

The  
Robert E. Gross  
Collection

A Memorial to the Founder  
of the

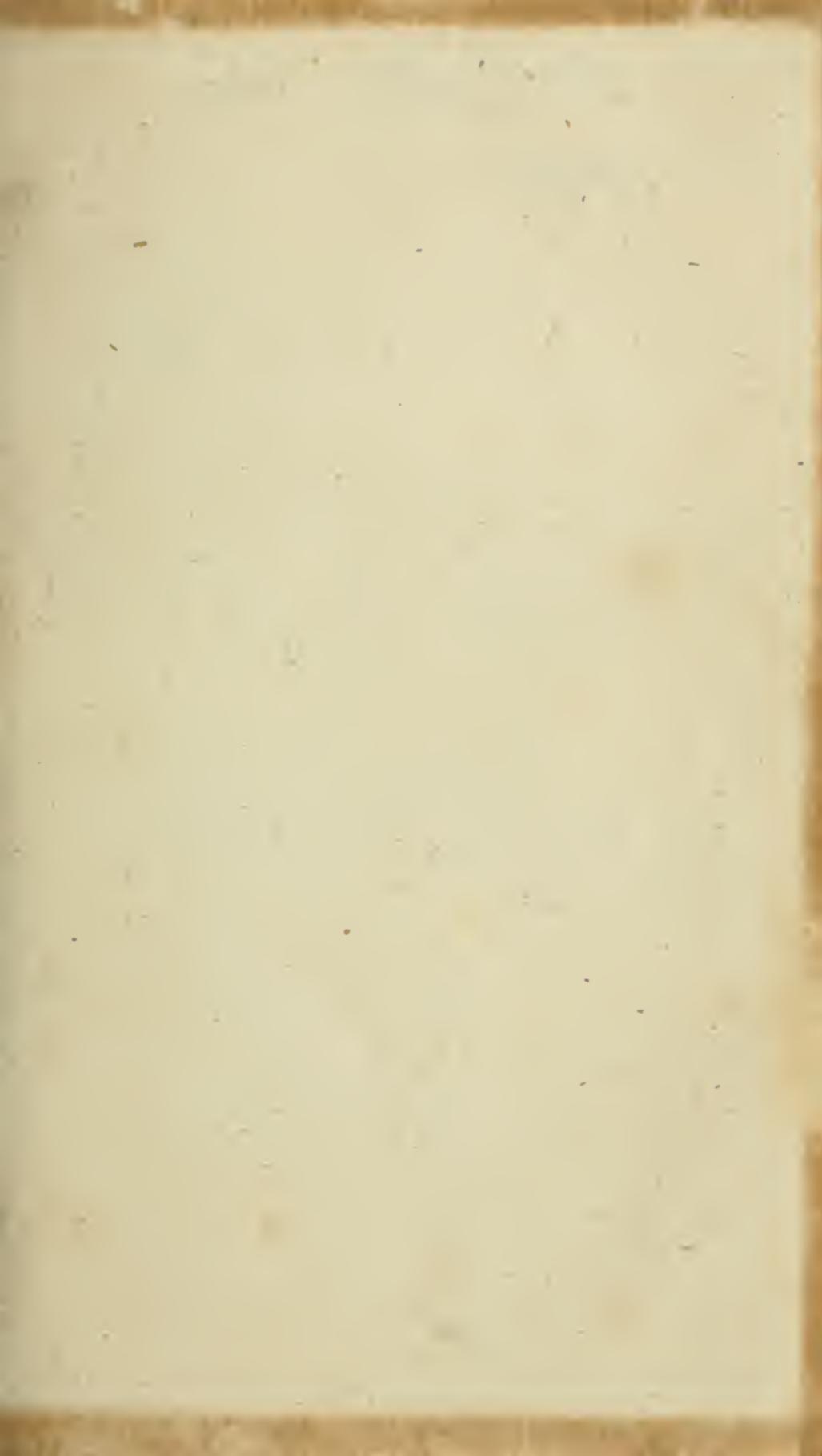
*Lockheed Aircraft  
Corporation*

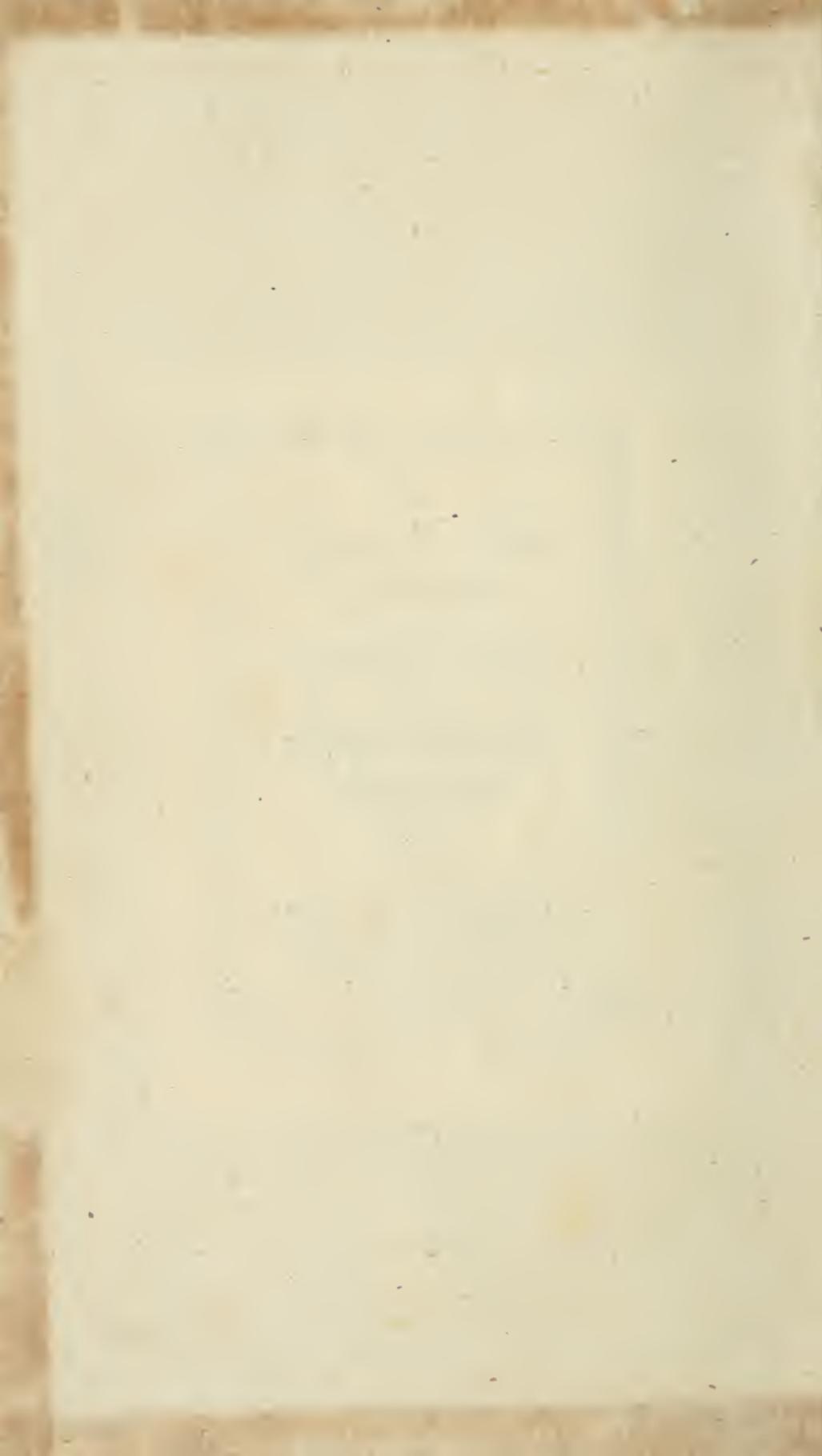


Business Administration Library

*University of California*

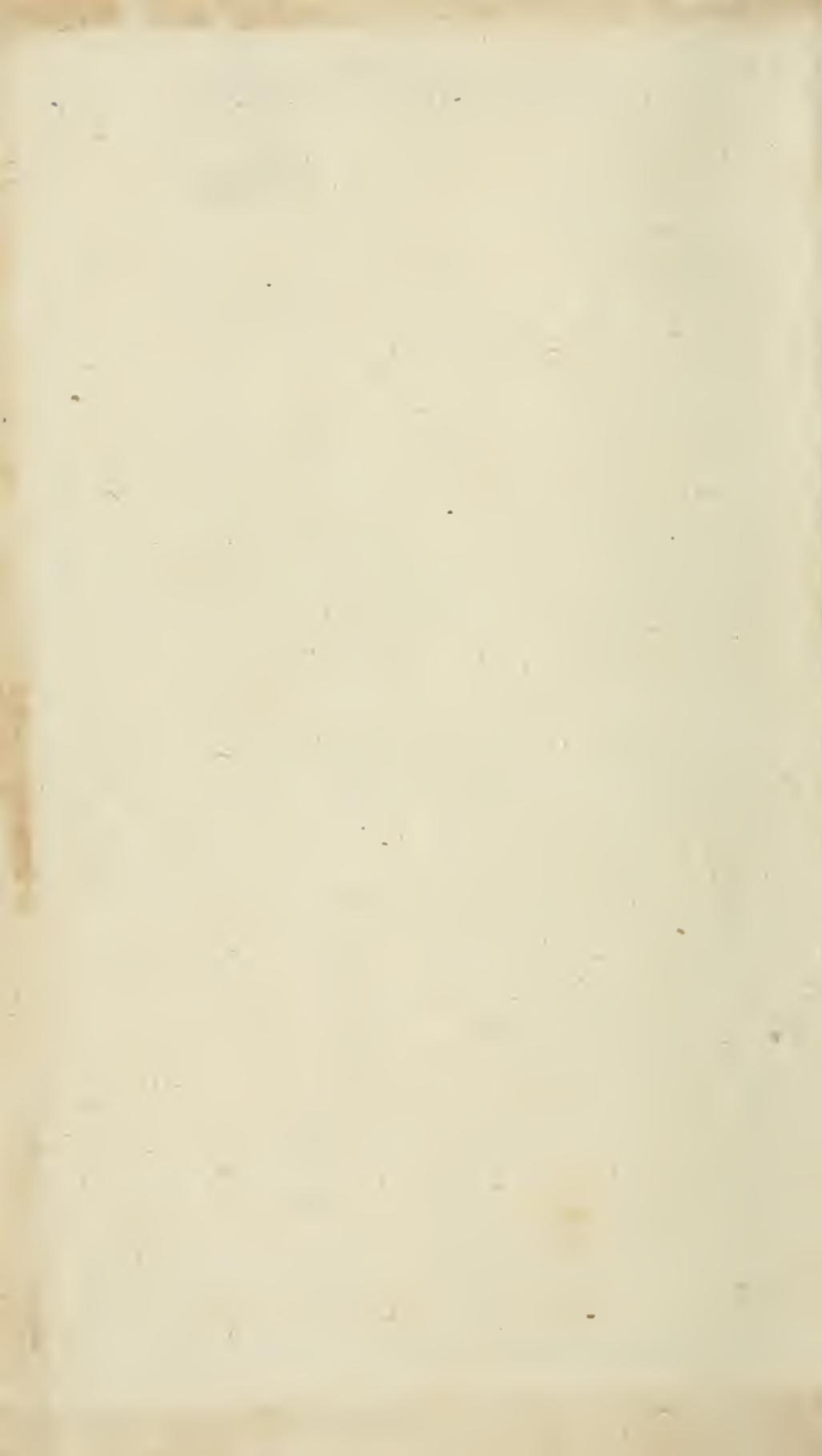
Los Angeles





Adm Sophia Rose

1886.



A  
DESCRIPTION

OF  
ENGLAND AND WALES.

CONTAINING

A particular Account of each COUNTY,

WITH ITS

ANTIQUITIES, CURIOSITIES, SITUATION, FIGURE, EXTENT, CLIMATE, RIVERS, LAKES, MINERAL WA- TERS,	SOILS, FOSSILS, CAVERNS, PLANTS and MI- NERALS, AGRICULTURE, CIVIL and ECCLE- SIASTICAL DI- VISIONS, CITIES,	TOWNS, PALACES, SEATS, CORPORATIONS, MARKETS, FAIRS, MANUFACTURES, TRADE, SIEGES, BATTLES,
---	---	---

AND THE

LIVES of the illustrious MEN each COUNTY has  
produced.

Embellished with two hundred and forty COPPER PLATES,  
OF

PALACES, CASTLES, CATHEDRALS;  
THE

Ruins of ROMAN and SAXON BUILDINGS;

AND OF

ABBEYS, MONASTERIES, and other RELIGIOUS HOUSES.

Besides a Variety of CUTS of

URNS, INSCRIPTIONS, and other ANTIQUITIES.

---

V O L. VI.

---

L O N D O N :

Printed for NEWBERRY and CARNAN, No. 65, the North  
Side of St. Paul's Church-yard.

M D C C L X I X.





A  
 D E S C R I P T I O N  
 O F  
 E N G L A N D A N D W A L E S.

---

L I N C O L N S H I R E.

**K** I R K T O N, or K I R T O N, is seated about eighteen miles to the north of Lincoln, and six to the north of Spittle in the Street, and derives its name from its *kirke* or church erected by Alexander, bishop of Lincoln. It is built in the form of a cathedral; is very neat both within and without, and has a handsome tower in the middle, raised upon four pillars, with a ring of five bells: it is built on the ruins of a former church, part of which is visible at the west end. This town has a market on Saturdays, and two fairs, one held on July 18, and the other on December 11, for all sorts of cattle and merchandize. The neighbourhood of this town is

famous for producing a sort of apples, called from this place Kirton pippins.

At a place called TUNSTAL, supposed to have been near Kirkton, was a house of Gilbertine nuns, founded by Reginald de Crevecoeur, in the reign of king Stephen.

At GOKEWELL, a village eight miles north of Kirton, was a Cistercian nunnery, founded by William de Alta Ripa, before the year 1185. About the time of the dissolution it had a prioress and six nuns, with an annual revenue of 76 l. 12 s. 10 d.

We shall now enter the Woulds, and proceed from the north to the south-east, where the first place of any consequence is CASTOR, or THONG-CASTOR, which is said to have derived its name from the following circumstance. Hengist, the Saxon, as a reward for having driven back the Scots and Picts, obtained a grant from king Vortigern, of as much land as he could encompass with an ox's hide cut into thongs; and on this ground he built a castle, which, for that reason, was named Thong castle. But Dr. Stukeley observes, that this account is entirely fabulous, the castle being built in the time of the Romans. It is situated twenty miles north-north-east of Lincoln, and a hundred and forty-seven north by east of London, on the side of a hill, and upon the west ridge of the Woulds. This place seems to have been extremely proper for a Roman station, it being erected on a rock that projects forward to the west, is level on the top, and full of springs. The traces of a Roman town may still be perceived, and it appears to have taken in three squares of full three hundred feet each, two of which were allotted to the castle, and the third is an area lying before it to the east, which is still  
