* transmitted by them, and which always occupied a distinguished place in his library, at once infer their esteem, and his merits.

Mr. Preston was now advanced to be superintendent of the great establishment in Printers-street; and whoever has beheld the numerous assemblage of readers, compositors, and pressmen, and contemplated the immense quantity of literature printed there, must acknowledge that this was

* His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex.

a situation which required considerable ability, while it was accompanied with no small degree of trust, confidence, and responsibility. How far he proved worthy, may be readily inferred from the conduct of Mr. Strahan, who, with his accustomed liberality, left him an annuity for life.

After this event, Mr. Preston continued to superintend the printing-office during many years, until the present Mr. Strahan, if we are not greatly mistaken, kindly admitted him as a partner in a branch of his extensive business. Such a circumstance as this was of course highly flattering; and it tended not a little to cheer the declining years of the subject of the present biographical notice. The remainder of his days, so long as health remained, was spent partly in an assiduous attention to the duties of the printing-house, where he had been engaged for about fifty-five years, and partly in the study and diffusion of the blessings of free-masonry, of which science he had been the zealous panegyrist for more than half a century. It was he who instituted the "Freemason's Calendar;" and it is not a little remarkable, that in the midst of avocations which would have involved men less accustomed to order in embarrassment and confusion, he found time to act as editor of "the London Chronicle," to which he contributed largely by his criticisms on the works that came under his review.

At length age and infirmities began to undermine his constitution, and after a protracted illness of nearly five years, he expired at his house in Dean-street, Fetter-lane, in the immediate vicinity of the scene of his former labours, in the 76th year of his age. At his own particular request, his body was interred under St. Paul's Cathedral, near to that of his former friend and benefactor, the late William Strahan, Esq.

He left a good library behind him, and considerable property, which by his will he has judiciously bequeathed among his friends and dependants. His love for free-masonry, is testified by a bequest of 1300*l.* *consols*, 500*l.* of which is to be bestowed on that excellent institution the Female Charity School.

No. XXII.

RIGHT HON. WILLIAM ELLIOTT.

THIS gentleman was of Scottish origin, being descended from the Elliotts of Minto, who have been lately ennobled, and at whose seat he died in the autumn of 1818. Mr. Elliott, after a good education in England, was so fortunate as to acquire the notice of the late Mr. Burke, and having either been originally imbued with, or become a convert to his political principles, that gentleman patronised him with the same zeal and effect that he had cherished the late Dr. Lawrence.

When the Duke of Bedford was sent as Viceroy to Ireland, Mr. Elliott accompanied him thither as Secretary, and became a member of the Privy Council, as well as representative for Portarlington, in the first Imperial Parliament. On this occasion he displayed considerable talents, united with much suavity of manners; but being exceedingly *thin and meagre* in his person while officially employed in Dublin, he obtained the *sobriquet* of "the Castle Spectre."

By the friendship of Mr. Burke, Mr. Elliott was also introduced to Earl Fitzwilliam, and in the Parliaments of 1802, 1806, and 1807, &c. was nominated one of the representatives for the city of Peterborough. In 1818, he was again returned, and being a man of correct habits, seemed calculated, by nature, to have survived most of his contemporaries.

The following eulogium was written by one of his friends :

"Mr. Elliott, though connected with Scotland by descent and property, was born and educated in England.

"Intimate in early youth with the son of Mr. Burke, he was soon distinguished by the friendship of that great man and by that of his celebrated scholar Mr. Windham. With

him the bright society of their friends and followers is nearly extinct. By his death his country has lost one of her most accomplished gentlemen, and Parliament is bereaved of an ornament which can hardly be replaced.

“ Few men have united so much dignity in public with such amiable qualities in private life as Mr. Elliott, and there is no man whose loss will be felt with more sincere and unmingled regret. His eloquence was peculiarly his own. He spoke seldom in Parliament; but with a mild gravity, with evident marks of conscious deliberation, and with an urbanity and equity towards his opponents, which gave an authority to his speeches unattained by the greatest orators of his time.

“ His utterance, his figure, and his countenance, were suited to his eloquence. He had a great power of condensation, a talent peculiar to those minds only who have gained a complete mastery over the subject of discourse. His most ingenious reasonings were conveyed in transparent language. His diction was pure English, correct beyond the level of public speaking, always elegant, and on fit occasions it naturally rose towards majesty. In a word, he wanted no quality necessary to instruct, to conciliate, and to persuade. Others have spoken with more force, but no man ever spoke with more permanent possession of the honest partiality of an audience. It is true that a part of this gentle ascendant over the House of Commons flowed from the character of the man as much as from the powers of the orator. His spotless life, his unbending integrity, and his lofty sense of honour, were too generally known, and too perceptible through his modest deportment, not to bespeak attention and favour for whatever fell from him.

“ These moral qualities were still more important in the relations of private life. His society, his good sense, and various knowledge, were adorned by a most pure taste, and by an unusual degree of unaffected elegance in familiar conversation. As he was modest and delicate, he had somewhat of the neighbouring quality of reserve; and though his polished manners pleased those who were strangers to him, the charms of his society were felt only by his intimate friends. In the midst of

the tears and praises offered by a whole Parliament to the memory of Mr. Horner, none of the affecting speeches delivered on all sides conveyed more evidently the tribute of a kindred spirit than that of Mr. Elliott.

“ Perhaps it was an error in judgment that he directed his attention more to the latter works of Mr. Burke, written in times of heat and violence, and applied to circumstances happily of very rare occurrence, than to his earlier and calmer writings, which are more abundant in lessons suited to the ordinary condition of society. But the moderation of his character tempered his opinions. He delighted in the society of those who applied the same principles in a manner very unlike to his own, and perhaps he felt somewhat of that delight which Mr. Windham said that he experienced when he escaped from his ministerial connections, to breathe once more the free air of his former societies, and of his old friendships.

“ As his own constant friendship survived the shock of political difference, he reaped the reward of this excellent part of his nature, in never exciting alienation in his friends when he differed from them most widely and at the most critical moments. On one occasion he was compelled to dissent from that venerable person *, whom he called “ the last link in his public and private friendships.” It was a grievous calamity; but it served more brightly to display the firmness of his principles, and the tenderness of his friendship. Both these excellent persons revered each other the more for their conscientious difference; and their friendship was consolidated (for a time, alas! too short) by that which dissolves vulgar connections.”

The remains of Mr. Elliott arrived on the evening of Tuesday the 10th of November, at his house in Old Burlington-street, from Scotland. On the next day, they were removed for interment to the family vault at Reigate, in the county of Surrey. The carriages of the Earls of Minto and Fitzwilliam, together with those of Lord Grenville, Lord Holland, &c. attended the funeral.

* Earl Fitzwilliam.

No. XXIII.

ROBERT BEATSON, LL.D. AND F. R. S. OF EDINBURGH.

THIS laborious and useful compiler was born in 1742, at Dysart, in the county of Fife. Conceiving an attachment to the military profession, in 1756 he obtained an ensigncy in a marching regiment, and in 1757 served in the expedition to the coast of France. Having soon after been advanced to the rank of Lieutenant in the army, he proceeded in that capacity to the West Indies, and was present during the attack on Martinico, in which he assisted, as well as at the capture of Guadaloupe. About 1766 he retired on half-pay, in which condition he was suffered to remain during the whole of the American war, notwithstanding his repeated solicitations for employment.

On this, as he detested idleness on one hand, and was much addicted to reading on the other, Mr. Beatson determined to pursue a literary career, in which indeed he continued to exhibit unexampled ardour during a period of nearly half a century.

In 1786 our author composed a most useful and laborious work, entitled "A Political Index to the Histories of Great Britain and Ireland." On this occasion, acting merely as a literary pioneer, if he did not reap great glory to himself, yet he at once facilitated the labours of others, and contributed at the same time to elucidate the private history of both this and the sister island.

In 1790, Mr. Beatson (for he had not as yet obtained a degree) published his "Naval and Military Memoirs of Great Britain," in 3 vols. 8vo. This is a continuation of Campbell's Historico-Chronological publication, which, until it became

obsolete, stood very high in the public estimation. It is a work of research and detail, greatly resembling his Political Index. No great merit indeed is required; for accuracy in respect to dates, and correctness as to facts, seem alone requisite. "The following work," observes he, "is intituled NAVAL AND MILITARY MEMOIRS OF GREAT BRITAIN. The author does not assume the name of *History*; both because he was diffident of his own abilities to give his work the high polish and finishing which a well-written history requires; and because his plan was to be more particular and minute, respecting individual services, than general history will admit of. Upon a subject which he considers as of the highest importance to his country, he has been long assiduously employed in collecting materials, and he hopes now to be able to lay before the public that ample and particular information of naval transactions, which seemed so much to be wanted by the inhabitants of this island.

"The military transactions recorded in these volumes are such only as have a relation to maritime affairs, or are connected with naval services, which form the primary and principal object of the present work. In his view he is of opinion, that many advantages may result from an accurate examination of such combined expeditions; and he therefore has been minute in the detail of them.

"The narration of naval and military services commences with the year 1727, where the celebrated Dr. Campbell, in his *Lives of the Admirals*, leaves off; and it is meant to be continued to the year 1789. The volumes at present published proceed as far as 1763. The sequel is in great forwardness; and if the public shall approve of what is now laid before them, the rest, consisting of more recent and newer materials, will soon after follow.

"With respect to naval transactions, his intention is to be full and complete; giving a particular account, not only of the operations of fleets and squadrons, but noticing every action fought by single ships, and every instance of meritorious naval service. Such minuteness he deems essential to

his plan; and he thinks it may prove highly beneficial to his country. It is not the magnitude of the object that makes courage or zeal conspicuous, or merit more apparent: the private captain, in fighting even a sloop of war, may manifest that professional skill and ability, which shall hereafter point him out to his country, as qualified to be entrusted with her highest and most important commands.

“That the narration be not too much encumbered, he has in the text omitted the description of places, most of the public letters, capitulations, naval and military returns, lines of battle, &c. &c. But, as he holds such particulars to be essential for the complete information of the reader, he has carefully collected and placed them chronologically, in a copious Appendix subjoined to the end of each volume, to be referred to at pleasure.

“Such is the plan of the work. With regard to the style, the author meant to be plain, and wished to be perspicuous. In the collection of materials, he has been assiduous, and he hopes successful. To Britain, no subject can be of equal importance with her navy. Its history, from the æra at which these memoirs commence, has hitherto been defective; principally from the want of information in those authors who have attempted its continuance. To supply that information is the great object of the present work; and by so doing, to rouse the attention of Britain to her navy, which must be for ever, the bulwark of her strength, and the tower of her glory.”

The Author appears a great enemy to the inglorious administration of Sir Robert Walpole; he is extremely severe also on the conduct of such of his countrymen as supported the House of Stuart in its last attempt to assume the sovereignty of this country. President Forbes is his hero, and he was, perhaps, the greatest man of his age. The Appendix is valuable, not only on account of the lists it contains, but also on account of an historical and geographical description of all such of the enemy's settlements as were attacked by us.

In 1807, Mr. Beatson published another useful and laborious collection, entitled, “A Chronological Register of both

Houses of Parliament, from the Union in 1708 to the third Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland." By this time he was gratified by the publication of a third edition of a former work, to which he had prefixed a third preface; but on the present occasion, we do not find any introduction whatsoever. This, perhaps, was unnecessary, as by means of a double index, it affords a very easy reference to the state of representation in all counties, cities, and boroughs of the kingdom; while it at the same time, furnishes a list, not only of every person who has served in parliament during the last century, but also of the period during which they remained, and by whom they were succeeded.

Meanwhile our Author had obtained the degree of LL.D. for the University of Edinburgh; and still continuing his laborious career, he published "Naval and Military Memoirs of Great Britain, from 1727 to the present Time." To the above may be added, an ingenious essay, "On the comparative Advantages of Vertical and Horizontal Windmills, together with several Communications to the Board of Agriculture," of which he was an honorary member.

Dr. Beatson died at Edinburgh, Jan. 23d, 1818, in the 77th year of his age.

No. XXIV.

OLD JOHN SMITH.

INDIVIDUALS possessing rank and talents in society have the fairest claim to biographical distinction. But where these are

wanting, *eccentricity* of character alone will sometimes produce narrative both amusing and instructive; and accordingly the names of persons in humble stations, have often been recorded merely on account of some singularity which attends them not generally observed in others in the passing scenes of life.

John Smith, born in or about the year 1719, although not destined to fill an elevated station, was by no means obscure; for few men were better known in the great circle of his movements.

But little can be learned of his early life, and it was not until he had the good fortune to be admitted into His Majesty's printing office, as "errand carrier," which title he converted into "King's messenger," that he became a conspicuous character. From that moment his conduct corresponded to the idea he entertained of his own importance. After the appointment, he assumed a singular appearance, and affected a dignity of manner which he never laid aside. His official duties frequently called him to both chambers of parliament, as well as to all the great public offices connected with the crown; and "Old John," as he was familiarly called, generally excited a smile from the great officers of state, as well as the heads of the various departments, in succession, during a period of fourscore years.

It was the business of his humble station, to carry on his back, a bag loaded with His Majesty's speeches, bills, addresses, proclamations, &c. on which occasions, the privacy of the inner chambers of the Treasury and Exchequer was not sacred from his intrusion. The doors of a secretary of state, and the gates of the palace at Lambeth, flew open on his appearance.

"His antiquated and greasy garb corresponded with his grotesque shape, and an immense cocked hat was in continual motion, to assist him in the bows of the old school: the recognition or nod of great men in office was his delight. But he imagined that this courtesy was due to his character, as being identified with the state; and the Chancellor and the Speaker were considered by him in no other view than as

persons filling departments in common with himself; for the seals of the one, and the mace of the other, did not, in his estimation, distinguish them more than the bag used by himself in the transmission of the dispatches entrusted to his care. The imperfect intellect given to him, seemed only to fit him for the situation he filled. Take him out of it, he was as helpless as a child, and easily became a dupe to those who were inclined to impose upon him. With a high opinion of his own judgment, however, he diverted himself and others by mimicking the voice and manner of his superiors, when he thought he perceived any assumption of character. John could imitate the strut and swell of the great man, and even the frivolity of the fop. Seeing in his time packets to the same individuals addressed from plain "Mr." to "the Right Honourable," afforded him subject for much joke; and he frequently used to observe, that it would shortly come to Old John's turn to become an Esquire or Knight himself.

He had a high veneration for ecclesiastical dignitaries, and never visited a church unless a Bishop was to preach. The infrequency of that opportunity disposed him, at one period of his life, to fit up his room as a chapel, with an altar and a figure* of his own contrivance, dressed in canonicals, before which he used to read the church service.

Though his ruling passion was vanity, yet he never despised money; avarice laid hold of him, and his delight was to count his wealth. A few years ago, a fellow came to him in a great hurry from a meeting of noblemen at the Crown and Anchor, requiring his attendance with a bag of silver for change to give away to the poor, for which he would get double the value in notes; the rogue succeeded in his stratagem, and poor John was caught in the snare. †

About this time a few gentlemen at Westminster had his

* This figure was originally a general officer, as the editor has been assured by indisputable authority; but he contrived to blacken the gaudy uniform, and form an archiepiscopal wig, by means of chalk.

† The Right Hon. George Rose, liberably contributed towards the loss of his old friend and contemporary, on this occasion; indeed John always considered him as one of his colleagues.

likeness taken; and engraved copies of John's picture were distributed among all his friends, of whom he reckoned a great personage to be one, having heard that a print was sent to Windsor, and a pension for his long services was expected from that quarter. Seeing his portrait hung up in the first offices in the kingdom, the poor fellow felt that he had attained the summit of human distinction; the measure of his ambition was full, and he looked in vain to his former pursuits for his accustomed pleasure.

It had been recounted of him, that he was dutiful to an ancient mother, and sacrificed his own comforts for a parent's support: but it was not known that he ever felt the tender passion of love. It was now John's fate, at fourscore and ten, to discover himself to be a son of Adam. Female warmth melted the seals set on his thrifty bags, and the soothings of a daughter of Eve converted the miser into the spendthrift; the fair one, having squandered his all, left him. The poor fellow, though a great man, was honest; and the liberal establishment to which he belonged, adhered to him in his last moments.

Like the leaves of Autumn, generations of men are swept away, and are soon forgotten; and though the station of this singular being was humble, yet as his hand has conveyed papers of state to most of the great men of the last and present century; ministered with fidelity in this way from the days of Sir Robert Walpole, beyond the time of the second William Pitt, and bearing on his back the mighty results of their labours, poor old John, who was as important in his own conceit as any statesman of his time, may put in his claim also for his share of renown."

At length "Old John," forced to drop his "bag," by the same stern hand, that would oblige a Lord Chancellor to resign the seals, died at his apartments in Shoe Lane, January, 9, 1818, aged 99.

No. XXV.



MADAME DE STAEL.

ANNE-LOUISE-GERMAINE NECKER was the daughter of James Necker, a Swiss, whose financial career contributed probably more than any other cause to accomplish the overthrow of the French monarch, and of Susan Curchod, of whom we knew little till she became the wife of Necker, except that she was the daughter of a Protestant clergyman in Switzerland, admired by Gibbon during his residence in that country, and at one time a governess in the family of De Vermenoux.

Anne-Louise was born at Paris in the year 1766, and, displaying what her parents might well consider to be precocity of talent, was educated entirely under their immediate inspection. The incipient fame of her father seems to have grown with her growth; and she must have been about twelve years of age, when, in consequence of his eulogy on Colbert (for which he was crowned by the academy), and other publications, he was raised to the office of Director of the Finances.

Necker, though of humble birth, being the son of a tutor in the college of Geneva, had previously realised a large fortune as a partner in the great Parisian banking-house of Thellusson and Co. which he originally entered as a clerk. His success as a private individual, was taken as an augury of success as a public minister, which was miserably disappointed by the result. It is unnecessary to follow the fortune of the father through the fluctuations of his ministerial life; now dismissed, and now recalled; now the staunch advocate for royalty, and now the friend of the people; now "*the adored Minister*," and now the abhorred peculator; now borne in triumph from Basle to Paris on the shoulders of an enthusiastic nation, and now flying from Paris to Geneva amid the curses of an enraged populace. These things were common in France! Neither does it enter into our design to dwell upon the literary attainments of the mother, her charities and philanthropy. Suffice it to record, that while Necker published political pamphlets, views of finance, and statements of administration, his spouse was no less devoted to works of benevolence; as is honourably testified by her "*Essay on precipitate Burials*," "*Observations on the Founding of Hospitals*," and "*Thoughts on Divorce*."

Our only reason for touching on the progenitors of Mademoiselle Necker, is to account for her early predilection for literary pursuits. She was educated for an author. Her first perceptions were directed to Science and Literature. Her infant ideas were associated with the intelligence of Marmon- tel, Diderot, Buffon, St. Lambert, Thomas, and all the learned of Paris who formed the circles of her mother. Her talents were cultivated, her taste was modelled, the bent of her mind was given, her opinions were confirmed, in short, her intellect was formed in this school; and the philosophy then prevalent in France, too often concealing dark principles under brilliant wit, and lapsing from the light of reason into the perplexities of abstract metaphysics, became the dominating principle in her nature, and imparted the tone to all her writings and life. As love of change and ambition were the ruling passions

of her father, so were sentimental refinement and metaphysical confusion the besetting sins of her more amiable parent; and a disorganizing, experimental philosophy, was the object of inquiry with nearly all those associated with her "young idea" and "tender thought."

To these sources may be traced almost every feature which marks the faculties, or distinguishes the writings, of Madame de Stael. The events of the revolution only drew them forth; they were implanted ere it commenced.

Mademoiselle Necker was little more than fourteen years of age when, in pursuit of his ambitious projects, her father published the memorable "Account rendered to the King of his Administration," which created so strong a sensation throughout France, and led to the resignation of the author's official situation in 1781. He then retired to Copet, a barony in Switzerland, which he had purchased; and six years elapsed before he re-appeared, permanently, on the public stage at Paris. In 1787 we find him in that capital attacking Calonne; and the years 1788 and 1789 constitute the æra which so intimately connected his history with the destinies of France, and the annals of Europe.

It was during one of the occasional visits of the Necker family to Paris, prior to 1787, that Eric Magnus, Baron de Stael, by birth a Swede, was introduced to their acquaintance by Count de Creutz, the Swedish Ambassador. He was young and handsome, and succeeded in pleasing Mademoiselle Necker, who consented to become his wife. Count de Creutz was shortly after recalled to Stockholm to be placed at the head of the foreign department, and Baron de Stael was appointed his successor. Thus dignified, and with the further recommendation of being a Protestant, his marriage was not delayed; and the rich heiress, to the chagrin of many French suitors, became Baroness de Stael Holstein. We believe, however, that this union did not prove to be one of the most felicitous. The lady was wealthy, young, and though not handsome, agreeable and attractive; she was rather under the middle size, yet graceful in her deportment and manners; her

eyes were brilliant and expressive, and the whole character of her countenance betokened acuteness of intellect, and talent beyond the common order. But she inherited to the utmost particle from her father his restless passion for distinction; and derived from the society in which she had lived not a little of that pedantry and philosophical jargon which was their foible and bane. Aiming more at literary fame than at domestic happiness, she was negligent in dress, and laboured in conversation; more greedy of applause from a coterie, than solicitous about a husband's regard; more anxious to play "Sir Oracle" in public, than to fulfil the sweet duties of woman in private; the wife was cold, and the blue stocking ardent; she spoke in apophthegms to admiring fashion, but delighted no husband with the charms of affectionate conversation: to be brilliant was preferred to being beloved; and to producing an effect upon the many was sacrificed the higher enjoyment of being adored by the few. The Baron de Stael was a man, on the contrary, of remarkable simplicity of habit and singleness of heart. The opposite nature of their dispositions could not fail soon to affect connubial harmony; and though four children were the issue of this marriage, and what are called public appearances were maintained till the death of the Baron, it is generally understood that there was little of communication between him and his lady beyond the legal ties of their state.

In August 1787, Madame de Stael was delivered of her first daughter, and immediately after accompanied her father in his exile, which was of short duration. Her other children were two sons and a daughter. Two only survive her. One of her sons lost his life in a duel.

The year 1789 is designated as the epoch at which Madame de Stael embarked upon the stormy sea of literature, by the publication of her "Letters on the Writings and Character of J. J. Rousseau." But previous to this period she was well known to the Parisian world by the composition of several slight dramatic pieces, which were performed by private amateurs; by three short novels published afterwards, 1795,

at Lausanne; and by a tragedy founded on the story of Lady Jane Grey, which obtained considerable circulation among her friends and admirers. Her reputation was therefore no secret when her first public appeal was made. The letters on Rousseau met with great success; and the budding fame of the writer was attended with all the *eclat* usual among our continental neighbours. This triumph was, however, abridged and embittered by the critical and rapid advance of the Revolution; on the 11th of July M. Necker was involved more desperately in its vortex. While seated at dinner with a party of friends, the Secretary of State for the Naval Department waited upon him to intimate his banishment from the territory of France. Madame de Stael, whose whole life has been erratic, accompanied her parents in their hurried exile. A new political turn recalled them by the time they reached Frankfort, and Necker was once more reinstated in the administration, in which he remained fifteen months, and was then driven from office for ever to the retirement of Copet, where he died on the 9th of April, 1804.

Madame de Stael, who had gone to Copet in 1790, returned in the following year to Paris, and took an active part in the intrigues of that eventful period. At this time she formed or matured intimacies with Talleyrand, Sieyes, La Fayette, Narbonne, the ungrateful Lameths, Barnave, Vergniaud, and other characters distinguished for the parts they played in the Constituent, Legislative, and other bodies, whose operations introduced the germ of discontent into the tree of Liberty. As the wife of an ambassador she was protected from the first violent shocks of revolution; but the bloody ascendancy of Robespierre rendered all protection vain, and in 1793 the Baron and Baroness de Stael found it expedient to fly together to Copet. The Duke of Sudermania, Regent of Sweden, having acknowledged the republic, Mons. de Stael was appointed ambassador, and in 1795 returned with his lady to Paris. About this date she published her "Thoughts on Peace, addressed to Mr. Pitt;" and is believed to have exercised a powerful influence over the manœuvres which distracted

the governments of several ensuing years, especially as connected with the Directory. Legendre, the butcher, who, on the 22d of June 1795, began to declaim against the "spirit of moderation" which he said was gaining ground, more than once denounced Madame de Stael and her party, as directing the political intrigues of that time.

A domestic calamity varied the public tenor of her existence. She was summoned to attend the death-bed of her mother, to sooth whose affliction, it is stated, she was playing on a musical instrument a few moments only before she expired. On this melancholy occasion Madame de Stael flew to her pen for consolation; a resource to which she appears always to have applied when pressed by care or grief, or smarting under the charges which party did not fail to heap upon her, or soured by the animadversions of critics, to which she was uncommonly sensitive. At Lausanne she composed the first part of the Essay "On the Influence of the Passions upon the Happiness of Individuals and Nations," which was published at Paris in 1796, and the second part in 1797. — This production is reckoned one of her best, and was translated in 1798 into English; a language in which the writer was well versed, as, indeed, she was in English Literature generally, far beyond the usual acquirements of a foreigner.

Madame de Stael was with her father when the French troops invaded Switzerland; and though he had been placed on the Emigrant list by Robespierre, and consequently exposed to death wherever the troops came, his daughter's influence with the Directory was sufficient to secure him, not only safety, but respect, and the erasure of his name from this sanguinary roll. She then returned to Paris and to her husband; but in a few months, either tired by the persecutions to which she was exposed, or prompted by some other motive, hastened back to the repose at Copet. In 1798, the dangerous illness of the Baron de Stael recalled her to Paris, where she received his last sigh, and soon left the metropolis for Switzerland. After this period she published an essay "On the Influence of Literature upon Society," which may be considered as a con-

tinuation of the two last-mentioned works. In 1800, Buonaparte, in passing through Geneva, had the curiosity to visit M. Necker; and, according to rumour, Madame de Stael took this opportunity to read him a long dissertation on the course he ought to pursue for the prosperity of France. The First Consul, it is added, who did not relish the political plans of ladies, listened to her very patiently, and in the end coolly inquired, "who educated her children?"

The well-known novel of "Delphine," written during this retirement, was printed at Geneva in 1802, and excited great attention in England, France, and Germany, where it has been translated, attacked, criticised, and praised, according to the humour of the parties. The author published a defence of her Work.

In 1803, she revisited Paris, and formed that connection with Mr. Benjamin Constant, a Swiss of considerable literary attainments, which lasted to the day of her death. Whether for past or present offences is not easy to tell, but Napoleon was not slow in banishing her to the distance of 40 leagues from the capital. Report says, that on this occasion the lady told him: "You are giving me a cruel celebrity; I shall occupy a line in your history." This sentence is so ambiguous that we shall not venture to pronounce whether it was a defiance or a compliment. Madame de Stael first went to Auxerre, which she left for Rouen, with an intention to settle in the valley of Montmorency, in search, as she gave out, of more agreeable society. But Rouen and Montmorency were within the 40 leagues; and Buonaparte was not accustomed to have his prohibitions infringed upon. She was ordered to withdraw, and, in company with her daughter, and protector, M. Constant, journeyed to Frankfort, and thence to Prussia, where she applied herself to the cultivation of German Literature. From Berlin, in 1804, she hastened to Copet, on receiving intelligence of her father's danger; but he died before she reached the place. A mortality in her family invariably consigned our subject to the occupation of the study. At Geneva, in the year 1805, issued the "Manuscripts of M. Necker, published by his daughter."

Still further to divert her mind, she next travelled into Italy, and collected materials for, perhaps, her most celebrated work, "Corinna, or Italy," which has been translated into many languages. Having returned to Geneva, Madame de Stael amused herself with appearing upon the stage in 1806, and performed in tragedy with considerable skill. There is a drama from her pen called "Secret Sentiment." She has also given to the world a work entitled "Germany," embodying her observations on that country. It has provoked some controversy. — "Letters and Reflections of the Prince de Ligne," in two volumes: an "Essay on Suicide," and several minor publications, as well as many contributions to the periodical press in Geneva, Paris, and elsewhere, complete the catalogue of her productions.

Madame de Stael has twice visited England, formerly during the revolutionary conflict, when she resided in a small Gothic house at Richmond, which is visible from the river above the bridge; and again about three years ago. During her stay in London she was much courted by persons of the highest rank, and of all parties. Some of her *bon mots* are in circulation; but we neither can vouch for their authenticity, nor have we left ourselves space for their repetition.

The party in France with which she was most intimately connected at the time of her decease, is that known by the name of the "Constitutionnel." The *Mercure*, we have reason to believe, recorded the latest of her opinions, and the last tracings of her prolific pen.

We refrain entirely from discussing the merits or demerits of her life and writings. These merits assuredly raise her to a foremost rank among the female authors of our age; and these demerits, whether springing from "susceptibility of being misled," as urged by her father; from the pernicious inculcations of modern philosophy; or from — But we will not proceed; her earthly account is just closed, and her frailties, with her sorrows, alike repose in trembling hope, awaiting the decision of an immortal tribunal. — *Literary Gazette*.

Madame de Stael died, July 15th, 1817, aged 51 years.

No. XXVI.

NATHANIEL RAMSAY, Esq.

A COLONEL IN THE SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES.

THIS gallant officer was a native of South Carolina, in America, and brother to Dr. Ramsay, the historian. Although born several years before the declaration of independence, yet he thought fit to take up arms in behalf of what he considered the rights of his native country. He was never wanting, however, in humanity to his adversaries, for he seized on every opportunity to pay attention and afford comfort to such English prisoners of war as were committed to his charge.

The following anecdote will prove, how much it is in the power of a single officer to save at one and the same time both an army and a state:

At the battle of Monmouth, when the American troops were pressed by the enemy advancing rapidly, General Washington asked for a field-officer; Colonel Ramsay presented himself—the General took him by the hand, and said, “If you can stop the British ten minutes, till I form, you will save my army.” Colonel Ramsay answered, “I will stop them or *fall*.”—He advanced with his party, engaged, and kept them in check for half an hour; nor did he retreat, until the enemy and his troops were mingled, and at last, in the rear of his troops, fighting his way *sword in hand*, fell, pierced with many wounds, in sight of both armies.

After the war had ended, and America was declared a free and independent state, Colonel Ramsay returned to South Carolina, where he attained a good old age, and died October 24, 1817.

No. XXVII.

THE REV. WILLIAM CHAFIN,

LATE RECTOR OF REDLINCH, IN THE COUNTY OF DORSET.

THE Chafins of whom this was the last male heir, related to the Framptons, the Penruddocks, the Strangeways, &c. &c. were an ancient family greatly addicted to the pleasures of the chace and the turf, for many generations. By residing at Chettlehouse, in Dorsetshire, where they lived in an hospitable manner, they acquired a certain degree of eminence, more especially among those who devoted their time and their fortunes to similar pursuits.

William Chafin, the subject of the present short memoir, was born about the year 1735. His father being the youngest of eleven children, it is not likely that his patrimony could be large; and he himself having evinced a delicate state of health, from his early infancy, it was found difficult to rear him, on account of his size outrunning his strength. To counteract this, he was brought up in a cottage, whence, at a certain age, he was removed to the paternal mansion, for the benefit of his education.

Subsequently to the usual preliminary studies young Chafin was sent to Cambridge, and after obtaining the degree of B. A. in 1753, and that of M. A. in 1756, finally retired from the University, in 1757. On returning home he entered into holy orders, and like his ancestors, immediately addicted himself to the pursuits of a sportsman; hunted constantly with the Rushmore hounds, and was a regular attendant at Newmarket. Not content with enjoying the pleasures of the race-ground, in the usual manner, his own name became conspicuous in the "Calendar," for he himself bought, trained, and run horses,

of no inconsiderable note, figure, and action. This usually proves a losing concern, even to the most successful *amateurs*, yet there is but little doubt, that he gained as much by Dedalus, as Mr. Jennings lost, nearly at the same time (about 1766 — 1770) by Chillaby. Mr. Chafin, afterwards abandoned the turf, and if the motive attributed be the true one: viz., an abhorrence of the cruelty usually employed in fitting that noble animal the race-horse, for his future destination — his conduct is deserving of the highest applause. Meanwhile, he was presented with the living of Redlinch, by his brother George. This was held by him, during the almost unexampled period of 49 years — from 1768 to 1818.

It is not a little remarkable that the late Tregonwell Frampton, with whom his family had been connected by marriage, perpetrated a little before this, one of the most cruel acts recorded in the history of human atrocity. Being possessed of a famous *horse*, called Dragon, and finding it impossible to obtain his admission, to a grand subscription match for mares and geldings, he nevertheless named a *gelding*, and to entitle him to the benefit of the stakes, had a certain operation performed on Dragon, in his presence, at the starting post! The poor bleeding animal actually gained the race, and lost his life at the same time. It is not without pleasure we here record, that Frampton lost both his stakes and reputation; for the *Jockey Club* of that day decided, that Dragon not being a *gelding* at the time of entering, *the namer* had no claim whatever as a winner. To the credit of the Chafins they broke off all intercourse with Frampton, from this moment!

Mr. Chafin succeeded to the paternal estate in 1776, and immediately removed to Chettle House. This event made no alteration in his mode of life; for he not only persevered in his favourite exercise of riding, to within a very short period of his last illness, but actually rode with the Rushmore buck-hounds, in 1817; thus completing a period of about seventy years, during which he had been a constant attendant, and not unfrequently the first *in* at the death. One of the last employments of his life, was the publication of a little work,

entitled, "Anecdotes of Cranbourn Chace;" which revived the recollections of former days, and reminded him of the various sporting adventures of his early youth.

When this chace was formed, there were no fallow deer existing in this island but what were imported from the continent. The natives, we are told, are the red deer, stags or harts, roes, and, according to tradition, elks. "But in the slaughters of the Norman Princes, in their forests," observes Mr. Chafin, "stags, called harts at a certain age, are the only animals of the deer kind which are mentioned; not the name of buck or doe any where occurs. Likewise in the old ballad of Chevy Chace, (whether founded on fact or not is out of the question,) not a word is said of any fallow deer being slain." These different kinds of deer never breed, and never herd together, when they can avoid it.

Lord Rivers possesses certain claims to Cranbourn Chace, and our author relates that when he was first in the habit of hunting there, the festivities at Rushmore lasted for several weeks; but these have ceased many years ago, and have not been renewed by the present peer.

It appears from the entry in a steward's old accompt-book, found in the noble old mansion of Orchard Portman, near Taunton, that our judges were accustomed to go a buck-hunting, while on circuit.

"10th August, 1680.

"Delivered Sir William, in the the higher Oriol, going a hunting with the judges, - - - £2 0 0"

Foxes, hares, and martin-cats, were the three sorts of animals of chace, besides deer, hunted at that period. Hawking at that time was in great repute, and many foreign ones were imported; some of the English breed are still used near Bridport for taking of landrails in the hemp and flax fields. Cock-fighting, too, was then the fashion, and Lord Albe-marle Bertie still attended the cock-pits, after he had become blind!

In November, 1751, Mr. Chafin, who then resided at Wallop, between Andover and Salisbury, saw and shot at twenty-five bustards, which, after running before him some time, flew very quietly over Southern Hill, and escaped, after frightening his horse by the flapping of their wings.

Mr. Chafin, when no longer able to sport, indulged himself in narrating the adventures of the field. He died in 1818, aged 73 or 74 years.

No. XXVIII.

GENERAL COUNT PLATOFF.

THE gallant Hetman of the Cossacks, and General of Cavalry, Count Platoff, one of the veteran warriors whose exploits against the common enemy engrossed, a few years since, the attention of Europe, and a view of whose person was sought after with the greatest earnestness by persons of all descriptions in this country, died, lately, at Novotscherkask, at a very advanced age. The honest ardour with which this brave and loyal chief led on his irregular bands reflects immortal honour upon his memory, and will hand his name down to posterity, as one of high rank among the glorious heroes of his day. Nothing could more strongly prove his personal detestation of the unrelenting ravager of his country, than his promising his daughter in marriage to any man who would bring Napoleon a prisoner to his camp.

The following observations may serve to elucidate his life and character: "We have not yet received any particu-

lars relating to the precise time, or to the particular disease, which deprived the world of so bright an example of military virtue as the late Hetman Platoff. But we know, from unquestionable authority, that he was in a declining state in the autumn of the last year. About that time we were informed from Tcherkask, that his Excellency was then far from well. The fatigues of the campaign of the year 1812 began to manifest their effects after the stimulus of martial ardour, and that of travelling had subsided; the state of exhaustion was, in proportion, extreme; and he laid himself upon his bed of thickly-gathered laurels, to rest, and to find refreshment; but the attempt was in vain. Nature had been over-tasked, — and he sleeps in death. — We must all remember this hero of the Don, pursuing the enemies of his country like ‘the blast of the desert.’ We must all remember him in his visit to England, mild of aspect, and gentle in manners — more like the patriarch of his people, than the champion of nations, winged with the energy of youth in its primest vigour. Only a few months have intervened between the death of this venerable chief of the Cossacks, venerable in years and in honours, and the death of Prince Alexander Scherbatoff, his second in command, a man in the meridian of his days, and of his comprehensive services to Russia, who had also to date the germs of his fatal illness from the victorious fields of 1812. These two illustrious warriors had the satisfaction of sharing, side by side, the dangers and the glories of that campaign. They have both died victims to its severity; and both will have a tomb in every brave heart, a memorial that must exist when marble monuments are no more. — But the reputation of a consummate General was not the only excellence in the character of the Hetman of the Cossacks. During the investment of the invader’s territory by the allied troops, and their consequent inroads upon the French country, he heard that, near one of the spots destined for pillage, might be found the residence of Thaddeus Kosciusko, late General of the Poles, who lived there in the occupation and seclusion of a peasant. Platoff dispatched a party of his Cossacks to protect the person

and the property of that great man; once the adversary of three invading Sovereigns; but now, even more illustrious in his obscurity and helplessness, than when at the head of his Sarmatian troops. Kosciusko and Platoff met;—it was the embrace of two brave hearts, as honest as brave. Such hearts are well understood in England. When Platoff related the incident to the narrator of this paragraph, it was with more than one tear in his eye; and precious are the tears which are drawn by the admiration of virtue. He knew how to value Kosciusko; for he knew that he had not only defended his country against a press of foreign usurpation, but had refused wealth from the late Emperor Paul, and twice rejected the throne of Poland from Napoleon Buonaparte. Rather than receive a pension from the enemy of his country, or be the crowned satellite of any Emperor upon earth, he retired to a miserable village in France, and fed himself on bread and water by the labour of his hands. If this be not honest patriotism, where is it to be found? He, too, is in his grave. Nay, let us, as Christians, hope that he has rejoined the heroes who were his personal friends, if his political enemies, in another and a better world.”