the

the market-place. The streets are all placed upon these squares, and at right angles; and at each end are two out-lets, opening obliquely at the corners, to the country round. With respect to the castle, there is enough of its walls left to shew that it was erected by the Romans. It is built of white rag-stone, laid sometimes sideways, and in others flat, cemented with exceeding hard mortar, full of pebbles and sand; and Dr. Stukeley conjectures, that it was the method of the Romans to pour the mortar on liquid, as soon as the lime was slacked. From under the castle walls, almost quite round, rise many springs; but that called Syfer is the most famous, it having four fluxes of water proceeding from the joints of great stones laid flat, and joined together with lead, probably, first by the Romans, and is pleasantly shaded over with trees. There is a place south-west of the church, still called Castle-hill.

Castor is now a compact place, and has a market on Mondays, which is very considerable for horned cattle, sheep and hogs; and it has two fairs, held on the first of June, for sheep; and on the 16th of October, for horned cattle and sheep.

At WEST RAVENDALE, a village eleven miles south-east of Castor, was very early a religious house. Alan, the son of Henry, earl of Britany, in the year 1202, gave the village and church to the Premonstratensian abbey of Beauport in Britany; and here was a cell to that monastery, the revenue of which, at its dissolution in the reign of Henry the Sixth, was valued at 14 l. a year.

Eight miles south by east of Castor is IRFORD, where was a small priory for nuns of the Premonstratensian order, founded by Ralph de Albani, in the reign of king Henry the Second. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and at the

time of the dissolution contained six or eight religious, when its revenues were computed at 13 l. 19 s. 9 d. a year.

About four miles to the east of Irford is BINBROKE, a small market town about five miles to the north-west of Louth, and is seated on a branch of the river Ankham, famous for good eels. It extends half a mile in length, along the road from Lincoln to Grimsby, and has a pretty good market on Tuesdays, but no fair.

At NORTH ORMESBY, a village five miles north-east of Binbroke, William, earl of Albemarle, and Gilbert, the son of Robert de Ormesby, founded, in the reign of king Stephen, a convent for brethren and nuns of the Sempringham order. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and valued at the general dissolution at 80 l. 11 s. 10 d. a year.

Five miles south of Irford is SIXHILL, where was a Gilbertine priory of nuns, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and said to have been founded by one Grelle, or Greslei; the annual revenues of which were valued at the dissolution at 135 l. 9 s.

SPILSBY is situated at the southern extremity of the Wolds, three miles east by north of Bullingbroke. It stands on the side of a hill, and has a charity-school erected in 1716, for teaching and cloathing twenty-four boys and sixteen girls. The market, which is on Mondays, is considerable for corn and cattle; and there are three fairs, held on the Monday before Whitsun-Monday, and on the Monday fortnight after Whit-Sunday, if it falls in May, but otherwise there is no fair; and on the second Monday in July, for all sorts of cattle and cloathing. Here was a chapel dedicated to the Trinity, which was made collegiate  
for

for a master and twelve priests, by Sir John Willoughby, in the reign of Edward the Third.

Besides the great men already mentioned, this county has produced the following.

Richard Fox, a famous statesman and bishop of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, and founder of Corpus-Christi college in Oxford, was born of mean parentage at Ropefly in this county, and educated first at the university of Oxford, and afterwards at that of Cambridge. Having finished his course of academical learning, he went over to Paris for his farther improvement; and there became acquainted with Henry, earl of Richmond, afterwards king Henry the Seventh, who, immediately upon his ascending the throne, admitted Dr. Fox into his privy-council, and conferred upon him the bishopric of Exeter. From this see he was successively translated to that of Bath and Wells, of Durham, and of Winchester; and he continued during the whole of that reign, to have a capital share in all public and national transactions. It was by his interest, that, in the beginning of the following reign, the famous cardinal Wolsey was introduced at court; but that artful ecclesiastic had no sooner obtained the favour of his sovereign, than he ungenerously supplanted his benefactor. Bishop Fox, being thus deprived of his wonted influence, employed the remainder of his days in works of charity and munificence; particularly in founding his college of Corpus-Christi, and two free-schools; the one at Taunton in Somersetshire, the other at Grantham in Lincolnshire. He died September the 14th, 1528, in a very advanced age, and was buried in the cathedral of Winchester.

Thomas Sutton, the founder of the charter-house in London, was descended of an ancient and genteel family in Lincolnshire; and was born at Knaith in that county in the year 1532. He had his education at Eton-school, and in St. John's college, Cambridge, from whence he removed to Lincoln's Inn in London, with a view, it is thought, of studying the law; but not relishing that sedentary kind of life, he travelled into foreign parts, where he resided during the whole reign of queen Mary. Returning home in 1562, he entered into the possession of a large estate, left to him by his father, who had died during his absence. His first patrons among the great were the duke of Norfolk, and the earls of Warwick and Leicester; by whose interest he procured the office of master-general of the ordnance in the north for life. Soon after he purchased of the bishop of Durham the two manors of Gateshead and Weekham, famous for their coal-mines; which, together with the above post, and his wife's portion, laid the foundation of the immense fortune, which he afterwards acquired. He now engaged in the business of a merchant; and being possessed of more ready money than most men in the kingdom, he carried it on to great advantage. In the beginning of 1611, having previously obtained an act of parliament for that purpose, he purchased, of the earl of Suffolk, Howard-house, or the late dissolved charter-house near Smithfield, **when** he founded and nobly endowed the hospital, **which** now goes by that name. On the 12th of December, of the same year, he died at his house in Hackney near London; and was interred in a vault in the said hospital, where there is a magnificent tomb erected to his memory.

Sir

Sir Edmund Anderſon, a lawyer of the ſixteenth century, was born in the pariſh of Broughton in Lincolnſhire, and educated in Lincoln college in Oxford, and in the Inner-Temple in London. In the nineteenth of Elizabeth, he was appointed the queen's ſerjeant at law; and, in 1582, was advanced to the dignity of lord chief juſtice of the Common Pleas. He was one of the commiſſioners that tried the unfortunate Mary, queen of Scots; and he likewiſe ſat in judgment upon ſecretary Daviſon, for iſſuing the warrant for the execution of that princeſs. He died on the 1ſt of Auguſt, 1605, and was interred at Egworth in Bedfordſhire. He published a volume of *Reports*, together with ſome *Reſolutions and Judgments*.

Sir William Monſon, a brave Engliſh admiral of the ſixteenth and ſeventeenth centuries, was the third ſon of Sir John Monſon of South Carlton, in Lincolnſhire, and born at that place in 1569. He ſtudied about two years in Baliol-college in Oxford; but being naturally of an active and martial diſpoſition, he ſoon grew weary of a contemplative life, eloped from college, and entered himſelf as a private man on board a privateer, commiſſioned to cruize againſt the Spaniards. The voyage proved ſucceſſful; they took a ſhip of three hundred tons burthen, and brought her home to England; and this, it is ſaid, was the firſt Spaniſh prize that ever ſaw the Engliſh ſhore. From this low beginning Mr. Monſon roſe, by the force of merit, through all the inferior departments, of lieutenant, captain, rear-admiral, and vice-admiral, till at laſt, in 1604, he was appointed admiral of the narrow ſeas. He ſerved under the earl of Cumberland, in the expedition to the Azores, as alſo under the earl of

Essex, in the attack upon Cadiz; on which last occasion he was knighted for his valour. It was upon him chiefly, that the friends of king James the First depended for the assistance of the fleet, in case any opposition had been made to the accession of that monarch. It was he, likewise, who, in 1611, retook the lady Arabella Stuart, after she had escaped from England. But, notwithstanding all his faithful services, through the intrigues of some powerful courtiers, he fell into disgrace, from which, however, he emerged with new lustre. He died in February 1643, and left behind him a numerous posterity. He published a collection of naval tracts.

George Buc, a learned antiquarian of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, was born at his father's seat in the county of Lincoln. In the reign of king James the First, he was made one of the gentlemen of his majesty's privy-chamber, and master of the revels; and was advanced to the honour of knighthood. He wrote the life and reign of king Richard the Third, in which he represents the person and character of that prince, in a much less odious light than what they have been drawn in by other historians. He likewise wrote a book, intitled, *The third University of England*; in which he endeavours to prove, that all the arts and sciences were then taught in the city of London.

Richard Busby, the most eminent school-master of his time, was the second son of Richard Busby, of the city of Westminster, Gent. and born at Luton in Lincolnshire, September 22, 1606. He received his education in Westminster-school, and in Christ Church, Oxford, where he took the degree of bachelor of arts. In 1639, he was admitted to the prebend and rectory of Cudworth,

in the church of Wells; and the year following, was advanced to the mastership of Westminster-school, which he held for upwards of fifty-five years; during which period he bred the greatest number of learned scholars that ever adorned any age or nation. Upon the restoration of king Charles the Second, he was appointed one of the prebendaries of Westminster, and treasurer and canon-residentiary of Wells. He died on the 6th of April, 1695; and was interred in Westminster-abbey, where there is a monument erected to his memory. He composed several grammatical treatises for the use of his school, both in English and Latin.



## MERIONETHSHIRE.



**M**


**ERIONETHSHIRE**, or **MERIONYD**

**SHIRE**, is thus called by a variation from its Welch name Sir Veirionyd, and is bounded by Caernarvonshire and Denbighshire on the north; by another part of Denbighshire, and by Montgomeryshire on the east; by St. George's channel on the west, and by a small part of Cardiganshire and Montgomeryshire on the south. It extends thirty-five miles in length from north to south, twenty-five in breadth from east to west, and is one hundred and eighteen miles in circumference. This county, in the time of the Romans, was part of the country inhabited by the Ordovices, a brave and powerful nation.

This being a rocky, mountainous country, the air is extremely cold and bleak; it is also esteemed unhealthy, on account of its being mixed with the vapours that rise from the Irish sea; but these can have no great effect, on account of the sharp winds, which almost continually blow.

Merionethshire is generally considered as the most mountainous and barren county in all Wales; but if a variety of the most beautiful prospects can render a country agreeable, few can in this respect be compared to it; for it not only affords mountains of an extraordinary height, inaccessible rocks, a variety of lower hills, woods, and plains, and some fruitful vallies; but a prospect  
of

of the sea, and of many lakes, rivers, and cataracts. The highest mountains are Kader Idris, Aren Voudhwy, Aren Benlhyn, Arennig, Moelwyn, Mannod, &c. Kader Idris is probably one of the highest mountains in Britain; and, as a proof of it, affords a variety of Alpine plants. It has been asserted, that the tops of some of these mountains are so near, that men, standing upon two of them, may converse together, and yet be scarce able to meet in a whole day; but this is probably a fiction.

This county produces but little corn, and the inhabitants applying themselves almost wholly to grazing of cattle, live chiefly on butter, cheese, and milk; for the vallies afford excellent pasture, and such an incredible number of sheep feed on the mountains, that Merionethshire is said to have more of them than all the rest of Wales. This county is likewise well provided with deer, goats, fowl, and fish.

The principal rivers of Merionethshire are, the Dyffi, the Avon, the Drwrydh, and the Dee.

The Dyffi, or Dovey, rises among the high mountains, that form a chain on the eastern borders of the county, and running southward into Montgomeryshire, flows south-west; and leaving that county at Machynleth, a market town, separates the counties of Merioneth and Cardigan, and soon after falls into Cardigan bay.

The Avon has its source on the east side of a large forest, called Penrose wood, and running south-west, passes by Dolgelhe, and falls into Barmouth bay, some miles to the west of that town.

The Drwrydh issues from a lake in the northern extremity of the county, near the source of the river Conway in Caernarvonshire, and running south-west, falls into an arm of the Irish sea, called

called Traeth Bychan, about four miles north of Harlech, the county town.

The Dee, near its source, is said to run through a lake on the south side of Bala, called Pimble Mear, without mixing with it, the fish, at least, of both waters, we are told do not mingle; for tho' the Dee abounds with salmon, none are caught in the lake, out of the stream of the river; nor does the Dee carry off the gwiniards, a fish peculiar to the lake. The word gwiniard signifies much the same as a whiting, but it is not at all like that fish, the shape being much like a salmon; and the usual length is about twelve or thirteen inches; the back is of a dusky colour, and the belly white. The scales are of a middle size, and the upper jaw is somewhat more prominent than the lower, with the mouth much like that of a herring. It is like, and probably the same, as that called Ferra, in the lake of Geneva. Hence some infer, that there is a great resemblance between the Alpine lakes and those of the Welch mountains; because they afford the same sorts of fish, and the high rocks Alpine plants. The course of the Dee has been described among the rivers of Cheshire.

The smaller rivers of this county are the Kessilawn, the Angel, the Cayne, the Atro, the Skethye, and the Desunni.

The above lake called Pimble, or Plenlyn Mear, is of considerable extent; and, according to Camden, has been accurately described by an antiquarian and poet, in a few Latin verses, which have been thus translated into English.