No. XXIX.

SIR RICHARD MUSGRAVE, BART.

OF TURIN IN THE COUNTY OF WATERFORD, IRELAND.

WE are in possession of materials for a life of this gentleman, who died at Dublin, in 1818; and also of an analysis of his works. But the want of room precludes the insertion in the present volume. It shall certainly appear in the next.

No. XXX.



HER MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY,
QUEEN CHARLOTTE-CAROLINE,

CONSORT OF GEORGE III. KING OF THE UNITED KINGDOMS OF GREAT BRITAIN, &c. AND ALSO OF HANOVER; TO WHICH IS PREFIXED, A SHORT HISTORICAL DISSERTATION ON THE ANTIQUITY OF THE FAMILY OF MECKLENBURGH-STRELITZ.

THE House of Brunswick has been peculiarly happy in respect to its historians. The profound researches of a Muratori and a Leibnitz, have been employed in tracing its descent to a remote period, while the “luminous” Gibbon * has detailed its antiquities with an elegance, a force, and a precision; that but few modern writers can hope to imitate, far less excel.

The House of Mecklenburgh, connected with the reigning family of Great Britain by so many ties — religion — alliance — blood — and one common descent — has proved less fortunate in this point of view. Two great genealogists, † Imho

* See “the Antiquities of the House of Brunswick,” which although an unfinished production, still exhibits the hand of a master.

† Not. Princip. Germaniæ.

and Hebner *, however, allow, that if this is not “the most ancient family in Europe, it is certainly the most noble in Germany.”

An Englishman of the present day, will of course be prompted by a liberal, and it may be added, a rational curiosity to inquire into the history of a race, whence his country obtained a Queen, who has proved a bright and shining example to her sex for more than half a century; who has left behind her a numerous progeny, to supply any occasional vacancy of the throne; and thus prevented the possibility of long and sanguinary civil wars, the usual concomitants of a disputed succession.

Germany never appears to have been united in one great and powerful state. At present, as in ancient times, it is divided into very unequal portions, and no longer possesses even a *titular* emperor as its nominal head. After the domination of the Romans had ceased, and their armies so long the dread, at length became the scorn of the barbarians, changes equally great, sudden, and important, took place in this part of Europe. According to a tradition, rather confirmed than refuted by the authority of Tacitus, the Heruli, Venedi, and other tribes, generally known by the denomination of *Vandals*, leaving the forests of Scythia, under the conduct of a leader called Antyrius, who has been complimented by his posterity with the title of king, set out in search of new habitations. They are said to have embarked in a fleet of a very slight construction, the principal vessels of which, carrying their leader, had the head of an ox rudely depicted on her stern. After landing, they wandered about for some time, until arriving at length on the banks of the Oder, they determined to accomplish a settlement. The territory of Mecklenburgh, with the adjacent country, became one of their first conquests, and the horns of their favourite animal — perhaps of their deity, for they were still heathens — after being gilded, and the head surmounted with a coronet of gold, according to the practice of modern genealogists — has been adopted ever

* Genealogy of the German Princes.

since as the arms of this Duchy, which however assumed and retained the rank of a kingdom until about the year 1178.

It would prove equally tedious and difficult to enumerate the many sanguinary battles of those days, or to specify either the victories or defeats of Princes, who appear to have been considered as Kings of the Vandals. It may suffice to observe, that the kingdom of *Wenden*, or the *Venedi*, is said to have been successively enjoyed by fifteen monarchs in a regular descent, until the the time of Pribislas, who was supposed to have ascended the throne in 1164. Like his predecessor, Nicolot, he engaged in an unfortunate war with Henry the Lion, Duke of Saxony, who, assisted by his allies, the Duke of Pomerania, and Waldemar King of Denmark, defeated him near Demmin, in 1167. The victors divided the chief part of his dominions among themselves and followers: but on renouncing Paganism, and embracing Christianity, Pribislas appears to have had a considerable portion of his territories restored by the generous intervention of the Lion.* However, from this time, we hear no more of Kings, but only of Princes of Venden and Mecklenburgh.

Thus, although the kingdom of the Venedi was destroyed, and many of its inhabitants removed, the ancient race was preserved. A fortunate event occurred soon after: this was the marriage between Henry, the son of Pribislas, and Michtild, the daughter of the Lion, which not only served to prop up the falling fortunes of this house; but proved the commencement of that alliance and friendship which ever after subsisted between the families of Brunswick and Mecklenburgh.

Henry Burevinus I., of whom mention has just been made, on the demise of his father in 1178, inherited only a portion of his remaining dominions; his cousin Nicolot, being permitted to sway the sceptre along with him; but the latter having been slain in battle, in the florid language of our

* Pribislas received from Henry all the country between the Elbe and the Baltic, except Schwerin. He was afterwards baptized at Lunenburg, by the Abbot of St. Michel, and became the founder of the richly endowed monastery of Dobran, where he was interred along with his wife, a daughter of Poislava, King of Norway.

heralds, the survivor, who "enriched the veins of his descendants with the blood of Witeland the Great, and Harderick King of the Saxons," obtained the sole dominion. The entire destruction of paganism throughout the whole of his territories, appears to have occupied the remainder of his reign, which was shortened, indeed, by a voluntary surrender of the government to his two sons, Henry Burevinus II. and Nicolot, in 1228. In consequence of this cession, the former took possession of Gustrow, and the latter of Mecklenburgh. On their death, a similar division took place, and continued during a period of about two centuries.

Henry III, surnamed the *Jerosolymitan*, on account of his pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 1272, is chiefly memorable on account of his misfortunes. While there, he was taken prisoner by the Infidels, and experienced all the hardships of a bitter captivity, unhappily protracted during twenty-six years.

We pass rapidly over the reigns of Henry IV., denominated the *Bald Lion*, and the joint sovereignty of Albert I. and John his brother; but it becomes necessary to mention, that Albert, in 1357, obtained Schwerin, by the marriage of his son, with the heiress of that Duchy. Nor ought it to be here omitted, that these two Princes were created Dukes of their respective territories, and Princes of the empire, at the diet of Prague, A.D. 1349. An event so memorable in this family, is to be attributed solely to the special favour and interposition of the Emperor Charles.

Albert II. succeeded to the crown of Sweden in 1363, in consequence of the death of his uncle Magnus; but he was defeated and dethroned, by Margaret Queen of Denmark. Albert III. Henry V. and Albert IV. exercised a joint dominion with princes of the same blood, and were thus disabled by a divided empire, from any deeds tending to illustrate themselves or enrich their posterity. Henry VI. surnamed the "Pacific," a title far more dear to humanity, and infinitely more precious in the eyes of his subjects than that of "Conqueror," at first enjoyed but a fourth portion of the

Duchy of Mecklenburgh; but on the death of his uncle Balthazar, and his brother Erick, he agreed with his remaining brother Albert the *handsome*, about the year 1510, to divide their dominions; and on this occasion, the latter obtained Gustrow, and the former Schwerin. Henry consolidated the fortunes of his family, and added not a little to its consequence, by embracing the religion of Luther. His son Magnus following his example, became a Protestant bishop, and seems to have been the first dignified ecclesiastic in Germany who ventured in spite of the fulminations of the Church of Rome, to enter into the matrimonial state.

In 1547, John Ulrick and Albert his brother, succeeded their father. The former who appears to have acted the more conspicuous part, being like him a zealous Protestant, published in 1557, and enforced throughout the whole of their dominions, an ecclesiastical constitution drawn up by the celebrated Melancthon.

It may be here necessary to pause, in order to observe, that in consequence of the repeated partitions and divisions which so frequently occurred in this family, it became at length divided into three distinct branches, viz.

- I. The House of Gustrow;
- II. The House of Schwerin; and
- III. The House of Strelitz.

In consequence of the extinction of the House of Gustrow, in 1688, for want of male heirs, a suit took place in the Imperial Courts, between the descendants of the two remaining branches, concerning the right of succession. As in Germany, the lawyers are to the full as dilatory as in England, this contest continued about thirteen years, without any prospect of termination. At length, in 1701, a treaty of partition was wisely entered into at Hamburgh, and ratified by the Emperor. By virtue of this instrument, the Duchy of Gustrow, was allotted to the Duke of Mecklenburgh-Schwerin, whose revenue in 1701, amounted to about 40,000*l.* sterling; while on the Duke of Mecklenburgh-Strelitz, was conferred the secularized bishopric of Ratzelburg, with the commanderies of Mirow, and Nemrou; 40,000 crowns

a year from the tolls of Boltzenburg, together with a voice in the diet of the empire. The revenues of the latter were then estimated at about 15,000*l.* *per annum*, exclusive of the domain, or reserved lands.

Notwithstanding the decision alluded to above, the chiefs of both Houses assumed the same titles, arms, and insignia, viz. Dukes of Mecklenburgh, Princes of Wenden, Schwerin, and Ratzelburg, and Lords of Rostock and Stargard.

Her late Majesty, Charlotte Queen of Great Britain, &c. was the second surviving daughter, and eighth child, of Charles-Lewis, Duke of Mirow, by Albertine-Elizabeth, daughter of Ernest-Frederick, Duke of Saxe-Hildberghausen. This interesting Princess was born, May 16th, 1744, at Mirow, a commandery before mentioned, as lately annexed to the Strelitz branch, by the treaty of Hamburg. Being christened soon after in strict conformity to the Lutheran rites, the names of Charlotte-Caroline were bestowed on her Highness.

The Duke, her father, could boast of a descent rather illustrious than affluent; for although the *head of his family had been long acknowledged as one of the secular Princes of the empire, and in that capacity was entitled to a seat at the diet of Ratzelburg; yet the house of Schwerin had, in the course of time, acquired far larger territorial possessions.

His Highness being a younger brother of a younger branch, in conformity to the custom of the Princes of Germany, all of whom are bred to a military life, entered into the service of the house of Austria, and at length attained the rank of Lieutenant-General under the Imperial banners. After distinguishing himself as a gallant commander, he retired to the place whence he derived his title, and in this retreat the whole of his family, consisting of ten children, were born. †

* The Duke of Mecklenburgh-Strelitz.

† 1. Christina-Sophia-Albertine, born Dec. 6, 1735.

2. Caroline, who died an infant.

3. Adolphus-Frederick IV., born May 5, 1738, who succeeded to Mirow, on the death of his father, June 5, 1752, and to Strelitz, on the death of his uncle Frederick III. without male issue, on December 11, of the same year.

His Highness died prematurely in 1752. Had he lived but a few months longer, all the honours and possessions of the house of Mecklenburgh-Strelitz would have devolved to him, in consequence of the demise of his elder brother without issue male. The succession was of course claimed by his nephew, the eldest son of the Duke of Mirow, who ascended the ducal throne, and was recognised by the name and designation of Adolph-Frederick IV.

Immediately after this event, the Duchess of Mirow removed to the palace of Strelitz, where she resided in right of her eldest son, then a minor. This lady appears to have devoted much of her time to the education of her children. Aware of the advantages to be derived from early habits, her Highness carefully selected the most eminent instructors, and introduced them into her family. To the future Queen, Madame de Grabaw was assigned as governess. This lady, in addition to noble birth, evinced a fine taste for poetry, and acquired such eminent proficiency in historical compositions, as to obtain a high degree of celebrity. The whole family being Protestants, Dr. Genzmer, an orthodox Lutheran divine, who had distinguished himself by his knowledge of natural history, was selected to preside over both her religion and her studies.

This amiable Princess, from her earliest years, discovered a great aptitude for learning, and thus a certain precocity of genius was happily united with captivating manners, a charming temper, and an indescribable sweetness of disposition. Her acquisitions were, of course, in perfect unison with the wishes of a fond mother.

The German was her native language, and Her Highness

4. Elizabeth-Christina; and, 5. Sophia-Louisa; who both died infants.

6. Charles-Lewis Frederick II., born October 10, 1741.

7. Ernest-Gottlob-Albert, born August 27, 1742.

8. Charlotte-Caroline, Queen of Great Britain, &c., born May 10th, 1744, O. S., and married to His present Majesty, George III. September 8, 1761.

9. Gottlob, who died an infant; and,

10. George-Augustus, born August 16, 1748.

spoke it with fluency and elegance; she also attained the far more difficult object of writing it with precision. French and Italian were afterwards attained; a fine taste for music was early imbibed, and the rapid movements, and “brilliant finger,” so much talked of by connoisseurs and masters, were displayed to great advantage. The amusements of needlework and embroidery filled up the leisure hours of the Princess; nor ought it to be forgotten, that a taste for both, continued to be cherished throughout life.*

At this early period, too, the poor of Strelitz, whom the Princess often visited and relieved, are said to have contemplated Her Highness with no common emotions of gratitude. Her joys, however, were not unalloyed by grief, for she was deprived of her mother at a period when fully sensible of her loss; while that Princess, in consequence of a sudden illness, followed by death, was not permitted to witness the splendid destiny of a favourite daughter; having been cut off a few months before her elevation to the throne!

Much has been said, and to very little purpose, of the mode and manner in which His Majesty first obtained a knowledge of his future bride. It was rumoured that a Colonel Græme had been sent by his countryman, the Earl of Bute, with a special commission to the continent for selecting a proper consort, among the Protestant Princesses of Germany, and that he was the first to point out the Princess Charlotte of Strelitz. Such instances are not uncommon in this country; and we learn from Lord Bacon's History of Henry VII. that when this monarch entertained thoughts of marrying the young Queen of Naples, he dispatched no fewer than three commissioners for this purpose, with secret instructions for taking a survey of her person and complexion, examining her breath, obtaining the size of her foot, &c.†

* This Princess, after becoming Queen of England, encouraged the art, and actually formed an establishment in Bedfordshire, where six young ladies were taught drawing and embroidery, at her expense, during a period of five years.

† “Instruccions given by the King's Highnesse, &c.” The first three articles respect the establishments of the young Queen and her mother; the fourth enjoins them to enquire “whether the young Queene speake any other languages than

On the other hand it has been stated, that the young monarch had been originally captivated by the charms of the greatest beauty of her age, the daughter of a ducal house, through whose veins the blood of the Stewarts had flowed during some generations. Alas! such is the caprice of fortune, that both the royal lover and the supposed object of his affections, are unfortunately blind at this moment!

But however much His Majesty might have been struck with the charms of the lovely Lady Sarah, he was fully determined never to be united to a subject. This idea was early instilled into his mind by his mother, a daughter of the house of Saxe-Gotha. The late Princess Dowager of Wales, was intimately acquainted with every branch of every Protestant Sovereign house in Germany; and it required neither ambassador nor emissary to point out the accomplished daughter of the Duke of Mirow, the sister to the reigning Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz. This lady was already related to the royal family of Great Britain, and His Majesty, who was conversant in genealogy and private history, to a degree of minuteness, could not be ignorant of any thing relative to her birth, her education, or good conduct. In addition to this, let it be recollected, that one of her Serene Highness's brothers (Charles Lewis Frederic) was, at that very moment, a colonel in his own Hanoverian foot-guards. A letter which shall be mentioned hereafter, is said to have contributed powerfully to the auspicious event.

This young and distinguished female, on due investigation, at length became the declared object of His Majesty's choice, and after all the preliminaries had been settled with his mother, and the Earl of Bute, his late governor, who for many years enjoyed his entire confidence, the youthful monarch panting for possession of an unseen princess, determined to carry his resolves into immediate execution. Accordingly a

Spanyshe and Italian; and whether she can speke any Frenshe or Laten," the remainder respect her person, breath, hair, and diet. Henry, who was then old, appears to have been very anxious to know whether the young princess used paint? and in exact conformity to his character, gave special orders about the yearly value of her income, and "whether she shall have the same to hir and hir heires for ever, or ells during hir life only."

communication took place with the Court of Strelitz, and it may be readily supposed that no unnecessary obstacles were suggested, with a view of deferring an alliance, commenced under such flattering and auspicious circumstances.

The first official communication on this subject, was made by His Majesty to the Privy Council, assembled at St. James's, July 8th, 1761, in the following elegant and very appropriate address :

“ Having nothing so much at heart as to procure the welfare and happiness of my people, and to render the same stable and permanent to posterity, I have ever since my accession to the throne, turned my thoughts towards the choice of a Princess for my consort; and I now with great satisfaction acquaint you, that after the fullest information, and mature deliberation, I am come to a resolution, to demand in marriage the Princess Charlotte of Mecklenburgh-Strelitz; a Princess distinguished by every eminent virtue and amiable endowment, whose illustrious line has constantly shown the firmest zeal for the Protestant religion, and a particular attachment to my family.

“ I have judged proper to communicate to you these my intentions, in order that you may be fully apprised of a matter so highly important to me, and to my kingdoms, and which I persuade myself, will be most acceptable to all my loving subjects.”

In conformity to the above declaration, a *suite* of persons of the first distinction, was immediately provided. The Earl of Harcourt was appointed to demand the bride; the Duchesses of Ancaster and Hamilton, together with the Countess of Effingham, accompanied by many ladies of quality, were to have charge of her person; while the gallant Lord Anson was nominated to command the squadron destined to convoy the future Queen to the shores of England. The Carolina yacht, on this joyful occasion, was new christened, and named the Charlotte, in honour of Her Serene Highness, while the barges intended to carry the Princess and her attendants down the Elbe, were embellished with a profusion of carving

and gilding, and manned with picked crews, all richly and elegantly clothed in a red uniform, at His Majesty's private expense. The Chapel Royal was at the same time ordered to be furnished in the most splendid and sumptuous manner.

On the 14th of August, Lord Harcourt and the other lords and ladies appointed to this important mission, arrived at Strelitz. Next morning the ceremony of demanding Her Serene Highness in marriage took place, and on the contract being signed, the States and deputies of the various towns were introduced to pay their respects.

From this day forward, the betrothed Princess was treated with new and distinguished marks of respect; and constantly dined at a separate table, with the Princess of Schwartzburg, her great aunt, and the Princess Sophia, her sister. Her Serene Highness was served on this occasion by M. de Zesthenfleth, and Mesdames de Setern and Rauchbar, ladies of the Court. M. de Dewitz, Privy Counsellor of legation, did the honours of the table standing.

On the 17th, Her Highness, accompanied by the reigning Duke her brother, set out for Mirow, amidst the tears and prayers of all ranks of people, the poor in particular, to whom she had ever been a liberal benefactress. After passing through Leutzen and Ghorde, at seven o'clock in the evening of the 22d; the splendid cavalcade arrived at Stade, and having proceeded next morning to Cuxhaven, Her Serene Highness embarked on board the royal yacht, accompanied by the ladies and noblemen of her *suite*, under a royal salute from the squadron. On the 28th, Admiral Lord Anson, who had the royal standard flying, hoisted the signal for sailing, and after encountering three different storms, the flotilla at length arrived at Harwich, September 6th, after a most tedious and disagreeable voyage. During the passage, Her Serene Highness, who appears to have been but little affected by such a turbulent element, continued to display that taste, or rather passion for music, which never forsook her through life; for wholly undismayed by the tempest, she at intervals recurred

to a harpsichord which had been placed in the grand cabin, for the purpose of practising English tunes.

On landing next day, the future Queen of England was received with due attention by the mayor, aldermen, and corporation of Harwich, dressed in their formalities, and displaying all the insignia of office. Arriving at Colchester about five o'clock Her Serene Highness partook of some refreshments, and then proceeded to Lord Abercorn's, where an elegant entertainment had been provided. On this occasion, the Lords Anson and Harcourt officiated, standing during supper on each side of the Princess's chair. Next day about 12 o'clock, she arrived at Rumford, where the King's carriages and servants were in attendance, and on reaching London, proceeded down Constitution Hill, and through the Park to St. James's, where the Bride was handed out of her coach by His Royal Highness the late Duke of York, and received at the gate by all the royal family. Having been met in the garden by His Majesty, he in a very gallant and affectionate manner, raised up and saluted his future consort, when about to make her obeisance. The King then conducted her to the palace, where she dined with His Majesty, the Princess Dowager of Wales, and the rest of the royal family.

About eight o'clock in the evening, the procession to the Chapel Royal commenced, preceded by trumpets, heralds, chamberlains, maids of honour, ladies of the bedchamber, &c. &c. &c. The royal bride dressed in her nuptial habit, was supported by His Royal Highness the Duke of York on the one side, and Prince William, afterwards Duke of Cumberland, on the other, her train being borne by the following ten unmarried daughters of dukes and earls, of whom the first only has survived Her Majesty :

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Lady Sarah Lennox ; | 6. Lady Car. Montagu ; |
| 2. Lady Caroline Russel ; | 7. Lady Eliza Keppel ; |
| 3. Lady Ann Hamilton ; | 8. Lady Louisa Greville ; |
| 4. Lady Eliza Ker ; | 9. Lady Eliz. Harcourt ; and |
| 5. Lady Barry Bentinck ; | 10. Lady H. Strangeways. |

The marriage ceremony was performed by Dr. Secker, the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, and when the Duke of York gave the bride's hand to His Majesty, the Park and Tower guns immediately fired a royal salute.

On Tuesday, the 22d of September, the coronation of their Majesties took place, with an uncommon degree of pomp and splendour. His Grace of Canterbury again officiated on this occasion, and a sermon was preached by Dr. Drummond, then Bishop of Salisbury, who was afterwards translated to York. The young Queen was superbly adorned in her royal robes, her head being decorated with a *tiara* or circlet of gold, richly set with jewels; the Duke of Manchester in his robes, with his coronet, and staff of office in his hand, acted as Her Majesty's Lord Chamberlain; while her crown was carried by the Duke of Bolton in his robes of state. The splendid train on this occasion, was borne by Her Royal Highness the Princess Augusta, supported by the following earls' daughters, not one of whom, we believe, now survives :

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Lady Mary Gray; | 4. Lady Selina Hastings; |
| 2. Lady Eliz. Montagu; | 5. Lady Heneage Finch; and |
| 3. Lady Jane Stewart; | 6. Lady Mary Douglas. |

The well-known coronation anthem of "Zadoc the Priest," composed by Handel, was sung by the choir, soon after which medals of both their Majesties were plentifully scattered among the populace. That of the Queen bore the emblem of a seraph, descending with a crown, with the appropriate motto of

"Quæsitum Meritis."

When the royal dower * was assigned, Her Majesty, who was present, and seated in a chair of state on the King's right hand, in the House of Lords, arose and made her obeisance to the King. On this occasion, the Speaker of the House of Commons congratulated His Majesty "on his royal nuptials

* 100,000*l.* per annum, with Richmond Park, and the Queen's house.

with a Princess, whose illustrious ancestors were early assertors of the civil and religious liberties of mankind, and in consequence, closely attached to His Majesty's family; a Princess," he added, "whom the most distinguished virtues, and amiable endowments, pointed out to Your Majesty's choice, and made the partner of the brightest throne in Europe."

It may be here necessary to observe, that Her Majesty having been bred a Lutheran, and consequently considered by law in the light of a dissenter from the Church of England, although the difference be rather minute, perhaps, than substantial, it became necessary to conform. Accordingly, after due consideration, this august personage became a member of the Established Religion; and it must be confessed, that none of our Queens, in modern times, ever evinced greater zeal for its prosperity and welfare.

Every thing that could contribute to the happiness of his consort, was instantly provided on the part of His Majesty. Each request was complied with, or rather each wish may be said to have been anticipated.

An establishment*, on a grand and magnificent scale, such

* Her Majesty's first establishment was formed September 5, 1761.

Lord Chamberlains.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1761. Robert Duke of Manchester. | 1777. F. G. Marquis of Carmarthen. |
| 1762. Hugh Earl of Northumberland. | 1782. Thomas Earl of Aylesbury, K. T. |
| 1763. Simon Earl Harcourt. | 1792. George Earl of Morton. |
| 1768. John Earl of Delawar. | |

Mistresses of the Robes.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1761. Mary Duchess of Ancaster. | 1793. Elizabeth Marchioness of Bath. |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|

Ladies of the Bedchamber.

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1761. Elizabeth Duchess of Hamilton,
and Argyle. | 1768. Isabella Countess of Hertford. |
| Elizabeth Countess of Effingham. | 1770. Mary Countess of Holderness. |
| Elizabeth Duchess of Northumber-
land. | 1782. Elizabeth Countess of Harcourt. |
| Alicia Matilda Countess of Egrem-
ont. | 1784. Elizabeth Countess of Pembroke. |
| Elizabeth Viscountess Weymouth. | 1791. Elizabeth Viscountess Sydney. |
| Diana Viscountess Bolingbroke. | 1793. Elizabeth Countess of Cardigan. |
| | 1794. Countess of Harrington. |
| | 1801. Countess of Macclesfield. |

we believe as no former Queen of England had ever before enjoyed, was now formed for Her Majesty. A Lord Chamberlain, who was a nobleman of ducal rank, together with a Vice Chamberlain, the son of an Earl, were placed at the head of that department; a Duchess was nominated mistress of the robes; of six ladies of the bedchamber, one was also a Duchess; three were Countesses; and two Viscountesses; the Master of the Horse was an Earl; the Gentleman Usher of the Privy Chamber was a Baronet; the Comptroller was the son of an Earl; the Equerry was of the same rank; the Maids of Honour were selected from the best families in the kingdom; and two distinguished lawyers were nominated Her Majesty's Attorney and Solicitor General.

Great pains were also taken to represent Her Majesty in the most favourable point of view. An English translation of a letter, supposed to have been written to the King of Prussia when only sixteen years of age, supplicating His Majesty to withdraw his troops from the duchy of Mecklenburgh Schwerin, which they appear to have settled in, and devoured like a swarm of locusts, was now reproduced. After being privately circulated in manuscript, this autograph was published in the Annual Register of 1761; while another version at the same time appeared at Amsterdam, a transcript of which is now in London. Without presuming to decide on the question of authenticity, a copy is here subjoined:

“ To the King of Prussia.

“ May it please Your Majesty,

“ I am at a loss whether I should congratulate, or condole
“ with you on your late victory: since the same success

Masters of the Horse.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1761. Simon Earl Harcourt. | 1768. Henry Duke of Beaufort. |
| 1763. Thomas Viscount Weymouth. | 1770. John Earl of Waldegrave. |
| 1765. Peregrine Duke of Ancaster. | 1790. George Simon Earl Harcourt. |
| 1766. John Earl Delawar. | — George Earl of Morton. |

“ which has covered you with laurels, has overspread the
“ country of Mecklenburgh with desolation. I know, Sire,
“ that it seems unbecoming my sex, in this age of vicious
“ refinement, to feel for one’s country, to lament the horrors
“ of war, or wish for the return of peace. I know you may
“ think it more properly my province to study the arts of
“ pleasing, or to inspect subjects of a more domestic nature ;
“ but, however unbecoming it may be in me, I cannot
“ resist the desire of interceding for this unhappy people.

“ It was but a very few years ago that this territory wore
“ the most pleasing appearance. The country was cultivated,
“ the peasant looked cheerful, and the towns abounded with
“ riches and festivity ! What an alteration, at present, from
“ such a charming scene ! I am not expert at description,
“ nor can my fancy add any horrors to the picture : but sure
“ even conquerors themselves would weep at the hideous pros-
“ pects now before me. The whole country, my dear coun-
“ try, lies one frightful waste, presenting only objects to excite
“ terror, pity, and despair ! The business of the husbandman
“ and the shepherd are quite discontinued — the husbandman
“ and the shepherd are become soldiers themselves, and help
“ to ravage the soil they formerly cultivated. The towns are
“ inhabited only by old men, women, and children ; perhaps
“ here and there a warrior, by wounds or loss of limbs, ren-
“ dered unfit for service, left at his door ; his little children
“ hang around him, asking an history of every wound, and
“ grow themselves soldiers before they find strength for the
“ field. But this were nothing, did we not feel the alternate
“ insolence of either army, as it happens to advance or retreat,
“ in pursuing the operations of the campaign. It is impos-
“ sible to express the confusion those who call themselves
“ our friends create. Even those, from whom we expect
“ redress, oppress us with new calamities. From your jus-
“ tice, therefore, it is, that we hope relief : to you, even chil-
“ dren and women may complain, whose humanity stoops to
“ the meanest petition, and whose power is capable of repress-
“ ing the greatest injustice.

“ I am, Sire” &c. &c.

Her Majesty was never reckoned a professed beauty; there was nothing either in her person or features to attract vulgar admiration. But the scrupulous delicacy of her manners, her excellent sense, her tried discretion at so early an age, and somewhat of a prudent and dignified reserve in her general demeanour, were all calculated both to engage and fix the attentions of a monarch, who knew how to appreciate her numerous virtues and rare accomplishments. From the very first, indeed, the Queen appears to have fascinated her royal lover, who congratulated himself, not without good reason, on the wisdom of his choice, and on the demise of his mother, the Princess Dowager, his consort enjoyed his sole and entire confidence.

It is not to be concealed, that this nation was then, and ever has been jealous of foreigners. During a former reign, two German ladies, dignified with high-sounding English titles, had rendered every thing venal around them; and the peerage itself was said not to have been always sacred from their avarice and rapacity.* If we are to credit rumour, all the women of rank in the Duchy of Mecklenburgh Strelitz, either hoped to accompany or follow the Queen of England into the *land of promise*; and perhaps this amiable and distinguished female, in the goodness of her heart, might have been induced to hold out some distant expectations of future favour and protection. But soon after her arrival, on studying the genius of the nation, and contemplating the consequences likely to ensue, the Queen perceived the necessity of restricting her patronage. To render this resolve less harsh and disagreeable, His Majesty furnished her with a considerable sum of money, which was divided by way of *indemnification* among a numerous body of titled expectants. This was both very prudent and very politic. Henceforth, we find the young Queen placing her entire confidence in English ladies of distinguished families, and with an exception of *Madame de Schwellenburgh*, whose very name seemed ungrateful to an English ear, we hear but little of German attendants.

See "Reminiscences," by the late Earl of Orford.

Another object of still higher importance, long occupied the thoughts and embittered the reflections of the Queen-Consort. Mecklenburgh, although less exposed than Schwerin, had been greatly impoverished during the late war, so that the inhabitants were rendered incapable of paying the usual taxes. The minority that ensued, was not, perhaps, calculated to enrich the ducal treasury, and a royal marriage was only wanting to complete the common ruin. Three years income, at least, of this little principality, was required for the outfit of the royal bride, and the presents and entertainments provided with no unsparing hand on that occasion. Was a brother to suffer by a sister's elevation? And was it to be permitted, that an event calculated indeed to illustrate his family, should at once prove its honour and its ruin?

These considerations did not escape His Majesty's attention. No one was more minutely acquainted with the detail of circumstances; and the necessary measures were speedily adopted for affording instant and effectual relief. Accordingly, after consulting with his ministers, a pension on the Irish establishment was granted; and that too, in such a manner, and to such an amount, that if not an ample, yet was a reasonable compensation. This circumstance occasioned considerable clamour, chiefly, perhaps, on account of the manner in which it was effected; and yet when calmly viewed, it must be considered as an act, not of profusion, but of justice.

From the first moment of her arrival in England, Her Majesty evinced a most laudable resolution, calculated to inspire female delicacy with confidence, to discourage vice and immorality, and to render her drawing-room impervious to the intrusion of improper characters. Were the connubial virtues to be elbowed in her presence by the votaries of crime and prostitution? Was the chaste wife and the good mother to mingle with those, who, after dishonouring, had deserted both their husbands and children? During the continuance of a long reign, this was a rule invariably adhered to at Her Majesty's Court, with one perhaps, accidental exception, and

that too in the case of a foreigner. The effects produced by such a rule of conduct, are indescribable: for on this point the Queen is known to have proved inexorable to the prayers, the intreaties, and even the tears, of some of the most distinguished females of the kingdom.

Meanwhile, an event occurred, that while it diffused universal joy throughout Great Britain and Ireland, was calculated to render the royal pair, if possible, still more dear than ever to each other. Her Majesty was now declared to be *enceinte*; and that circumstance was accordingly notified to the proper authorities in due form. At this period, *accoucheurs*, or men-midwives, had been lately introduced into practice, but Her Majesty, with appropriate delicacy, determined not to subscribe to this innovation. Mrs. Draper, a midwife of considerable celebrity in that day, was accordingly selected from the band of female practitioners, and gave entire satisfaction. Under her auspices, His Royal Highness George Prince of Wales, Electoral Prince of Brunswick Lunenburgh, and now Prince Régent of the United Kingdom, was born on August 12, 1762, at St. James's Palace, and baptized in the Council-chamber there, on the 8th of September following. The royal infant was immediately placed under the inspection of Lady Charlotte Finch, who presided for many years with distinguished care and ability over the nursery department.

A numerous progeny succeeded, all of whom we shall enumerate in due order, observing that Her Majesty proved more prolific than any branch either of her own family, or that of the King.*

II. His Royal Highness Prince Frederic, now Duke of York, and Bishop of Osnaburgh; was the first child born at Buckingham-house, a late acquisition, since known by the

* The Duchess of Mirow, Her Majesty's mother had ten; the late Princess of Wales, mother to the King, nine; and Their Majesties King George II., and Queen Caroline, also nine children.

appellation of the "Queen's palace." He also came into the world August 16, 1763, under the auspices of Mrs. Draper, and was baptized at St. James's, September 19, which after the purchase just alluded to, was only used on occasions of state.

III. Prince William-Henry Duke of Clarence, also born at the Queen's palace, August 21, 1765, was likewise introduced under female influence.

IV. The Princess Charlotte-Augusta-Matilda, Princess Royal, first Electress, and then Queen of Wirtemberg, was born at the Queen's Palace, September 29, 1766, Mrs. Draper still presiding as before.

V. Prince Edward, Duke of Kent, was born at Buckingham-house, Nov. 2, 1767, the same female being again in attendance.

VI. The Princess Sophia-Augusta, was born at the same place, and introduced into the world under the same auspices, Nov. 8, 1768.

VII. The Princess Elizabeth, now Princess of Hombourg, born at the same place, May 22, 1770.

VIII. Prince Ernest-Augustus, now Duke of Cumberland, was born at the same place, June 5, 1771.

IX. Prince Augustus Frederic, now Duke of Sussex, Jan. 27, 1763.

X. Prince Adolphus Frederic, now Duke of Cambridge, Feb. 24, 1774.

XI. Princess Mary, April 25, 1776.

XII. Princess Sophia, Nov. 3, 1777.

XIII. Prince Octavius, born Feb. 23, 1779, and died on May 23d, 1783.

XIV. Prince Alfred, born Sept. 22, 1780, and died Aug. 26, 1782.

XV. Princess Amelia, born August 7, 1783, and died Nov. 2, 1810.

Of all these children, with the exception of one only (I believe the Princess Amelia), Her Majesty was safely deli-

vered by a female. On the occasion alluded to, the late Dr. Ford, who happened to be in attendance, was called in, and conducted himself to the entire satisfaction of the royal family.

On the marriage of their Majesties, some difficulties existed relative to a fit and proper residence. The palace of St. James's was falling fast to decay; Buckingham House, erected by a Duke of the same name, required considerable repairs, and Windsor Castle was then actually in a state of dilapidation. After due consideration, the little palace at Kew was at length pitched upon, notwithstanding various objections, both in respect to size and convenience. The Princess dowager had lately erected a splendid Chinese Pagoda in the adjoining gardens, which, indeed, Her Royal Highness had *created*, by converting a barren waste into a fruitful soil. Her Majesty was doubtless pleased with her new habitation, on account of the botanical assemblage of curious exotics, then beginning to be collected there. Since that period, great additions have been made, and it now possesses, perhaps, the greatest variety of plants, particularly aquatics and heaths, to be found in Europe.

Meanwhile Buckingham House underwent a substantial repair, and His Majesty adopted the necessary measures to render the noble castle at Windsor habitable. A lodge was also built for the Queen, who took great delight in walking and driving through the surrounding parks. At a latter period, the mansion at Frogmore, with the adjacent fields, was converted first into a dairy, and next into a pleasure-house, the grounds of which were skilfully ornamented by the hand of taste, and its walks occasionally decorated by all that was great, splendid, and respectable in the vicinity.