Where eastern storms disturb the peaceful skies,  
In Merioneth the fam'd Plenlyn lies.

Here a vast lake, which deepest vales surround,  
His watry globe roles on the yielding ground.

Increased with constant springs that gently run  
From the rough hills with pleasing murmurs down,

This

This wondrous property the waters boast,  
 The greatest rains are in its channels lost ;  
 Nor raise the flood ; but when loud tempests roar,  
 The rising waves with sudden rage boil o'er,  
 And conquering billows scorn the unequal shore. }

On the confines of this county, and Caernarvonshire, are two remarkable arms of the sea, called the Greater Wash of the Frith, and the Lesser ; and not far from hence, near a small village, called Festinog, there is a high road or military way paved with stones, which leads through these difficult and almost unpassable mountains. It is called by the Welch, Sarn Helen, or Helen's Way, and is supposed to have been of very considerable extent ; perhaps the same Helen occasioned the making of several other highways in Wales.

On a mountain called Mikneint near Rhyd, or Halen, within a quarter of a mile on this road, there are remarkable stone monuments, called the graves of the men of Ardwy, of which there are at least thirty in number, and each grave is said to be about two yards long, and to be distinguished by four pillars, one at each corner. They are somewhat of a square form, about two or three feet high, and nine inches broad. According to tradition, these are the sepulchral monuments of persons of note slain here, between the men of Dyffryn Ardudwy, and some people of Denbighshire ; however, this is uncertain, and some take them to be Roman. Kaer-Gay, that is, Caius's castle, is not far from this place ; it was built by one Caius, a Roman, of whom the people of the neighbourhood relate incredible things.

Near the same causeway are several other sepulchral monuments ; and in 1687, Mr. Camden copied the following inscription from a stone, called Bedh

Bedh Porws, or the grave of Porus, which that great antiquary supposes to relate to some Roman interred there in the second or third century ; the words are PORIVS HIC TVMVLO JACIT HOMO—RIANVS FVIT.

About the year 1684 was discovered, in a moorish ground, where turf is dug up for fuel, a gilt coffin, which was of wood, and so well preserved, that the gilding remained very fresh, and is said to have contained a skeleton of an extraordinary size. This is, perhaps, the only instance upon record, of an interment in a moor of peat or turf, and yet the bituminous earth, of which such moors consist, is known by experience, to preserve wood better than any other ; for trees are frequently found in it very sound, though they must have been buried in times before the reach of history.

In 1688 were found in a rock, known by the name of Katreg Dhiwin, near the village of Bethkelert, about fifty weapons of cast brass, that seemed to be short swords or daggers. They were of different forms and sizes, some of them being about two feet long, and others not above one foot. It is said, that some of them were gilt, but the handles, which are supposed to have been wood, were all wasted ; though, in a few of them, the two brass nails that fastened them remained, they being riveted on each side.

This county is in the province of Canterbury and diocese of Bangor, and has thirty-seven parishes. It is divided into six hundreds, and contains three market towns, but sends only one member to parliament, who is knight of the shire. The market towns are Bala, Dolgalhe, Harlech, and Dinafinoudy.

BALA obtained its name from its situation at the north end of Pimble meer, the word signifying a place where a river issues from a lake. The town is seated a hundred and eighty-four miles from London, and is a corporation that enjoys several privileges. It is governed by bailiffs, and has a market on Saturdays, with two fairs, held on the 14th of May, and the 10th of July, for horned cattle, sheep and horses.

At Bala are three mounds; these are generally mistaken for sepulchral monuments, but they appear to have been raised for watch stations at the beginning of the Roman conquests, when this country was the seat of war.

At LHAN UW LHYN near Bala, are the ruins of an ancient castle, supposed to have been erected by the Romans. It is seated on the top of a very steep rock, at the bottom of which is a pleasant valley.

About fourteen miles to the southward of Bala is DINASMOUDY, a small town, that has a market on Fridays, and four fairs, held on the 2d of July, the 10th of September, the 1st of October, and the 13th of November, for sheep, horned cattle and horses.

About ten miles to the north-west of the last mentioned town is DOLGELHE, which was so called from its being originally seated in a woody vale. It is on the south bank of the Avon, at the foot of Mount Idris. It has a considerable manufacture of Welch cottons, and is pretty well provided with inns for the accommodation of travellers. It has a market on Tuesdays, and six fairs, held on May 11, July 4, September 20, October 9, November 22, and December 16, for sheep, horned cattle and horses. This town is supposed to have been a Roman station, from the coins dug up in its neighbourhood, two of which

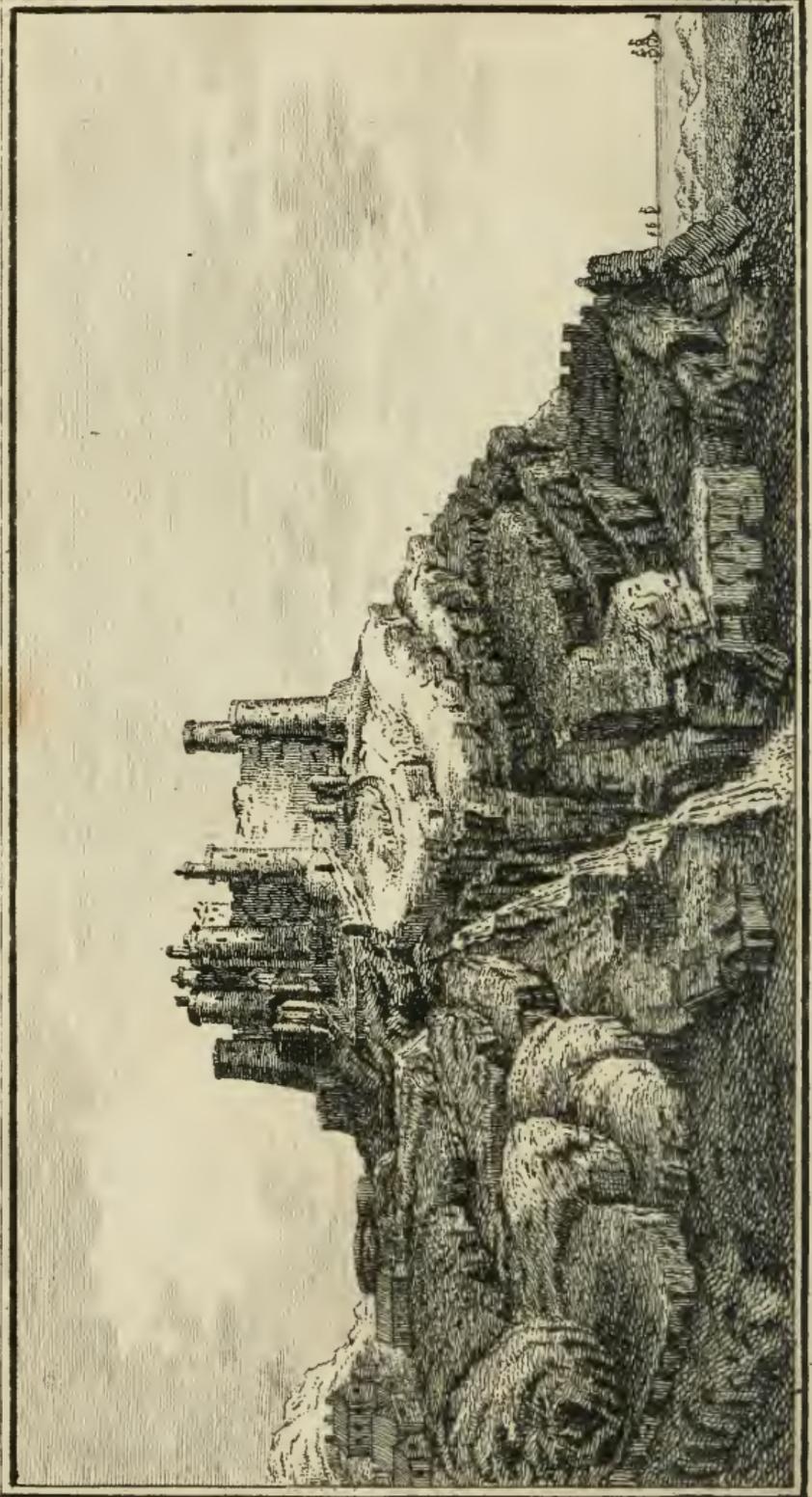
which were silver, and of the emperors Trajan and Hadrian.

CUMNER, or KEMMER, a village, about two miles north of Dolgelhe, had an abbey of Cistercian monks, founded by Meredith and Griffith, sons of Conan ap Owen Gwinnedd, about the year 1200, and dedicated to St. Mary. Llewelin ap Jorwerth, prince of North Wales, afterwards confirmed their donations by a very full and gracious charter, dated 1209, to Efan the then abbot of Kemmer, at which time he likewise conferred more lands on the said monastery. In king Henry the Third's wars with the Welch, the English would have burnt this abbey in 1232, but the abbot paid three hundred marks to save the house from destruction. It is now in the possession of Robert Vaughan, Esq; but the greatest part of it is demolished, there being only some of the walls standing, and in them are windows of the Gothic taste. Its annual revenues were valued at the suppression at 51 l. 13 s. 4 d.

At about fourteen miles from Dolgelhe is HARLECH, which is so called from its situation, the name signifying a pleasant rock. It is seated near the sea shore, and is two hundred and ten miles distant from London. It has a good harbour for ships, though few or no ships belong to the town, which is governed by a mayor, and has an old decayed castle, situated close by the Irish sea, on a steep rock. It was originally a strong fort of the ancient Britons, and by them called Twr Bronwen, from a lady of that name, who lived about the year 260. It was rebuilt about the year 877, by Collwyn ap Tangus, and then changed its name to Caer Collwyn. This castle held out strenuously against king Edward the Fourth, but at length it was with much difficulty taken by William Herbert, earl of Pembroke. It also held  
out



*The North West View of Harlech Castle, in the County of Merioneth.*



out one of the last for king Charles the First, but surrendered on fair conditions to the parliament forces on the 16th of March, 1646; and is now in the possession of the crown, and has a garrison for the security of the coast. The governor of this castle, of which we have given a view, is, by patent, appointed mayor of the town, but the houses are mean, and it is but poorly inhabited. Harlech is supposed to have been a Roman town, from several Roman coins that have, at different times, been dug up in and near it. In a garden, near the castle was found, in 1692, an ancient golden torques, weighing about eight ounces, and consisting of a wreathed bar of gold, or three or four rods twisted together, about four feet long, and hooked at both ends; but whether it was British or Roman cannot be easily determined. This seems, by its length, to have been designed for use as well as ornament, and was perhaps for holding a quiver of arrows.

The country about Harlech was, in the year 1694, strangely annoyed during above eight months, by a surprizing fiery exhalation, which was seen only in the night, and consisted of a livid vapour that arose from the sea, or seemed to come from Caernarvonshire, across a bay about ten miles broad. From this bay it spread about a mile over the land, and set fire to all the barns, stacks of corn and hay in its way: it likewise infected the air, and blasted the grass and herbage, causing a great mortality among the horned cattle, sheep and horses. It constantly proceeded to and from the same place, in stormy as well as in calm nights, but more frequently during the winter, than in the following summer. It never fired any thing but in the night, and the flames, which were weak and of a blue colour, did no injury to the inhabitants, who frequently rushed into the middle of them

them to save their corn or hay. This vapour was at length extinguished by firing guns, ringing bells, blowing horns, and putting the air into motion, and by various other ways, when it was seen to approach near the shore.

About two miles from Harlech is a remarkable monument called Koeton Arthur, which is a large oval stone table, about ten feet long and seven broad, two feet thick at one end, but not above an inch at the other. It is placed on three stone pillars, each about half a yard broad: two of them support the thick end, and are between seven and eight feet high; but the height of the third, at the other end, is not above three feet.



## M I D D L E S E X.





 MIDDLESSEX derives its name from
 



 its having been inhabited by the Middle Saxons, who were thus called,
 



 from their being situated in the middle, between the three kingdoms of the East, West, and South Saxons, by which they were encompassed. This county is bounded on the east by Essex, from which it is separated by the river Lee, or Lea; on the south by Surry and Kent, from which it is parted by the Thames; on the west by Buckinghamshire, where it is bordered by the river Colne; and on the north by Hertfordshire. It does not extend above twenty-four miles in length, from east to west; it is hardly eighteen in breadth from north to south, and is only about ninety-five in circumference. But as it contains the capital of the kingdom, it is the most wealthy and populous county in Great-Britain.

Both this county, and that of Essex, were inhabited by a people called Trinobantes; and, according to the Saxon division, Middlesex, Essex, and the eastern part of Hertfordshire, constituted the kingdom of the East-Saxons.

The air of Middlesex is extremely healthy, especially at a small distance from London; for it is not at all surprizing, that the immense multitude of people in the capital should, from the effluvia of human bodies, and the many trades that are attended

attended with offensive smells, in some degree affect the air. But whether the air of London be more unwholsome, as some affirm, than that of other great cities, may be justly doubted, since great numbers of people enjoy better health there than any where else; though persons of weak lungs, and particularly those troubled with asthma, are much affected by the air and smoke of this great capital, and are sometimes obliged to sleep in the country. But all the observations made, in order to prove the badness of the air of London, from the bills of mortality annually published, are extremely fallacious; since, as there are a prodigious number of dissenters from the church of England, and none of them are christened in the established church, this occasions the number of christenings, annually published, to be much too small; and as the dissenters are interred in the burying-grounds of the church, it is not at all surprizing, that the burials published in the bills of mortality should greatly exceed the births.

The soil of this county is greatly enriched with manure from London. It produces plenty of corn, and abounds with fertile meadows, and gardeners grounds, the art of gardening being here brought to much greater perfection, than in any other part, not only of Great Britain, but of the known world. Its natural productions are corn, vegetables for the kitchen, and fruit. The marshes in the Isle of Dogs, between Blackwall and the Thames, abound in rich grass, which is of great use for fattening cattle, and recovering horses from various diseases.

The rivers are the Thames, the Colne, the Lea, and the New River. The Thames, if considered with respect to its navigation, is not to be equalled. It rises from a small spring near the  
village

village of Himble, to the south-west of Cirencester, in Gloucestershire, and flowing eastward, becomes navigable at Lechlade, for vessels of fifty tons burthen, at the distance of about a hundred and thirty-eight miles from London. It from thence continues its course north-east to Oxford, where it receives the Charwell, the Windrush, the Evenlode, and the Thame, after which, it flows south-east to Abingdon, and from thence continues its course south-east by Wallingford to Reading, flowing through Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Surry, Middlesex, Essex, and Kent, and washing the towns of Henley, Marlow, Maidenhead, Windsor, Eton, Staines, Chertsey, Weybridge, Shepperton, Walton, Sunbury, Hampton, Thames Ditton, Kingston, Twickenham, Richmond, Shene, Isleworth, Kew, Brentford, Mortlake, Barnes, Chiswick, Hammer-smith, Putney, Fulham, Wandsworth, Battersea, Chelsea, and Lambeth, from whence both shores may be termed a continued city, through Westminster, Southwark, and the city of London, Horselydown, Wapping, Rotherhith, Shadwell, Ratcliff, Limehouse, almost to Deptford, and Greenwich; and from thence this river proceeds to Woolwich, Erith, Grays, and Gravesend, to the sea. The banks of this noble river are, from London to Windsor, embellished with numerous villages, adorned with magnificent houses and beautiful gardens. The incredible number of barges and boats above bridge, continually passing and repassing, for the convenience and supply of the towns and counties, washed by its gentle stream, cannot be observed without astonishment, by those unaccustomed to the sight; nor can a contemplative mind view, without amazement, the vast fleets that are constantly below bridge, where they wait to carry the manufactures

factures of Britain to the most distant regions, or bring thither the produce of all the nations of the earth.

The other rivers of this county have been already described. We shall only here add, that both the Thames and the New River are conveyed, by means of pipes, to almost every part of London and Westminster, supplying every house with plenty of water, for all the necessary purposes of life, and giving the advantages of cleanliness and health to this great city.

There are here also pleasure baths, particularly the fine one near Moorfields, and that near St. George's fields; besides a great number of cold baths, so advantageous to health, by bracing and strengthening the body. This county has likewise several medicinal springs, among which are the following.

One is at Aston, which is a purging water, though it is very clear, and without smell. The taste is a little nauseous, like a weak solution of Epsom salt: it will curdle with soap; and with salt of tartar it produces a white grumous cloud; oil of vitriol and spirit of salt, will excite a small fermentation; and with syrup of violets it will turn to a light green. A gallon will yield three hundred and forty-four grains of a sediment, that is very white, and of a nauseous bitter taste: it will ferment very briskly with spirit of salt; and the proportion of the salt to the earthy matter, is as seventy-three to four: and from other experiments it appears, that this water is chiefly impregnated with a calcareous nitre, and a small proportion of absorbent earth. It is accounted one of the strongest purging waters near London, and is noted for causing a great foreness *in ano*.

Pancras lies on the north-west side of London, and in the road to Kentish town: the water  
here

here has scarce any taste, till one half is evaporated, and then it becomes bitter; with oil of tartar it will deposite a copious white sediment; but with the solution of alum there will be a small grumosity. Acid spirits will produce a small fermentation; and with syrup of violets it will turn green. A gallon will yield five drams of a whitish sediment, which has a saltish and strongly bitter taste in the throat; from hence it is concluded, that the impregnating salt is a calcareous nitre, and it is considerably diuretic, and somewhat purgative.

Shadwell water is found in the Sun Tavern Fields, about two miles eastward of the Tower of London, and about half a mile from the river Thames. It is of an amber colour, with a strongly acid and styptic taste. It ferments for some time with oil of tartar, and lets fall a large ochreous sediment; but with the solution of alum it continues clear. It will turn a copper half-penny black on the surface, and a knife black, blue and rusty. A gallon contains one thousand three hundred and twenty grains of a white and yellowish sediment, which has an highly acid and austere taste. The predominant salt of this water is acid and vitriolick, with a combination of sulphur. This water has been chiefly used externally; but if a pint of it be drank at twice, in the space of an hour, it will produce a gentle vomiting, and two or three stools: it has done a great deal of good in all diseases of the skin; and some say it will cure fistulas, stubborn ulcers in the legs, and sore eyes, by dipping linen rags in the water, and applying them to the parts affected: taken inwardly, it stops internal bleedings, and cures the camp dysenteries.