The whole domestic economy of the royal family was regulated according to known and settled rules. The morning was dedicated to study. Her Majesty, on her arrival, possessed but a very inadequate notion of our language; in short, she spoke like a foreigner. But in due time, and with assiduous application, under an able instructor*, the Queen was

* The late Mr. Majendic.

at length enabled, not only to pronounce, but to write English with a considerable degree of elegance and precision. A habit of early rising contributed not a little to the health and the enjoyments of the royal family; and enabled the august personage, of whom we now treat, to visit the cottage of the widow, to inspire the orphan with hope, and to cheer the declining years of the labourer or woodman, worn out with the incessant toil and fatigue of half a century. Schools, in due time, arose under such happy auspices; bibles were distributed in abundance; and every effort was made to render the neighbourhood of Windsor the abode of peace, tranquillity, and happiness.

It has already been mentioned, that the morning was devoted to study, and, it may be here added, that the forenoon was frequently occupied in visiting the neighbourhood. Nuneham, and St. Leonard's Hill, were favourite drives. Stock Park was within sight of the drawing-room windows. Cliefden's "proud alcove" was at no great distance; and every family of distinction in the vicinity was honoured with frequent calls. The dinner, which was served up at an early hour, consumed but little time; a party, chiefly selected from the neighbourhood, generally assembled in the evening; a concert, in which the ablest performers not unfrequently assisted, proved a constant source of entertainment; and at that period the whole generally concluded with a ball.

But it was on the terrace of the castle, during a summer's evening, that the royal pair appeared in the most amiable point of view. There, accompanied by their children, they showed themselves freely, and without reserve, to their people. Surrounded by thousands of nobles and plebeians, their conduct was affable in the extreme, and no opportunity of saying, or doing a civil thing was ever suffered to escape.

Meanwhile, time rolled away, and amidst a large portion of happiness, no small share of misery was reserved for the illustrious lady now under consideration. In 1788 the King was unhappily visited by a calamity, the horrors of which baffle all description. On this occasion his faithful consort forgot

not for a single moment her duties as a wife. Such, however, was the peculiarity of the present case (being what lawyers term a *Casus Omissus*) that it was difficult in the extreme, to act either with propriety or effect, as no legislative provision had been made for an event, hitherto unexampled in our history. But the excellence of Her Majesty's private character; her intrepid fidelity in the hour of danger and distress; a certain degree of political influence arising out of her establishment, her station, and her virtues; aided, encouraged, and assisted by the counsels of Lord Chancellor Thurlow, and the eloquence of Mr. Pitt, bore her in triumph over the ocean of difficulties and perils with which the throne seemed to be surrounded. Let it be recollected too, that on this occasion, the current of popular opinion set strongly on the same side, and proved not a little serviceable to the progress of both Queen and Ministers. The sudden recovery of a beloved monarch, diffused a tumultuous joy throughout the British Isles, and the meritorious conduct of his virtuous consort, marked by unvarying attachment, and finally graced with complete success, endeared the name of CHARLOTTE to the whole nation.

But alas! the joys of this world are transitory: new afflictions were reserved for the royal pair. The death of the Princess Amelia, in the flower of her age, in 1810, proved the source of long and bitter affliction, in addition to which, it was followed by events of the most melancholy nature. The relapse of the King, who is known to have been greatly affected by this event, produced the Regency Act, which after suspending the powers of the heir apparent, in certain cases, and for a certain period, finally enabled His Royal Highness to become *Pro-Rex*, always acting however, "in the name and on behalf of His Majesty."

The royal establishment was maintained at Windsor, in case of a speedy recovery; to Her Majesty was very properly assigned the custody of the person of her afflicted consort; and she was assisted by a council on this trying occasion, to whom the physicians in attendance made regular monthly reports

respecting the mental and corporeal health of the royal patient. Soon after this, also, Her Majesty's revenue received a considerable accession, and suitable provision was made for the illustrious females, her daughters.

We pass over the intervening period, because no event of great importance connected with Her Majesty's happiness occurred. At length, however, after enjoying a long and uninterrupted series of good health, the Queen all at once was assailed by a multitude of human maladies. The first attack appeared to resemble an hepatic complaint, and the Bath waters were immediately prescribed. The effects however, were rendered of little avail, by intelligence of the sudden and unexpected demise of the Princess Charlotte, preceded by that of her infant offspring.* A second visit to the same place seemed for a while to give relief; but the disease now assumed a new and still more formidable aspect: that of dropsy in the chest, prognosticating, from the very first, a general, but gradual decay of the system.

As the air of Buckingham House is far from pure, on account of being enveloped by the vapours of steam engines and brew-houses, a change was recommended, and Kew Palace was selected, for a variety of reasons. Her Majesty was accordingly removed thither, in company with her two daughters, the Duchess of Gloucester and the Princess Augusta. The best medical advice was immediately recurred to, and one of her physicians† remained in constant attendance during the whole of a long protracted illness.

It would be in vain to state the painful suspense, occasioned by frequent relapses and recoveries, that took place during an illness of many months; and still more vain to recur to the *bulletins* for information. At length an incipient mortification, indicative of the approaching event, made its appearance, and

* See vol. ii. page 237.

† MEDICAL ATTENDANTS.

Sir Francis Millman, Bart.

Sir Henry Hallford, Bart.

Mr. Brand, Apothecary.

Mr. Robert Keate, Surgeon to Her Majesty.

Dr. Baillie visited Kew but once.

the last, and most intelligent official document, but too plainly prognosticated the melancholy result:

“ Kew Palace, Nov. 17, 1818.

“ The Queen’s state last night, was one of great and imminent danger. Her Majesty remains very ill this morning.

“ F. MILLMAN.

“ H. HALFORD.”

At an early hour, messengers were dispatched to all branches of the royal family in or near town, and two of the Princes arrived in time to perform the last duties to a kind and affectionate mother, who, in the extremity of her distress, was supported by their Royal Highnesses the Prince Regent and the Duke of York, while the Princesses, their sisters, knelt by her side until she ceased to exist.

Immediately on the arrival of this intelligence, Carlton and York Houses were shut up, but the following notification written on paper with large black margins, was exhibited at the former, about 3 o’clock :

“ Carlton House, Nov. 17.

“ Her Majesty expired at One o’Clock this day, without pain.”

The following communication to the city, from the Secretary of State for the home department, took place about the same time:

“ My Lord, Whitehall, Nov. 17, 1818.

“ It is my painful duty to inform you of the death of HER MAJESTY the QUEEN. This melancholy event took place at Kew Palace, at one o’clock this day.”

“ I have the honour to be, your Lordship’s most obedient,

“ SIDMOUTH.”

“ To the Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor.”

In the evening of the same day, an extraordinary Gazette was published, surrounded by black borders, with a view of announcing the melancholy event, not only to the English, but foreign nations :

“ WHITEHALL, Nov. 17, 1818.

“ This day, at one o'clock, the QUEEN departed this life, to the inexpressible grief of the Royal Family, after a tedious illness, which Her Majesty bore with the most pious fortitude and resignation. The many great and exemplary virtues which so eminently distinguished Her MAJESTY throughout her long life, were the object of universal esteem and admiration amongst all classes of His MAJESTY'S subjects, and render the death of this illustrious and most excellent Princess an unspeakable loss to the whole nation.”

Thus died, Nov. 17, 1818, in the 75th year of her age, and the 57th after landing in England, Her Most Excellent Majesty CHARLOTTE Queen-Consort of GEORGE III.

Her Majesty, being rather of small stature, although exquisitely formed, did not possess a commanding figure; yet few Sovereigns ever exhibited a more dignified manner, or knew better how to maintain the pre-eminence of her exalted station. When her face was lighted up with a benignant smile, no Princess could exhibit a more gracious aspect, even in the decline of life; and in her youth there was a play of grace and of condescending loveliness in her look, that charmed and conciliated, while it excited the esteem of all within its influence.

We have already descanted on Her Majesty's many private virtues, and hinted at some of her numerous accomplishments. This distinguished personage was greatly addicted to harmony, which she studied in a scientific manner, and possessed a fine taste, not only for instrumental but vocal music. The assistance of Bach and Abel, was obtained in succession and rewarded with liberality. The family of a respectable gentleman, who had assisted in Her Majesty's studies in the English

language was not forgotten, for Dr. Henry William Majendie, having been bred to the church, was gratified with the appointment of Canon-Residentiary of St. Paul's, and is now Lord Bishop of Bangor.

With the higher ranks of our nobility, in her vicinity, the Queen lived in the constant interchange of good offices, and many distinguished families were accustomed to reside occasionally at the castle. Among Her Majesty's particular favourites, were several ladies, always acknowledged to be both the patterns and ornaments of their sex: and neither any of these nor their connections, were forgotten in the distribution of favours. The late Countess Dowager of Effingham, whose manners were pleasing, and indeed fascinating, occupied for several years an honourable situation at Court. Her husband Sir George Howard too, obtained the garrison of Chelsea-Hospital, and one of the best regiments of cavalry in the service. Three generations of the noble family of Harcourt were all beloved and cherished in succession, and high and lucrative appointments gratified all their wishes. Lady Cremorne enjoyed the esteem of Her Majesty, who was accustomed to pay frequent visits to Chelsea Farm, where a princely entertainment was always provided. This respectable and charitable Viscountess is the grand-daughter of the illustrious William Penn, and bears the name (Philadelphia) of that city, founded by his wisdom. A Barony and a Viscounty to her husband, in succession, testified the esteem of the royal family for both.

Her Majesty was a queen and woman, and of course subject to the infirmities peculiar to her sex and her station. But these were but "as dust in the balance," in comparison to the numerous assemblage of private virtues displayed throughout a long and eventful period of near three-score years.

We cannot pretend exactly to describe the political opinions of this Princess, but we can easily suppose them to resemble those of most other queens, and indeed of most other females. The Earl of Liverpool is well known to have enjoyed Her

Majesty's confidence, and his habits of business, his known moderation, and his respectable talents, have done no discredit to her choice.

Dr. Watson, rather too querulously for a philosopher, and far too ambitiously for a Christian Divine, accuses Her Majesty of having constantly opposed his promotion. We lament this circumstance, for his merits were of a high and exalted order, and had the archiepiscopal mitre diffused its radiance around his head, Her Majesty, perhaps, would have found him one of the firmest pillars of the Church of England, and one of the most loyal, and even the most obsequious prelates appertaining to the hierarchy.

We have already noticed, that the early part of Her Majesty's education was entrusted to a distinguished female. This lady, who has been complimented with the title of "the German Sappho," is said to have inspired her pupil with a taste for poetry. From Her first male instructor, the young Princess also imbibed a taste for botany. We pretend not to vouch for the authenticity of the letter to the King of Prussia; but are enabled to state with more certainty, that a translation of the German Sermons of Zollikeffer, proceeded from Her Majesty's pen, and that her compositions, both in prose and verse, were not unworthy either of her station or talents.

Queen Charlotte appears to have felt her ruling passion "strong in death." The last public act of her life, was a visit to the Mansion House, for the express purpose of seeing, encouraging, and patronising the children of the National Schools, who were submitted to her inspection, and gratified by her applause.

At the expense of about 800*l.* *per annum*, Her Majesty established a school for embroidery, and many of the statebeds at Windsor were ornamented by the hands of the six pupils, who received a gratuitous education from her bounty. To each of the royal nurses, a pension of 200*l.* *per annum* was assigned; and their children were constantly cherished and provided for. Colonel Disborowe was of late selected as the distributor of the royal bounty to the neighbouring poor; and

it is not a little remarkable, that this gentleman was seized with a fatal malady, a few weeks after Her Majesty's demise, while in the act of distributing the usual charities !

To those who delight in minute biography, it may not be uninteresting to learn, that the Queen scrupulously abstained from paint ; that she was accustomed to indulge in snuff ; and that being troubled of late years by *bunyons*, a garden chair was constantly provided for exercise, as walking proved both tedious and painful.

Her Majesty, in point of jewels and wardrobe, was assuredly the richest sovereign in the world ; although neither possessed of the Pitt nor of the Pigot diamond, yet the number, size, and variety of her brilliants, exceeded all ordinary calculation ; and have been estimated at half a million sterling !

The funeral of Her late most Excellent Majesty was superb in the extreme, and exhibited a great display of pomp, both civil and military. After the royal body had lain in state for some time the funeral took place on Tuesday, Dec. 2, 1818.

At fifteen minutes before ten, the coffin, which had been deposited in the state-room the preceding evening, was placed on the hearse, and the procession moved forward in the following order :

Two lancers mounted to clear the way.

Twenty ditto mounted, two and two.

A Palace Constable on foot, dressed in state uniform.

Eight Marshals (the late Queen's Servants) on horseback, in their state uniforms, with silk scarfs, hat-bands, and sashes, bearing ebony staves, tipped with silver.

The Beadle of Kew Parish, on foot, with silk scarf and hatband.

Eight Assistants on horseback, in deep mourning.

THE HEARSE,

Covered with black velvet, profusely decorated with plumes of ostrich feathers, and ornamented by seven escutcheons, (three on each side, and one at the back), drawn by eight black horses, bearing ostrich plumes, an escutcheon being affixed to the black velvet covering of each horse. There was nothing remarkable in its appearance.

A party of Lancers.

Assistants on horse-back, in deep mourning.

Assistants on horse-back, in deep mourning.

A party of Lancers.

Assistants on horseback, in deep mourning;

Seven private carriages of Her Majesty, each drawn by six chesnut horses. The coachmen and footmen in deep mourning. The usual hammer-cloth of scarlet and gold was retained. The first six carriages had the Royal arms emblazoned on them, and the letters C. R. in a small cypher, inserted in a compartment above them. The last had only the crown, surmounting the letters C. R. in a very large cypher.

Assistants on horseback, in deep mourning.

A detachment, consisting of 89 Lancers, in triple files, closed the procession.

This was the whole of the procession at its departure: it occupied in length about 300 yards. It was just six minutes (at the rate it travelled, of about two miles an hour), in passing any given object. The procession having crossed the bridge, slowly turned to the left, and followed by an incalculable number of persons on foot, and an immensity of carriages, proceeded towards Longford. Her Majesty's private carriages were filled with the ladies, noblemen, and gentlemen, who held the principal situations in her household.

Major-General Sir Robert Bolton commanded the whole of the troops. Col. Sir John Elley commanded the Household Brigade. The Foot Guards were commanded by Col. Lord Frederick Bentinck. The detachment of the 3d Dragoons, 7th Hussars, 9th, 12th, and 19th Lancers, were under the orders of their respective commanding officers. All the troops employed on this duty were in full dress.

The following is the order in which the procession entered Windsor:

The Carriage of His Royal Highness the Prince of Saxe Coburg,
with Six Greys. — Empty.

The Carriage of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent,
with Six Bays. — Empty.

The Carriage of His Royal Highness the Duke of York,
with Six Greys. — Empty.

Three Carriages of the Prince Regent's with Six Horses each,
with His Royal Highness's Household.

One Hundred and Fifty Servants of different branches of the Royal
Family, in deep mourning, on foot.

Sixty of the Prince Regent's Servants, in deep mourning, with swords.

Knight Marshal's Men on foot (with Black Staves.)

The Royal Undertakers.

Fifty Mutes.

Yeomen of the Guard.

THE HEARSE,

Horse	Drawn by Eight of Her late	Horse
Guards.	Majesty's Horses, driven by Her late	Guards.
	Majesty's body Coachman.	
	Yeomen of the Guard, in mourning, with Partizans reversed.	
	A Troop of the Horse Guards.	
	His Royal the PRINCE REGENT, in his Robes,	
	with his two Supporters.	
	A Troop of the Horse Guards.	
	A Carriage and Six of the Prince	
Dragoons.	Regent's, with the	Dragoons.
	Train Bearers of the Chief Mourner.	
	One of His Majesty's Carriages, drawn by Six Horses, conveying the	
	Train Bearers of the Chief Mourner.	
	Carriages of His Majesty, drawn by Six Horses, conveying the	
	Princes of the Blood Royal.	
	Carriages of His Majesty's, conveying the Train Bearers of the	
	Princes of the Blood Royal.	
Dragoons.	Six Carriages of Her late Majesty,	Dragoons.
	with the Queen's Household.	
	Horse Guards.	
	Lancers.	

At eight o'clock in the evening the procession reached the south door of St. George's chapel, where the servants and grooms, the trumpets and drums, and the Knight Marshal's men filed without the door. The royal body was then removed by ten yeomen of the guard from the hearse, and placed upon a car constructed by Sir William Congreve. On all former occasions the coffin was carried into the church on the shoulders of yeomen of the guard, but the weight was often found insupportable, and after the interment of the Princess Charlotte, it was said that one of the bearers had actually died of the injury he sustained in the performance of this duty. To obviate, we presume, not only a recurrence of this injury, but even the unpleasant interruption which the change of bearers to relieve each other necessarily occasions in the church during the performance of the solemn ceremony, this car was contrived. The surface of it was flat, with a groove to receive the shape of the coffin: it was about five feet in height, and was supported by three separate axle-trees, which moved two small wheels each; the axles were constructed to swing with facility, and make a short turn in a small circle, so as to perform its

evolutions with ease on the platform: this car, which was entirely covered with black velvet, was placed at the end of the covered way facing the great gate, where it received the coffin. It was then drawn on, after the procession formed in the interior, in the order it originally held along the platform, and up to the choir, by yeomen of the guard, who worked at its handles, but who were concealed from public view by a large velvet pall which was thrown over the coffin, and hung down at the sides so as to cover the men who drew the car at each side.

This ingenious and humane alteration gave the spectacle at the moment the procession passed up the body of the chapel, a feature of novelty, which it was impossible not to approve. — Ten escutcheons adorned the pall, and the solemn effect produced on the spectators by the view of an object so interesting, slowly advancing, apparently from a motion of its own, to the yawning mouth of the sepulchre, preceded by the ministers of religion, and followed by the most exalted individual in this kingdom, and the most distinguished of the nobility and great officers of state, was as striking and affecting as it was mournfully magnificent.

CEREMONIAL WITHIN THE ROYAL CHAPEL.

Poor Knights of Windsor.

Pages of the Royal Family. — J. Ince, T. Messenger, C. Kramer, J. Dobell, and T. Wedgborough, Esqrs.

Pages of the King. — J. Bott, J. Clarke, A. Healey, W. Baker, & J. Bott, Esqrs.
Pages of Her late Majesty.

Gentlemen Ushers Quarterly Waiters to His Majesty. — H. Y. Wortham, G. H. Seymour, and T. Ramsden, Esqrs.

Gentlemen Ushers Quarterly Waiters to Her late Majesty. — Sir G. Gibbon, Bart. H. Willoughby Rooke, and J. L. Duckenfield, Esqrs.

Pages of Honour to His Majesty. — G. Downes, Esq. State Pages, C. J. Stanthagen, C. du Pasquier, G. Troop, and W. R. Holmes, Esqrs.

Pages of Honour to Her late Majesty. — J. Cooper & R. Perry, Esqrs.

Apothecaries to the Prince Regent. — Mr. Walker and Mr. Lockley.

Apothecaries to the King. — E. A. Brande and H. Battiscomb, Esqrs.

Apothecaries to Her late Majesty.

Surgeons to the Prince Regent. — Ogle, S. Howard, F. Thomson,

T. Chevalier, T. Luxmore, A. Carlisle, J. P. Tupper, & W. Wadd, Esqrs.

Surgeons to the King. — Sir David Dundas, Bart. Sir E. Home, Bart.

J. Heaviside, J. Penrose, J. Gunning, and F. Albert, Esqrs.

Surgeons to Her late Majesty. — R. Keate, A. Matthias, & W. Tudor, Esqrs.

- The Rector and Curate of Kew. The Rector and Curate of Windsor.
 Grooms of the Privy Chamber to His Majesty.—W. C. Fowle, F Chapman,
 and R. Powell, Esqrs.
 Grooms of the Privy Chamber to Her late Majesty.
 Gentlemen Ushers, Daily Waiters to His Majesty.
 Gentlemen Ushers, Daily Waiters to Her late Majesty.
 Serjeant Surgeon to the King.—J. Phillips, Esq.
 Physicians to the Prince Regent.—Sir W. Farquhar, Sir G. Blane, Sir W.
 Knighton, and Sir J. M. Tierney.
 Physicians to the King.—Sir L. Pepys, and W. Heberden.
 Physicians to Her late Majesty.—Sir F. Millman, and Sir H. Halford.
 Clerk of the Closet to the Prince Regent.—Rev. G. F. Blomberg,
 Household Chaplain (at Windsor) to His Majesty.—Rev. Isaac Gosset.
 Equerries to the Royal Family.
 Military Secretary to the Commander-in-Chief.—Major Gen. Sir H. Torrens.
 Equerries to the Prince Regent.
 Clerk Marshal and First Equerry to the Prince Regent.
 Quarter-Master General, Adjutant-General.
 Major-Gen. Sir J. W. Gordon. Lieut.-Gen. Sir H. Calvert.
 Equerries to the King.
 Clerk Marshal and First Equerry to the King.—Lieut.-Gen. F. T. Hammond.
 Equerries to Her late Majesty.—Hon. Sir E. Stopford, Hon. A. Upton, and
 Hon. C. Murray.
 Gentlemen Ushers of the Privy Chamber to His Majesty.—John Hale,
 R. Chester, W. C. Master, and G. T. Hatton, Esqrs.
 Gentlemen Ushers of the Privy Chamber to Her late Majesty.—T. Fauquier,
 C. Rooke, and Major-Gen. Sir T. B. Pechell, Bart.
 Officers of the Duchy of Cornwall.
 Chamberlain to the Great Steward of Scotland.—Viscount Keith.
 Grooms of the Bed Chamber to His Majesty.—Gen. Finch, Col. Thomas,
 Gen. Stevens, Col. Stanhope, Gen. Sir J. Cradock, Gen. Sir W.
 Keppel, Hon. F. Greville, Sir A. K. Legge, Sir H. Burrard
 Neale, and Gen. Sir H. Campbell.
 Solicitor General, Sir R. Gifford. Attorney General, Sir S. Shepherd.
 Her late Majesty's Solicitor-General, Her late Majesty's Attorney-General,
 Anthony Hart, Esq. J. Vaughan, Esq.
 Comptroller of His Majesty's House- Treasurer of His Majesty's House-
 hold, Lord G. T. Beresford hold, Lord C. Bentinck.
 Heralds.
 Privy Purse and Private Secretary to the Prince Regent.—Sir B. Bloomfield.
 Private Secretary and Treasurer to Her late Majesty.—Major Gen. H. Taylor.
 Lord Chief Baron.—Right Hon. Sir R. Richards.
 Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas.—Sir Robert Dallas.
 Vice Chancellor.—Sir John Leach.
 Master of the Rolls.—Sir Thomas Plomer.
 Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench.—Sir Charles Abbott.
 Lords of the Bedchamber to His Majesty.—Lord Boston, Earl Poulett, Lord
 Charles Spencer, Marquis of Headfort, Viscount Melbourne, Lord James
 Murray, Viscount Petersham, Viscount Lake, Earl Delawar,
 Lord Graves, and Lord Amherst.

Master of the Household to His Majesty and Secretary to the Groom of the Stole (on the Windsor Establishment). B. C. Stephenson, Esq.	Groom of the Stole to His Majesty (on the Windsor Establishment. Earl of Winchelsea.	Vice-Chamberlain to His Majesty (on the Windsor Establishment). Lord J. Thynne.
Bishop of Exeter, Clerk of the Closet to the King, Hon. Geo. Pelham.	Bishop of London, Rt. Hon. Wm. Howley.	Bishop of Salisbury, Chancellor of the Order of the Garter, J. Fisher, D.D.

Heralds.

The Minister of State of Hanover.—Count Munster.

The Deputy Earl Marshal.—Lord H. Howard, M. Howard.

His Majesty's Ministers.—Earl of Liverpool, Earl of Westmoreland, Earl of Harrowby, Viscount Sidmouth, Earl Bathurst, Right Hon. Nicholas Vansittart, Viscount Mellville, Earl of Mulgrave, Right Hon. George Canning, Right Hon. C. Bathurst, Right Hon. W. Pole, and Right Hon. F. J. Robinson.

The Archbishop of York.—Right Hon. E. V. Vernon, D. C. L.

The Lord Chancellor.—Lord Eldon.

The Archbishop of Canterbury.—Right Hon. C. M. Sutton, D. D.

Norroy King of Arms.

Capt. of the Yeomen of the Guard Earl of Macclesfield.	Capt. of the Band of Gent. Pensioners, Earl of Courtown.
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Master of the Horse to His Majesty, Duke of Montrose, K. G.	Groom of the Stole to His Majesty, Marquis of Winchester.
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Secretary to the Lord Steward, T. Brent, Esq.	The Lord Steward of His Majesty's Household, Marquis Cholmondeley.	Master of His Majesty's Household, Gen. S. Hulse.
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Choir of Windsor.

Prebendaries.

Dean.

Supporter Second Gentleman Usher, Thomas Gore, Esq. Daily Waiter to her late Majesty. Thomas Gore, Esq.	The CROWN of her late Majesty borne on a Black Velyet Cushion by Clarencieux King of Arms.	Supporter First Gentleman Usher, T. Fauquier, Esq, Daily Waiter to her late Majesty. G. W. Vincent, Esq.
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Secretary to the Lord Chamberlain, John Calvert, Esq.	Vice Chamberlain to His Majesty, Viscount Jocelyn.
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First Gentleman Usher Daily Waiter to His Majesty, H. Y. Wortham, Esq.	Garter Principal King of Arms.	Gentleman Usher of The Black Rod, Sir Thomas Tyrwhit.
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The Lord Chamberlain of His Majesty's Household.—Marquis of Hertford.

THE ROYAL BODY,

Covered with a fine Holland Sheet, and a Black Velvet Pall, adorned with Ten Escutcheons, carried by Ten Yeomen of the Guard, under a Canopy of Black Velvet.

Upon the lid of the Coffin was the following Inscription :

Depositum

Serenissimæ Principissæ Charlottæ Dei gratia
Reginæ Consortis Augustissimi et Potentissimi Monarchæ

Georgii Tertii Dei Gratia Britanniarum Regis

Fidei Defensoris, Regis Hanoveræ ac Brunsvici et

Lunenbergi Ducis,

Obiit xvii die Novembris,

Anno Domini MDCCCXVIII.

Ætatis suæ LXXV.

Supporters of the Pall.—Their Graces the Dukes of Newcastle, Montrose, Beaufort, St. Alban's, Northumberland, and Dorset.

Supporters of the Canopy—Ten Gentlemen of the Privy Chamber.

The Master of the Horse to Her late Majesty—Earl Harcourt.

Lord Chamberlain to Her late Majesty—Earl of Morton.

Secretary and Comptroller to Her late Majesty—Sir Henry F. Campbell.

The Private Secretary and Treasurer to Her late Majesty—

Major-General Herbert Taylor.

Earl of Liverpool, with the Sword of State.

CHIEF MOURNER.

The Prince Regent, supported by the Marquisses of Buckingham and Salisbury.

Dukes of York and Sussex.

Mistress of the Robes—Marchioness of Bath.

Ladies of the Bedchamber—Countess Harcourt, Viscountess Sydney,

Countess of Harrington, Countess of Macclesfield, Vicountess

Melville, Countess of Cardigan.

Keepers of the Robes—Mrs. Charlotte Beckendorff, Miss S. Beckendorff.

Women of the Bed-chamber to Her late Majesty—Hon. Mrs. A. M. Egerton,

Lady Radstock, Hon. Mrs. Courtenay, A. Boyle, Mrs. Mary

Gwyn, Hon. Mrs. Augusta Leigh.

Maids of Honour—Miss Caroline Vernon, Miss Augusta Brudenell, Miss

Seymour Colman, Miss Louisa Wrottesley, Miss Elizabeth

Courtenay, and Miss Louisa Murray.

Women Attendants on Her late Majesty.

Ten Gentlemen Pensioners with their axes reversed.

Forty Yeomen of the Guard with their Partizans reversed.

We now proceed to describe the ceremonial as it took place under our observation in St. George's Chapel. The number of persons admitted as visitors on this occasion, and not forming part of the procession itself, was very small, being limited to fifty-four, who were allowed, by means of tickets, to pass by the eastern door of the chapel, adjoining to the deanery, and to take their station in the organ-loft, from whence a tolerable view both of the entrance of the procession and the solemn concluding ceremony could be obtained. These visitors were

admitted soon after six o'clock, at which time the chapel was still so dimly lighted as scarcely to render objects visible. This scene, however, soon began to assume the appearance of illumination in a slight degree, as the soldiers who were stationed in the anti-chapel were gradually supplied with torches. The choir, though lighted in the usual manner, from the effect of the black cloth with which it was covered, still remained gloomy and indistinct. At seven o'clock the bell of the chapel began to toll, as an intimation that the procession had moved from Frogmore, while the marshals and the persons belonging to the Lord Chamberlain's office began to call over and to form those who were to precede the procession into the choir. This was managed with great decorum, and so as scarcely to disturb the general silence that reigned throughout the arcades of this noble building. The interval till eight o'clock was thus occupied, when the quick moving of lights and general bustle discovered through the windows announced the arrival of the funeral cavalcade. At this moment the notes of the organ were heard, and the choir entered, each singer bearing a lighted taper in his hand, and singing the well-known anthem from Croft's burial service. The strength and completeness of this choral band, at least treble the usual number allotted to the cathedral, and the select members of the principal choirs in and near the metropolis, breaking in upon the silence which prevailed, produced an effect truly solemn and impressive. The procession then entered by the south door of the chapel, nearly in the same order as given in the ceremonial previously arranged for the obsequies of her Majesty. The pall which covered the royal body was supported on each side by three Dukes; the Dukes of Northumberland, Dorset, and St. Albans, on one side—of Newcastle, Montrose, and Beaufort, on the other. The Royal body was followed by the Prince Regent, as chief mourner, supported by the Marquisses of Buckingham and Winchester, and attended by the Marquisses of Bath, Salisbury, Headfort, Cornwallis, and Camden, as train-bearers: next followed, as assistants to the chief-mourner, Earl Delawar, Viscounts Lake and Bulkeley, Lords Boston,

Amherst, Arden, Graves, Longford, Beresford, Rivers, Grenville, St. Helens, Henley, and Hill. As these severally entered the chapel, the van of the procession moved forwards into the choir, the Windsor Knights, pages, ushers, and other officers ranging themselves around and on the steps of the altar. The members of the Royal family, of whom we perceived to be present the Dukes of York and Sussex, and those noblemen on whom the Order of the Garter had been conferred, stationed themselves in their respective stalls; the great dignitaries of the church, of whom were present the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, with the Bishops of London and Salisbury, occupied their respective places within the choir. The Royal body having been carried to the steps of the altar was placed on a platform prepared to receive it; the pall was removed, and the crown and cushion placed on the coffin. The Prince Regent, as chief mourner, being seated in a chair at the head of the corpse, surrounded by his supporters and train-bearers, standing, the funeral service commenced in the usual manner, as performed at cathedrals, and at the demise of great and illustrious persons.

Immediately on the entrance of the body into the Chapel, the Choir had commenced the impressive burial service, composed conjointly by Croft and Purcell. The second verse, "I know that my Redeemer liveth," was played with exquisite tenderness. — Messrs. Knyvett, Sale, Welsh, and Hawes, were the principal vocal performers.

Kent's celebrated anthem of "O Lord, hear my prayer," was then sung being the express selection of the Prince Regent, by two boys from the Chapel Royal, and two from St. George's Chapel, Windsor. Their voices were exquisitely fine, and their delivery of the Anthem highly impressive.

The fine lesson of the burial service was read by the Hon. Mr. Hobart, the Dean of Windsor. The same dignitary performed the remainder of the service in a most impressive manner.

During the performance of that part of the service which says, "Man that is born of a woman," the platform was gra-

dually lowered by imperceptible machinery, at twenty-five minutes past nine o'clock, and the car and the coffin which it upheld descended below the surface of the pavement. At the moment of its disappearance the Dean read the simple prayer, "Forasmuch that it hath pleased Almighty God."

The third part of the service, "I heard a voice from Heaven," was then sung by the choristers, and the remainder of the office of interment read by the Dean.

Throughout the sad ceremony, all eyes were placed on His Royal Highness the Prince Regent. He seemed absorbed in grief. His Royal Highness was long known to have been the favourite son of his august mother, and this was that occasion when filial piety would have shown all the traits of its genuine affections. Besides, perhaps, the natural and suitable grief of His Royal Highness for the loss he had now endured was augmented by the remembrance, that the remains of his only child was deposited in the same vault. The splendour of royalty, the pride of dominion, have no consolation for such an hour as this. The grief of gazing for the last time on the coffin of a fond mother is insupportable. As she is lowered in the tomb where we are never more to see her, whence we shall never hear again the sound of her voice, we feel as if one of the strongest and tenderest chords were torn from the breast. The soul sighs through all its inmost recesses, to know that the sacred shrine in which its ethereal essence was first enkindled, has fallen to ruin, and is soon to be blended with the common lifeless earth. He too was her first-born, the first who reflected back her maternal gladness. He was her favourite. In his adversity, for he had his adversity, she loved him still — she solaced and advised him, and her heart clung to him the more, the more he was afflicted. He was her nightly meditation, and her waking thought was a prayer for the happiness and the safety of the future monarch of her people. The filial assiduity with which he attended her both before and during her fatal illness, proved that her partiality was well bestowed. He watched every evening by her bed-side with an attention which was honourable to himself, and exemplary to the coun-

try; and now that he is finally separated from her, he stands the peculiar object of a generous nation's sympathy.

The whole of the melancholy rites were concluded before ten o'clock. Sir Isaac Heard, as Garter King at Arms, now at the close of his 88th year, came forward at the conclusion, and standing near the grave, in a voice tremulous from emotion rather than from age, proclaimed the style and titles of Her late Majesty. The Prince Regent, the Great Officers of State, and the nobility present, then retired. As the mourners and attendants on this striking ceremony began slowly to separate and to quit the chapel, the solemn swell of the organ, which then struck up the "Dead march in Saul," produced at once the richest and most soothing effect. The numerous company separated without the least disorder or inconvenience; and in a few minutes after the obsequies of Her late Majesty had closed, no vestige remained of the solemn pageantry which had just passed before the eyes of the spectators.

His Royal Highness was repeatedly observed, during the ceremony, to shed a tear, though he struggled to maintain his wonted serenity and fortitude. As the coffin gradually receded from view, His Royal Highness kept his eye fixed upon it. When it was no longer visible, he rose, and, Sir Benjamin Bloomfield bearing his train, passed along the side of the open vault, towards the altar, and left the chapel by the western porch, accompanied by the Dukes of York and Sussex, the Dukes of Montrose, Beaufort, and Newcastle.

During the funeral service, the Royal Chief Mourner alone was seated. Lord Liverpool carried the sword of state before His Royal Highness.

No. XXXI.

RT. HON. EDWARD BARON ELLENBOROUGH,

OF ELLENBOROUGH IN THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, F.S.A.; LATE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE COURT OF KING'S BENCH; A MEMBER OF HIS MAJESTY'S MOST HONOURABLE PRIVY COUNCIL; AND A TRUSTEE OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

Motto. — "*Compositum Jus Fasque Animi.*"

THE Laws were originally seated in Westmoreland, and after humble beginnings, received their first illustration from one of the best, most pious, and most Christian-like Bishops who has adorned the Church of England since the memorable period of the Reformation. The virtuous and liberal-minded prelate here alluded to, was the late Dr. Edmund Law, Archdeacon and Bishop of Carlisle, to which see he was promoted in 1768. He was born in the parish of Cartmel in the county palatine of Lancaster; his father, a clergyman of the establishment, having removed thither on account of a small benefice on which he lived, and by means of which he educated and brought up his family.

After a prefatory education in two different provincial schools, Edmund Law was sent to St. John's, Cambridge. This proved a luxuriant soil, in which the young and hardy plant from the north took a firm hold; for he spread out his branches to the light of Heaven, and flourished with no ordinary degree of prosperity.

It was his good fortune to have had Dr. Cornwallis, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury for a pupil, the Duke of Newcastle for a patron, and the Duke of Grafton for a friend. The degrees of B.A., M.A., and D.D., all followed in succession, a fellowship, a good living, and the offices of Vice-Chan-

cellor, principal librarian, together with the professorship of casuistical divinity, crowned by the mastership of St. Peter's, seemed to flow spontaneously into his lap from the cornucopia of his *Alma Mater*. The Archdeaconry of Staffordshire prebends in the churches of Lichfield and Lincoln, the twelfth stall of the cathedral of Durham, and the unsolicited see of Carlisle * may be said to have rendered him one of the most fortunate dignitaries of the Church of England. Among his friends are to be reckoned some of the principal men of the age in which he lived — the learned and liberal Jortin — the acute and original Hartley — the primitive and independent Archdeacon of Cleveland — with all of whom he corresponded for the express purpose of encouraging an anxious and diligent search after truth, while he was closely united to them in a cordial but rational attachment to civil and religious liberty. In 1787, the good bishop died full of years and honours after having numbered fourscore and four anniversaries.†

Edward Law, the sixth child of this learned prelate, by a daughter of John Christian, of Unerigg in Cumberland, Esq., was born in 1748 or 1749, at Great Salkeld in that county.

He attained the rudiments of human learning under the roof of his maternal uncle, the Rev. Humphry Christian, who then resided at Bottsam, near Cambridge. At the age of twelve, the boy, who already began to exhibit the promise of early talents, was removed to the Charter-house, where the influence of his father had obtained him a place on the establishment.

* For this last and greatest promotion, he was indebted to the late Duke of Grafton then Chancellor of the University of Cambridge.

† His works consist of, 1. An Enquiry into the Ideas of Space, Time, Immensity, and Eternity.