Hampstead is well known to be a large village, or rather town, four miles north of London; and

the water that is found there, was formerly in a great reputation, as that at Tunbridge. It will lather with soap, but undergoes no alteration with spirit of hartshorn; and yet it will ferment with oil of vitriol, and grow warm and smok. It will keep milk sweet for four days, and will turn purple with syrup of violets; likewise with half a grain of galls grated, it will turn of a fine deep purple. A gallon will yield about five or six grains of a kind of saline concretion, mixed with a yellowish earth; that will taste somewhat like vitriol of steel. It works chiefly by urine, and has been found serviceable in want of appetite and indigestion: it is also good in vomitings, cholicks, nervous and hysterical disorders, raising the spirits greatly. It is serviceable in the fluor albus, in weakness from miscarriages, and in the scurvy, and all diseases of the skin; it is proper in obstructions of the mesentery, bladder and skin; and also in some paralytic disorders.

New Tunbridge Wells, are near the New-River-Head, at the entrance of Islington, on the side next London. The water has the taste of iron, and is a little styptick, with some degree of quickness both in smell and taste, especially in the summer season. It will lather with soap, and turn a little milky with a large proportion of oil of tartar; but it will not let fall any sediment with volatile alcalies. A gallon will yield from ten to thirty grains of a reddish earth, which will ferment with oil of vitriol. It is a light and comparatively pure chalybeate, of considerable strength at the fountain head, where it ought to be drank. It is of great efficacy in all nervous disorders, and restores the strength after violent acute diseases: it opens all obstructions in women, and is excellent in a dropsy; in which case the dose is from half a pint, to a pint and no more. It opens obstructions

structions of the glands, and is of some service in reducing corpulent habits.

Among the uncommon plants growing in this county, are the following.

Small branched stone-fern, *Filicula saxatilis ramosa maritima nostras*. On many old walls in and about London.

Mr. Doody's sponge-like mushroom, *Fungus spongiosus niger reticulatus, doliosus vinosus adnascens*, Ray. In most vaults sticking to the wine-casks.

Mr. Doody's netted crow-silk, *Conserva reticulata*, Ray. In some ditches about Westminster and Hounslow-Heath.

Rose-burdock, *Bardana major rosea*, Park. Near the Thames, between Westminster and Chelsea.

The three cornered bulrush, *Juncul caule triangulari*, Merr. In the Thames, between Peterborough-house, and the horse-ferry, Westminster.

Round-rooted bastard cyperus, *Cyperus rotundus litoreus inodorus*, J. B.

The least arrow-head, *Sagitta aquatica omnium minima*, Ray. Observed by that most curious botanist Dr. Plukenet to grow with the two last.

Dr. Sherrard's green osier, *Salix minima fragilis foliis longissimis utrinque viridibus non serratis*, Ray. Amongst the willows on the Thames-side, between Westminster and Chelsea.

Almond-leaved willow that casts its bark, *Salix folio amygdalino utrinque aurito corticum abjiciens*, Ray. Found with the last.

Small creeping arsmart, *Perficaria pusilla repens*, Ger. Park.

Dwarf-trefoil, with long white flowers hiding its seed under ground, *Trifolium pumilum supinum flosculis longis albis*, Ray.

Birds-foot trefoil, *Trifolium siliquis ornithopodii nostras*, Ray.

Sweet-scented creeping camomile, *Chamaemelum nobile seu odoratus*, C. B. These four last plants are often found in Tothill-fields, Westminster.

Naked-flowered camomile, *Chamaemelum fl. nudo*, Ray. This also is said to be found with the other.

Cock's-foot grass, *Gramen dactylon latiore folio*, C. B.

Rough-eared panick-grass, *Gramen panicum spicâ asperâ*, C. B. Both these have been found upon the Thames-bank, about the Neat-houses.

White flowered biting fleabane, *Conyza annua, acris, alba, Linariae foliis* Boccon. rarior. plant. desc. In many barren places about London.

Long rough-headed bastard poppey, *Argemone laciniato folio capitulo hispido longiore*, Ray.

Round rough-headed bastard poppey, *Argemone laciniato folio capitulo hispido rotundiore*, Ray.

Smooth-headed bastard poppey, *Argemone capitulo longiore glabra*, Morison. All these poppies are found about Chelsea, in the corn-fields, and elsewhere.

Smooth or broad-leaved hedge mustard, *Erysimum latifolium Neapolitanum*, Park. In several places near London.

Rough hawk-weed smelling like castor, *Hieracium castorei odore Monspeliensium*, Ray. This Mr. Doody found about Chelsea.

Mr. Doody's water-reed grass with an oat-like pannicle, *Gramen Arundinaceum aquaticum paniculâ avenaceâ*, Ray. First observed by him on the banks of the river Thames, between London and Chelsea.

Mr. Doody's goldilocks, with leaves growing like a bulbous root, *Muscus trichoides minus, foliis ad caulem convolutis capitulis subrotundis reflexis*, Ray. On some walls about Chelsea, and in several gardens about London.

Small wild teasel, or shepherd's rod, *Dipsacus minor seu virga pastoris*, Ger.

Panick-grass, with a divided spike, *Gramen panicum spica divisa*, C. B. *panicum vulgare*, Ger.

Mr. Doody's oat-grass, with hairy awns, *Gramen avenaceum glabrum paniculâ è spicis raris strigosis compositâ, aristis tenuissimis*, Ray. About the moat at Fulham.

The greater water-lilly, with a yellow flower, *Nymphaea lutea*, Ger. J. B. *major lutea*, C. B. Park. In the aforesaid moat, near the garden-gate.

Impatient ladies-smock, *Cardamine impatiens, vulgo sum minus impatiens*, Ger. On the moat-sides near the last.

The sweet-smelling flag or calamus, *Acorus verus sive calamus officinarum*, Park. This Mr. Doody observed about the above moat.

Field-crowfoot, with a very small flower, *Ranunculus hirsutus annuus flore minimo*, Ray.

Tower-mustard, *Turritis*, Ger. *vulgator*, J. B. Park. *Brassica sylvestris foliis integris & hispidis*, C. B. This, with the foregoing plant, Mr. Doody observed in a lane near Thistleworth.

Mr. Doody's oat-grass, with purplish shining pannicles, *Gramen avenaceum glabrum panniculi purpuro-argenteâ splendente*, Ray. In the pastures about the earl of Cardigan's at Twittenham.

The single-flowering pink, *Armeriae species flore summo caule singulari*, Ray. In the park at Hampton-Court.

Feathered-water milfoil, *Millefolium aquaticum pennatum spicatum*, C. B. Park. In the canal at Hampton-Court, as also in a slow running rivulet near Poplar.

The least rupture-wort, or all-seed, *Millegrana minima*, Ger. On Hounslow-heath.

Small-upright bog-moss, with starry-tops, *Mus-*

*cus palustris gracilis summo ramosus parvus stellaris*, C. B. In the bogs on Hounslow-heath.

Long-leaved water-hemlock, *Sium alterum olusatrici facie*, Ger. In a shallow pool of water on Hounslow-heath by the road-side, near the town, and in some pools at Thistleworth.

The least water-parsnip, *Sium minimum*, Ray. In several ponds in Hounslow-heath.

Long leaved great pond-weed, with pellucid leaves, *Potamogeton aquis immersum, folio pellucidò lato, oblongo acuto*, Ray. In many places in the Thames between Fulham and Hampton-Court.

Ladies thistle without spots, *Carduus Mariae hirsutus non maculatus*, Phyt. Brit. On the bank of the New-River.

Perfoliate pond-weed, *Potamogeton perfoliatum*, Ray.

Small grass-leaved pondweed, *Potamogeton puffedilum, gramineo folio, caule tereti*, Ray. This, with the last, grows plentifully in the New-River-Head.

Water-grass, with small crooked cods, *Potamogeton affinis graminifolia aquatica*, Ray. In a small pond on the east side of Islington.

The lesser water-grass, with fine pannicles. Or rather (as Mr. Doody styles it) liquorice-grass, which taste it exactly resembles. *Gramen panniculatum aquaticum minus*, Ray. On the New-River bank behind Islington, and in many muddy ponds about London, plentifully.

Tuberous moscatell, *Radix cava minima viridi flore*, Ger.

Small periwinkle, *Vinca pervinca officinarum minor*, Ger. This, and the last, grow on the moat-side, as you enter into Jack Straw's Castle.

Stinking Gladdon, or Gladwyn, *Xyris, Ger. seu spatula foetida*, Park. On Jack Straw's Castle, and in a hedge near it.

The lesser hairy impatient cuckow-flower, or ladies-finock, *Cardamine impatiens altera hirsutior*, Ray. On the New-River banks between Cambery-house and Newington, in many places.

Creeping tormentil, with deeply indented leaves, *Tormentilla reptans alata foliis profundius serratis*. D. Plot. In a ditch between the Boarded-river and Islington-road.

Bastard cyperus, with short pendulous spikes, *Gramen cyperoides spica pendula brevior*, C. B. In the same place with the last.

Small creeping marsh-star-wort, *Stellaria pusilla palustris repens tetraspermos*. *Lenticula aq. bifolia Neapolitana*, Park. In a bog on Putney-heath.

The black-berry bearing alder, *Alnus nigra baccifera*, J. B. C. B. This, with the following, grows plentifully in a wood against the Boarded-river.

Reed-grass, with a pappose pannicle, *Gramen arundinaceum panicula spadicea molli majus*, C. B.

Slender-eared wood cyperus-grass, *Gramen cyperoides sylvarum tenuius spicatum*, Park.

Mr. Ray's round cluster-headed cyperus-grass, *Gramen cyperoides spica è pluribus spicis brevibus mollibus composita*, Ray.

Water-elder, *Sambucus aquatilis seu palustris*, Ger. In the same wood, but sparingly.

Mouse-tail, *Myosurus*, J. B. *cauda muris*, Ger. This is found in a miry lane going to Hornsey.

The lesser burdock, *Bardana minor*, Ger. *lappa minor*, *Xanthium Dioscoridis*, C. B. This is found in the road-side near the bridge at Newington.

The lesser green-leaved hound's-tongue, *Cynoglossum minus folio virenti*, Ger. *Semper virens*, C. B. Park. In a hedge facing the road on Stamford-hill, between Newington and Tottenham.

Croswort, or mugweed, *Cruciata*, Ger. *vulgaris*, Park. *hirsuta*, C. B. In Hampsted church-yard.

The least stich-wort, *Alfne tetrapetalos caryophylloides*, *quibusdam holosteum minimum*, Ray. On Hampsted heath, plentifully.

Osmond royal, or flowering fern, *Filix florida seu Osmunda regalis*, Ger. Towards the north side of the heath, and in a ditch near it, the

Small liverwort, with crumpled leaves, *Lichen tetreus cauliculo calceato*, C. B.

Mr. Doody's short-headed cyperus-grass, *Gramen cyperoides spicis brevilus congestis folio molli*, Ray. And,

Round leaved ros-folis, or sun-dew, *Ros folis folio rotundo*, J. B. C. B. Ger. In the bogs.

Mr. Doody's goldilocks, with round heads, *Muschus trichoides medius capitulis sphaericis*, Ray.

Mr. Doody's fine-leaved goldilocks, with small heads, *Muschus trichoides foliis capellaceis capitulis minoribus*, Ray.

Mr. Doody's small goldilocks, with very long and slender heads, *Muschus trichoides minor capitulis longissimis*, Ray. These three last, on the bank of a ditch towards Hampstead.

Mr. Dare's cluster-headed goldilocks, *Muschus trichoides minor capitulis perexiguis per microscopium botro referens*. This is a singular moss, its rough heads distinguishing it from any yet discovered. In a lane beyond Putney-heath.

Prickly auriculate male-fern, *Felix mas non ramosa pinnulis latis auriculatis spinosis*, Ger. This, with the following, is found in the woods about Highgate and Hampstead.

Male-fern, with thin-set deeply indented leaves, *Felix mas non ramosa pinnulis angustis raris profunde dentatis*, Ger.

Great-

Great-branched fern with indented leaves, *Filix mas ramosa pinnulis dentatus*, Ger.

Long-leaved water chickweed, *Alfina longifolia uliginosis proveniens locis*, J. B.

Plantain-leaved chickweed, *Alfina plantaginis folio*, J. B.

Common tway-blade, *Bifolium sylvestre vulgare*, Park.

Millet Cyperus-grass, *Cyperus gramineus*, J. B. *gramineus miliaceus*, Ger.

Wood horse-tail, *Equisetum omnium minimum tenuifolium*, Park. These five last are found in the moistest places in the abovesaid woods; the following in the drier parts.

Wood-pease, *Astragalus sylvaticus*, Ger.

Tutsan, or park-leaves, *Androschemum vulgare*, Park.

Yellow pimpernel, *Anagallis lutea*, Ger.

Wood oat-grass, *Gramen avenaceum vario gluma spicatum*, Park.

Cyperus-grass with long pendulous heads, *Gramen cyperoides spica pendula longiore*, Park.

Tall prickly-headed spiked cyperus-grass, *Gramen cyperoides spicatum minimum spica divulsa aculeatæ*, Ray.

Great broad-leaved hairy wood-grass, *Gramen nemorosum hirsutum latifolium maximum*, Ray.

Bushy hawkweed, with broad rough-leaves, *Hieracium fruticosum latifolium hirsutum*, C. B. Park.

Narrow-leaved bushy hawkweed, *Hieracium fruticosum angustifolium majus*, C. B. Park.

The least rush, *Juncellus omnium minimus, chamaeschoenus*, Ad. Lob.

Lily of the valley, or May-lily, *Lilium convallium*, Ger. *fl. albo*. Park.

The quicken-tree, *Sorbus sylvestris seu fraxinus bubula*, Ger.

The common wild service, or forb, *Sorbus torminalis*, Ger.

Black whorts, whortle-berries, or bilberries, *Vaccinia nigra*, Ger.

Mr. Sherard's least clivers, *Aparine minima*, Ray. On a wall at Hackney.

Star-thistle, *Carduus stellatus*, Ger. In some barren fields near White-chapel.

The least wild lettuce, *Chondrilla viscosa humilis*, C. B. Ger. Park. In a lane near Pancras church near London.

Water-rocket, *Eruca aquatica*, Ger. Park. In a ditch in the road between White-chapel and Mile-end.

Fiddle dock, *Lapathum pulchrum bononiense sinuatum*, J. B. In Bunhill and Moorfields, plentifully.

French mercury, *Mercurialis mas & foemina*, Ger. This, though a scarce plant wild in England, yet grows spontaneously in most gardens in and about London.

The wych-hafel, or broad-leaved elm; *Ulmus folio latissimo scabro*, Ger. *latiore folio*, Park. At Hoxton near London.

This county is divided into six hundreds and two liberties, and contains, besides the cities of London and Westminster, the five following market towns, Brentford, Edgware, Enfield, Staines, and Uxbridge. It lies in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of London; and exclusive of London and Westminster, has seventy-three parishes, besides chapels of ease. It sends eight members to parliament, two knights of the shire for the county, four representatives for the city of London, and two for that of Westminster. The borough of Southwark likewise sends two members to parliament, but these are more properly

properly reckoned among the representatives of the county of Surry.

We shall begin our description of this county with STANES, or STAINS, which is seated on the south-west part of the county, nineteen miles from London, and derives its name from the Saxon word Stana, which signifies a stone, and was applied to this town from a boundary stone, anciently set up here to shew the extent of the city of London's jurisdiction upon the Thames. It is a pleasant, populous town, which has a bridge and a ferry over the river Thames, with several good inns. It is a lordship belonging to the crown, and is governed by two constables, and four headboroughs, appointed by his majesty's steward, and has one church which stands alone, at almost half a mile distance from the town. It has a market on Fridays, and two fairs, the first held on the 11th of May, for horses and other cattle; and the last on the 19th of September, for onions and toys.

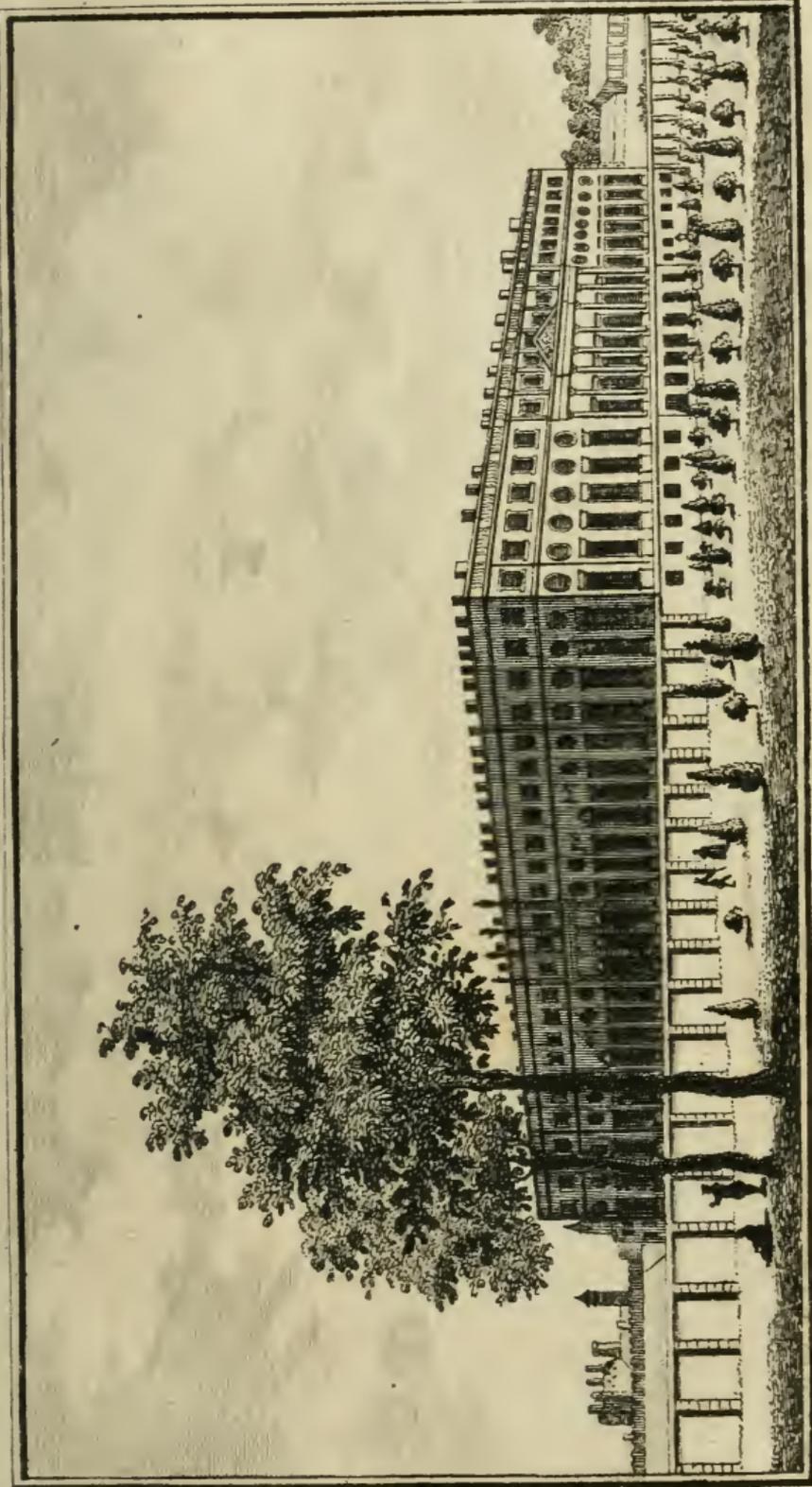
SHEPPERTON, a village seated on the Thames, four miles south-east of Stanes, is remarkable for little else, besides its being frequented by many Londoners, who are lovers of angling; except there having been dug up in a piece of inclosed ground, called Warre-close, spurs, swords, human bones, and other remains of antiquity, and a little to the west is part of a Roman camp still visible.