2. Considerations on the Theory of Religion; to which were subjoined, Reflections on the Life and Character of Christ.

3. A Discourse on the Nature and End of Death, under the Christian Covenant.

4. A Tract on the Nature and End of catechising, with several pieces in the controversy respecting an intermediate State.

5. His last work was intituled, "Considerations on the Propriety of requiring subscription to Articles of Faith." His first was a translation of Archbishop King's "Essay upon the Origin of Evil, with Notes."

After an excellent education there, in 1768, he removed to St. Peter's, of which college the Bishop had been appointed master in 1756.

Ambitious of distinction, the young Cantab applied himself to his studies with a vigour and perseverance, that promised future excellence. Accordingly, in 1771, we find him one of the Chancellor's medallists, and, in 1773, one of the members prize men, and senior bachelor.

After taking his first degree, with unusual applause, Mr. Law repaired to London, and having determined to adopt that profession which points towards the highest honours in the state, he entered his name as a student on the books of Lincoln's-Inn. Like a great judge of that day*, he practised for some time *under the bar* as a special pleader, and like him also took pupils. This mode of proceeding was obviously productive of two events, each excellent in itself. In the first place, he was enabled to obtain an intimate and thorough knowledge of the technical parts of practice, which proved eminently serviceable both before and after he rose to the honours and dignities of his profession; and in the next, it afforded him an opportunity to form connexions with reputable and wealthy clients.

At length, Mr. Law became ambitious of distinction; and accordingly, after obtaining a "call," he preferred the Northern Circuit, where both he and his family were of course known. Indeed, his very name, dignified as it was, by the many virtues and accomplishments of his father, afforded ready means for introduction and support.

This seemed however, to be an unlucky period for advancement to a young man, even if possessed of the most shining talents. The leaders then were, Messrs. Lee and Wallace, both of whom afterwards became Attorney-Generals; and such were their acknowledged talents, that they divided between them the whole harvest. At length, they retired in the course of time, and left Mr. Scott (the present Lord Chancellor), and Mr. Law, of whom we now treat, to monopolize the practice, and starve the junior counsel!

* Mr. Justice Buller.

The Bishop of Elphin, Mr. Law's elder brother, having married a sister of Mr. Wallace, who had risen by his great merits from the humble station of an attorney's clerk; that connection tended somewhat, to the advancement and success of the subject of the present memoir. Indeed he only wanted a fair opportunity for his exertions, and a proper arena for the display of those strong natural powers with which he was gifted. The Court of King's Bench, over which the great Earl of Mansfield still presided with an acknowledged air of dignity, joined to an unvarying suavity of manners, that conciliated all beholders, afforded an appropriate theatre. Dunning yet lingered at the bar, and did not retire until he was ennobled; while Erskine now began to display those precocious talents that rendered him unrivalled as an advocate. But the subject of this memoir had drawn his resources from the fountain-head, and relied less on oratorical, than legal attainments.

As business during the circuit leads to business in term-time, a whole host of northern attorneys and their London agents, now poured into his chambers, and his name and talents speedily became known. The first cause in which he distinguished himself, is said to have sprung out of a question of insurance; and as this occurred at Guildhall, much city business followed of course.

Mr. Law, now began to be considered a *rising man*, and that circumstance alone, as usual, increased the number of his clients. Just at this critical moment too, the friendship of one of the Puisne Judges of the King's Bench*, obtained for him a silk gown, and it was now to be decided, whether his talents entitled him to *lead* or to *follow*. The attempt was indeed hazardous, but it proved successful; and from that moment, it was readily foreseen, that this aspiring young man, was not only fully intitled to, but would at length attain all the honours of his profession. Notwithstanding this, when Lloyd Lord Kenyon became Chief Justice of the King's Bench, as is well known to the whole bar, he viewed Mr. Law with no favourable eye. In what manner, and on

* Sir F. Buller.

what account this prejudice could have originated in the bosom of so great a judge, is now difficult to guess at. The learned counsel himself, not unfrequently, yet delicately alluded to this unhappy circumstance, by exclaiming in open Court: — “ *Et Jupiter Hostis!* ”

But his talents were not of that puny order to be overborne by the temporary Jupiter of the King's Bench; and he doubtless consoled himself, by the friendship of Mr. Justice Buller, and Lord Chief Justice Willes, superadded to a strong but correct consciousness of the vigour and grasp of his own intellectual and acquired powers.

An event now occurred of a great political nature, that tended not a little to give new celebrity to the name, and ample scope for the display of Mr. Law's talents. This was the prosecution of the late Right Honourable Warren Hastings, who; after occupying the high station of Governor-General of Bengal, for many years, resolved, in 1785, to return to Europe, in order to encounter all the dangers and severities of a parliamentary impeachment. Able counsel now became necessary for his defence, and an attempt was made to retain Mr. Erskine, then in the height of his popularity and renown; but that gentleman declined the offer, and the subject of the present memoir was immediately selected. Two powerful Indian connexions contributed, perhaps, to this event; for the late Sir Thomas Rumbold had married his own sister, while his brother, Mr. Thomas Law, was, we believe, either at this moment or soon after a member of the council of revenue of Bengal, and could not be unknown to the Ex-Governor.

It is here only necessary to state a few of the names of the managers in order to afford some idea of the immense difficulties attendant on a professional defence. Mr. Burke occupied, even at that period, a high and distinguished place in the public esteem; Mr. Fox was acknowledged to be one of the first orators and statesmen of the age; while Sheridan took advantage of this opportunity to develop talents and eloquence far above that rate at which he had hitherto been estimated even by his friends. In addition to these, we ought to enu-

merate Mr. Anstruther, the Honourable St. Andrew St. John, General Fitzpatrick, Mr. Pelham, *cum multis aliis.*

With such men as these, Messrs. Law, Plomer, and Dallas, who were all, comparatively speaking, but *novi homines*, had to contend; and yet they stood their ground, and ultimately succeeded!

In 1786, Mr. Burke moved for a voluminous body of papers, and after a long and able, but somewhat intemperate speech, presented eleven separate articles of accusation. All these were afterwards restricted to four points; viz. Mr. Hastings' misconduct at Benares; his cruelty and injustice to the Begums; the reception of presents contrary to law; and the granting of improvident contracts for the sake of obtaining friends and impunity.

From the very first, a contention, not unfrequently of the most acrimonious kind, took place between Mr. Law and the chief manager. To assertion, he opposed assertion; accusation was repelled with a demand of proofs; he boldly protested against the rules of evidence laid down by the representatives of the Commons, and seemed to incline towards those modes and usages sanctioned by the courts below. So warm, and, indeed, so violent, did these arguments, or rather altercations, at length become, that the High Court of Parliament deemed it necessary for its own dignity to interpose, and the *leader* for the prisoner at the bar, we believe, was called "to order."

It was not until the *fifth year* of Mr. Hastings' trial, that Mr. Law was enabled to enter on his defence! He discussed all the charges brought against his client with infinite ability; dwelt with due emphasis and high encomiums on the administration of a man, whom he deemed the Saviour of India; vindicated his conduct in respect to Cheyt Sing and the Begums; and boldly affirmed that the crimes of which he was accused existed only in the splendid oratory of the managers. He concluded with a fine peroration, in which he drew a dazzling picture of the Ex-Governor-General's virtues, and represented him "as an injured, persecuted man; — pure, spotless, and unstained!"

At length, after a trial that occupied 148 days, and consumed nearly eight years, judgment was finally pronounced. Out of twenty-nine lords then present, twenty-one declared Mr. Hastings "not guilty," while eight, only, voted him "guilty," on one or more of the charges.

As the law expenses amounted to the sum of 71,080*l.*, we doubt not that the three counsel were liberally rewarded; and indeed we find that they had been presented with the sum of 1500*l.* for drawing answers to the articles of impeachment alone. That a trial so long must have injured their ordinary practice is pretty evident; but it appears to have greatly enhanced their reputation, and seems on the whole to have improved their fortunes, for they have all since risen to high, honourable, and distinguished stations.

The period for advancement now arrived, and it was equally rapid and distinguished. In 1801, during a vacancy of both the offices of Attorney and Solicitor-General, the subject of this memoir was advanced at one single bound to the former, without passing as usual through the intermediate step of an honourable but inferior station. On this occasion he was of course knighted, and Sir Edward Law conducted himself with a dignity, a decorum, and a forbearance, that united all suffrages in his favour.

This, perhaps, smoothed the way to a still higher employment, for on the death of Lord Kenyon he was nominated to succeed him, and took his seat accordingly in the King's Bench in 1802. In addition to this, he was ennobled*, and on that occasion very modestly assumed the title of Ellenborough, from a little fishing village in the neighbourhood of which his ancestors had lived on their little freeholds for many generations, under the provincial appellation of *statesmen*, or reputable yeomanry.

In the court in which he now presided, the new Lord Chief Justice was perfectly *at home*; and there was a certain vigour and promptitude in his decisions that afforded entire satisfaction to a very numerous body of suitors.

* The creation by patent, dated April 10th, 1802.

On a change of ministry, Lord Grenville came into power, and immediately testified his high respect for Lord Ellenborough, by assigning him a place at the Council-Board. "I thought I perceived bad times approaching," observed the minister, "and I selected him as a man of strong and resolute mind." As this appointment was unaccompanied by any amoveable office, it was deemed unconstitutional by some; while others thought, that the judicial and political character ought never to be united in the same person. But notwithstanding these objections, no alteration whatsoever took place.

As a lord of parliament, we find the subject of this memoir frequently taking part in the debates. In 1805, when one of the ministers * presented a petition from the Irish Catholics, he strenuously opposed the concession of any fresh privileges. "The question now before us," observed his lordship, "is not a question of toleration in the enjoyment and exercise of civil and religious rights, but of the grant of political power. All that toleration can require in respect to civil and religious immunities, has been long ago satisfied in its most enlarged extent." The following, was the concluding paragraph of a very long, and very able speech:

"I feel it my duty, my lords, now and for ever, as long as the Catholic religion shall maintain its ecclesiastical and spiritual union with the see of Rome, to resist to the utmost of my power, this and every other proposition, which is calculated to produce the undoing and overthrow of all that our fathers have regarded, and ourselves have felt and known, to be the most venerable and useful in our establishments, both in church and state."

On the trial of Viscount Melville, in 1806, the noble Lord voted him guilty on the second, third, fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth charges. An unhappy altercation took place on this occasion, between the Chief Justice and the Chancellor, which might have proved highly indecorous, had not the latter preserved his usual good temper and equanimity.

* Lord Grenville.

When certain unfortunate disputes first took place in the royal family, Lord Ellenborough was nominated one of the Commissioners, to inquire into the conduct of the Princess of Wales. A considerable time after the delivery of the report to His Majesty, (March 22d, 1813,) this nobleman rose in his place in the House of Lords, and complained of "slandrous publications, lately circulated against the conduct of individuals employed in situations of the highest trust." "Your Lordships, need scarcely be told," adds he, "that a few years since His Majesty was pleased to issue a commission respecting a subject which it is unnecessary for me to name. Every thing was kept a profound secret to me, until I was called upon to discharge the high and sacred duty, that upon me was thus imposed. I felt that much was due to this command, and it was accompanied with some inward satisfaction, that the integrity and zeal with which I had endeavoured to discharge my public functions, had made a favourable impression on the mind of my sovereign; notwithstanding which, the mode in which this command was obeyed, has been made the subject of the most unprincipled and abandoned slanders.

"It has been said, that after the testimony had been taken in a case, where the most important interests were involved, the persons entrusted had thought fit to fabricate an unauthorised document, purporting to relate what was not given, and to suppress what was given in evidence. My Lords, I assert, that the accusation is *false as hell in every part!* What is there, let me ask, in the transactions of my past life? What is there in the general complexion of my conduct, since the commencement of my public career, that should induce any man, to venture on an assertion so audacious?" His Lordship concluded a long, able, and warm speech, as follows: "I have spoken merely to vindicate myself and my noble colleagues, and that vindication I trust is complete. We only wish to stand well in the opinion of our country, as honest men, who have faithfully discharged a great and painful public duty; and let it be recollected, that having no means of

resorting to proof, we are compelled to rest our exculpation on a flat, positive and complete denial."

On May 12th, 1817, when Earl Grey made a motion in the House of Lords, relative to Viscount Sidmouth's circular letter, Lord Ellenborough took an active and prominent part in the debate. He contended, "that justices of the peace had a right to arrest and hold to bail in cases of libel," and he rested his opinion, on an induction from the following quotation to be found in Lord Hale's "Pleas of the Crown*," viz., "that justices of the peace may issue their warrants within the precincts of their commission, for apprehending persons charged with crimes within the cognizance of the sessions of the peace, and bind them over to appear at the sessions."

Whoever is acquainted with the care, anxiety, and fatigues incident to a Chief Justice of the King's Bench, cannot be at all surprised, that fifteen years of constant, and painful attention, had made a deep impression on a constitution, originally strong and vigorous. This was precisely the fit time for his lordship to have retired, and it is not a little unfortunate, that his declining health did not suggest this idea to himself, his family, and friends. It now becomes a painful duty, to mention one of the last judicial proceedings which took place under his superintendance and authority.

His lordship was particularly sore, as may have been already perceived, on the subject of libels, and his temper had been unfortunately soured and irritated by some recent attacks on his official character.

Mr. William Hone, then an obscure bookseller, had been indicted on three *ex-officio* informations, and was thrice tried on December 18, 19, and 20, 1817, before two different judges and three special juries. The subject of accusation, was the publication of three parodies, viz. "The late John Wilkes's Catechism," "The Political Litany," and the "Sinecurist's Creed."

At the first trial, Mr. Justice Abbot presided, and a verdict

* P. 579.

of "not guilty," was pronounced and recorded, amidst unusual, and indeed, illegal peals of approbation.

The next was before Lord Ellenborough, who instantly ordered the attendance of the Sheriffs. On this occasion, there were six special jurymen and six talesmen.

The reading of the "Political Litany," produced a burst of laughter on the part of the audience, and Mr. Hone very prudently joined the court in reprehending such an irregular interruption of the proceedings. On this, Lord Ellenborough once more demanded the attendance of the Sheriffs, who arrived soon after.

On the case for the crown being closed, after a very able, novel, and animated defence on the part of the prisoner, the noble Judge, who had appeared oppressed with indisposition during the latter part of the trial, delivered his charge to the jury, but in so faint a tone, that it was scarcely audible beyond the bench.

"The information charged," observed his lordship, "that this was an impious and profane libel: it was a libel on one of the most beautiful compositions that ever came from the hands of men: it was a part of the ritual even before the Protestant form of worship was established; and to bring this into ridicule, to endeavour to write down the Litany, was impious and profane. It was said that there was no such intention; but the law considered that every man intends that which he has done. The smallness of the price for which these works were sold only accelerated the sale, and increased the danger. One offence could not be justified by another: on the contrary, it was an aggravation to say, that persons had done so before, and thence to add to the number of offenders. Amongst all the parodies which the defendant had read, he could not find any that bore any proportion to the enormity of the present. The Litany, and all the forms of prayer, were in our statute-books, as much as the law of inheritance, which gives to a son the estate of his father. Lord Hale, venerable as well for the sanctity of his character, as for the profundity of his learning, had declared, as the Attorney-General had told them, that

Christianity was part of the common law of the land. If this publication were not to ridicule religion, let them take it with them, and see what other purpose it could answer. To raise a laugh — a laugh at whom, if it were not at religion? The last passage in the work seemed to be the worst; for there, instead of the solemn and impressive words, “May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with you all evermore;” it said, “May the grace of our Lord George, and the love of Louis XVIII. and the fellowship of the Pope, be with you all evermore.” The defendant had adverted to many grievances that did not exist. The right of filing informations *ex officio* was expressly saved to the Attorney-General by the statute of William. And as to granting copies of the information, in what instance had such copies ever been granted to any subject of the realm? Did the defendant wish a particular law for himself? He said he was ignorant of the charge to which he had to plead. What! did he not publish this work; and how could he not know what the charge contained? Then what other grievance had he to complain of? Was it that he was discharged upon his own recognizance? It was now for them to consider whether the defendant was guilty. Different persons, it was said, had published similar things. As to going up to the time of Martin Luther, Boys, and so on, the habits of those times were totally different; the first scenic performances were mysteries or representations of incidents in Sacred Writ. Luther himself was not very temperate when he was engaged in controversy. There were many things in the parodies which have been read that must be considered as profane and impious; but this of the defendant transcended them all in magnitude. He would deliver them his solemn opinion, as he was required by Act of Parliament to do; and under the authority of that act, and still more in obedience to his conscience and his God, he pronounced this to be a most impious and profane libel. Believing and hoping that they (the jury) were Christians, he had not any doubt but that they would be of the same opinion.”

After retiring one hour and three quarters, the Jury re-

turned into court, when the foreman pronounced "not guilty!" As the audience became tumultuous in consequence of this decision, the presiding Judge of course called on the sheriffs to preserve order, an injunction which they found it difficult, if not impossible, to comply with.

Notwithstanding the alarming state of the Lord Chief Justice's health was evident to every one, and he had suffered a severe shock from the long and painful attendance of the preceding day, yet such was the resolution and perseverance of the intrepid Chief, that he actually repaired next morning to Guildhall, to try the same person for the publication of the "Sinecurist's Creed," an avowed parody on the "Athanasian."

After an able speech on the part of Sir Samuel Shepherd, Mr. Hone, suddenly recovering from the fatigues of the two former trials, now entered with great spirit on his defence. He complained of His Lordship's frequent interruptions; and even presumed to hint at partiality. He then quoted the authority of Gibbon and Warburton to prove that St. Athanasius's Creed was not written by Athanasius; and he affirmed that Archbishop Tillotson once exclaimed, "I wish we were well rid of it!" In the course of a defence protracted for six hours, and in the course of which the prisoner must be allowed to have exhibited great and original talents, he affirmed "that His Lordship's father, the late worthy Bishop of Carlisle, had taken a similar view of the same creed!" On this the noble Judge, who was obviously affected, interrupted him, and exclaimed, "For common delicacy forbear!" which was instantly complied with.

His Lordship, in the charge to the jury, observed, "He entertained no doubt that the parody before them was a profane and impious libel. I entreat the jury," continued the noble Judge, "to consider the importance of the case on which they are called to decide; for if such publications as this are not prohibited and punished, the country is but too liable to be deluged by irreligion and impiety, which have so lately produced such melancholy results in another nation."

After retiring twenty minutes, the jury returned into court,

and the foreman pronounced the verdict of "not guilty!" amidst a spontaneous burst of applause, which no legal authority could either interrupt or prevent.

The exertions incident to these two trials, on two following days, produced a visible effect on His Lordship's constitution. He, indeed, appeared several times after in his own court, and occasionally displayed his wonted energy; but the fangs of disease now inflicted still deeper wounds than before, and it was not difficult to perceive, that a "total break up," as medical men term it, was about to take place. Accordingly, after an illness of pretty considerable duration, Lord Ellenborough resigned all his judicial employments, and in about three weeks after ceased to exist, on Sunday December 13th, 1818.

Thus died, in the 69th or 70th year of his age, the Right Honourable Edward Law, Baron Ellenborough, of Ellenborough. In his person, which, like his mind, had been vigorous, he still exhibited the remains of a masculine figure and form; and notwithstanding a long residence in the south, an acute observer might easily discover that he retained, to his last moment, something of the provincial dialect of his native hills. His Lordship was seen to best advantage enveloped in the ermined robes of office, and presiding with no small degree of dignity, accompanied with something of a look approaching to austerity, in his own court.

Lord Ellenborough's advancement, as has been already stated, was unexampled on the score of rapidity; and in this particular he proved far more fortunate than a Mansfield, a Kenyon, an Eldon, and a Thurlow. The Attorney-Generalship, the Chief Justiceship, and patent of nobility, were all granted to him in the course of a single year. His original merits consisted in long and painful study; a vigorous and manly address; a strong discriminating judgment; an utter contempt of fear; and a bold and nervous eloquence, that scorned to stoop to embellishments. These qualities, in addition to powerful connections, all formed by himself, and a nice and lucky combination of circumstances, enabled him in the race for fame, honours, and wealth, to outstrip all his competitors,

one only excepted. So far as regards rank, the Chief Justiceship of the King's Bench is but the second office in the kingdom: but when permanency, wealth, patronage, and the power of amply providing for family and friends, are taken into consideration, it is assuredly the first.

Lord Ellenborough, early in life*, married the daughter of Commissioner Towry, descended, by the maternal side, from the celebrated Sir Thomas Moore. By this amiable lady His Lordship had three sons and three daughters. A fine portrait of the late Chief Justice in his robes, was painted by Sir T. Lawrence, and exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1806.

On the morning of Tuesday, December 22d, soon after eight o'clock, the remains of the Right Honourable Lord Ellenborough were removed from his late residence in St. James's Square, for interment in the Charter House. The following was the order of the procession:

Ten men on horseback.

Four on foot,
Carrying plumes of feathers.

HEARSE.

Drawn by six horses.

Six mourning coaches,
Drawn by six horses each.

Twenty noblemen's and gentlemen's carriages.

His Lordship's own carriage, followed by those of the Bishop of Chester, the Marquis Camden, the Honourable Mr. Law, the two Chief Justices of the Courts of Kings Bench and Common Pleas, the Puisne Judges, &c. &c.

The funeral cavalcade, having passed along Pall Mall, the Strand, Fleet-street, and Ludgate-hill, arrived at the Charter House soon after nine o'clock. The corpse was taken into the chapel, and the funeral ceremony was performed by the Rev. Dr. Fisher. During nearly the whole of the time a solemn dirge was played. The coffin was superbly covered with crimson velvet, and deposited within a short distance of Mr. Sutton, the founder of the noble institution at which His Lordship had been educated.

* In 1782.

No. XXXII.

VIZIER ALLY, EX-NABOB OF OUDE.

THE vicissitudes of fortune, were never more strikingly displayed than in the life and adventures of this singular man, who spent half his short existence in an iron cage.

Vizier Ally, born in 1781, was the adopted son of Asuf-ud-Dowlah, late Nabob of Oude. His mother was the wife of a Forash (a menial servant of low description, employed in India in keeping the metallic furniture of a house clean.) His reputed father, Asuf-ud-Dowlah, was a wealthy and eccentric Prince. — Having succeeded to the musnud (throne) of Oude by the assistance of the East India Company, he professed great partiality to the English. “Mild in manners, polite and affable in his conduct, he possessed no great mental powers; his heart was good, considering his education, which instilled the most despotic ideas. He was fond of lavishing his treasures on gardens, palaces, horses, elephants, European guns, lustres, and mirrors. He expended every year about 200,000*l.* in English manufactures. This Nabob had more than an hundred gardens, 20 palaces, 1200 elephants, 3000 fine saddle-horses, 1500 double-barrel guns, 1700 superb lustres, 30,000 shades of various forms and colours; several hundred large mirrors, girandoles, and clocks; some of the latter were very curious, richly set with jewels, having figures in continual movement, and playing tunes every hour; two of these clocks cost him 30,000*l.* — Without taste or judgment, he was extremely solicitous to possess all that was elegant and rare; he had instruments and machines of every art and science, but he knew none; and his museum was so ridiculously disposed, that a

wooden cuckoo clock was placed close to a superb time-piece which cost the price of a diadem ; while a valuable landscape of Claude Lorraine was suspended near a board painted with ducks and drakes. He sometimes gave a dinner to ten or twelve persons, sitting at their ease in a carriage drawn by elephants. His haram contained above 500 of the greatest beauties of India, immured within high walls, which they were never to leave except on their biers. He had an immense number of domestic servants, and a very large army, besides being fully protected from hostile invasion by the Company's subsidiary forces, for which he paid 500,000*l. per annum*. His jewels amounted to about eight millions sterling. — Amidst this precious treasure, he might be seen for several hours every day, handling them as a child does his toys."

Asuf had no legitimate children, and it was doubted whether he had any natural ones. He was in the habit, whenever he saw a pregnant woman, whose appearance struck his fancy, to invite her to the palace to lie-in ; and several women of this description were delivered there, and among the number was the mother of Vizier Ally. Several children, so delivered, were brought up and educated in the Palace.

The sprightliness of Vizier Ally, while yet an infant, so entirely engrossed the affections of the old Nabob, that he determined to adopt him. In conformity with this resolution, the youth received an education suitable to a Prince who was destined to succeed to the musnud. He is said, however, to have developed at this period a propensity to delight in the sufferings of the brute creation. The affection of the old Nabob towards his adopted son still increasing, he lavished upon him every mark of regard.

At thirteen his marriage took place. To give an idea of the splendour which attached to his youth, and from which he subsequently fell, it would be only necessary to read the account of his nuptials as inserted in Forbes's Oriental Memoirs.

When Vizier Ally was recognized by Asuf as his successor to the throne, great opposition was manifested by the old Nabob's family. He was, however, on the death of the latter,

upheld by the English Government, and placed on the musnud. An adopted child by the Mahomedan Law, is entitled to all the privileges of legitimate birth.

Vizier Ally, after being elevated to the throne, showed a turbulent, restless, and intriguing temper, and broke his faith with the English Government; the consequence of which was, his being deposed from the musnud, and Sadut Ally, the brother of the late Nabob, placed on it. A pension was assigned to Vizier Ally of two lacks of rupees *per annum*, about 25,000*l.*; but it was considered necessary that he should reside near the presidency, that he might be the more under the eye of government. He in consequence proceeded from Lucknow to Benares, where Mr. Cherry, the Company's Resident, had been sent to make arrangements for his proceeding to the Presidency. Shortly after his arrival at Benares Mr. Cherry invited him to breakfast. He came attended by a large armed retinue. It had been previously intimated to Mr. Cherry that his appearance was hostile, and that he ought to be on his guard; but he disregarded the caution. Vizier Ally complained much of the Company's treatment of him; and, in fine, at a signal made by him, several of his attendants rushed in and cut Mr. Cherry and his assistant, Mr. Graham, to pieces. They then went away with the intention of proceeding to the house of Mr. Davis, another European gentleman, holding a high situation under Government, with the view of massacreing him also; but fortunately he received some intimation of his danger before they arrived, and got his family to the top of the house, and posted himself at the summit of a narrow circular stone staircase. Here the ruffians pursued him, but with a hog-spear he defended himself for a considerable length of time, killing several of his assailants, which, in a manner, blocked up the passage, till at length he was rescued by a party of the Company's troops stationed at Benares, which came to his assistance. The followers of Vizier Ally killed another European private gentleman, residing at Benares, exclusive of the two public officers above-mentioned.

Vizier Ally made his escape into the territory of the Rajah of Berar, a powerful and independent Chief, who refused to deliver him up unless under a promise of his life being spared. This the English Government considered it expedient to accede to; and he was accordingly given up and brought down to Calcutta, and confined in the garrison of Fort William in a kind of iron cage, where after an imprisonment of seventeen years, three months, and four days, he died in May 1817, at the age of 36.

No. XXXIII.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE OSBORNE, BART.

FORMERLY KNIGHT OF THE SHIRE FOR THE COUNTY OF BEDFORD,
&c. &c. &c.

Motto. — “*Quantum in rebus inane.*”

THIS Baronet, who attained a very considerable age, was born May 19th, 1742. He was the son of Sir Danvers Osborn, the head of a family long settled in Bedfordshire, by Lady Mary Montague, third daughter of George Earl of Halifax, whom he succeeded in 1753, a period when he was no more than eleven years of age. Notwithstanding the certainty of inheriting a very considerable landed estate, at the conclusion of his minority, yet he chose the army as a profession. Accordingly, having entered on his military career, with the rank of ensign, he passed as usual through all the different gradations of the service, until he finally obtained that of General; together with the colonelcy of the 40th regiment of foot. In addition to this, he was appointed to, and for

many years retained the office of Groom of His Majesty's Bedchamber.

Having determined to settle in life, in 1771, he married Anne daughter of ——— Bannister, Esq. by whom he had issue. But the first Lady Osborne dying a few years after, Sir George took for his second wife, on Aug. 22, 1778, Lady Haneage Finch, daughter of Daniel, seventh Earl of Winchelsea, and third Earl of Nottingham, by Mary daughter and coheiress of Sir Thomas Palmer of Wingham, in the county of Kent, Bart.

As Sir George constantly resided for many years at his paternal seat, and possessed a large property around; it is not at all surprising that he obtained considerable influence in his native county. Indeed, from a variety of circumstances, he was enabled to cope with the Bedford interest there, and at length to divide the representation of the county with that noble family, which derives its title from it. He sat for some years in Parliament; and was so zealous a supporter of the administrations of Mr. Pitt, Mr. Perceval, &c. that he was included under the denomination of "one of the King's friends," by the opposition.

Sir George, nearly up to the time of his death, enjoyed "a green old age," and his longevity is, perhaps, in some measure to be attributed, not only to the regularity, but also to the mode and manner of his daily exercise; for even while in town, he spent the greater part of the forenoon on horseback. At length he died at Chicksand Priory, June 29, 1818, in the seventy-seventh year of his age.

He is succeeded in his titles and estates by his son, the offspring of his first marriage, who has served as one of the knights of the shire for the county of Bedford, during many successive parliaments, since that convoked in 1790; and who has also been colonel of the Bedfordshire militia for many years.

The family of Osborne, is supposed to have come, originally, from the North, and to have settled at Purleigh, in the county of Essex. Sir John, the first Baronet, obtained his patent February 16, 1660; the second Sir John was born in 1659,

and Peter, a Captain of the Royal Hospital at Greenwich, one of his numerous offspring of seven sons and four daughters, married into the family of Viscount Molyneux. Sir Danvers Osborne, the third Baronet, born in 1715, succeeded his grandfather, the second Sir John in 1720. He married Lady Mary Montagué in 1740, who was third daughter of George, Earl of Halifax. This gentleman was, for many years, a representative for the county of Bedford, and died Governor of New York, in America, in 1753. Of his two sons, the elder who was his successor, has been already mentioned. The younger, John, was for many years Colonel of the Bedfordshire militia, before which period he was employed as His Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary at the Court of Dresden.

No. XXXIV.

SIR PHILIP FRANCIS, K. B.

THE death of this celebrated man occurred at too late a period of the year (22d Dec. 1818.) for a Memoir in the present volume. One shall certainly appear in the next.

PART II.

NEGLECTED BIOGRAPHY;

WITH

ORIGINAL LETTERS, PAPERS, &c.

No I.

PETER WALDO, Esq.

AUTHOR OF THE COMMENTARY ON THE LITURGY OF THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND.*

PETER WALDO, descended in a direct line from the famous founder of the Waldenses, in the twelfth century, was the son of a wealthy East India Supercargo, by Miss Dubois, a lady of a highly respectable and ancient family. He was born in the vicinity of the Tower of London in the year 1731, and placed at an early age at Cheam, under the tuition of the able Mr. Gilpin, whence he was removed to become a gentleman-commoner of University College, Oxford. Here he formed an acquaintance with Mr. Jenkinson, afterwards Earl of Liverpool, and with Dr. Wetherall, afterwards a dignitary of the Church, and master of his college. Several other distinguished characters, whom he, at a later period of his life, reckoned amongst his most valuable friends, here first became known to him. Upon

* Communicated by a Correspondent.

the decease of his father, Mr. Waldo was put in possession of his estate at Mitcham, in Surrey, together with a handsome fortune, and he now began to dedicate his whole time to the improvement of the condition of the poor in his neighbourhood; and the good of the community at large. The latter he accomplished more effectually by commencing author, and giving to the world his "Commentary on the Liturgy of the Church of England." It was dedicated to the son of his college-friend, Robert Banks Jenkinson, Esq. now Earl of Liverpool; and this publication soon introduced him to a large circle of divines, and other friends to the established Religion of the country. Even Mr. Watson, afterwards Bishop of Llandaff, though a man of very opposite principles, both as to ecclesiastical and political matters, was frequently his companion, and took a delight in his society. Mr. Stevens, author of the Essay on the Christian Church, was a warm admirer of his estimable qualities; and Bishop Horne, and the learned and excellent Jones of Nayland, were in the catalogue of his friends. Becoming a patron of Sunday schools, he established one at his own expense at Mitcham; and for this he wrote his "Admonitions," a work considered of such utility to every person concerned in the education of the children of the poor, that the venerable Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, has included it, and his "Essay on the Sacrament," in its list. With the secretary to that useful establishment, Dr. Gaskin, (whom he considered one of the pillars of our Church,) he was well acquainted. About 1780, he married Hannah, the daughter of the Rev. Thomas Smith, whose portrait is to be seen in the hall of the Coopers' Company, of which he was chaplain. He, about this period, commenced a friendship that terminated only with his existence, with the very worthy chaplain of the Magdalen charity, Mr. Prince; and from the great resemblance between the dispositions of these two amiable men, and their conformity of manners, they were thenceforward almost inseparable companions. Upon Mr. Waldo's removal to a villa at Worthing, near Basingstoke, their intimacy was by no means impaired; for a most lively correspondence

ensued, and it was resolved that twice at least in a year he should visit the metropolis, and pass a month with his friend, while Mr. Prince was to return this act of good neighbourhood by a journey to Worthing, as often as his arduous duties would permit. This friendly intercourse proceeded without intermission till about the end of 1800, when declining health obliged Mr. Waldo to make a tour to the lakes; and here he again found an entertaining companion in Bishop Watson, who almost prevailed with him to take up his constant residence in that delightful part of England. At the close of the year 1802, the debility of his frame increased with accumulated rapidity, and in January 1803, having then completed his 72d year, and leaving no issue, he expired at Worthing.

Mr. Waldo was in his person tall, with a countenance indicative of the goodness of his heart; and in his dress so neat, that (like Jonas Hanway) "he was at all times fit to appear in the drawing-room." He has been confounded by several writers with Peter Waldo of the 17th century, who wrote some books on commerce. Dr. Mant, in the index to his useful Family Bible, has also fallen into this error.

His death was to many, both in a physical and moral sense, a severe loss. The poor who felt his bounty were extremely numerous; for besides those who knew the hand which administered to their necessities, there were many from whom his name was scrupulously concealed. He, however, bequeathed a handsome sum, to be yearly distributed by his surviving partner. In his dealings with the world he was punctuality itself; he possessed a meekness of manners, and a diffidence truly Mosaic: in his habits temperate; in his religion zealous without fanaticism, pious without gloom. In a word, it was the study of his life—

"To point to heaven, and lead himself the way."

No. II.

ROBERT WATSON, LL.D.

OF this writer, no regular biography, we believe, has as yet appeared : the annexed documents therefore, cannot fail to prove highly interesting to the Public.

It may be here necessary to premise, that Dr. Watson, a divine and historian, was born at St. Andrew's, in Scotland, in 1730. After receiving the elements of a good education at the grammar school, he was *matriculated* as a member of the university of his native city ; whence he removed in succession to the colleges of Edinburgh and Glasgow, for the express purpose of completing his studies under some of the most famous professors of that day.

Being designed for the church, Mr. Watson entered into holy orders and after a short absence, returned to the place which had given him birth, where he was received with open arms. To the degree of LL.D. the professorship of logic, rhetoric, and belles lettres, quickly succeeded ; in short, such was his estimation, that he attained the rank of principal of the united colleges, while still a very young man. He now married a daughter of Professor Shaw, by whom he had several children ; and appears to have lived with great credit at St. Andrew's, where he possessed considerable influence, and was exceedingly respected.

At his leisure hours, Dr. Watson addicted himself to literary pursuits, and at length fixed on that memorable period of the history of Europe, which comprehends the revolt of Holland and Flanders from the Spanish yoke. To this subject his attention was perhaps directed, by occurrences of a recent and important nature : for our American colonies had now taken up arms, proclaimed their independence, and contended in the "tented field," with the mother country.

To obtain the necessary information, Dr. Watson immediately commenced a correspondence with Dr. Maclean, a Scottish divine of distinguished reputation, settled in the United Provinces. An intercourse also took place with Dr. Peirson, minister of the English Church at Amsterdam. The latter gentleman must have proved eminently useful, for he was at this period collecting that noble library, which he afterwards brought into this country under the most disadvantageous circumstances, having sacrificed his church preferment, and a considerable portion of his private fortune to his attachment to the House of Orange.

Unfortunately, Dr. Watson was cut off prematurely, before he had accomplished his literary labours, leaving behind him several orphan daughters, very scantily provided for. On this his executors, the Drs. Robertson and Blair, George Dempster, Esq. M.P., and Mr. Shaw, a near relation of the family, selected the late Dr. William Thomson, to continue and complete the original plan.* This task was achieved with peculiar felicity and success; and it not only produced fame and employment for the gentleman who undertook it, but also obtained for him the unsolicited degree of LL.D., from the University of Glasgow.

Copy of a Letter from the Rev. Thomas Peirson, D.D., to the Editor.

“Dear Sir,

Chelsea, Feb. 13, 1818.

“Herewith I send you the two letters, from my late friend, Principal Watson of the University of St. Andrew’s, which you expressed a wish to see.

“In his original situation in the united colleges of St. Salvador and St. Leonard in that university, Mr. Robert Watson held the professorship of logic, rhetoric, and belles lettres, in which capacity, he was my master. Upon the death of the principal, Mr. Thomas Tullideph, Mr. Watson, through the good offices of his worthy friend, Mr. George Dempster, his fellow student, I believe, at St. Andrew’s, and whose political,

* See Ann. Biog. vol. ii. p. 92.

or rather I should say, *electioneering* concerns in that burgh, he had always most assiduously managed, he obtained the principality, together with the small clerical charge, the *college living*, as an Englishman would call it, of St. Leonard's, usually annexed to that office; and upon the publication of his history of the *reign* of Philip the Second of Spain, got the degree of L.U.D. or LL.D.

“The two letters from him to me, of February 12th and November 21st, 1779, you will see from the first in order, were in answer to one from me to him, wherein, having occasion to apply to him, for obtaining a St. Andrew's degree of D.D., for a Dutch friend of mine, residing at St. Eustatius, I made him an offer of furnishing him with any continental publications which he might wish to consult respecting the subject of his historical researches.

“Regard to my quondam master, who had patronised me at college, prompted me to inform him of the character his History of Philip the Second bore upon the Continent: and, of course, to mention to him some *defects* which Dutch and German readers complained of in that work. These, not having kept copies of mine to the Principal, I pretend not, at this distance of time, as I write from memory, exactly to state, though you may easily collect them from his answers, especially the *last* of his letters. I well remember they were *three* in number, the principal of which was, that exclusively of his long and barbarous struggle for retaining his dominion, rather I should say, *domination* over the Seven Provinces, the fairest part of his hereditary possessions, there is *little* or *no* mention of any occurrences in any other regions of the vast empire over which Philip bore sway; so that it cannot properly be styled the History of *his Reign*.

“The second defect is, that nothing is said concerning the constitution of the Provinces, their commerce, manufactures, productions, arts, &c. &c.

“The third, That wherever he had occasion to mention *pecuniary* matters, he always uses the general indefinite word, *florins* or *gilders*, without specifying whether Dutch or French

money is meant, which leaves room for a gross mistake, as to any exact calculation or estimate; the French florin, not quite 9*d.* sterling, being thus less than the Dutch florin, (value about 1*s.* 9*d.*) or more than the one-half; and for finding the true sum stated in any of the authors he followed, his surest, though not infallible rule would have been, to suppose that, if they were Dutch writers, they most probably meant Dutch currency or guilders; and if French writers, that the florin might be supposed to be French, or nearly 9*d.* of our money.

“A proper statement of the foregoing particulars, especially the first-mentioned, would go a good way to raise the character of that historian very considerably above the degree which has ever been allowed him by the reviewers or other readers; by vindicating his work from *one* of the objections *especially*, to which it is reckoned liable, and which has been thrown out against it. On that account, it was long my intention to give Watson's two letters to me, to Dr. William Thomson, my class-fellow at St. Andrew's, and continuator of Watson, thinking thereby to do him a kindness, by furnishing him with a pretext for giving a new edition of Philip, with my two letters prefixed, by way of an important prefatory addition, and thus putting some money into his pocket, which was often ill replenished with this *first necessity*. But his death prevented the accomplishment of my benevolent design. I should feel a pleasure in seeing my letters used for the purpose of increasing the historian's posthumous fame; and his last letter to me, along with what he says in it, of a proposed review he meant to take of the whole, if he had lived, is fully sufficient for that purpose.

“I need not tell you, Sir, that Watson's vindication of the character of William I. of Orange, one of the greatest statesmen that ever lived, one of the most beautiful narratives I ever read, and which is subjoined to the History, is not Watson's, he being only the translator of the text of a French chaplain belonging to His Highness, who is known to have written it, but whose name I do not remember.

“Believe me your's, with much sincere regard,

“THOMAS PEIRSON.”

LETTER I.—*From Principal Watson, to the Rev. Thomas (now Dr.) Peirson, Minister of the English Church at Amsterdam.*

“ Dear Sir,

“ I had the pleasure of your kind letter; and return you my most sincere thanks for the obliging offer which you make me, of procuring for me information relative to the subject of my literary pursuits. It is some time since I began to the History of Philip III., of which the affairs of the Netherlands will make a principal branch, till I arrive at the twelve years truce in 1609. Whatever information you can give me of Authors on this period, I shall intreat you will communicate; and you may believe I shall regard your doing so as a very particular obligation. In the beginning of last summer I received a present from Messrs. Haake, and Co. booksellers in Rotterdam, of the French and Dutch translations of my History of Philip II. I immediately acknowledged the receipt of this present, and of the obliging letter which accompanied it; and gave orders to my bookseller at Edinburgh, to send, along with my letter, two copies of the second edition of my book, to be presented in my name to the gentlemen who have done me the honour of translating it. In my letter, I begged of Messrs. Haake, and Co. to procure for me, if possible, the last edition of Van Meteren. But although it is more than half a year since the Edinburgh bookseller told me that he had sent off my letter and the books, by a ship which sailed from Leith or Borrostowness, for Rotterdam, I have never heard of their arrival.— Shall I beg you will take the trouble to inquire and let Messrs. Haake and Co. know how uneasy I am at the thoughts of their believing me so rude as not immediately to acknowledge my receipt of their letter.

“ I have conversed with almost all the Professors concerning what was the principal subject, on which you have had the trouble of writing to me, the degree of divinity for Mr. Runnels; and you may believe, if our forms allowed, it would have been granted; but I find they do not allow of it, upon the evidence which you have sent, although we firmly believe the

truth of every thing you have said. To send the various testimonials which you mention would be too much trouble—besides that, as we know nothing of most of the persons who subscribe them, I am not quite sure that they would give the satisfaction required. Instead of that measure therefore, if you and Dr. Maclean, and Mr. William Brown, shall attest that you know Mr. Runnells, and that you believe him to be a person extremely worthy of the degree, it would be more agreeable to our forms to grant it, on such a testimonial, and I make no doubt that it will be granted. You will not find it difficult, I suppose, to procure either Dr. Maclean's declaration or Mr. Brown's. One or other of them may, perhaps, be sufficient, but to render my success infallible, I wish for both; or at least for the evidence of some clergymen of character, and who are known to the University.

“ When you have procured this, you may rest assured that nothing shall be wanting on my part to get the affair concluded with dispatch.

“ I am, dear Sir, with regard,

“ Your most obedient humble servant,

“ *St. Andrew's, Feb. 12, 1779.*

“ ROBERT WATSON.”

LETTER II. — *From the same to the same.*

“ Dear Sir,

“ I received your most obliging letter in course, but delayed answering it till the books which you were so good as to send me, should arrive. They came to hand only a few weeks ago, since which time, I have been wholly occupied in attending two of my nearest and dearest friends in great distress, followed, within these few days, by the death of one of them. Be assured that no part of your kindness is lost on me, and that I reckon myself greatly indebted to you, both for your letter, and the books. I wished to have had the original Latin of *Meteren* *, but the translation which you have sent me, being

* *Meteren* never appeared in Latin. T. Peirson.

a translation of his whole work, will serve my purpose. It has not yet been in my power to look into Cerisier, but you may believe I will do it soon. I beg you will present him my best compliments, and let him know that I will do myself the honour of writing him, as soon as the present family distress I am involved in shall permit.

“ I am much obliged to you for the satisfactory information which you give me with regard to my two translators; and I declare to you with great sincerity, that I agree with you in the criticisms which you make upon my history. In some places, I wanted the proper materials; and, on account of the circumstances of this country, and the relation which my subject had to the dispute between Great Britain and her colonies, I published my work one year sooner than I intended, or perhaps than I ought to have done. But, by the favour of an English gentleman at Madrid, I have now got a great number of books, and several manuscripts, to which I had not access before; and hope to be able, in my next volume, to make up for my defects in the two that I have published. I must only observe, in my own vindication, with regard to what you say of my history of the affairs of Spain, that no person has yet been able to point out to me any important event, in Philip's reign, which I have omitted. The truth is, that as that monarch was able to preserve his Spanish dominions in perfect tranquillity, except in two instances, both of which I have related, there are few materials for history in the internal government of his kingdom, and almost none that could have been rendered interesting either to a Dutch or English reader. And with regard to that part of my book which relates to Holland, it occurred to me that the most proper place for disquisitions into the government and commerce of the Dutch, would be at the conclusion of the war, at which period I intend a review of the whole from the beginning.

“ I shall be extremely happy to hear from you at your leisure; and you may believe that nothing you can tell me concerning yourself will be indifferent to one, who is deeply sensible of the attention you have shown him. I must beg to know, when

you write me, how much I am in your debt for the books you have sent me, and how I shall transmit the payment of it. I will take the first opportunity of procuring some franks, but in the mean time, whatever letters you or your friends have occasion to send, may be put under cover to Mr. Dempster. Yours to them may be first put under cover to me, and I shall take care to forward them; and I shall do the same with theirs, if they will take the trouble of sending them first to St. Andrews.

“ You have probably heard before this time of the death of Principal Murison, who is succeeded by Dr. Gillespie. My friend, Professor Shaw, is very ill, and not likely to hold out many days. His successor is not yet known. Dr. Spens, at Wemyss, and Mr. G. Hill, are talked of as candidates. I think it probable it will be one or other of these two.

“ I am, dear Sir, with great regard,

“ Your most obedient servant,

“ ROBERT WATSON.”

“ *St. Andrews, Nov. 21, 1779.*”

PART III.

ANALYSIS

OF

RECENT BIOGRAPHICAL WORKS.

No. I.

MEMOIRS OF THE COURT OF QUEEN ELIZABETH.
BY LUCY AIKIN. — 2 vols. 8vo. 1818.

WE possess many excellent histories, an abundance of general biography, with collections of state papers, not to be equalled, or, at least, not to be surpassed, in any other country in Europe. But we agree with Miss Aikin, that “our comparative penury is remarkable in royal lives, in court histories, and especially in that class which forms the glory of French literature — *Memoir*.” It might also have been added, that men of the highest rank and fortune in France have been ambitious to transmit to posterity, an account of the times in which they lived; the characters and conduct of the sovereigns under whom they served, and the intrigues of the courtiers and the favourites of the day, both political and personal. Thus from the time of Sully, to the latter end of the reign of Louis XV. France possesses an almost uninterrupted series of authentic and interesting memoirs; while, with us, the few who have addicted themselves to this species of composition,

have in general been persons of inferior note, who viewed the scene before them superficially, and were not permitted to behold the secret springs, by which our kings and courts were actuated.

“To supply, in some degree, this want, as it affects the person and reign of the most illustrious of females, and of European sovereigns,” observes our fair Author, “is the intention of the work now offered with much diffidence to the public. Its plan comprehends a detailed view of the private life of Elizabeth from the period of her birth; a view of the domestic history of her reign; memoirs of the principal families of the nobility, and biographical anecdotes of the celebrated characters who composed her court; besides notices of the manners, opinions, and literature of her reign.

“Such persons as may have made it their business or their entertainment to study very much in detail the history of the age of Elizabeth, will doubtless be aware, that in the voluminous collections of Strype, in the edited Burleigh, Sidney, and Talbot papers, in the memoirs of Birch, in various collections of letters in the Chronicles of the times — so valuable for the vivid picture of manners which the pen of a contemporary unconsciously traces — in the annals of Camden, the progresses of Nichols and other large and laborious works which would be tedious here to enumerate, a vast repertory existed of curious and interesting facts, seldom recurred to for the composition of books of lighter literature, and possessing with respect to a great majority of readers, the grace of novelty. Of these and similar works of reference, as well as of a variety of others, treating directly or indirectly on the biography, the literature, and the manners of the period, a large collection has been placed under the eye of the Author, partly by the liberality of her publishers, partly by the kindness of friends. In availing herself of their contents, she has had to encounter in full force, the difficulties attendant on such a task; those of weighing and comparing authorities, of reconciling discordant statements, of bringing insulated facts to bear upon each other, and of forming, out of materials irregular in their

nature and abundant almost to excess, a compact and well-proportioned structure."

Elizabeth, daughter of Henry VIII. by his Queen, Anne Boleyn, was born at the royal palace of Greenwich, Sept. 7, 1533. The christening "was public and princely;" and so singular was the fate of this child, that when only two years old, proposals of marriage were actually made by a French prince! The disgrace and death of her mother were soon after followed by a declaration of her own illegitimacy, and the subsequent marriages of her royal father all tended to involve the Princess Elizabeth in obscurity and misfortunes.

On the death of Henry, she was consigned to the protection and superintendance of the Queen dowager, who had married the Lord Admiral Seymour; and it would appear, that notwithstanding his character of guardian, he permitted himself to take certain liberties with his ward, "which no reasonable allowance for the comparative grossness of the age can reduce within the limits of propriety or decorum. At length, a violent scene took place between the royal step-mother and step-daughter, which ended, fortunately for the peace and honour of Elizabeth, in an immediate and final separation."

Meanwhile, the education of the future sovereign was not forgotten, for we learn from her learned master, Roger Ascham, that she studied both Greek and Latin under his tuition; and that she excelled the other young ladies of that day, in her various acquisitions. Her dress too was at this period plain and unornamented, and she appears to have conducted herself on all occasions with singular propriety.

When Mary ascended the throne, she affected great attachment for her sister Elizabeth; but Her Majesty, who had suffered persecution on account of her devotion to the Catholic religion, soon became a persecutor herself of all those who presumed to dissent from her faith. The subject of this memoir was accordingly obliged soon after to retire from court; but on the rebellion of Wyatt, of which she appears to have been entirely innocent, Her Highness was committed for some time to the Tower, and frequently examined before the Privy-

Council. After a long detention at several different houses, she was invited to court at the intercession of King Philip, who wished to assign her a husband of his own choice. Subsequently to this, she finally settled at Hatfield.

On the death of Mary, Elizabeth succeeded to the vacant throne, without the least difficulty or opposition; and yet the whole episcopal bench actually refused to perform the coronation service; which was at length celebrated, to the great displeasure of his brethren, by Oglethorp, bishop of Carlisle, who had been secretly gained over for this purpose. The nation, however, with an exception to the Catholics, rejoiced at her accession.

“The sex, the youth, the accomplishments, the graces, the past misfortunes of the Princess, all served to heighten the interest with which she was beheld. The age of chivalry had not yet expired; and in spite of the late unfortunate experience of a female reign, the romantic image of a maiden Queen dazzled all eyes, subdued all hearts, inflamed the imaginations of the brave and courtly youth with visions of love and glory; exalted into a passionate homage the principles of loyalty; and urged adulation to the very brink of idolatry.”

“The fulsome compliments on her beauty which Elizabeth, almost to the latest period of her life, not only permitted but required and delighted in, have been adverted to by all the writers who have made her reign and character their theme; and those of the number whom admiration and pity of the fair Queen of Scots have rendered hostile to her memory, have taken a malicious pleasure in exaggerating the extravagance of this weakness, by denying her, even in her freshest years, all pretensions to those personal charms by which her rival was so eminently distinguished. Others, however, have been more favourable, and probably more just, to her on this point; and it would be an injury to her memory to withhold from the reader the following portraitures, which authorise us to form a pleasing, as well as majestic, image, of this illustrious female, at the period of her accession, and at the age of five and twenty.

“ She was a lady of great beauty, of decent stature, and an excellent shape. In her youth she was adorned with more than usual maiden modesty; her skin was of pure white, and her hair of a yellow colour. Her eyes were beautiful and lively. In short, her whole body was well made, and her face was adorned with a wonderful and sweet beauty and majesty. This beauty lasted till her middle age, though it declined,”* &c.

“ She was of personage tall, of hair and complexion fair, and therewith well-favoured; but high-nosed; of limbs and features neat; and which, added to the lustre of those exterior graces of stately and majestic comportment; participating in this, more of her father than her mother, who was of an inferior allay, plausible, or, as the French have it, more debonnaire, and affable, virtues, which might suit well with majesty, and which, descending as hereditary to the daughter, did render her of a more sweet temper, and endeared her more to the love and liking of the people, who gave her the name and fame of a most gracious and popular prince.” †

Two new ministers were immediately appointed; “ the first of these was Parry, who had filled, for many years, the office of her cofferer, who was perfectly in the secret of whatever confidential intercourse she might formerly have held with the Lord-Admiral, and whose fidelity to her in that business had stood firm against all the threats of the Protector and council, and the artifices of those by whom his examination had been conducted.” The second was the celebrated Cecil, the son of the Master of the Royal Wardrobe, who had first engaged the notice of Henry VIII. by the fame of a religious disputation which he had held in Latin with two Popish priests attached to the Irish chieftain O’Neal. A place in reversion bestowed on him by the King, at once rewarded the zeal of the young polemic, and encouraged him to desist from the profession of the law, for the more profitable career of a politician.

“ His marriage with the sister of Sir John Cheke strength-

* Bohun’s character of Queen Elizabeth,

† Neunton’s “*Fragmenta Regalia*.”

ened his interest at court, by procuring him an introduction to the Earl of Hertford; and early in the reign of Edward this powerful patronage obtained for him the office of Secretary of State. In the first disgrace of the Protector he lost his place, and was, for a short time, a prisoner in the Tower, but his compliant conduct soon restored him to favour; he did not scruple to draw the articles of impeachment against the Protector; and Northumberland, finding him both able in business, and highly acceptable to the young monarch, procured or permitted his re-instatement in office, in September, 1550."

Cecil soon became the confidential and favourite minister of Elizabeth, who at length ennobled him. Struck with his great talents, and doubtless pleased also with his unvarying fidelity and attachment, he obtained access to her presence at all times. Others, on approaching her person, immediately fell on their knees, and in that posture received her orders; but Cecil, under pretext of the gout, was permitted to sit in her presence. After his death, she could never hear his name mentioned without bursting into tears.

In the course of this work, we find an ample and interesting account of all the suitors and favourites of Elizabeth. Here follows a character of the Earl of Leicester, who, for many years, retained and abused her attachment.

"As a statesman, Leicester appears to have displayed on some occasions considerable acuteness and penetration; but in the higher kind of wisdom he was utterly deficient. His moral insensibility sometimes caused him to offer to his sovereign the most pernicious counsels; and had not the superior rectitude of Burleigh's judgment interposed, his influence might have inflicted still deeper wounds on the honour of the Queen, and the prosperity of the nation. Towards his own friends and adherents, he is said to have been a religious observer of his promises; a virtue very remarkable in such a man. In the midst of that profusion which rendered him rapacious, he was capable of acts of real generosity; and both soldiers and scholars tasted largely of his bounty. That he was

guilty of many detestable acts of oppression, and pursued with secret and unrelenting vengeance such as offended his arrogance by any failure in the servile homage which he made it his glory to exact, are charges proved by undeniable facts; but it has already been observed, that the most atrocious of the crimes popularly imputed to him, remain, and must ever remain, matters of suspicion rather than of proof.

“ His conduct during the younger part of his life was scandalously licentious; latterly he became, says Camden, uxorious to excess. In the early days of his favour with the Queen, her profuse donations had gratified his cupidity, and displayed the fondness of her attachment; but at a later period the stream of her bounty ran low; and following the natural bent of her disposition, or complying with the necessity of her affairs, she compelled him to mortgage his barony of Denbigh for the expenses of his last expedition to Holland. Immediately after his death, she also caused his effects to be sold by auction, for the satisfaction of certain demands of her treasury. From these circumstances, it may probably be inferred, that the influence which Leicester still retained over her, was rather a chain of habit, than a tie of affection; and after the first shock of final separation from him whom she had so long loved and trusted, it is not improbable that she might contemplate the event with a feeling somewhat akin to that of deliverance from a yoke under which her haughty spirit had repined without the courage to resist.”

Notwithstanding this, the death of a man who had been for thirty years the object of her kindness, left a void in Elizabeth's existence, which she however, appears soon to have filled up by her attachment to a new object. This proved to be the Earl of Essex, a young nobleman lately introduced at court, with a view of counterpoising the growing influence of Raleigh; and who from the very first stood second to none in the good graces of Her Majesty. In the course of a short time he caught such a hold of her affections, that his influence and her attachment appear to have far exceeded all that had been enjoyed on the part of his predecessor.

“But Essex,” we are told, “however gifted with noble and brilliant qualities, totally deficient in Leicester, was on the other hand, confessedly inferior to him in several other endowments still more essential to the leader of a court party. Though not void of art, he was by no means master of the profound dissimulation, the exquisite address, and especially the wary coolness, by which his predecessor well knew how to accomplish his ends in spite of all opposition. His character was impetuous, his natural disposition frank, and experience had not yet taught him to distrust either himself or others.”

The misconduct of this favourite both in England and Ireland, his frequent disputes with the Queen, and his subsequent rebellion, are facts well known to every reader of English history. But his memory was still dear to his sovereign, and his execution by her orders, appears to have embittered the remainder of her days, as may be learned from the following interesting anecdote :

“The Countess of Nottingham, who was a relation but no friend, of the Earl of Essex, being on her death-bed, entreated to see the Queen ; declaring that she had something to confess to her before she could die in peace. On Her Majesty’s arrival, the Countess produced a ring, which she said the Earl of Essex had sent to her after his condemnation, with an earnest request that she would deliver it to the Queen, as the token by which he implored her mercy ; but which, in obedience to her husband, to whom she had communicated the circumstance, she had hitherto withheld ; for which she entreated the Queen’s forgiveness.

“On sight of the ring, Elizabeth instantly recognised it as one which she had herself presented to her unhappy favourite on his departure for Cadiz, with the tender promise, that of whatsoever crimes his enemies might have accused him, or whatsoever offences he might actually have committed against her, on his returning to her that pledge, she would either pardon him, or admit him at least to justify himself in her presence. Transported at once with grief and rage, on learning

the barbarous infidelity of which the Earl had been the victim, and herself the dupe; the Queen shook in her bed the dying Countess; and vehemently exclaiming that God might forgive her, but she never could, flung out of her chamber. Returning to her palace she surrendered herself without resistance to the despair which seized her heart at this fatal and too late disclosure. — Hence her refusal of medicine, and almost of food; hence her obstinate silence, interrupted only by sighs, groans, and broken hints of a deep sorrow which she cared not to reveal; hence the days and nights passed by her seated on the floor, sleepless, her eyes fixed, and her finger pressed upon her mouth; hence in short, all those heart-rending symptoms of incurable and mortal anguish, which conducted her in the space of twenty days, to the lamentable termination of a long life of power, prosperity, and glory. The Queen expired on March 24th, 1603.”

We have thus given a short account of some of the principal incidents of the Court of Elizabeth, and must refer our readers to the work in question, for the grand political events of this interesting reign. The author is the daughter of Dr. Aikin, and niece of Mrs. Barbauld, two names well known, and highly respected in the literary world. This young lady, as is generally the case, commenced her career, we believe, by sacrificing to the muses; and in the course of the two volumes now before us, has exhibited much taste, great discrimination, and no common talent for composition.

No. II.

MEMOIRS OF THE PRIVATE LIFE OF MY FATHER. — BY THE
 BARONESS DE STAEL-HOLSTEIN. TO WHICH ARE ADDED
 MISCELLANIES, BY M. NECKER.

MADAME DE STAEL, the beloved daughter and only child of M. Necker, very justly observes it “to be natural that public curiosity should be excited respecting a man, whose political career must occupy a distinguished place in the annals of Europe.” She represents him as one “marked out for combat with fate, and with mankind;” as “a man endowed with every quality that can stimulate to the gratification of an immeasurable ambition; yet whose ambition was invariably kept subordinate to the dictates of the most scrupulous conscience — a man whose genius was bounded by the circle of his duties and affections, and whose rare faculties overstept every barrier but that of virtue:— a man who, after a transient glimpse of the most splendid prosperity, was plunged into misfortunes which obscured the lustre of his glory; and who, when presented to posterity, will be appreciated only by those beings, whose souls possess some sparks of a congenial nature.

“It will be my task,” adds this affectionate daughter, “at some future period, if my mind should ever recover from that fatal stroke which has cruelly blasted its hopes of happiness, to present to the world a portrait of my father in public life, as a statesman and an author: but as such a work must inevitably touch on that great epoch in the history of Europe, the French Revolution, I shall postpone to a more distant period the performance of a duty which might rouse the malignant passions now slumbering in the grave.

“Had it been the fate of M. Necker to spend his life at

Geneva, in the obscurity of a private station ; had he for ever remained a stranger to the seductions of a French Court, and to all those conflicts of interest, inseparable from power and from ambition, I am persuaded that, merely as a citizen and a man, it would have been impossible to contemplate his character without mingled emotions of reverence and admiration ; but what sentiments must not this character inspire, when examined in all its purity — its elevation, its delicacy, and benignity unsullied by temptation — impregnable to reproach, during that perilous career which was calculated to create a thousand impetuous or vindictive passions ; to call into action a thousand harsh or revolting sentiments ?”

We find that M. Necker arrived at Paris at the early age of fifteen ; alone, unknown, unprotected, and with but a very slender patrimony, for the improvement of which his family had procured him a commercial situation. During the first twenty years he devoted his whole life to fulfil the duties incident to his station ; and not only abstained from the pleasures, but even from the amusements of a luxurious capital. At the age of thirty-five, he united himself to a female, possessed of various talents and accomplishments, and with whom he appears to have lived with as eager an attachment at the last, as at the first moment of their union.

The pursuits incident to commerce naturally developed many qualities essentially necessary in the political department, particularly *finance* ; but they were eminently hostile to literature ; and yet we are told, that he excelled in both. The first calculator of the age became one of the most elegant prose-writers in the French language ; equally distinguished by the splendour of his diction, and the magnificence of his imagination ; and we are here reminded, that it is in the re-union of opposite qualities, we recognise the character of a master-mind.

M. Necker often told his daughter, that he might have doubled his fortune, had he not retired early from business ; and that if wealth or power had been the object of his ruling passion, he might have amply gratified it with either, or both.

The subject of this memoir first distinguished himself as a member of the French East India Company; and during its deliberations was accustomed to deliver his opinions in unpremeditated speeches, which produced great effect. Notwithstanding this, he had always to struggle with a native diffidence, which sometimes produced visible embarrassment in his countenance, and that too at a moment, when he had attracted notice by the recital of some impressive facts, or some characteristic anecdotes.

We are assured that he was never perfectly master of himself, until he was roused by difficulties, to exertion. His genius kept pace with events; he opposed firmness to violence; he drew courage from danger; and at once displayed the most noble pride, and the most ingenuous modesty. "There was a perfect analogy in the various periods of M. Necker's existence: — his youth harmonised with his age; his prosperity answered to his adversity; it was one ray of virtue that illumined his whole life: the same reverence for the Supreme Being — the same attachment to duty, to religion — to benevolence — prevailed in every season. None of his early contemporaries could have known better than myself, what he must have been at thirty, since at sixty he was no other than the same. In his youth he anticipated the fruit of experience by a premature developement of the faculty of reflection. To the purity of his moral conduct he owed the privilege of having preserved in old age the imagination and sensibility of youth."

The first public employment conferred upon him, was that of Minister from Geneva to the Court of France. On accepting this office, he declined all the emoluments attached to it; and when elevated to a higher station, he followed a similar plan. In short, he was the first statesman in France, or perhaps in any country, who not only renounced the salary and perquisites of his employment, but even sunk a part of his own fortune (100,000 *livres*,) to provide for the expenditure. Nor is it less singular, that on his accession to the ministry, he transferred to his good and amiable wife, the whole of his wealth; not-

wishing to have any other care or occupation but France, his adopted country !

“ By his eulogy on Colbert, and his treatise on the commerce of grain, M. Necker attracted the notice of some distinguished *grande*s; but it was by the charms of his conversation that he obtained the patronage of M. de Maurepas. In consequence of this, he was nominated, to the surprise of every one, and entirely out of the common routine of business, to the superintendance of the royal treasury. On that occasion he occupied his whole time and attention with the finances; while his wife devoted herself, with equal zeal, to the prisons and the hospitals.

“ M. de Calonne having attacked the veracity of M. Necker’s statement, which had been submitted to the King, he published a justificatory memorial, in which he established the validity of his former positions. For this he was exiled by a *lettre de cachet*, forty leagues from Paris; but in the course of four months he was recalled to Court, and became minister of the finances. However, on the 11th of July, 1789, as he was sitting down to dinner with his family, and a numerous company of guests, the minister of Marine entered the house, and taking him aside, presented a letter from the King, requiring him to resign his office, and withdraw from France, as *quietly as possible*.” We are here assured, that the first cockade exhibited in France, during his short absence was green, in compliment to the colour of his livery; and that while his name resounded from 200,000 mouths in the streets of Paris, he shunned notice with more care than a criminal employs to escape from a scaffold. On his return, all the inhabitants of Paris, shouted “ *Vive M. Necker!*”

While living in retirement at Copet, and become old and unwieldy, the ex-minister appears to have exhibited an excellence of heart, and a goodness of disposition, not a little calculated to gratify and conciliate the domestic circle around him. His daughter, who seems to have adored him, is ever eager to recall those flattering periods, when he appeared the first esman in France. Much praise is bestowed on him, for

the establishment of a provincial administration, which prepared all orders in the state for an acquaintance with political legislation; he is also commended for the abolition of the right of *main morte*; the public statement of the finances; and the repeal of the imposts, which weighed most heavily on the people. But Maurepas, we are told, became jealous of his influence; the Court was disgusted with his rigid economy; he was now assailed by invidious libels, on the part of his enemies; and in a short time encountered what is here termed “an illustrious disgrace!”

On this, the King of Poland, the King and Queen of Naples, together with the Emperor Joseph II. all invited him to superintend the finances of their respective governments. Repeatedly recalled and banished from the Court of Versailles, he always conducted himself with uniform decorum and propriety; and it is not a little to his honour, that he refused to sit in council with Mirabeau. But at length, becoming unpopular in his turn, he retired for the last time to Copet; and yet, although he predicted the ruin impending on the creditors of the state, he left two millions of francs in the royal treasury, although he possessed an order from the King, to reclaim them at pleasure.

M. Necker dedicated the remainder of his life chiefly to literary pursuits, and the last words he uttered were addressed to the Deity: “Great God! receive thy servant, who approaches death with hasty steps!”

We lament that these memoirs are entirely destitute of dates, as they are neither devoid of energy nor interest. The Appendix contains “Miscellanies,” an “Essay on the Corn Laws and the Corn Trade,” and “the Fatal Consequences of a Single Fault.”

No. III.

MEMOIRS OF THE LIFE AND WRITINGS OF THE LATE JOHN COAKLEY LETTSOM, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S., F.A.S., F.L.S., &c. &c. &c., WITH A SELECTION FROM HIS CORRESPONDENCE. — BY THOMAS JOSEPH PETTIGREW, F.L.S., &c. &c. — 3 vols. 8vo.

WE have already presented our readers with a memoir of this singularly benevolent man, obtained from authentic sources. The present work, however, abounds with a variety of curious and interesting information. We are told it was in 1749, that a Captain Lindo brought J. C. Lettsom, while a boy, to Europe; and that the patronage of Samuel Fothergill, a distinguished orator among the Quakers, was first obtained “by a particular dance, taught and practised by the negroes, which young Lettsom performed before him, and for which he was rewarded with a halfpenny.”

This young man, while at school, was greatly gratified by following the hounds and horsemen on foot, with a long pole in his hand, to enable him to spring over hedge and ditch. He and his companions, in consequence of this practice, soon acquired a most extraordinary degree of fleetness. His favourite books at this period were Robin Hood and Robinson Crusoe.

When he had attained both wealth and eminence in London, the subject of these memoirs did not forget Mr. Sutcliff, his old master. On presenting him unexpectedly with a diploma as M.D., he exclaimed, while his eyes were suffused with tears of joy, “My lad! this is more than I know how to acknowledge!”

We are told, that Dr. Lettsom was first taught liberality in respect to religious subjects by James Beezley; and in con-

sequence of this, at an early period of life, began to think, "that the Creator was the equal parent of all his rational creatures, and that each had an equal claim, on the exercise of virtue, to his regard, and to the prospect of future felicity. His ideas respecting the narrow system of a select few of a favoured people, and of arbitrary distinctions on account of religious opinion, were dissipated; and the practice of applying the term anti-christian to every other teacher, but those of the Society of Friends, appeared to him void of propriety and Christian charity; and he lived to derive some of his dearest friendships from the society of the clergy of almost every denomination."

Mr. Pettigrew, with the zeal of a true friend, has been at great pains to remove many prejudices, and correct a variety of gross exaggerations, relative to the subject of his biographical work.

The following is extracted from a memoir of the late Mr. Neild of Chelsea, written by himself, and first printed in this very valuable publication: *

"I was born May 24, 1744 (old style), at Knutsford in Cheshire, in the neighbourhood of which my family possessed some good estates. My father died when I was too young to retain the slightest remembrance of him, leaving myself, three brothers, and one sister, to the care of our mother, who carried on the business of a linen-draper. She was a woman of merit and piety, and devoted herself to the bringing up, and virtuously educating, her children. I passed through the ordinary course of education at the town where I was born, with tolerable success, but quitted it before I was thirteen. A skilful perceptor would, about this time, have discovered the true bent of my temper or disposition, from the manner in which I was struck, at seeing a print of Miss Blandy, in prison, fast bound in misery and in irons, for poisoning her father; and another of Miss Jefferys and John Swan, whom she procured to shoot her uncle; and my frequent visits to the shop where they were exhibited for sale. The real principles of action, and a character impressed by nature, are in this

* See vol. i. p. 302.

way most likely to be found: for the efforts of nature * will very rarely, if ever, deceive.

“After quitting school, I went to live with my uncle, who farmed one of his own estates; with him I continued about two years, but not liking the farming business, I solicited my mother to put me apprentice to some trade or profession. An opportunity presented itself, and Doctor Leaf, of Prescot, near Liverpool, (all surgeons and apothecaries in the country are called *Doctors*,) was desirous of having me; but in the conclusion of his letter he says, ‘After Mr. Neild’s five years are expired, he needs only take a trip or two to Guinea, and he will be qualified to practise any where.’ This excited my curiosity and inquiry, and final rejection of the offer.

“An advertisement about this time appeared in the newspapers, from a person styling himself a jeweller; and of this business I had formed some idea, from the good nature of a Jew, who, being a kind of itinerant jeweller, passed through Knutsford every year, and seemed pleased at the effect and inquiries which the showing me his box of stone buckles, buttons, &c. produced; a treaty was set on foot, and soon concluded.

“I accordingly set out for London without either friend or recommendation there, and arrived the latter end of the year 1760. In a very short time (about a month) I found my situation very different to what I had expected, and that the preservation of my character required my immediate removal. Without a single acquaintance, and not much money in my pocket, I knew not what to do. I wrote a particular account of my situation to my mother; and my aunt, who was a woman of singular merit and abilities, wrote to a gentleman, who had been an officer of high rank in the army: he interested himself so far as to get me released from my then situation, and placed me with Mr. Hemming, the King’s goldsmith. After a short trial, I disliked the business; but in this connection I was enabled to choose for myself, and soon agreed with a jeweller. Having a mechanical turn, I had here ample

* “Ulysses adopted this mode to discover Achilles.”

scope to indulge it; and in the latter part of my apprenticeship made many very curious articles *, with which I waited upon several of the nobility † and gentry, who patronised genius; and, among others, one of the vice-presidents of the Society of Arts. Here I had frequent opportunities of meeting men of genius and learning, and of cultivating acquaintance, which was of the greatest service to me afterwards. We had an old German in our shop, a good chemist, and he took great pleasure in communicating knowledge to me; till, in one of my experiments, I had nearly destroyed myself, and blown up the workshop. This put an end to my chemistry, in which the injudicious use of quicksilver had likewise done my nerves some injury. To the stated hours of work I generally added one or two daily, sometimes learning to engrave, sometimes to model, sometimes to draw. I was extremely assiduous in whatever I began, but wanted patience to make myself perfect, before a fresh pursuit engaged my attention. I learned to fence tolerably well, and was very expert with the *single stick*. In 1762, the young man (W. Pickett) who had been my elder apprentice, got embarrassed, and thrown into the King's-bench for debt. As soon as I was acquainted with his situation, I visited him. There appeared nothing of what I conceived to be a prison except the door of admission, and high-walls. There was a coffee-room and a tap-room, both filled with persons drinking, though it was Sunday, and I had never before seen such a number of profligates, and prostitutes, unabashed, without fears, without blushes. I thought, to be sure, all the wicked people in London had got together there. With this impression I hastened to his mother's, who lived in Denmark-street, and told her to get him out directly, or he would be lost — he would be ruined *for ever*. I visited him several times during his confinement, which was not of long duration, nor did it seem any punishment: he felt much less for himself than I felt for him. What

* “ One of which was a man of war in full sail, with guns on board, which I set in the head of a ring.”

† “ Duke of Marlborough, Countess Holderness, Ladies Gage, Gideon, and Banks.”

became of him after he was liberated I know not : I believe he went to sea : I never saw him afterwards. My ideas of a prison not being at all answered in the King's-bench, I procured admission into Newgate, as far as the press-yard and the room extending over the street, which had a windmill ventilator. In this room all the prisoners were in irons, and amongst them, one, a very stout man, seemingly at the point of death. The tap-room was lighted by lamps, though it was noon day, and struck me with horror: the shocking imprecations, and the rattling of the chains, the miserable wretches ragged and drunk, frightened me so, that it was some time before I durst venture into another prison. I had gone alone into the tap, without knowing any person for whom I could inquire, and was glad to leave a shilling for a gallon of beer to secure my person from insult.

“ About six months afterwards, going down Wood-street when a felon was being taken to gaol, I went and peeped through the apertures of the wooden-grated door, and the turnkey said I might go in ; yes, but, says I, will you let me out again? he said he would ; so in I went, and looking down a very long flight of steps, a cellar seemed full of people in irons, drinking ; this was called the tap-room, but I had been so frightened in Newgate that I durst not venture down. So, putting three-pence into the turnkey's hand, for a pot of beer, was glad when I got into the street again. I concluded that all the gaols in which felons were confined were the same, and my curiosity would bring me to some mischief, therefore dropt the pursuit. In 1766, being then in my 22d year, I had a desire to see my friends in Cheshire ; but I took the stage only to Derby, intending to pass one day there, to see if the gaol was like those in town. This gaol had not been long built, and the situation was both airy and healthy ; there was a large dungeon in it down a few steps, but in every respect it was so much better than Newgate or Wood-street, that it gave me courage to visit others before my return. The conveyance by the Duke of Bridgewater's Canal to Warrington cost me but sixpence ; and for about half a crown more I

reached Liverpool, and from thence to Chester for a few shillings. As I had never seen either of these places, I carefully concealed the motives of my visits, particularly from my uncle, who doated upon me, and made his will during my stay, in which he left me almost the whole of his property. At Liverpool there was the same promiscuous intercourse of the sexes, the same drunkenness going forward, which I had observed in London; but the dungeons were worse, and so very offensive I did not stay to examine into them. In the Bridewell I saw a ducking-stool complete, the first I had ever seen. We had two at Knutsford; one in a pond near the Higher Town, and another in a pond near the Lower Town, where the school-boys were accustomed to bathe: in these, scolding and brawling women were ducked: but the standard in each was all that remained in my memory. I never remembered them used, but this at Liverpool enables me to describe it. A standard was fixed for a long pole, at the extremity of which was fastened a chair, on this the woman was placed, and soused three times under water till almost suffocated. At Liverpool, the standard was fixed in the court, and a bath made on purpose for ducking; but why in a prison this *wanton* and *dangerous* severity was exercised on *women*, and not on *men*, I could no where learn. This mode of punishment seems formerly to have been general, for it is in the memory of persons now (1806) living, when a machine of this kind was in the Green Park. This, however, was not the only cruel punishment used at this Bridewell, for the women were flogged *weekly* at the whipping-post. In the polite city of Chester I expected to find better prisons; a better police I certainly did. The keeper appeared to me to be a civil humane man; but as I went down steps, near seven yards below the court, to visit the dungeons, I almost now feel the horror with which I was then struck. There were six of them, very small, and as dark as pitch; three felons slept in each every night; not a breath of air but what was admitted through a small hole in the door. The same drinking and intercourse of the sexes as in Liverpool and London

The dungeon of the North-gate was yet worse than those of the Castle; it was nearly as deep, and had fourteen inches of water in it. These subterraneous places, which are totally dark, are beyond imagination horrid and dreadful. On my return to London I do not recollect visiting any prisons; till, in 1768, I re-visited my native county, calling at Derby as before. My uncle died soon after I came down, having quitted the farming business in a short time after I left him in 1760. I was now out of my apprenticeship, and had taken up my freedom of the city. This year I employed myself in em-banking some meadow land to protect my tenant from again suffering the great loss which the floods of a preceding year had occasioned. The large sum of money requisite to set up as a jeweller, made me hesitate whether I should go into business or not. The first thing I did was to pay off the legacies and incumbrances on my father's estate, which I did by selling some detached property. My rental then was not sufficient to support me as a gentleman, and I returned to London to consult my friends. They were unanimously in favour of trade, and their opinion was decisive. In 1770 I settled in St. James's-street, and immediately made it known to those ladies and gentlemen who, when I was an apprentice, had promised me their support. At this time French fashions were prevalent, and I thought a trip to Paris would give me a sanction and advantage. My house was under the care of my excellent aunt, and I left my shop to the care of a jeweller with whom I had been long acquainted, and set out accompanied by Mr. Thomas Evans, bookseller, of King's-street, Covent-Garden. This gentleman could speak French fluently, and had several correspondents at Paris. On our arrival at Calais we went to see the prison, and likewise at St. Omer's and Dunkirk, and the city prison at Lisle; there were, I think, no prisoners in any of them. Some years afterwards, I visited Sir William Burnaby, Bart. who resided there, but he was not willing to accompany me to the prison in the citadel, and I could not gain admittance. When we arrived at Paris, I got, through the interest of a bookseller, admission into a

prison called Fou l'Eveque, and Petit Chatelet. The dungeons were dreadful, and, I then thought, worse than any I had seen in England. There were several prisoners in both, but I think not in irons. My recollection of them is, however, very imperfect. Col. (afterwards Sir Eyre) Coote, lodged in the same hotel with us, and I made application to see the Bastille, but was unsuccessful. Mr. Evans said he believed I was prison-mad, and that my impertinent curiosity would perhaps send us both to prison: after this reproof I was silent on the subject. He however accompanied me to many of the hospitals, which appeared to be affectionately attended by some female religious order: and this I observed in the provincial gaols, which in my visits to France I visited. On my return home I found I had lost a diamond ring, in the place of which some sharpers had substituted one of paste.

“ Fresh imported from Paris, from whence I had brought many curious articles, my shop soon became visited by carriages, and I found my business increase beyond my capital; but I found no difficulty in borrowing 500*l.*; which, with the frugal management of my aunt in my household concerns, soon opened flattering prospects. In 1772 a sermon was preached, on behalf of persons imprisoned for small debts, at which I was present. A general approbation of the idea was declared, and a few of us formed ourselves into a committee, and visited the prisons to search out proper objects. The distress and extreme wretchedness to which we were eye-witnesses, determined us to lay an account before the public, who instantly caught the flame, and enabled us to reach out the hand of pity to a very large number of miserable sufferers in confinement.

“ In May 1773, the Society for the Relief and Discharge of persons imprisoned for Small Debts, was instituted or formed; and in 1774, I was unanimously elected the Treasurer. At this time I visited some of the prisons in and about the metropolis, and reported upon them every week. The finances of our Society increased, and my visits and inquiries extended; so that in a few years I had travelled over a very considerable part of the kingdom.

“ In 1778 I married the eldest daughter of John Camdeu of Battersea, Esq. by whom I had two sons and a daughter.

“ In 1779 I went through Flanders into Germany, and getting acquainted with Colonel (afterwards General) Dalton, I was, through his interest, permitted to visit La Maison de Force, at Ghent. This was, without exception, the best planned and the best regulated prison I had seen before, or, I think, since. It is situated near a canal; the plan octagon; separate courts for men vagrants and men criminals; one side is for women, and in the middle of their court is a basin of water for washing the linen of the house; and a large wooden horse, to ride by way of punishment; their bed-rooms uniform, and in a range, something like Chelsea Hospital; every range opens into a gallery or lobby, which is open to the air of the court: the prisoner has a uniform clothing, with the number of his room. The work rooms are on the ground floor, and there were more than 100 prisoners, with only one person to superintend them; he was at one end of the room, with a desk before him, and a large book, in which were entered the names of the prisoners, the crimes for which they were committed, the time of imprisonment, from one to twenty years, according to their crimes; the day the work was begun, the day it was finished, the measure of the piece, the task due per day, observations, such as sick, lame, &c. &c. and deficiency of task, punishment, &c. &c. &c. Though this room was so crowded, not a word was spoken by any of the prisoners during the time we inspected it; no noise or confusion, all were silent and attentive to their work; in short, it appeared a most noble institution. A few years after, being at Ghent, I think in 1784, having no acquaintance there, I could not gain admission; but was told the manufactory was destroyed, and the whole in a very bad state. At Bruges the prison is on a much smaller scale; some were employed in making clothes, and others in making saddles, bridles, &c. &c. for the army. In 1780 I had the honour of the King's commission in a corps of volunteer infantry, in which I was actively employed, till there was no further occasion for our services. In 1781 I visited Warwick Gaol, and in the dungeons caught the gaol

fever or distemper. Mr. Roe, the keeper, was too ill to accompany me, and sent his turnkey. Roe's death was, I believe, accelerated by drinking. When I found myself sick, which was almost immediately, I took a post-chaise to Stratford, where I arrived just as the coach was setting out to London. I got into it, and soon reached St. James's-street. I did not, however, recover for some time. This sickness, and my young family, made me more cautious of entering dungeons, which had now become less necessary, from the labours of the immortal Howard, whose visits and inquiries comprehended every class of prisoners, whilst mine were particularly directed to the debtors.

“ I did not wholly abstain from making remarks on felons, particularly in the dungeons of the two prisons at Chester and Liverpool.

“ The acts which passed in consequence of the benevolent Howard's Reports, produced an immediate and general reform in prison police, by the abolition of taps. Several new gaols were built, in which solitary cells supplied the place of dungeons; and, in many prisons, women were not loaded with irons. From this period to 1791 my visits were less frequent, and extended to the country, as business would permit.

“ This year I lost a most amiable wife, my own health was rapidly on the decline, and my business increased beyond my abilities or power to manage. In 1792, having only two sons to provide for, I retired from business with a very ample fortune; and, as my health became restored, recommenced my prison visits and inquiries, reports of which (as far as related to debtors) I made regularly, at the meetings of the committee, in Craven-street. In 1800, when the excessive dearness of provisions, and the difficulties of the poorer classes of the people required an extraordinary relief, the necessity of a general visit and inquiry into the state of all the gaols struck me very forcibly.

“ I set about it immediately, and in 1801 * published my

* “ The two-penny loaf in London, August 1783, weighed 21 ounces. In March 1801, the two-penny loaf in London weighed only six ounces.”

first account of Debtors, by which it appeared there were 39 prisons in England and Wales which did not furnish the *debtor* with any allowance whatever; and in these there were, in the month of April 1800, 427 persons confined to this wretched state of captivity. Lord Romney, as President of our Society did me the honour of presenting this book to the King, and his Majesty was pleased most graciously to receive it. The approbation with which it was honoured by the public, together with the very considerable benefactions to the Society for the relief of Persons imprisoned for Small Debts in consequence of it, induced me to publish a new and more copious edition, in 1802, and likewise extend my visits to Scotland and Wales.

“ As I kept a diary, so I wrote to my benevolent friend Dr. Lettsom, an account of the most striking occurrences; and to his suggestions alone the publishing my prison remarks owe their origin. It had been my constant practice, in my various prison excursions during a period of thirty years, to wait upon the magistrates, particularly of cities and boroughs, and respectfully to represent what I saw amiss in their goals. I was always received with cordiality and kindness; and, as they were struck with compassion at the recital, reform was determined upon, and resolutions entered into; but, after a lapse of eight or ten years, guess my surprise when I found nothing done! So total and general a neglect must be produced by some cause. I inquired into it, and found many who were magistrates, from local situations, and before they were acquainted with its duties, were out of the commission; others, whose active situations in commerce denied them time; some, who had large families, were afraid to venture *inside* of the prison; and many were numbered with the dead. Under these discouraging circumstances I had almost despaired, when Providence raised up a man, by whose labour the cloud was dispelled; and that life, hitherto spent uselessly, became fruitful. If Howard owed any thing to Fothergill, I am in a ten-fold degree indebted to Dr. John Coakley Lettsom. He first suggested, nay, requested permission to publish some of those

crude remarks, which I had sent for his perusal, and by which communication I had found a sensible relief: they were begun and continued without design; written in the hours of fatigue, lassitude, sickness, and the bustle of inns; little calculated to appear before the public, except in matters of fact.

“ These remarks on prisons were introduced with a preface, which caused a general sensation, and brought a degree of celebrity on the Visitor of Prisons he neither desired nor deserved; whilst it enriched his funds as Treasurer to the Society for Small Debts, in the sum of 328*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.*, evidently occasioned by the reading the Gentleman’s Magazine, in which they were inserted.

“ The benevolence of my friend did not rest here; for, as he was no stranger to the *inside* of the prison-house, so did he frequently accompany me to those abodes of guilt and misery, and suggest what his professional skill so well enabled him to do, to my great advantage, and the prisoners’ comforts. Many new goals are now (1806) building; and, from the alterations and improvements which have been making these four years, and are now daily making, the particulars of which my ‘State of Prisons’ will notice, my visits will become less necessary. As soon as this work is published, and I can provide for my necessary absence, I propose visiting Ireland; and happy will the short remaining period of my life be spent, if I can suggest to a brave and generous people, any improvements in their prison police, and of which I am informed there is much need.”

[The memoir here terminates, but not so the benevolent labours of Mr. Neild. His health did not, however, allow him to visit Ireland as he intended; but he continued to inspect the various prisons of England, Scotland, and Wales, and to suggest numerous improvements, both in regard to the construction of the wards, and the internal management of these establishments. In 1812, he published the “State of Prisons,” above alluded to, in a large and very elegant 4to volume, with a portrait of the author. It is a work teeming with valuable information.

He continued his exertions, as Treasurer of the Society for Small Debts, until the time of his death, which took place Feb. 16, in the year 1814. [T. J. PETTIGREW.]

No. IV.

RECOLLECTIONS OF CURRAN, AND SOME OF HIS CONTEMPORARIES. BY CHARLES PHILLIPS, ESQ. 1 Vol. 8vo. WITH TWO ENGRAVED PORTRAITS.

WE have already noticed two memoirs of this celebrated orator, (see vol. ii. pages 443 and 448,) and having known him ourselves, we are better enabled to estimate this curious collection of well authenticated anecdotes, composed within the short period of twenty-two days. “Early in life,” observes our author, “I had been so accustomed to hear the name of Curran mentioned with admiration, long before I could understand the reason, that I began to make his character an absolute article in my literary creed, and to hold it in a kind of traditional reverence. As the mind strengthened, an inquiry naturally arose into the causes of such enviable celebrity. The *bon-vivant* referred me to his wit—the scholar to his eloquence—the patriot to his ardent and undeviating principle. The questions on which he had voted, were connected with the best days of Ireland, and his vote was always on the side of his country.”

Mr. Phillips having assigned to Mr. Curran a high rank among the patriots of Ireland, in a little poem called “the Emerald Isle,” this circumstance appears to have attracted the notice and the gratitude of his hero. “When I was called to the bar, he was on the bench; and not only bagless but briefless, I was one day with many an associate taking the idle round of the hall of the four Courts, when a common friend

told me he was commissioned by the Master of the Rolls to invite me to dinner that day at the Priory, a little country villa, about four miles from Dublin. Those who recollect their first introduction to a really great man, may easily comprehend my delight and my consternation. Hour after hour was counted as it passed, and like a timid bride, I feared the one that was to make me happy. It came at last, the important *five o'clock*, the *ne plus ultra* of the guest who would not go dinnerless at Curran's.

“ Never shall I forget my sensations when I caught the first glimpse of the little man through the vista of his avenue. There he was, as a thousand times afterwards I saw him, in a dress which you would imagine he had borrowed from his tip-staff — his hands in his sides — his face almost parallel with the horizon — his under lip protruded, and the impatient step, and the eternal attitude only varied by the pause during which his eye glanced from his guest to his watch, and from his watch reproachfully to his dining-room — it was an invincible peculiarity — one second after five o'clock, and he would not wait for the viceroy. “ The moment he perceived me, he took me by the hand, said he would not have any one introduce me, and with a manner which I often thought was *charmed*, at once banished every apprehension, and completely familiarised me at the Priory.

“ I have often seen Curran — often heard of him — but no man ever knew any thing about him, who did not see him at his own table, with the few that he selected. He was a little convivial deity ! he soared in every region, and was at home in all — he touched every thing, and seemed as if he had created it — he mastered the human heart with the same ease that he did his violin. You wept, you laughed, and you wondered, and the wonderful creature who made you do all at will, never let it appear that he was more than your equal, and was quite willing if you chose, to become your auditor. — At the time I speak of, he was turned of sixty, yet he was as playful as a child. The extremes of youth and age were met in him, he had the experience of the one, and the simplicity of the other.

“ At five o'clock we sat down to dinner, at three in the morning we arose from table, and surely half the wish of the enthusiastic lover was at least conceded — ‘*Time*’ during that interval was ‘*annihilated*.’ From that day till the day of his death, I was his intimate and associate. He had no party to which I was not invited; and party or no party I was always welcome: he even went so far as to ask me to become his inmate, and offered me apartments in his town residence. Often and often, he ran over his life to me to the minutest anecdote — described his prospects — his disappointments and his successes — characterised at once his friends and his enemies; and in the communicative candour of six years’ intercourse, repeated the most secret occurrences of his history. Such is the claim which I have to be his biographer. I have said I do not mean to be laborious, but I hope to be a faithful one, withholding what was confidential, sketching whatever appeared to be characteristic; writing solely from his own authority, and as far as that goes, determined to be authentic.” These are pretensions of no common order, and we have only to lament, that space does not allow us to transcribe some of the many well-told anecdotes, with which this little volume abounds.

No. V.

MEMOIRS OF THE LATE LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR JAMES LEITH, G.C.B., WITH A *PRECIS* OF SOME OF THE MOST REMARKABLE EVENTS OF THE PENINSULAR WAR. — BY A BRITISH OFFICER. — 8vo. 1818.

JAMES LEITH, the third son of John Leith, Esq., of Leith-hall, was born at the seat of his ancestors, in Aberdeenshire, upon the 8th of August, 1763. The early part of his edu-

cation was conducted by a private tutor, after which he studied at the university of Aberdeen, and it ought to have been added, that anterior to this, he spent some years at the grammar school at Elgin.

Being a younger brother, Mr. Leith chose the army as a profession; in consequence of which, he was sent to a military academy at Lisle, where he perfected himself in those sciences connected with the education of an officer.

“His talents, the elegance of his manner and address, made him, at the commencement of his life, distinguished and courted. Possessed of a commanding figure, and an intelligent, handsome countenance, he added to generosity of disposition, a warmth of heart, and a polished deportment, that stamped him as a person of no common promise.”

In 1780, Mr. Leith joined the 21st regiment, and was soon after promoted to a lieutenancy in the 81st Highlanders. Having at length obtained a company, he served in that capacity until the peace of 1783, when his *corps* was reduced. Captain Leith, however, was not destined to remain long unemployed, for in the course of a few months, he was appointed to the 50th regiment then at Gibraltar, and soon after his arrival there, was nominated *aid-de-camp* to Sir Robert Boyd, K.B., who was then governor of that fortress.

In the course of a few years, he accompanied General O'Hara, in the same capacity, to Toulon. When that gallant officer was taken prisoner by the enemy, the subject of this memoir was placed on the staff of Major-general Sir David Dundas, and on the evacuation of that city, he returned to England.

His services having now obtained for him the rank of major, by *brevet*, Mr. Leith procured leave to raise the “Aberdeenshire Fencibles;” at the head of which regiment he served for some years in Ireland. “During the rebellion,” we are told, “he was conspicuous for his activity and firmness of mind, and those qualities that found full scope for development in the mercy and forgiveness extended to many of the objects of mistaken feeling, whom circumstances placed in his

power;— and it is no slight eulogium, that during scenes, where so much bloodshed was inevitable, Colonel Leith's humanity never became in the slightest degree questioned." In 1803, the subject of this memoir obtained a commission as colonel of the 13th battalion of Reserve; and in the course of the following year, he was placed on the staff in Ireland, as a Brigadier-General. In 1808, he was promoted to the rank of Major-General, and was soon after destined to enter on that brilliant career in the peninsula, afforded by the occurrence of the Spanish revolution. Under General Moore, he was appointed to the command of a brigade, and distinguished himself greatly, by the bold front and manly resistance he constantly exhibited against the enemy, whose advance was frequently checked by his bravery and good conduct. He also distinguished himself greatly at the battle of Corunna.

On his return to England, Major-General Leith was immediately placed on the home staff; but soon after repaired to the Continent, and assisted at the siege of Flushing, after the surrender of which, he was conveyed to Harwich, in a state of dangerous illness, in consequence of a violent attack of the fever of that country. In 1810, we find him serving under Lord Wellington in Portugal; and he reaped new laurels at Busaco, by the promptitude and vigour of his charge against the French troops. But he was once more obliged to return to England in consequence of a fresh attack of the Walcheren fever.

We hear however, soon after his recovery, of his serving in Spain, and exhibiting fresh marks of his skill and gallantry, by the escalade of St. Vincente, which eminently contributed to the capture of Badajos. In an action with the Duke of Ragusa, he received a severe wound, in consequence of which the General was carried into Salamanca, and in 1813, was rewarded with the *insignia* of the Bath, on account of his very brilliant conduct at the battle of that name.

After being repeatedly wounded, Lieutenant-General Leith returned to England, where he remained until 1814, when he

was appointed commander of the forces in the West Indies, and Captain-General of the Leeward Islands.

Such was his gallant behaviour, and so amiable his manners, after his arrival in the colonies, that the privy-council of Guadaloupe, voted him 2000*l.* for the purchase of a sword; while the King of France transmitted the Grand Cordon of the Order of Military Merit, as a testimony of that distinguished conduct which had secured Martinique from revolt, and retained Guadaloupe in fidelity to the mother country. But the Lieutenant-General was not long destined to display his talents and abilities, for on the 10th of October, 1816, he was attacked by a malignant fever, which carried him off on the 16th, to the regret of the whole army.

No. VI.

MEMOIRS OF THE LATE MRS. ELIZABETH HAMILTON;
 WITH A SELECTION FROM HER CORRESPONDENCE, AND
 OTHER UNPUBLISHED WRITINGS. — By MISS BENDER. —
 2 Vols. 8vo. with an engraved Portrait. 1818.

AFTER some sensible prefatory remarks, tending to prove that biography is calculated for far higher objects, than “to collate facts and dates, and chronicle events,” we are told, that “it ought to trace the progress of character,” and that “the history of the individual, to be complete, must include the history of his mind, and exhibit all its passions, its prejudices, its affections; whatever belongs to its moral system.”

Mrs. Hamilton, while affecting to undervalue birth, yet was not insensible that she was of the family of the Hamiltons of

Woodhall, who “not only boast of being one of the first of the Saxon family settled in Scotland, but of being the stock whence all the branches that have been ennobled in these kingdoms, in France, and in Germany, have sprung.”

Her great-grandfather, who was a younger son, from his detestation of the many religious restraints imposed on the Covenanters in Scotland, during the reign of Charles II., settled in a remote part of the province of Ulster, and purchased an estate in the county of Monaghan. Her grandfather after being sometime an officer of cavalry, obtained a civil appointment, and was ruined by the extravagance of a wife, who brought him, what was then deemed, a considerable fortune.

Mr. Hamilton, his son, married an accomplished Irish lady, of the name of Mackay, and the subject of this memoir, together with a son and another daughter, were the produce of a short, but happy union.

Mrs. Hamilton, of whom we now treat, soon after the death of her father, went to reside with her aunt, who had made what in Scotland is termed a *low match*; but the pride of ancestry did not render her entirely blind to the virtues of her husband Mr. Marshall, “to whom might well be applied what the poet Burns has said of an Ayrshire friend; ‘that he held his patent of nobility directly from God Almighty.’ “But though the son of a peasant, he had received the advantages of an education superior to his birth; and as the seed that was thus sown fell into a grateful soil, the sentiments that it inspired would have done honour to the most exalted station.”

Along with this gentleman and his wife, she resided in a solitary mansion near Stirling. While here, her first two years, it seems, were employed, not in learning tasks, but in receiving more instructive lessons from nature; “fortunately she had a playmate of the other sex, by whose example she was stimulated to feats of hardihood and enterprise, and, happy to escape restraint, she readily joined her companion in fording the burns in summer, or sliding over their frozen surfaces in winter.”

At length this young lady betook herself to study; her first hero was Wallace; but after she had read Ogilvie's translation of the Iliad, "she idolized Achilles, and almost dreamed of Hector." At length our fair heroine applied herself to poetry; and she received no small degree of instruction and edification from the lectures of Dr. Moyses on experimental philosophy. The first production of Elizabeth Hamilton was the account of a "Highland Tour;" her next was the romance of "Lady Arabella Stuart."

Meanwhile her brother Charles had gone to India, in a military capacity. After residing some years there, he returned to England, and died at Hampstead in 1792, at the age of thirty-nine. This loss plunged the surviving sister into grief; but on recovering a little from her sorrows, she determined to follow his advice, and convert her talents to some literary pursuit. This gave rise to the "Hindoo Rajah," which, however, did not appear until 1796; her next production was entitled the "Modern Philosophers," which she finished at Bath, whither she had retired in consequence of a fit of the gout; her third, "Letters on Education," one volume of which appeared in 1801. In the "Memoirs of Agrippina," our author endeavoured to illustrate, by biographical examples, the speculative principles laid down in one of her former works. She now obtained a crowd of friends, some respectable for talents, others for their influence and connections, and to one of them she was indebted for a pension bestowed on her by His Majesty. Her "Letters to the Daughters of a Nobleman," were soon followed by "The Cottagers of Glenburnie."

At length, however, she was attacked with a mortal disease, preceded by an inflammation in her eyes, and after a short illness, breathed her last at Harrowgate, July 23d, 1816, in the 68th year of her age.

This lady has left behind her an excellent character; and it is not a little creditable to her memory, that all her writings were devoted to the promotion of morals and virtue.

No. VII.

MEMOIRS OF EMANUEL AUGUSTUS DIEUDONNE, COUNT DE LAS CASAS, COMMUNICATED BY HIMSELF; COMPRISING A LETTER FROM COUNT DE LAS CASAS AT ST. HELENA, TO LUCIEN BONAPARTE, GIVING A FAITHFUL ACCOUNT OF THE VOYAGE OF NAPOLEON TO ST. HELENA, HIS RESIDENCE, MANNER OF LIVING, AND TREATMENT IN THAT ISLAND. ALSO A LETTER ADDRESSED BY COUNT DE LAS CASAS TO LORD BATHURST. 8vo. 1818.

AMONG several French princes, who about the close of the eleventh century, crossed the Pyrenees, and animated partly by religion, and partly by a spirit of chivalry, eagerly sought for, and combated the Moors, we find the name of Count Henry of Burgundy, who founded the kingdom of Portugal. To this gallant chief, one of the ancestors of Las Casas was standard-bearer; and in the most desperate of the seventeen battles in which the Christian Prince proved uniformly victorious, he was indebted for the conquest of that day, to the brave knight who carried his banner, of which a single stripe of silk was all that remained after the action. Henry immediately decreed, that this precious remnant should ever after constitute the colours in the armorial bearing of the hero, to whom he at the same time granted as his share of booty, *todas las Casas*; or in other words, all the Moorish habitations within sight of the field of battle. Hence the arms, the motto, and even the name of this family.

His descendants having settled in the vicinity of Seville, in the year 1200, Charles de las Casas, was one of the Spanish grandees who accompanied Bianca of Castile in her journey

to France, to espouse Louis VIII. the father of St. Louis. Bartholomy de las Casas the courageous defender of the Indians, and a bishop who reflected honour not only on his own order but even on Christianity, was also of this race.

Emanuel Augustus Dieudonné Count de las Casas, "forms the seventeenth military generation of this family. He was born in the castle of Las Casas, in the province of Languedoc, and after receiving the rudiments of his education from the priests of the Oratory at Vendôme, was transmitted to the military school at Paris. This celebrated seminary has produced many of the chief men who flourished during the late Revolution, such as General Desaix, Philippeaux, Clarke Duke of Feltre, the Hedouilles, Marshal Davoust, and finally Napoleon.

The Count was originally destined for the cavalry, but his diminutive stature, added to the feebleness of his body, induced him to prefer the sea service. His first cruize was in the grand fleet under Don Louis de Cordova; his first engagement was at the siege of Gibraltar. During the peace, Las Casas endeavoured to improve himself in nautical knowledge by visiting America and the French colonies; and on presenting himself for trial to the celebrated Professor Monge, he exhibited such a variety of mathematical learning, as to be promoted to the rank of *lieutenant de vaisseau*, in consequence of which advancement, he was placed on an equality with a major in the army. He was now presented at Court, admitted to the honour of riding in the royal carriages at Versailles, &c.

Meanwhile, the Revolution took place, and the Count having emigrated, immediately arranged himself under the banner of the late Prince de Condé. While at Coblenz he was well received in the circles of the Countesses Balby and Palastron, by whom the two French princes "were then held in subjection."

After the unsuccessful invasion of the late Duke of Brunswick, Las Casas became a wanderer, and among other places visited England, where he taught the French language for the express purpose of obtaining a subsistence. He soon after

engaged in the attempt against Quiberon, and on his escape from that rash enterprise, undertook and accomplished his historical atlas."

On the elevation of Bonaparte, the emigrants were recalled, on which he returned to Paris, and soon after joined Napoleon, a conviction of whose "legitimacy" Las Casas had first imbibed "on the classical soil of a Fox and a Whitbread." He then served under the Prince of Ponte Corvo, now King of Sweden; and was at length appointed one of the chamberlains to the new Emperor, who immediately sent him on an important mission into Holland.

On the first resignation of Napoleon, he refused to court the forgiveness of the Bourbons, and on his return from Elba, he was instantly named a counsellor of state. A few days after, the battle of Waterloo, Las Casas waited on the Imperial fugitive, and begged never more to be separated from him! He afterwards accompanied this celebrated man to St. Helena, and the remainder of the work consists of an exposition of the affronts, insults, and grievances to which the captives have been exposed for two or three years past. The whole concludes with a letter to one of our ministers, in which he accuses Sir Hudson Lowe of great cruelty and injustice.

It is apparent from the whole of this narrative, that the Count de Las Casas is a man of a singularly romantic disposition, possessed of considerable literary talents, and exhibiting the most decisive proofs of inflexible fidelity and devotion to the Ex-Emperor.

BIOGRAPHICAL INDEX

OF DEATHS,

FOR 1818.

COMPILED IN PART FROM ORIGINAL PAPERS, AND IN PART
FROM CONTEMPORARY PUBLICATIONS.

A.

ALTHAM, Sir William, Knt. late of Mark-hall, Essex, at Kensington-house, on Aug. 6, 1818.

ANDERSON, Mr. This young gentleman was fourth officer of the East India-man, Charles Grant, and while at Bombay, very imprudently resolved to bathe. This example was followed by a quarter-master and a common sailor, all of whom jumped over from the ship at the same time, June 25, 1817.

Mr. Anderson, who happened to be foremost, was observed swimming towards a Portuguese frigate, at about half a cable's length distant, and on the approach of the two others, he was heard to exclaim, "Don't drown me!" On this the quarter-master turned round, and beheld him attacked by a large shark.

Returning on board with all possible expedition, the ship's boats were instantly lowered down, but it proved too late, for the fatal catastrophe had already taken place, the sea being discoloured by the blood of the unhappy victim, who was soon after attacked by five or six more of those voracious animals.

The safety of the fore-castle man was now also in the utmost jeopardy, being pursued and about to be devoured; but his life was luckily preserved, by a ball from the musket of a centinel on board the Portuguese frigate, which was levelled with

such deadly aim, as instantly to kill this monster of the ocean.

ANSON, Lord, in St. James's-square, 1818. His Lordship, who was descended from a sister of the first Lord Anson, and who inherited the estates of that family, was born in 1767, and was created a peer by patent in 1806. He was married, in 1794, to the second daughter of T. W. Coke, Esq. M.P. of Holkham, Norfolk. There are seven surviving children of this marriage, of whom Thomas William, member for Yarmouth, Norfolk, the eldest son, succeeds to the title and estates.

ANSTRUTHER, Sir John, Baronet, M. P. at Edinburgh, in the spring of 1818. He died of a typhus fever.

ARNAUD, Rev. Adam, at Aberdeen, the place of his nativity, April 1. 1818. He was born in 1788, and after receiving the rudiments of his education in Scotland, he repaired to England, and was entered of Baliol College, Oxford, where he took the degree of B. A.

After obtaining a familiar acquaintance with the writings of the best divines of the Anglican Church, he returned to Aberdeen, and on entering into holy orders, became episcopal clergyman of St. John's Chapel, Aberdeen, where he was greatly beloved and respected.

ASHLEY, G. C. Esq., in King's Row, Fimlico, the celebrated Violin Performer, Aug. 21, 1818.

ASHURST, Captain James Henry, at Husingabad, in the East Indies, July 13, 1817, in the 37th year of his age. He

was Deputy-Paymaster to the Nagpoor subsidiary force, and an officer of the 11th regiment of Native Infantry, the officers of which have erected a monument to his memory. Captain A. was second son of the late Judge Ashurst, and brother to the knight of the shire for the county of Oxon.

AUCKLAND, Elinor, Dowager Lady, widow of the first Lord Auckland, at Eden Farm near Beekington, Kent, May 18, 1818. This Lady had attained the 60th year of her age, and had attended her husband in his various embassies to the Hague, Paris, &c.

B.

BAILY, Lady, widow of the late Sir Nicholas Baily, of Plas Newyel, Anglesey, May 18, 1818, at Millfield, Surry, in her 79th year.

BAILY, Michael, lately in London, aged 107. He was a native of Sherbourn, county of York, and the person who sat for the painting called "The Woodman." He was a very regular man, and from the age of 50, when he first came to London, till he attained his 100th year, a day-labourer.

BARRINGTON, Sir John, Bart. Aug. 5, 1818, at Barrington Hall, Essex, in his 66th year. He succeeded his father, Sir Fitzwilliam, in 1792, and was representative for New Town, in the Isle of Wight, from 1784 to 1796. He is succeeded in his title and estates by his brother, now Sir Fitzwilliam Barrington, Bart.

BARTON, Leonard, Esq. of Kingshead, county of Northampton, June 6, 1818, aged 78. He formerly served the office of High Sheriff for the county, where he resided, and has been a liberal benefactor to the Northampton General Infirmary, as well as the Devon and Exeter Hospital.

BELFOUR, the Rev. Okey, Minister of St. John's Chapel, Mary-le-bone, and late of Hertford College, Oxford, at Bologne, September 1, 1818, in his 40th year. In him society has lost a valuable member, and the Church an orthodox and conscientious minister. In July last he went to Paris, accompanied by a friend, and was on the point of returning home, when he unfortunately caught a fever at Bologne, which in the course of a few days terminated his valuable life. As a preacher he was much admired, and the discourses he delivered from the pulpit were marked by the elegance of the style in which they were composed, and gave universal satisfaction to the congregation who attended his chapel. In private life

he was much esteemed by a numerous acquaintance, for the urbanity of his manners, and his sensible conversation. To considerable erudition and superior literary attainments he united in his person the most endearing affections, and the best qualities of the human mind. Impressed with a proper sense of his sacred function, his demeanour through life was truly exemplary. Orthodox in his tenets, pious without austerity, and learned without pride, he unfolded the great truths of Religion with a simplicity and pathos that attracted the admiration, and procured him the esteem of his auditory, many of whom, as bereft of a friend, sympathize with his family in their affliction at his early departure. The anguish he suffered on the death of an amiable wife, who died in Jan. 1816, a short time after their union, which, in the performance of his duty, was continually awakened, impaired his frame, and hastened his dissolution. To expatiate on his merits is unnecessary. His worth was acknowledged by all who knew him:—and perhaps the most gratifying tribute which can be paid to his memory, and, indeed, his highest praise, is the sentiment widely entertained, that by his decease the Church has lost an ornament, and society a valuable man. He has left an only son, too young at present to be conscious of the misfortune of being deprived of both his parents at so tender and helpless an age.

BENGOUGH, Henry, Esq. April 10, 1818, in his 79th year. He was one of the Aldermen of Bristol, and by his death the magistracy, as well as society at large, must sustain a loss which nothing less than extraordinary talents, combined with the strictest integrity, can fully compensate.—"He has long been honoured as a bright ornament of our corporation, and most highly respected for his usefulness, both public and private. He was of the profession of the law, and practised for a long series of years in this city with unrivalled talents and worth of character; was a profound and discriminating lawyer, of sound judgment, and the most inflexible and unsullied integrity; and many have reason to be grateful for his advice on professional business. Several years ago he retired from the active duties of the profession, and was invested with the office of Magistracy, and thus continued his usefulness; and his brother Aldermen were happy to resort to him on all occasions of doubt and difficulty. Mr. Bengough was a judicial steward (with others) of the corporate purse, and paid unwearied attention to the care of such of the public

charities of this city as are under the management or direction of the body corporate, and he liberally provided an asylum for the relief of the aged and destitute, which will long testify his zeal and regard for charitable institutions. In a word he was one of the best order of men amongst us; and having died truly lamented, his memory will very long continue to be respected and cherished by every friend of honour, integrity, and virtue.—Fellow-citizens, let all of us, in our several stations, imitate his example.”

BELLAMONT, Emily, Countess of, April 8, 1818, in her 66th year, at Penzance, Cornwall. Her Ladyship was daughter of James, Duke of Leicester, and sister to the late Duke.

BENNET, Thomas, Printer, March 30, 1818, in George-street, Blackfriars Road, in his 73d year. In addition to an asthma, under which he had laboured for many years, he had the misfortune to fracture his thigh, which put a period to his existence, after languishing about a fortnight. He was born at Chichester, and being bred a printer in London, worked for some time with Mr. Richardson, the celebrated author of *Clarissa*. He afterwards continued in the employment of Messrs. Bowyer and Nichols for the long period of 47 years. He deserves great praise for rendering the “Union Benefit Society” at once flourishing and effective.

BERTIE, Hon. Vere, youngest child of the Earl of Abingdon, March 2, 1818.

BLAKE, Sir Francis, Bart., June 2, 1818, at Twizel Castle, Durham, in his 81st year. He was distinguished by the endowments of a cultivated understanding, and furnished an example to all classes, in his observance of moral and religious duties. He succeeded in his title and considerable estates by his eldest son, Colonel (now Sir) Francis Blake.

BLANEY, Hon. Harriet, Elizabeth, second daughter of Lord Blaney, at Weymouth, county of Dorset, in the summer of 1818. This young lady had only attained the 17th year of her age.

BONNET, John Francis, Esq., at Greenwich, Aug. 7, 1818. He was some time secretary to the Duke of Manchester, when Governor of the Island of Jamaica, and also Commandant of the Huntingdon Militia.

BOWDEN, George, of Bulshot, Wilts, aged 80, while on his way to Church, April 5, 1818.

BOWMAN, E. Esq., Jan. 16, 1818, in his 86th year. He was one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for Westminster, and distinguished himself greatly

in the famous contested election for that city, during which he sided with Lord Hood.

BRODIE, Alexander, Esq. This gentleman, a *cadet* of the House of Brodie, of Brodie, near Torres, in Scotland, the head of which had long exercised the office of Lord Lyon, King at Arms, was born in 1749. At an early age, he repaired to India, where he obtained a handsome fortune. On his return he married, and settled for some time at Elgin; after which he purchased a considerable estate in Kincardineshire, formerly the property and residence of Lord Adam Gordon, uncle to the Duke of Gordon.

BROMHEAD, John, Esq., formerly a colonel of the South Lincoln Militia, at Lincoln, Dec. 5, 1817. While an officer in the army, he received a wound at the siege of Louisburgh; but marrying Miss A. Darwin, retired from the service. He was born in 1741, and died at Lincoln in the 76th year of his age.

BROWN, Mr. Matthew, late of St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, Printer, Jan. 10, 1818, in his 72d year. He was a liveryman of the Company of Stationers during half a century, and one of those respectable persons entitled to an annuity of 30*l.* per annum, bequeathed by Mr. Bowyer to such of his brethren as had not proved successful in trade.

BRYDONE, Patrick, Esq. F. S. A. and F. R. S., of Lennel House, Comptroller of the Stamp Office. He was formerly in the Army, and afterwards distinguished himself as an author of his own travels, &c. &c. A memoir of him in our next volume.

BURKHARD, Louis, lately at Cairo, in Egypt, of a dysentery, youngest son of Colonel Gideon Burkhard. Mr. L. B. being a young man of an ardent and enterprising mind, offered his services to the English Association for making Discoveries in the interior of Africa. After having learned the languages, and acquired the knowledge necessary for a journey of this kind, he set off some years ago, and repaired to Cairo, to join the caravan which comes every year from Tombuctoo, and to penetrate into that country, which has hitherto been inaccessible to Europeans; but some troubles which broke out in that part of the world hindered the arrival of this caravan for a whole year. Aided by his Mussulman Costume, and his perfect knowledge of the Arabic and Turkish languages, Mr. Burkhard had made a great number of new and important discoveries, which the English Association will probably publish. At length this caravan, which had been so long and im-

patiently expected, arrived, but before he could depart with it, Mr. Burkhard sunk under the disorder, and his death has destroyed the most flattering hopes. His distance from his own country had not lessened his attachment to it; in the course of last winter he sent a bill of exchange for a considerable sum for the relief of the poor.

C.

CARROL, Sir William, July 13, 1818, at Frankfort on the Maine, in the 65th year of his age. He was formerly a lieutenant-colonel in the Yorkshire militia.

CHALMERS, Major-General Sir John, K. C. B., March 31, 1817, in his passage from Madras to England, after a period of forty-two years' service. He was colonel of the 17th regiment Madras native infantry.

CLERKE, the Rev. Sir William Henry, rector of Bury, Lancashire, aged 66, April 10, 1818.

In 1790 he published a work suggested by his humanity: "Thoughts on the Means of preserving the Health of the Poor, by the Prevention of Epidemic Fevers."

COCKBURN, John, Esq., at Bristol, in April 1818, aged 84, formerly governor of Tantumquary on the coast of Africa.

COLEBROOKE, Lady, relict of the celebrated Sir George Colebrooke, Bart., aged 79, at Hampstead, Aug. 13, 1818.

CONYERS, John, Esq., of Keppel-Hall Court, Essex, at his house in South-Audley-street, Grosvenor-square.

COOK, Mr. David, printer, drowned while bathing in the sea at Boulogne, in Oct. 1818. He was carried out by the impetuosity of the tide, as was also his companion Mr. Ogilvie, but the latter was saved by the boat of an English packet. They were both good swimmers.

CORNELY, Mr., the father of the first stage at Dublin, in 1818, in the 83d year of his age.

CREEVY, Mrs., at Brussels, in the summer of 1818. She was wife of T. Creevy, Esq., who has sat in several parliaments, and widow of the late W. Ord, Esq. of Fenton, co. of Northumberland.

D.

D'ARBLAY, Alexander, Esq., a general in the French service, one of the Legion of Honour to Louis XVIII. &c. He came to this country in the early part of the French revolution, in company with Talleyrand, Narbonne, Lally-Tolendahl, and other distinguished emigrants, who, it may be

remembered, made Juniper Hall, near Leatherhead their residence. He afterwards married Miss Burney, the authoress of those well-known novels, *Evelina*, *Cecilia*, *Camilla*, and the *Wanderer*. He has left one son, Alexander D'Arblay, Esq., lately elected a fellow of Caius-college, Cambridge.

DE CRESPIGNY, Sir Claude Champion, Bart., D. C. L., Jan. 29, 1818, in Lincoln's-Inn Fields, aged 83. He was for nearly half a century receiver-general of droits of admiralty, and a treasurer of Somerset-House.

He was created a baronet in 1805, and by his wife, the daughter and heiress of Joseph Clerk, Esq. he has left one son, William Champion.

DERING, Dowager Lady, (Dorothy), relict of Sir Edward Dering, of Surrendon Dering of the county of Kent, and grandmother to the present baronet. Her Ladyship died at her house at Tunbridge-Wells, April 1818, aged 73.

DOUGLAS, Hon. John, May 1st, 1818, in Cumberland-Place, St. Mary-le-Bone. He was grandfather to the present Marquis of Abercorn, father to the Countess of Aberdeen, and son-in-law of Lord Harewood, having married the late Lady Frances Lascelles.

DOWDSWELL, Mrs., relict of the Right Hon. William Dowdswell, at Sunbury, March 27, 1818. Her husband acted as Chancellor of the Exchequer during the first Rockingham administration. The late Sir William Codrington, Bart., was her brother; and of her three sons one was lately Governor of the Bahamas, and another was a Member of the British House of Commons.

DRUMMOND, Mrs., wife of Lieut.-General Drummond, of Drummerhance at Culdees Castle, June 5, 1818.

DUNCOMBE, Lady Olivia Pouncefort, youngest daughter of the Earl of Cavan, and wife to F. Duncombe, Esq., in the spring of 1818.

DUNCOMBE, Henry, Esq., of Coss-grove, Knaresborough, in the county of York, in April 1818, in the 90th year of his age.

DUNEROY, Mrs. Jane, at Kensington, May 29, 1818. She was descended, on her father's side, from an ancient refugee French family, and on her mother's, from the Earl of Cassilis, of Cassilis, in the county of Ayr, North Britain.

E.

EDRED, John, Esq. This gentleman was born in 1718. After the usual education, he was admitted into the ser-

vice of George II. and soon to the rank of *Page to the Presence*, above which condition, during the course of three reigns, it was not his good fortune to be promoted.

On court days, he appeared in all his glory, having the control of the state-room, into which well-dressed ladies were admitted; and to those he always paid particular attention. The attainment of such a wonderful degree of longevity must necessarily have produced a variety of singularities. His favourite beverage was porter; his favourite amusement, smoking. After existing near a century, he continued to eat and drink very heartily: for a pound of beef steaks were not unfrequently moistened with a pot of his favourite beverage. In this he has been known to have indulged to the amount of three quarts a day. It was perhaps fare like this, in which he indulged until within a fortnight of his death, that lately enabled him to carry a heavy silver mace before His R. H. the Prince Regent, to the Chapel Royal, as Deputy Serjeant at Arms! When he drank spirits, it was British gin, to which he gave the preference; and although his allowance for board wages, amounted to no more than 7½*d.* per day, yet he contrived half a century ago, to purchase several little tenements near to Lady Dacres' alms-houses, in the vicinity of Tothill-fields. Thither he repaired weekly to collect his rents, and to bring home his dinner. He died Jan. 6, 1818, at his apartments in St. James's Palace in the 100th year of his age.

ELFORD, Colonel John, Lieutenant-Colonel of St. John's Newfoundland, in London, June 17th. 1816.

ENYS, John, Esq. late lieut.-col. of the 29th regiment of foot, at St. James's square, Bath. His character as an officer, while he long commanded that distinguished regiment, is too well-known to require an eulogium; as a man, the suavity of his manners, and active benevolence of his disposition, have been universally acknowledged and admired; as a friend and a relation, the constancy of his attachments, and the warmth of his affection did equal honour to the goodness of his heart. A martyr to gout, and other painful but more fatal diseases, he closed a life of patient suffering on Thursday, July 30, in his 61st year.

ERSKINE, Hon. Lieut.-col. Thomas, on his passage to Ceylon, the youngest son of Lord Erskine, early in 1818. He served throughout the campaigns in Spain as a captain of light infantry in the 51st regiment, and behaved with great

gallantry in the battle of the Pyrenees, where being shot in the thigh, he was sent home by the Medical Board, and on his recovery was placed by the Duke of York on the staff of the army in the adjutant-general's department when the Duke of Wellington took the command in Flanders.

He was in the battle of the 16th of June, and afterwards on the 18th at the battle of Waterloo, where his station placed him in the dangerous position of being attendant on the Duke, around whom almost every officer was either killed or wounded. Among the rest this brave young man had his left arm carried off by a cannon-ball, which, passing along the other, laid bare the whole of it, by which he lost the use of two of his fingers, but that arm was saved. When the cannon-shot had thrown him from his horse, and as he lay bleeding upon the ground in this mangled condition, the Prussian musketry and trumpets being heard at a distance, he seized his hat with his remaining shattered arm, and waving it round him, cheered his companions in the midst of the dying and the dead, the Duke of Wellington being then close by him, who desired he might be carried to his tent. It must be some consolation to his afflicted family, that he must have distinguished himself in the opinion of his great commander, as he was immediately recommended by him for the rank of major, though a very young officer; and in a year afterwards to the rank of lieut.-colonel, with the appointment of adjut.-general in Ceylon. But he was doomed never to arrive there, for a cough attended by consumptive symptoms, arising from his wound, laid too deep a hold on him to derive benefit from the voyage, and he died on his passage to India. A remark of his regarding the battle of Waterloo is memorable—"Nothing," he said, "but English officers and soldiers (by which, of course, he meant those of the United Empire) could possibly have fought it through to triumph as we did; nor could even the consummate skill and experience of the Duke of Wellington have done any thing at all in it, had it not been combined with his dauntless intrepidity, which enabled him to distinguish and to persevere amidst a scene where the most moral courage, without such a fearless constitution, might have suggested a different course to the most accomplished officer in the world." Colonel Erskine was only 25 years of age, and has left three sons and a daughter, and an infant of a few months old.

EVANS, Joseph, Esq. in 1818, at Bell-

wen, near Kilkenny, Ireland. He died possessed of considerable property, which he almost entirely bequeathed to charitable purposes. The following are among the bequests:—To the Charitable Society, 100*l.* a-year; 100*l.* a-year to the Benevolent Society; 100*l.* a-year to the Fever House; 100*l.* a-year to Lee-land Poor-house; 100*l.* to the Kilkenny Library; 100*l.* a-year for a Dispensary; 50*l.* a-year to the Penny Society; 20*l.* a year to the Saving Banks; 500*l.* to the Charitable Loan; 1000*l.* a-year for the establishment of an hospital to contain 20 old servants and 20 children of both sexes—to the females he has bequeathed 50*l.* each on their marriage.

EYRE, Lady Charlotte, at Brighton, Aug. 6, 1818, daughter of the Earl of Newbnrgh, aged 26.

F.

FEATONBY, Mr. A. Aug. 15, 1818, at Durham. This person, who lived during the greater part of his life in a state of abject penury, is said to have died worth 20,000*l.* He has not unfrequently accepted employment in the turnpike roads in the breaking of stones, &c.; and the coat which he wore up to the time of his death was so patched, that scarcely a particle of the cloth of which it was originally composed could be discovered amongst the "shreds and patches" which it exhibited.

FERGUSON, David, aged 124, on Aug. 6, 1818, at the ville of Dunkirk, near Boughton-under-the-Blean, Kent. He was a Scotchman, but had resided in the ville of Dunkirk between 50 and 60 years: he was, until a few years back, a very industrious, active, and hard-working labourer. For the last four or five years of his life he had kept his bed; he was, however, able to sit up and take his meals, and to converse most cheerfully with his numerous visitors, enjoying very good health. About a quarter of an hour before his death, he was helped to a basin of broth, which he partook of heartily, but observed, that he thought he was going to die: after taking the broth, he laid himself back upon his pillow, and his countenance underwent a slight change, when he breathed his last without a struggle. He was married in the year 1761, at St. Mildred's, Canterbury, to Susan Codham, who has long since been dead, and he had no children. He was always esteemed by his neighbours a most cheerful companion, and was accustomed to relate many odd stories and

anecdotes about Queen Anne, George I. and II. The following account, which he gave of himself, is extracted from a memoir of this remarkable old man lately published:—"He was born at Netherurd, in the parish of Kirkurd, about ten miles North of Drumelzier, the youngest of fifteen children; his father's name was James, his mother's maiden name Somerville. He was at school at Dunsfre, in Lanarkshire, about nine miles from Lanark; his mother's friends came from Niebiken, in the parish of Carriwah; he was bred a shoe-maker, at Linton, on the Dumfries road, about three miles from Cair Muir; he first entered into the army in a regiment of Dragoons, called the Glasgow Greys (not the present Scots Greys); after this he served in the 70th regiment; he was about 12 or 13 years old at the battle of Sheriff Muir; remembers Queen Anne and the battle of Malplaquet; has seen the Duke of Marlborough in England; he recollects Lord Stair calling upon his father, who was a farmer, and left the estate of Cair Muir, in consequence of Lawson, of Cair Muir, throwing three farms into one for sheep." The remains of the old man were interred in Boughton church-yard, on Sunday, attended by a numerous assemblage of both old and young persons, and one common sentiment of regret seemed to pervade all classes, at the last farewell of their old friend, who was universally beloved.

FIELDING, Rt. Hon. Cath. Frances, daughter of the late Viscount Fielding, and sister to the Earl of Denbigh, at Berwick House, Salop, in 1818.

FILMORE, Lady, wife of the Rev. Sir John Filmore, Bart. of East Sutton Park Rent, July 31, 1816.

FISHER, William, Esq., April 1818, in his 70th year; he was formerly comptroller of the customs at the port of Lancaster.

FLEMING, Richard, Esq. at Brompton, near London, Feb. 8, 1818. He resided for many years at Wandsworth in Surrey, and was one of the deputy lieutenants and oldest magistrates for the county, and formerly a colonel in the army. He served 39 years in various parts of the globe. Several of his last years were spent at Bath, where his benevolence was exercised in the promotion of public institutions in that city. In the establishment of the Penitentiary and Lock Asylum, he was the zealous coadjutor of its indefatigable chairman, and its funds have been from time to time liberally augmented by his means—indeed his charity knew no bounds but in the limits of his fortune.

FLOOD, Lieut.-general, on Jan. 1818 of the gout in his stomach. He was colonel of the 8th dragoons, and governor of Tilbury and Gravesend forts.

FOLEY, Hon. Edward, M. P. for Droitwich, in the county of Worcester, at Newport, Herefordshire, July 28, 1818.

FRASER, Sir William, Bart. of a fit of apoplexy, in Bedford square, Feb. 18, 1818, one of the oldest members of the Trinity House, &c. aged 78. He had been at the Prince Regent's levee the preceding day in good health. Sir William was descended from a younger branch of the family of Fraser of Lovat, ennobled by King James I. of Scotland, and was brought up in the naval service of the East India Company, two of whose ships he commanded, namely, the Lord Mansfield, lost in coming out of Bengal river, in 1773, and the Earl of Mansfield, from 1777 to 1785. He was created a baronet in 1806. At the age of 56 he married Elizabeth, daughter of James Farquharson, esq. merchant of London, by whom he had twenty-eight children. Three sons and fourteen daughters are still living. He was the fourth of the family who died since Michaelmas 1817.

G.

GAMON, Sir Richard, Bart. in George-street, Hanover-square, aged 69, in the spring of 1818. He was the son of Richard Gamon, esq. by a daughter of John Grace, esq. of Grace Castle, in the county of Kilkenny, Ireland. He was born in 1748, and educated at Winchester school. At the earnest request of the electors of Winchester, he resigned the office of Commissioner of the Salt Duties, that he might be eligible to become their Representative in Parliament, which trust he faithfully discharged nearly 30 years. With him originated that useful and humane law for regulating the number of outside passengers on stage coaches. In 1795 he was created a Baronet. Sir Richard married Grace, daughter of James Jefferys, esq. half sister to the late Duke of Grafton, and the first Lord Southampton, by whom he had no issue. In 1796 he was united to Lady Amelia, relict of Thomas Ivie Cooke, esq. daughter of the late and sister of the present Duke of Athol. This lady died in 1806, leaving one daughter, born in 1797. The baronetcy devolves, agreeably to the patent, in failure of male issue, to Richard Grace, of Grace Castle, Ireland. A sister of Sir Richard married the last Duke of Chandos,

by whom she was mother to the present Marchioness of Buckingham.

GARSTIN, Mrs. Alicia Caroline, Jan. 21, 1818, at St. Stephen's, near St. Albans. She was second daughter of the late Sir Charles Sheffield, Bart. and widow of Chichester Fortescue Garstin, late major of the Hertfordshire Militia.

GEDGE, Mr. Peter, at Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, Jan. 7th, 1818. He acted as a respectable and intelligent Editor as well as Proprietor of the Bury and Norwich Post, during many years.

GERMAINS St., Countess of, at Port Elliot, Cornwall, July 25th, 1818.

GILBERT, Mrs. of the Priory, Bodmin, aged 75, in June 1818. To a refined understanding and superior intellect, she united all the social virtues and fascinating graces which can adorn the female character. Several individuals of the first rank and eminence courted her friendship and correspondence; amongst whom were Dr. Johnson, John Hunter the anatomist, and Capt. Clarke the circumnavigator.

GILLESPIE, William, at Ruthwell in the county of Dumfries, N. B. an old Chelsea Pensioner, June 15th, 1818. If we are to give credit to his own calculation he was born in 1710, as he lately affirmed that he was 108 years of age; his discharge, however, which is dated in 1763. and characterizes him as being "then worn out" in the service, makes him a few years younger, but still upwards of 100. He enlisted when young in the Enniskillen dragoons, and served in the German wars under Lord Stair, in 1743-4. On the breaking out of the rebellion, in 1745 his regiment was recalled, and at the fatal battle of Preston Pans, he gallantly saved a stand of colours from falling into the hands of the enemy, and took them to the celebrated Col. Gardiner, who had then received his death wound, and was reclining on a bank at a little distance. Gillespie continued to walk about the neighbourhood till within a few days of his death. He was a native of Scotland.

GLEDSTANES, Lieut. General, Sir Albert, April 25th, in Salisbury-street, London.

GOLDING, Edward, Esq. of Marden Earls, Berks, July 23, 1818, in Clifford-street, in his 72d year. He was formerly M. P. for Downton, and one of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, during Lord Sidmouth's administration. He formerly obtained a considerable fortune in the East Indies.

GRANT, Charles Miles, merchant, of Grove-road, Mile-end, aged 43, in the

summer of 1818, leaving a disconsolate widow and family to deplore the loss of one of the best husbands and fathers. His death was occasioned by the accidental going-off of that dangerous weapon a spring-gun in his own garden on the Sunday preceding,

GRENFELL, Hon. Mrs. Lady of P. Grenfell, Esq. M. P. of Taplow House, Bucks, and sister of Viscount Donerail, May 19th 1818.

GWILLYM, Richard, Esq, at the Baths of Lucca, in Italy, in his 54th year. He was formerly Lieut. Col. of the Supplementary Militia, and resided for many years at Bewsey Hall, near Warrington, Lancashire.

H.

HALL, Capt. Sir Robert, Knt. at Kingston, Upper Canada, early in 1818. He was born in 1779, and having been appointed a Commissioner of his Majesty's Navy in the Upper and Lower Canada, he evinced such considerable abilities as could not have failed to render him an highly useful servant of the public. But he was prematurely cut off, at Kingston, in Upper Canada in the 39th year of his age.

HALSEY, Joseph, Esq. of Gaddesden Park, Herts, of an apoplectic fit, Feb. 10th, 1818, in his 44th year. He sat for many years in parliament.

HAMILTON, Lieut.-Col. Sir W. O. at Manor-house, Old Windsor in the 68th year of his age. He had arrived from London the preceding afternoon, and had retired to rest rather earlier than usual, complaining only of extreme fatigue. In the morning he was found apparently in a profound sleep; but to the inexpressible grief of his friends, it was soon discovered to be the sleep of death. The surgeon who was immediately called in was of opinion that he must have died in a complete state of syncope, or fainting, occasioned by the rupture of a blood-vessel.

HAWKE, Hon. Annabella. March 21st, 1818, in Chapel-street, Grosvenor-place, aged 30. She was sister to the present Peer, and grand-daughter of Sir Edward, afterwards Lord Hawke, to whose naval achievements this country is so greatly indebted. — It is impossible for those who knew this amiable lady to restrain their wishes from recording her character. If filial piety — if an adherence to integrity in every action of a life of anxiety — if resignation to the Divine Will during the protracted period of a fatal complaint — if a thorough

conviction of the revealed truths of Christianity, and obedience to its precepts, are, as we firmly believe they are, qualifications for a heavenly reward, her loss is not to be deplored. It was her consolation to die in the arms of her affectionate friend, Miss Stacpoole, her constant companion from their early youth. — Miss Hawke was author of the poem of "Babylon," and other works, published in 1811. Her talents, improved by an excellent education, and graced with a knowledge of the modern languages, were dedicated to the cause of Religion, as her life was devoted to its duties.

HAWKINS, Lieut.-Col. of the Bengal army, in 1818, at Camden-place. He served in India, during 36 years. In the course of his service, he commanded a small army in the oeded country of Bundelcund, and was presented with a service of plate by the officers of his own corps, as a proof of their esteem. He has left a widow and several children to lament his loss.

HELICAR, Mr. Thomas, Jun. of Bristol, Jan. 2, 1814, having been drowned in the Rhone while proceeding in the packet from Lyons to Avignon. This vessel having unhappily struck on a rock, the deceased was thrown overboard by the violence of the shock, and thus lost his life. The body was afterwards found and interred in the town of St. Esprit.

HILL, Mrs. Rupertia, in Fore-street, London, aged 71, Aug. 2, 1818. She was the daughter of a tobaccoist, who some years ago left her a considerable property, which, by oeconomy, she extended to the large sum of 100,000*l.* The principal part of it she has left to Methodist religious establishments, and to various charitable institutions; the remainder among her relations. A considerable crowd assembled to view her remains lying in state; which were afterwards conveyed for interment in great funeral pomp to the College at Cheshunt, founded by Lady Huntingdon.

HONEYWOOD, William, Esq. of Mark Hall, in London, Feb. 8, 1818, in his 59th year. He inherited his large estates in Kent and Essex, from his uncle who served for many years as knight of the shire for the former county; and he himself represented it from the year 1806, to 1813. He is succeeded in his estates by his eldest son, W. P. Honeywood, Esq. who has been lately elected one of the members for Kent.

HOPE, Sir George, K. C. B. Rear Admiral of the Red, Major-general of Marines, and M. P. for East Grinstead, at his house in the Admiralty, May 2d, 1818.

Sir George had long been in a declining state of health, and in consequence of which he had just resigned the office of a junior Lord of the Admiralty, a little before which he was made Major-general of Marines. His remains were deposited in Westminster Abbey.

HUDSON, Lady Anne, the wife of E. Hudson, Esq. of Wimpole-street, London, and a daughter of the late Marquis Townshend, in the spring of 1818. This lady has left a husband and eight children to deplore her loss.

HUME, the very Rev. John, in the summer of 1818, at Derby, aged 75. He was nephew of the late Bishop Hume, formerly a prebendary of Salisbury Cathedral, master of the hospital of St. Nicholas, and vicar of Gillingham.

HUNT, Sir Vere, Bart. in the county of Tipperary, Ireland, in 1818. Sir V. raised several military corps, during the late war, and after some time purchased the island of Lundy, in the Bristol Channel, on speculation.

HUTCHINSON, the Hon. Margaret Hely, in 1818, at the Hot-wells, Bristol. She was the 4th daughter of the late Baroness Donoughmore, by the Right Hon. John Hely Hutchinson, formerly Secretary of State in Ireland.

I

JAMES, John, Esq. at Dublin, in his 25th year. He was the son of Sir W. J. James, of Langley Hall, in the county of Berks, and of Lady Jane James, sister of the Marquis Camden. He had been educated at Harrow and at Oxford. He engaged in the army during the campaigns of 1814 and 1815, and distinguished himself so much in that career, as to have received the thanks of the Emperor of Russia and the King of Prussia, and he was honoured with some of the military orders of those Sovereigns. Since the cessation of hostilities, Mr. James was appointed Secretary of Legation at Munich, and Secretary of Embassy at the Hague. In consequence of ill health, he returned to England in 1816, and soon after repaired to Ireland. He married, June 28, 1814, Lady Emily Jane Stuart, daughter of the Marquis of Londonderry, and sister of Lord Castlereagh, by whom he has left one son.

JOHNSON, Richard, Esq. aged 75, in 1818. He was treasurer of the county, and one of the aldermen of the borough of Lancaster. He was father of the corporation, having served the office of mayor three times, viz. in 1795, 1805, and 1813.

ISHAN, Sir Juebnian, Bart. at Lamport, in the county of Northampton. He succeeded his uncle, Sir Edmund Ishan, the sixth baronet, in 1772, having previously married, in 1766, Susannah, daughter of — Barrett, Esq. by whom he had four sons and seven daughters.

K

KENRICK, Mrs. Elizabeth, Aug. 6, 1818, widow of the late Dr. Kenrick, a celebrated writer, in the 83d year of her age.

KER, Lady Mary, February 11, 1818, in New Norfolk-street, St. Mary-le-Bone. She was third sister of the late John Duke of Roxburgh, groom of the stole to His present Majesty, celebrated for his splendid collection of books.

L

LAKENHEATH, Rev. J. Barnes, rector of Barningham, Weston, Suffolk, Jan. 21, 1818, at the advanced age of 97. He was a man of inflexible integrity, and in consequence of his economical habits, is thought to have accumulated a capital but little short of half a million of money.

LEIGH, Mrs. Mary, at Harpenden, Herts, aged 92. She was sister to the two last Lords Ducie, and aunt to the present one.

LEMAN, Capt. N. Orgill, late of the African Corps at Sierra Leone, May 23, 1818, second son of the Rev. N. T. Orgill Leman, rector of Worlingham and Brampton, in Suffolk. This gallant officer, who distinguished himself at the sieges of Walcheren, Ciudad Rodrigo, and Badajoz, as well as during the whole Peninsular campaign, was on the eve of embarking for his native country, after having suffered, for many months, a most severe disorder, too prevalent and fatal amongst Europeans in that sickly climate, when he breathed his last, in the flower of youth, to the inexpressible sorrow of his parents, and great loss to the service of his country.

LESLIE, John, commonly called Lord Newark, at Exmouth, June 5, 1818. He was a native of North Britain, and many years Lieut.-colonel of the Old Buffs or 3d foot, and an aide-de-camp to the King. He was a friend to the distressed, and the poor always found in him a liberal benefactor. His Lordship was the fourth direct lineal descendant from Lieut.-gen. David Leslie, who commanded the Scotch Parliamentary forces at the battle of Dunbar, Sept. 3, 1650, and afterwards successfully opposed Cromwell at Stirling; accom-

panied his sovereign Charles II. to England, and commanded under him the Scotch forces at the battle of Worcester, Sept. 1651; after the Restoration, His Majesty, in reward of his faithful and meritorious services, conferred on him the title of Baron Newark, with a pension.

LEWIS, Matthew Gregory, Esq. May 16, 1818, in the gulph of Florida, during his passage from Jamaica to England. (See *Biographical Notices*.)

LOFTUS, Lady, in 1818, at Mount Loftus, Ireland.

M

MACNAMARA, John, Esq. of Langoed Castle, in the county of Breckon. He was formerly Colonel of the Middlesex militia, and M. P. for Leicester.

MAIR, M^cJohn, at Manchester, in April 1818, aged 105. His mental energies, and bodily strength, remained happily unimpaired by his great age, until a very short period before his death.

MELBOURNE, Viscountess, at Melbourne House, April 6th, 1818, aged 66. Her Ladyship was the daughter of Sir Ralph Milbanke, Bart. and wife of Viscount Melbourne. Her remains were interred in the family vault at Hatfield church, Herts.

MERRIMAN, Samuel, M. D. aged 87, late of Queen-street, Berkeley-square, Aug. 17, 1818. He was born at Marlborough, in Wiltshire, and being intended for the medical profession, went to Edinburgh in 1748, and graduated there in 1753, on which occasion he published his "Dissertatio Medica Inauguralis de Conceptu," afterwards reprinted in the second volume of Smellie's *Thesaurus Medicus*, 1779. In 1753, he married one of the daughters and co-heiresses of Mr. William Dance, of Marlborough, surgeon, and by her, who died in 1780, he had fourteen children; of these, one alone, the wife of his nephew Dr. Samuel Merriman, of Half Moon-street, survives him.

He settled in London in 1758, and devoted himself principally to the practice of midwifery, in which, during the long course of fifty-four years, his skill, judgment, and humanity, were conspicuously displayed, and a most excellent constitution enabled him to undergo the fatigues of a practice much more extensive, in point of numbers, than that of any of his contemporaries; he continued in the exercise of this profession till 1812, when he had almost completed the 81st year of his age.

He was a man of great integrity and

beneficence, indefatigable in performing his professional duties, unassuming in his manners, liberal in his conduct, intelligent in his conversation, learned in literary research. His leisure hours were chiefly dedicated to his books, and for many of the last years of his life, he took great delight in biblical studies, particularly in comparing the various translations of the New Testament with the original. His literary habits continued to the last. On the morning of his death he called for his spectacles to find out a passage in Watts's poems, which he wished to have read, but he was then too weak to effect his purpose. A long life, usefully spent, was terminated by a placid and happy death: to the writer of this short tribute to his memory, he breathed out a most consolatory intimation of entire satisfaction; and in about an hour afterwards, as if falling asleep, without a groan expired.

MITCHELL, Arthur, May 5, 1818, at Hull, aged 82, a veteran soldier in His Majesty's 39th, or East Middlesex regiment of foot, then commanded by Gen. Boyd. He was at the siege of Gibraltar during the whole time of its blockade, viz. from June 21, 1779, to Feb. 2, 1783, and acted for upwards of 14 years as church clerk at that impregnable fortress. Being sent to England some time after the siege with his regiment, he has been for many years upon the out-pension list of Chelsea hospital. Mr. Mitchell was a native of Scotland: he survived his wife, who was with him at Gibraltar, about two years.

MOLLEVILLE, Bertrand de, formerly Minister of Marine during the unfortunate reign of Louis XVI., Oct. 18, 1818. He was the author of several works relative to the French revolution, all of which were written in this country, where he found an asylum, and was treated with great hospitality. M. Bertrand had attained a good old age, having died in his 75th year.

MOLYNEUX, the Black Pugilist, Aug. 2, 1818, at Galway, in a room occupied by the band of the 77th regiment.

MOORE, Mrs. relict of the late Dr. Moore, Archbishop of Canterbury, April 28, 1818, at Huland, Kent, in her 76th year.

MORRICE, Charles, M. A., at Windsor, April 22, in his 77th year. He was private Chaplain to Their Majesties at the Castle during thirty-two years, and also for a considerable time to H. R. H. the Duke of York.

MUNCASTER, Lord. — Died at his house in Grosvenor-Place, July 29, 1818, in his 74th year, the Right Hon. Lowther Pennington, Lord Muncaster, Baron Muncaster, in Ireland, a Baronet, a General in the army, and Colonel of the 4th Royal

Veteran Battalion. His Lordship was born in 1745, succeeded to the titles and estates in 1813, on the decease of his brother, John, Lord Muncaster, without issue male: married Jan. 30, 1802, Esther, second daughter of Thomas Barry, Esq. of Clapham, in the county of Surrey, (descended from Edmund Barry, next brother of James, the first Lord Santry, Lord Chief Justice of Ireland, *temp.* Charles II.) and widow of Captain James Morison, by whom he has left issue an only son, the Hon. Lowther Augustus John Pennington, now Lord Muncaster, born Dec. 14, 1802. The deceased Lord was the second Peer and sixth Baronet of his line. His ancestor Gamel de Pennington was settled in Cumberland at the time of the Norman Conquest, and the pedigree is accurately deduced from him to the present time, as may be seen in Nicolson and Burn's History of Cumberland. Sir John de Pennington, of Muncaster in the county of Cumberland, *temp.* Hen. IV. was steadily attached to that unfortunate monarch, and gave him a secret reception at his seat at Muncaster. In return the King gave him a curiously-wrought glass cup, with this blessing to the family, that they should ever prosper, and never want a male heir, so long as they should preserve it unbroken; which the superstition of those times imagined to carry good fortune, and called it *the Luck of Muncaster*; and of this glass the family are still possessed. This Sir John Pennington commanded the left wing of the English army in an expedition into Scotland, when the Earl of Northumberland led the main body. His descendant Sir William Pennington, of Muncaster, was created a Baronet of England by Charles II. in 1676, and Sir John, the fifth Baronet, was, in 1783, created Baron Muncaster, with remainder to his brother, then Colonel Lowther Pennington.

MURRAY, Anne, Lady, in Montague-square, May 31, 1818. She was widow of the late Sir John Murray, Bart. of Blackborough, and daughter of the late John Digby, Esq.

MUSGROVE, Sir Richard, Bart., at Dublin, April 7, 1818.

MUSKERRY, Right Hon. Baron, Governor and Custos Rotulorum of the county of Limerick, and Colonel of the County of Limerick Militia, &c. at Springfield, in the county of York, June 1818.

N.

NEWBERRY, Francis, Esq., in the 76th year of his age, Aug. 7, 1818, Book-

seller and Dealer in Patent Medicines; he obtained a considerable fortune, with part of which he purchased the estate of the late Lord Heathfield, in Sussex.

NICOL, Andrew, April 12, 1818, in the guard-room of Kinross-castle, in extreme wretchedness. He was well known in the Court of Sessions and caricature-shops under the name of the *Kinross Lawyer*. From a tradesman in easy circumstances and of decent character, he reduced himself by his litigious and quarrelsome temper, to the state of a beggar, and an outcast from all society. Rather than give up his pretended rights to the famous *Middensstead*, he obstinately refused all supply from the poor-funds of his parish; and in order that he might retain what he conceived would be the means of bringing him once more within the walls of the Parliament House, wandered about from place to place, until at last, from his habits of body and mind, he became such a nuisance, that, disowned by every relation, and shut out from every house, it was found necessary to convey him to the common prison, which he quitted only for that asylum where the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary are at rest.

O.

OLDMIXON, Sir John, Bart. in the United States of America, once known in fashionable life, but having retired from this country about 25 years ago, he sunk into obscurity, and died neglected and forgotten. His children are singularly and unhappily situated, one half being born in America, are citizens of the United States; while the other half (Englishmen) are actually lieutenants in the British Navy.

OLIVER, Mr. R., lately at Yarmouth, aged 84. He was a Petty Officer on board His Majesty's Ship Orford, in 1759, and was with a party of seamen and marines attacking the Heights of Abraham, to favour the approach of General Wolfe at the taking of Quebec in that year.

P.

PALMER, Eleanor, Dowager Lady, at Dublin, Feb. 10, 1818, aged 98, and in full possession of all her faculties. She was the widow of the late Sir Roger Palmer, Bart., of Castle Lacken, in the county of Mayo.

PICKMORE, Admiral, lately in Newfoundland. He was commander-in-chief on that station.

PLEASANTS, Thomas, Esq. This gentleman was a native of Ireland, where he was born in 1728. He was descended from a respectable family in the county of Carlow, and originally destined for the Bar. A small property of his own having afforded him independence, he forbore to call his natural eloquence and classical attainments into practice, being content with his lot, and coveting neither wealth nor honours.

The former of these, however, was reserved for him; for at a late period of life he formed an alliance with Miss Mildred Daunt, one of the three daughters and co-heiresses of the late George Daunt, Esq., one of the most eminent surgeons of Dublin. On the death of her two sisters, Mrs. Pleasants became possessed of property, which, together with her own share, amounted to near 100,000*l.*, and left the whole, by will, to her husband, by whom she had no issue.

During his life time, the subject of this Memoir performed many acts of beneficence, and was always accustomed to consider himself merely as a Trustee for the benefit of his fellow-creatures.

On his demise, after providing for a brother, and some other relations, he left the residue of his fortune to Trustees, first, to found a school for Protestant females, for which he assigned 1500*l.*; while he bestowed 6000*l.* on the schools and alms-houses of St. Bride's parish. The parishes of St. Luke and St. Catherine are to have 1000*l.* each; while a similar sum is bestowed on the Fever and Meath Hospitals.

As a proof of his affection for his native country, and his desire for her prosperity and improvement, he has presented the fine collection of paintings in his house at Camden Street, to the Dublin Society for the Encouragement of the Fine Arts in Ireland. These consist of original paintings by Rubens, Rembrandt, Vandyke, and other great masters.

He died at his house in the Irish metropolis, in the 90th year of his age, on March 1, 1818, with the character of being charitable and munificent, in a degree hitherto unexampled.

PLUNKETT, Hon. Charlotte, at Pisa, whither she had been sent for the recovery of her health. She was sister to Lord Cloncurry, and in 1803 married Edward, eldest son of Lord Dunsanny, by whom she has left three children—two sons and a daughter.

POPE, Miss, at Brompton, near London, July 29, 1818, in the 75th year of her age. She was formerly a celebrated actress, belonging to Drury-lane Theatre.

PRESTON, William, Esq. April 1, 1818, in his 76th year. See *Biographical Notices*.

PRICE, Sir Charles, Bart. in the 73d year of his age, alderman of the ward of Farrington Without, and for many years one of the representatives in Parliament for the city of London, July 9, 1818.

R

RALPH, Rev. E. at London, June 3d, 1818, born in 1744, and for the long period of 36 years, minister of a dissenting congregation at Maidstone.

RAWLINGS, Mr. John, surgeon accoucheur, and apothecary, March 17th, 1818, at Oxford, aged 84, after a lingering indisposition. He practised the various branches of his profession in that city and its neighbourhood to a great extent with uncommon ability, humanity, and success, through a period of nearly three-score years: his undeviating rectitude of conduct and friendly deportment gained him the friendship and affection of all ranks. In 1793 he published "A Dissertation on the Structure of the Obstetric Forceps, pointing out its defects; and the good effects of several new forms of the Single Curved Blade; with plates."

READ, Lawrence Wm. Esq. Feb. 22d, 1818, in his 61st year. He was father of Sir Thomas Lawrence, R.A. and acted for many years as Major in the 72d regiment. Beloved and revered by his soldiers, to whom he was a friend and father, and most highly regarded by all his brother officers in the different regiments in which he had served, at the Helder, in Egypt, at the taking of the Cape, and the Isle of France, &c. he returned in May, 1816, after many years absence from Europe, with a constitution completely worn out by long services in warm climates, to spend the remainder of his days with his only surviving sister (married to the Rev. R. R. Bloxam, D.D. of Rugby, Warwickshire), and brother, the Rev. A. Lawrence, to whom his loss is irreparable.

REID, John, April 3d, 1818, at Delmes, supposed to be the oldest soldier in His Majesty's dominions, having entered the service in the 2d batt. of the Scots Royals 88 years ago. His first encounter with the enemy was in 1743 at Dettingen, where the British, under the command of that gallant Scotsman, the Earl of Stair, defeated the French with immense slaughter. In 1743, he fought at Foutenoy. In 1746, he was present with his regiment at Culloden. In 1749 he was one of the storming party at the

murderous encounter at Wall in Holland, where his regiment was nearly annihilated. His last appearance in the field of honour was in 1759, on the Heights of Abraham, where Wolfe breathed his mighty soul in the arms of victory. His strength was such that he scarcely passed a day without walking three or four miles; and to the day of his death was able, without the aid of glasses, to read his Bible, which afforded him exquisite delight during a long course of years.

RICE, Mrs. Lucy, at Bath, aged 92, April 3d, 1818. She was sister of the late Right Hon. George Rice, and aunt to Lord Dynevor.

RISLEY, Rev. John, M. A. at Tingewick, near Buckingham, rector of that parish, and of Thornton, both in the county of Bucks, and formerly fellow of New College. This gentleman, the incumbent of the longest standing on the Oxford Calendar, and "Father" of the Wykehamists, was presented to the rectory of Tingewick, by the warden and fellows of New College, in the year 1758, and had consequently held it sixty years.

ROBINSON, Mary, at Englefield-green, aged 40, daughter of the late poetess of the same name. She was herself known to the world as an author and editor; and respected in private life as a zealous friend and virtuous woman.

ROBERTSON, Alex. Esq. of Ettrick Hall, N.B. at Edinburgh, in his 73d year. He was one of the keepers of the records of Scotland, which important office he had filled with honour to himself, and with the esteem and approbation of every professional man in Scotland for nearly half a century.

ROCCA, M. the husband of Madame de Stael, died lately at Hiores, in the south of France. She was author of "Memoirs of the late War in Spain."

RODIE, Thomas, Esq. in the summer of 1818, in his 56th year, late a merchant of Liverpool. His commercial transactions were ever marked by the strictest integrity; and in the relative and social duties of life he was affectionate, conciliating, and benevolent. In his friendships he was warm, generous, and sincere. His exertions to promote every public measure by which his town or country could be benefited, were ready and constant.

ROMILLY, Lady, the wife of Sir Samuel Romilly, M. P. for Westminster. Lady Romilly had been indisposed for some time past, and died on Thursday, Oct. 29th, 1818, at East-Cowes Castle, in the isle of Wight.

RUSSEL, Miss, July 3d, at Paris, the infant daughter and only child of Lord

William Russel, son to the Duke of Bedford.

S

SAINT John, Hon. Henry, brother to the late Viscount Bolingbroke, in May 1818, at his house in Audley-square, London. He was born in 1738, and died in the 80th year of his age.

SALISBURY, Ambrose, July 23, 1818, in his 63d year. He inherited several estates from an uncle, which were afterwards either exchanged or sold by him. After this, his life abounded with incidents; first he became a cornet of Yeomanry cavalry; he next entered into partnership as a brewer at Wolverhampton; then he became an adventurer in mines, in Cornwall, neither of which improved his fortune.

SANDWICH, Right Hon. George Montague, sixth earl of, at Rome, in his 46th year, whither he had repaired for the improvement of his health.

In 1804, his Lordship married Lady Louisa Lowry Corry, only child of the late Earl of Belmore, by Lady Henrietta, one of the daughters of John, 2d Earl of Buckinghamshire, by whom he has left one son, now Earl of Sandwich, and two daughters, all minors.

The late Lord Sandwich had been for many years a martyr to disease, and he was at length obliged to leave his ancient seat of Hinchinbrooke House, in Huntingdonshire, to try the milder air of Italy.

SAXE-Hilbourghausen, lately on the continent, aged 49. Her Serene Highness was sister to her R. H. the Duchess of Cumberland.

SCARLETT, Robert, M. D. June 5th, 1818, a few days after his arrival with his family from the continent.

SEYMOUR, Major-general. This gentleman, who formerly served as lieutenant-colonel of the 15th Hussars, had but lately arrived at St. Lucia, with the rank of governor of that island. He perished Oct. 21, 1817, by the falling in of the government house, during the late dreadful hurricane, and has left a young and beautiful widow, together with seven children, wholly unprovided for, to deplore his untimely end, and unspeakable loss. Major George Saville Burdett, brother to Sir C. W. B. Bart., together with several of the inhabitants, fell victims to this dreadful tempest.

SHAW, Mr, the owner of the horse Woodlark, who started for the plate at the previous Stafford races, in Oct. 1818.

He had repaired to Shattown, for the purpose of hunting next morning; but died the preceding night, after eating a hearty supper, while in the act of unloosing his garters.

SIMSON, William, Lieut.-general, of Pitcorthy, North Britain, at Ferry-bridge, Yorkshire, July 8, 1818.

SMALLWOOD, Anne, widow, at Handsworth, in the county of Stafford, at a very advanced age, Oct. 13, 1818. Born in 1702, the year in which Queen Anne ascended the throne, at a suitable age, she became a wife, and was the mother of 15 children; the eldest of whom now living, is 83 years old. Of all her faculties, her sight alone failed her; for she became nearly blind a few years since, and at length died at the protracted age of 116.

SMITH, Rev. Henry, D.D. rector of Hadleigh, Hants, July 23d, 1818, perpetual curate of Bromley, Kent, and formerly fellow of Queen's college Oxford; while there he obtained the degree of M.A. 1776, B.D. 1788, and D.D. 1793.

T

TARRANT, Lieut.-Gen. Charles, late of the Royal Engineers in Ireland, aged 89 years, at Idstone, Berks, March 21, 1818.

TAYLOR, Rev. Thomas, M. A. Vicar and Lecturer of Dedham, Aug. 30, 1818, at Great Bromley-hall, Essex, whither he had removed for the benefit of his health, aged 48 years. He was formerly Fellow of Trinity-college, Cambridge, where he took the degree of B.A. in 1794 and M. A. in 1797, and distinguished himself by his mathematical and classical attainments; being in the list of Wranglers at the Bachelors Commencement, and having obtained, during his undergraduateship, one of Sir William Brown's medals for the best Latin Ode, and subsequently the Norrisian prize for an "Essay on the character of St. Peter." He was also the author of "An Answer to the Question, Why are you a Churchman?" a Tract in the list of books circulated by "The Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge;" "A Sermon preached for the benefit of the Charity Schools, Whitechapel," 8vo. 1811; and "The Fall of the Leaf, a Sermon preached at the close of the Autumn," 1813.

He was a sound and orthodox Divine, firmly attached to the Church of England, and a zealous defender of her doctrines; as a preacher, serious and impressive, inculcating the great truths of Christianity with

plainness and simplicity, but without the slightest degree of enthusiasm. He was chosen Lecturer of Dedham, on the resignation of his uncle, the late venerable Dr. Grimwood, and was afterwards presented to the vicarage, by the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. In that place, he for many years exercised the sacred duties of his profession with diligence and fidelity, when it pleased Providence that his career of usefulness should be interrupted by an accident he met with in a fall from his horse, in the spring of 1812; and which affecting his intellects, brought on a mental disorder, which finally proved fatal. He has left a widow and five small children to lament his irreparable loss.

TEW, the Rev. Ed. aged 82, Aug. 1818. He was educated at Eton-college, whence he was admitted of King's-college, Cambridge, 1753; became B. A. 1758, M. A. 1761. He was elected a Fellow of Eton in 1781; and published in 1795, from the *Bowyer press*, a Translation of Gray's Elegy in a Country Church-yard, into Greek verse.

THOMPSON, Thomas, Esq. at Kensington Gravel-pits, near London, late of Chapel-street, Grosvenor-square. He represented the borough of Evesham, and distinguished himself for a long period in parliament.

TREVELYAN, Walter Blackett, Esq., of Nether Witton, in Northumberland, and formerly of St. John's college, Cambridge, April 3, 1818. He was a worthy and pious gentleman, but exceedingly eccentric in respect to the conduct and habits of his life.

TURNER, Thomas Page, Esq., youngest brother of Sir Gregory Page Turner, Bart., at Brompton, Middlesex, May 5, 1818, aged 24.

TURNER, Mr. John, July 12, 1818, at Beccles, aged 84, late Serjeant in the King's 1st dragoon guards. He entered the army in 1755, in George the Second's time, and was at the battle of Minden in 1759, under the Marquis of Granby and General Howard.

TURNER, Mr. William, aged 23, in April 1818. His death was occasioned by dissecting a diseased animal at the Veterinary College, of which he was a student.

THORPE, Sarah, wife of R. Thorpe, LL.D. late Chief Justice in one of the Colonies, March 17, 1818.

TOLFREY, Mr. William, died at Colombo in Ceylon. He was suddenly attacked by a violent disorder, which in less than a fortnight carried him off on the 4th Jan. 1817. His remains were followed to the grave on the following day by his Ex-

cellency the Governor, and every civil and military officer in Colombo. The laborious manner in which he conducted two distinct Translations of the New Testament in Pali and Cingalese, well-known in the island, prove his skill and indefatigable perseverance. Every morning from seven till ten he devoted to Oriental studies; on Monday and Tuesday particularly to the formation of a Pali dictionary; on Sunday, to the translation of the Psalms into Cingalese; on Friday, to the reading of the Pali MSS.; and on Thursday, to the translation of a new Cingalese grammar. Four days in the week he attended his business from ten till after two at the Revenue Office, and the other two at the office of Cingalese translators to Government. His dinner was soon over, and every afternoon from four till seven, he applied closely to the translation of the New Testament into Pali or Cingalese. His time on Sunday, after church, was wholly devoted to the translation. He very seldom or ever dined out; and his amusements were of that innocent and tranquil description which unbent his mind, only to return it with elasticity to his studious pursuits. In the morning he rose soon after five, and walked for an hour. In the evening, music was his usual recreation. He had finished the Pali translation to the end of the Epistle to Philemon; and the Cingalese, to the end of the 2d chapter of 2 Timothy. He had accumulated a large stock of materials for a Pali dictionary, and a Cingalese vocabulary and grammar. He had also made, at a very considerable expense, a valuable collection of Cingalese and Pali books. By his untimely death in the full vigour of a learned life, for he was not quite 40 years of age, society has sustained a grievous loss: there is not a single person left who is capable of supplying his place; yet there are some learned Orientalists who will be induced probably to continue his labours; and we understand that three have already agreed to superintend the translations of the Scriptures, and meet for that purpose four times a week. "We have," says Mr. Bisset, "been deprived of our ablest assistant in the midst of a pious work, which he was conducting with ardent zeal and indefatigable application. But we do not despond.—It has pleased God to take Mr. T. to himself. We trust that our regretted friend will receive the full reward of those laborious exertions which beyond all doubt undermined his health and shortened his valuable life."

By the united exertions of the gentlemen above alluded to, with the aid of some learned natives who had been in the employment of Mr. T., the New Testa-

ment has since been completed, and copies of it have been sent to England, and a large edition has been dispersed in the island.

TWYSDEN, Dowager Lady, at her seat, June 4, 1818, in her 87th year. The deceased was the widow of the late Sir William Twysden, Bart. of Ryden Hull, Kent.

V.

VALLETORT, William Richard, Viscount, at the seat of his father, the Earl of Edgcombe, Oct. 29, 1818, in the 24th year of his Lordship's age.

VAVASOUR, the Dowager Lady, at York, aged 86, in Dec. 1818. She was a lineal descendant of the ancient family of Vavasour, and a younger branch of the House of Hasselwood.

VAUGHAN, John Wilmot Courtenay, Esq. Jan. 1818, in France, in the 19th year of his age. He was the eldest son of the Hon. John Vaughan, M.P. and grandson to the late Earl of Lisburne.

VERNON, John, of Wherelead Lodge, Suffolk, Esq. at Brighton, May 24, 1818. While residing at Orwell Park, he acted for many years as Lieut.-Colonel of the 1st Reg. of East Suffolk Militia. Mr. V. was nephew to the late Earl of Shepbrooke, and last male heir to the estates of the celebrated Admiral Vernon.

W

WALPOLE, Hon. Mrs., at her house, Dover-street, Piccadilly, May 9, 1818. She was widow of the late Hon. Richard Walpole, and sister to the late Lord Huntingfield.

WALSINGHAM, Augusta Georgiana Elizabeth, widow of Thomas Lord Walsingham, and only daughter of William, first Lord Boston, at Old Windsor, May 28, 1818.

WATSON, Marianne Juliana, at Bath, in 1818, daughter of the late Lieut.-Col. Watson, and grand-daughter of the late Bishop of Landaff.

WATSON, William, son of Joseph Watson, Esq., of Somerstown Terrace, on the 16th of Dec. 1818, aged 17; a youth whose early promise and talents gained him the respect of all who knew him.

WEBER, Henry, Esq. late of Edinburgh, at York, in 1818. He was author of "The Battle of Flodden Field," 1809, 8vo., and "Tales and Popular Romances," 1812, 4 vols. 8vo.; and Editor of "Metrical Romances of the 13th, 14th, and 15th Centuries," 1811, 3 vols. 8vo.;

"The Dramatic Works of John Ford, with an Introduction of Notes," 1811, 2 vols. 8vo.; "The Works of Beaumont and Fletcher, with an Introduction and Notes," 1812, 14 vols. 8vo.

WHITE, Henry, Esq. of Brasted, in Kent, Jan. 7, 1818, in the 92d year of his age.

WILKINSON, John, M. D. F. R. S. and S. A., at Southampton Row, in the 90th year of his age. He was a man of considerable research, and an ancient member of many of the present literary and scientific societies.

WILLES, John, Esq. at College Place, Dulwich, in his 84th year, Aug. 9, 1818. He was formerly in the corn and flour trade, by which he acquired wealth, and this was considerably increased by a marriage with the daughter of the late Alderman Wright. Being a man of humanity, as well as of discrimination, he always contrived to relieve the poor, by finding work for them, rather than by giving money.

WILLIAMS, the Rev. John, on the morning of Good Friday, 1818, in the 73d year of his age. He was more than 40 years Master of the endowed Grammar School of Ystradmeyric, in the county of Cardigan, the duties of which were performed by him with exemplary fidelity and abilities. He was vicar of Nampwell in Radnorshire, as well as prebendary of Brecon. His scholars testified their respect by a silver cup; and also by a portrait, to paint which, an artist was dispatched from London.

WILSON, Dowager Lady, of Charlton House, Kent, in the 71st year of her age, Aug. 17, 1818. She was the widow of the late General Sir Thomas Spencer, Bart. by whom she had several children, and by her exemplary conduct, and charitable and humane disposition, obtained the love of every one around her. She expired while her friend Mrs. Stride, was reading a chapter of the Bible, after ejaculating O Lord! O Lord! O Lord!

All the entailed estates of course de-

volve on her son Sir Thomas; and she has divided her own property among her three daughters, Lady Gordon, Lady Carr, and Mrs. Thevalian, the last of whom is named residuary legatee.

WINGFIELD, Rowland, Esq., Aug. 10, 1818, at his residence, the White Hall, near Shrewsbury, in the 91st year of his age; a gentleman distinguished by his urbanity of manners, and true old English hospitality.

WOLLASTON, Mrs., Widow of the late Rev. Dr. Wollaston, Prebendary of Peterborough, at Bury St. Edmunds, in her 78th year.

WOODCOCK, Thomas, Esq. an alderman of the borough of Doncaster, in June 1818. He has left Twenty Guineas to 20 poor women, who formerly experienced his bounty.

WOODS, John, in 1818, at Gortnagally, near Dungannon, aged 122 years, an industrious farmer, who lived a regular sober life. His wife died about two years ago, aged 82 years, he was 42 years old the day of her birth.

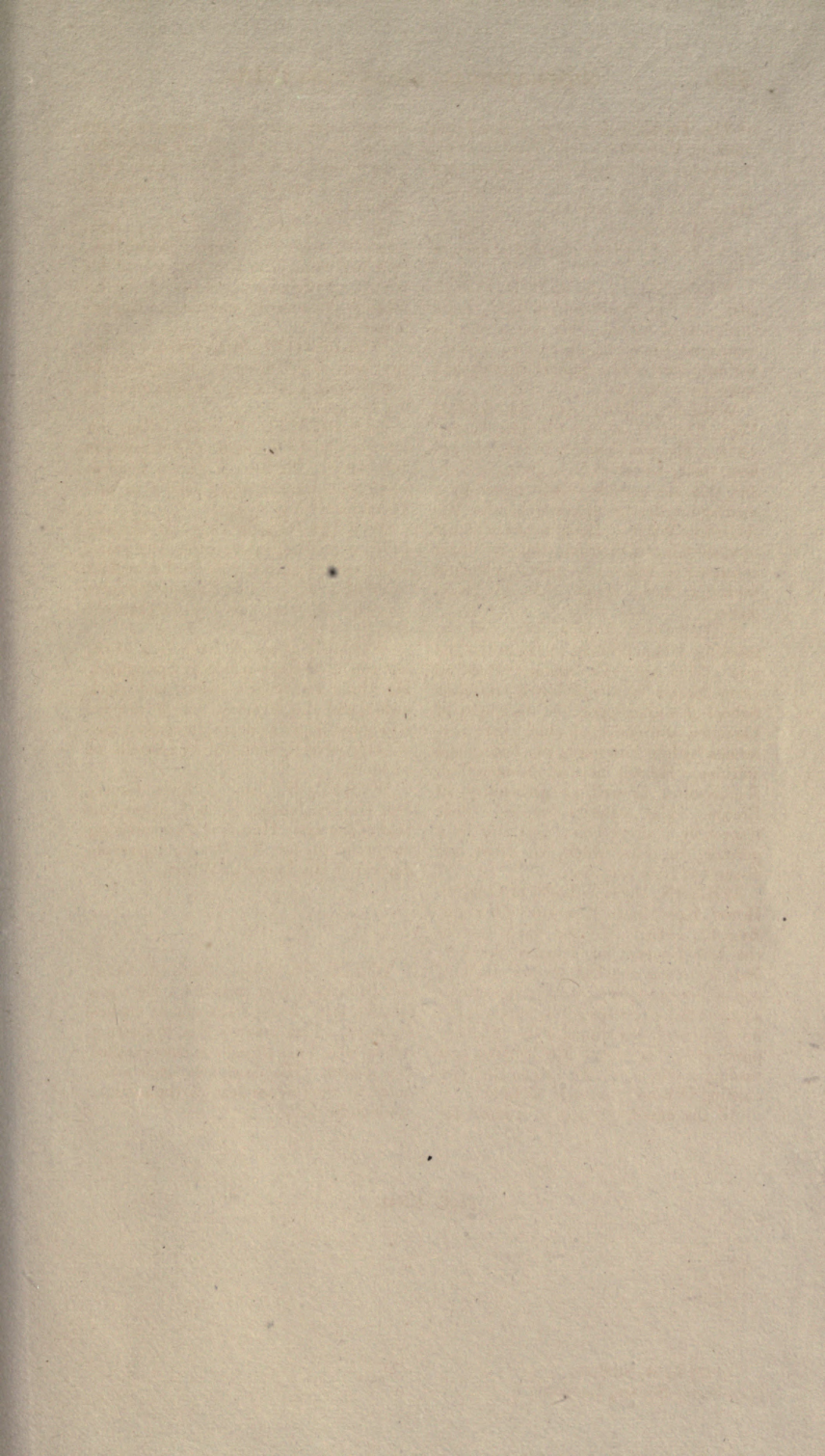
WORLEY, Samuel, June 16th 1818, the son of a stone-mason at Springfield. He was a self-taught watch and clock maker, and this ingenious youth incurred a long and lingering death, in consequence of being severely scorched by a bundle of serpents.

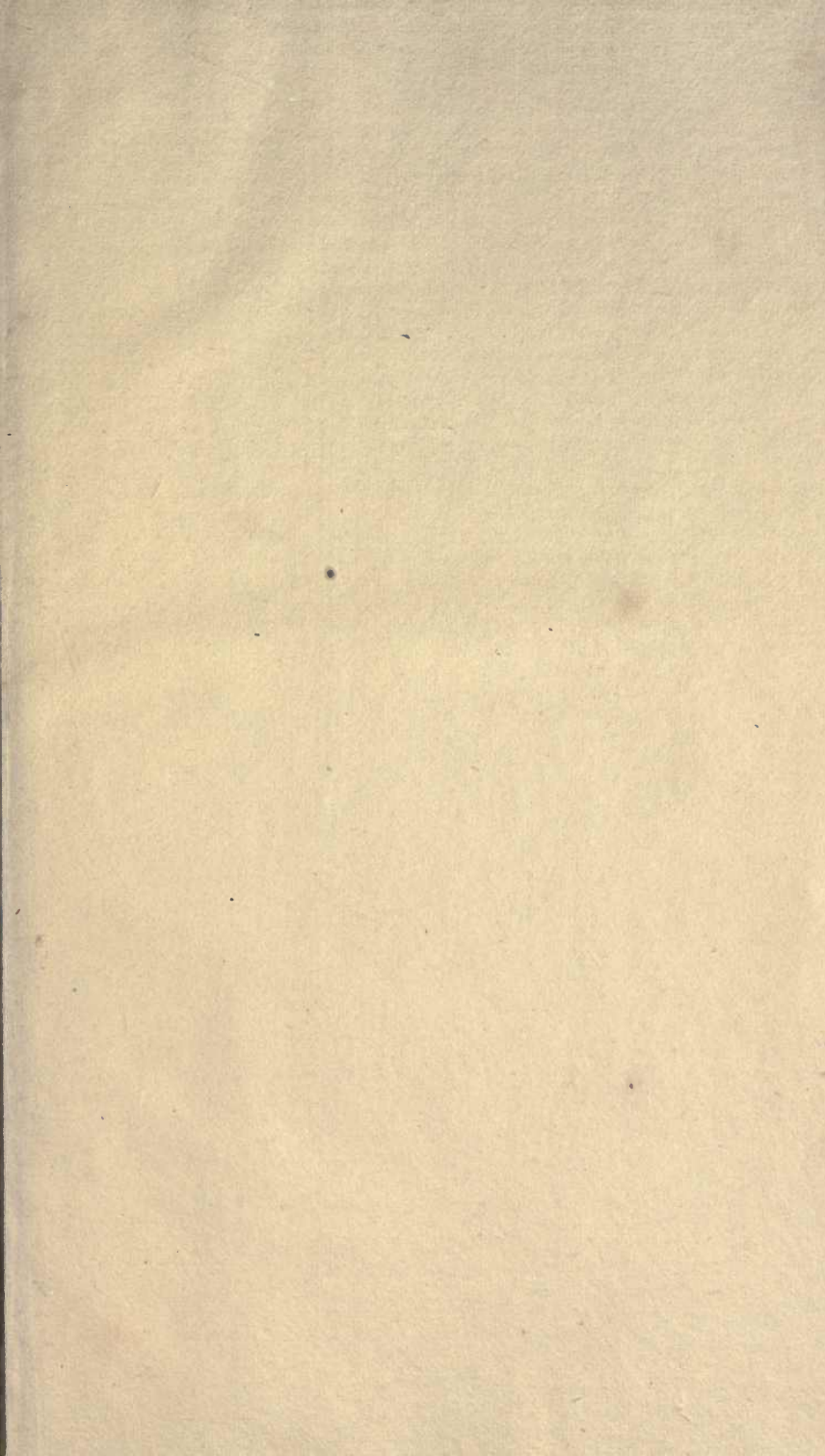
WYATT, B. Esq. of Lime Grove, near Bangor, January 5, 1818, in the 73d year of his age. He was the last surviving brother of the late Mr. Wyatt, Surveyor-general of His Majesty's Works.

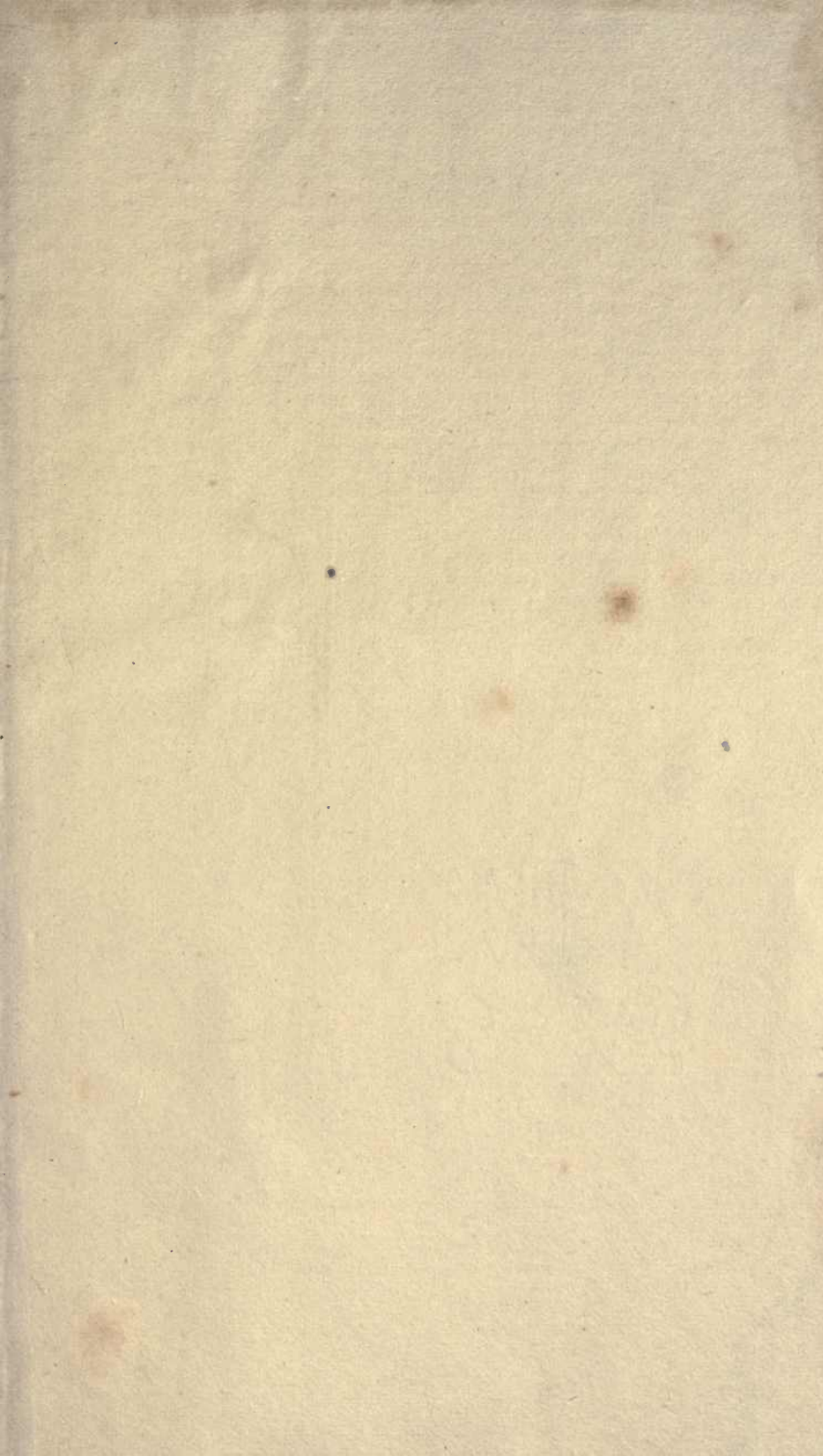
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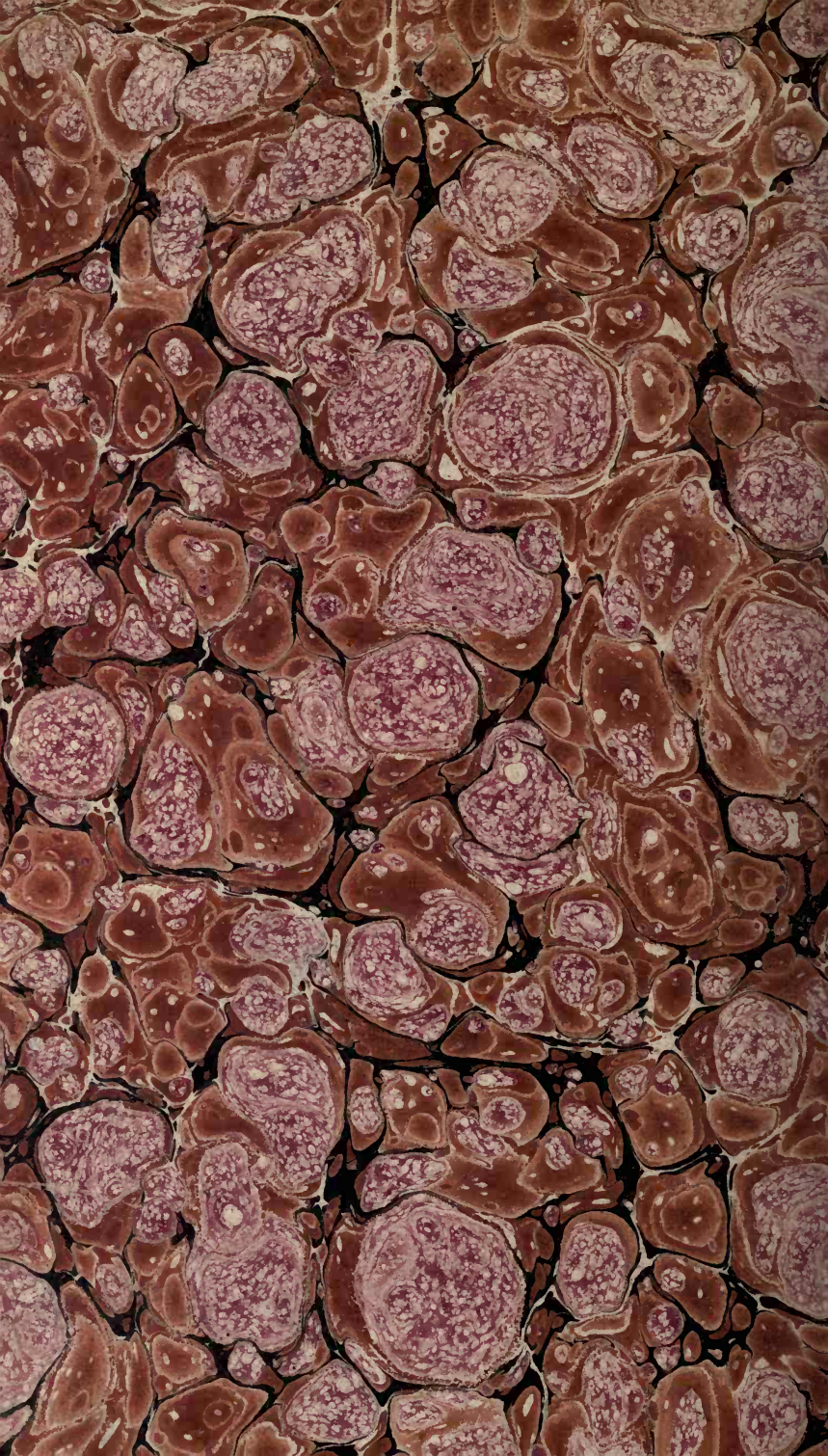
YOULE, Mr. Joseph, June 10, 1818, at Porto Bello, near Sheffield. He was a singular man, being a self-taught mathematician. This enabled him to instruct others, and he is allowed to have excelled as a master. His death has been attributed to the intense heat of the summer in which he died.

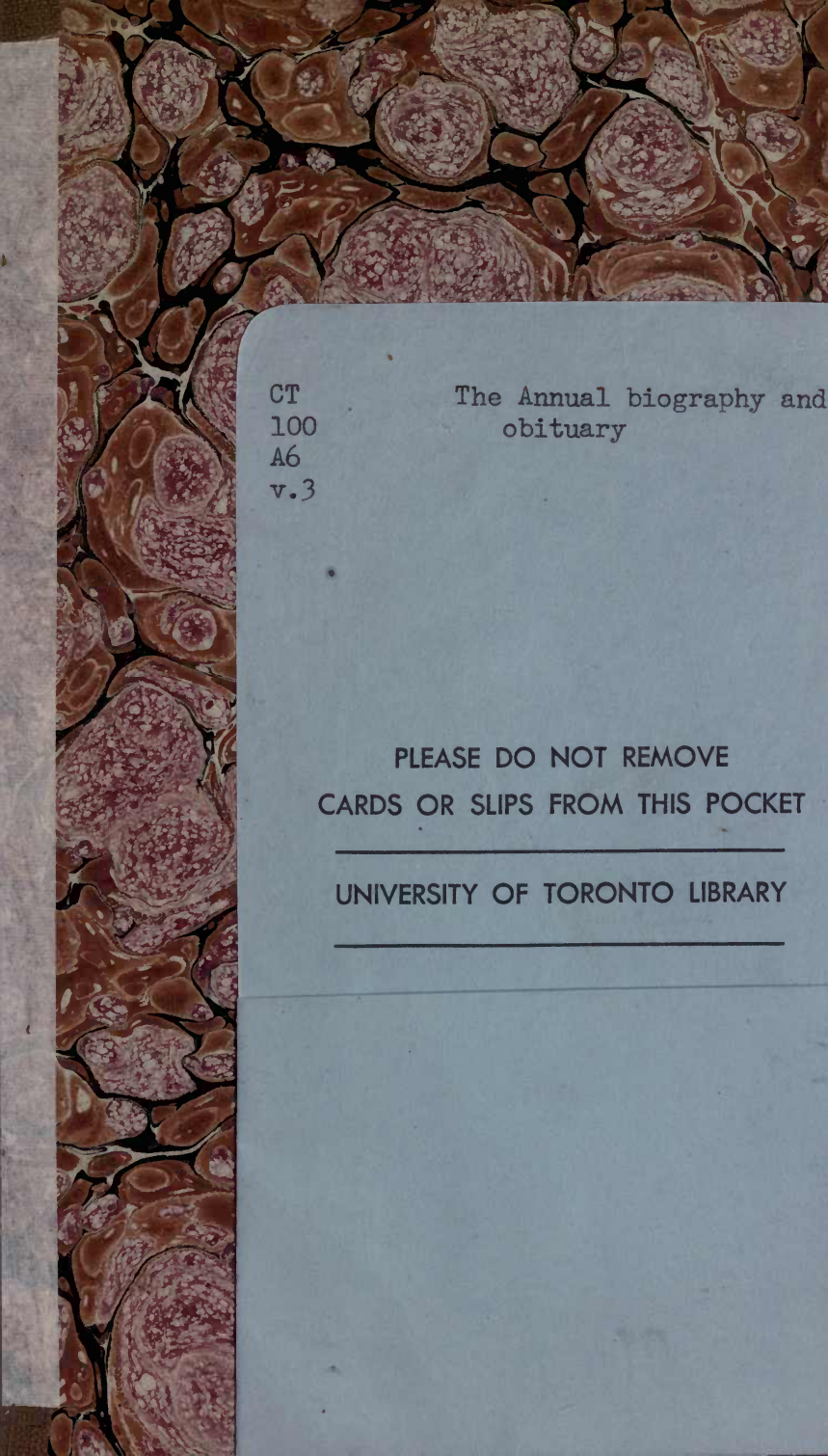
THE END.











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The Annual biography and
obituary

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