HANWORTH is seated four miles north-west of Shepperton, and is only remarkable for a royal seat, which formerly stood here, and was much admired by Henry the Eighth, who made it his chief pleasure-house. It is seated in a delightful champain country, and had two parks, one called Henton, and the other Hanworth park.

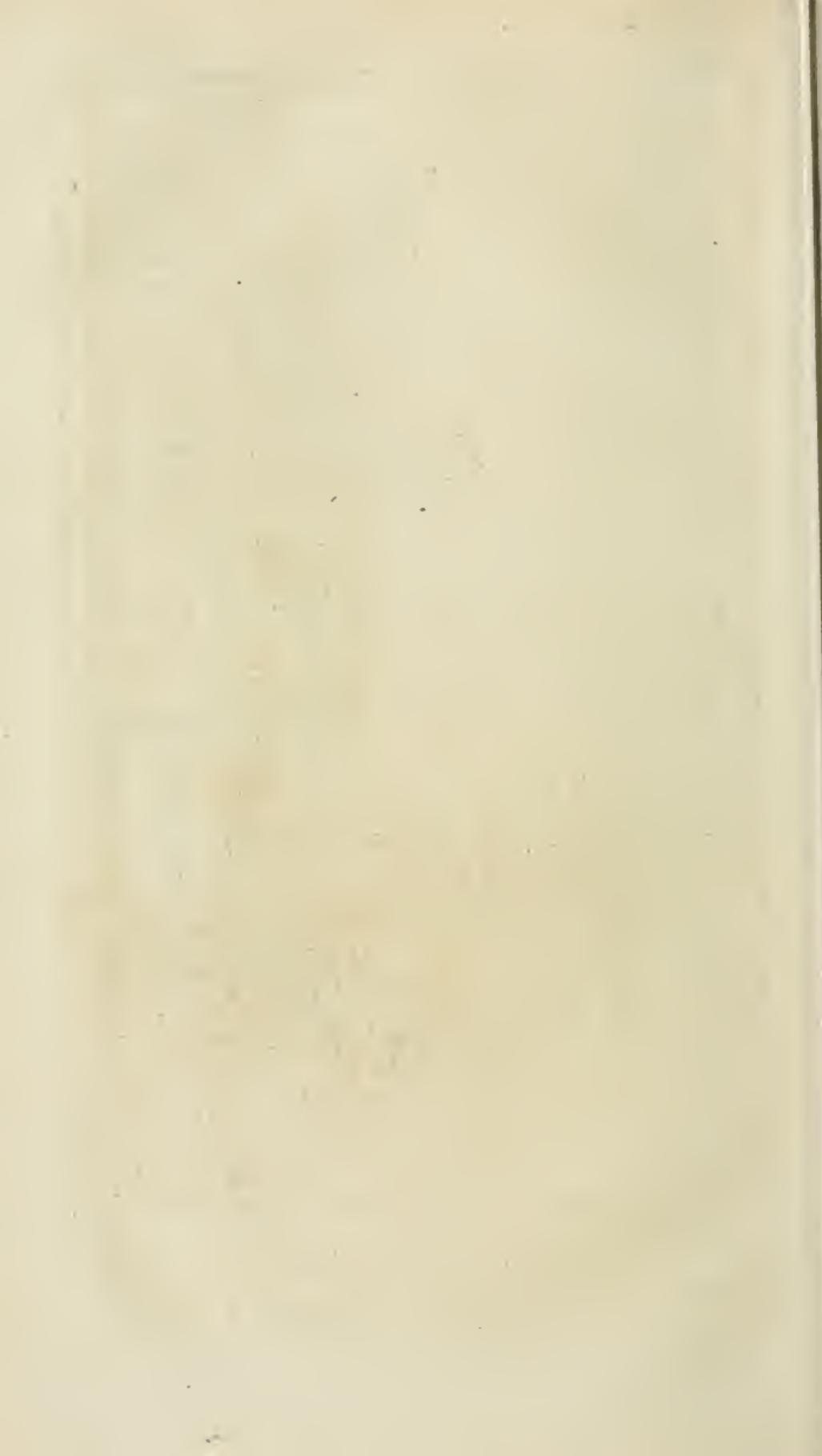
HAMPTON is seated about two miles to the eastward of Hanworth, and at a small distance is

Hampton.

Hampton-Court, which is delightfully seated near the bank of the Thames, thirteen miles west-south-west of London. This palace was originally built by cardinal Wolfey, who set up two hundred and eighty silk beds in it, for the use of strangers only, and richly furnished it with gold and silver plate. The cardinal changed it with Henry the Eighth, for his palace at Richmond, and it was even then admired by strangers, as a most noble structure; but it has been greatly improved by king William and queen Mary, who built the magnificent fronts facing the park and garden, which, with the ground on which the palace now stands, are about three miles in circumference. Of these noble fronts facing the gardens we have given a view engraved on copper. On a pediment, at the front of the palace, is a bas-relief of the trials of Hercules over Envy, and facing it a large oval bason answering to the form of that part of the garden, which is a large oval, divided into parterres and gravel walks. At the entrance of the grand walk, are two large marble vases of exquisite workmanship, said to be performed as trials of skill, the one by Mr. Cibber, and the other by a foreigner; but it is difficult to determine which is the finest performance. They are beautifully adorned with basso-relievos, that on the right representing the triumphs of Bacchus, and the other Amphitrite and the Neriads. At the bottom of this walk, facing a canal which runs into the park, are two other large vases, on one of which is represented, in bas-relief, the judgment of Paris, and on the other Meleager, hunting the wild boar. In four of the parterres are four brass statues, all after fine originals. The whole palace consists of three quadrangles, the first and second of which are Gothic, but in the latter is a most beautiful colonade of the Ionic order, the columns



*A View of Hampton Court in the County of Middlesex from the Gardens.*



columns in couplets, built by Sir Christopher Wren. Through this you pass into the third court, in which are the royal apartments, which are magnificently built of brick and stone, and on the farther side of them are the gardens, with a superb front of stone facing them. On the opposite side of the second court is the great staircase, which has iron ballustres, curiously wrought and gilt; and both the ceiling and sides were painted by Verrio. From the stair-case you pass into the grand chamber, which is upwards of sixty feet long and forty wide, and is covered with arms for five thousand men, placed in various forms. This leads into the king's presence-chamber, which is hung with tapestry: the ceiling is vaulted, and from the center hangs a fine lustre of nineteen branches. Fronting the door, are the canopy and chair of state, which, as well as the stools, are of crimson damask. On the left hand of the entrance, is a fine picture of king William the Third, by Sir Godfrey Kneller, about eighteen feet by fifteen. The king is represented in armour, on a fine grey horse, trampling on trophies of war, and a flaming torch: Plenty offers him an olive branch, and Flora presents flowers. In the clouds Mercury and Peace support his helmet, which is crowned with laurel, and a Cupid holds a scroll. At the bottom of the picture, Neptune and his attendants welcome the hero on shore, and at a distance is seen a fleet of ships, their sails swelled with the wind.

The second presence-chamber is spacious, and has also a vaulted ceiling, from the center of which hangs a gilt chandelier. The tapestry is ancient, and the lights all gold. The chair of state, and stools, are of crimson damask. This room is also adorned with several paintings.

The next room is very lofty, and in the middle hangs a beautiful chased silver chandelier of sixteen branches. Here is a fine canopy of state, with the window curtains, chair and stools, of crimson damask, laced and fringed with gold. The tapestry is fine, and represents part of the story of Abraham.

In the next room is also a chair of state, and stools; the window-curtains are tiffue with a silver ground, and silver sconces are fixed to the tapestry. Over the chimney is a whole length picture of king Charles the First, and over one door is David, with Goliath's head, by Fetti; and over the other the holy family by Correggio.

The king's state bed-chamber is very spacious, and has a bed of crimson velvet laced with gold, with plumes of white feathers on the top. It is hung with tapestry, representing the history of Joshua, and adorned with eight chased silver sconces. The cieling, which was painted by Verrio, represents Endymion lying with his head in the lap of Morpheus, and Diana admiring him as he sleeps. On another part of the cieling is a fine figure of Somnus, with his attendants. In the border are four landscapes, and four boys with baskets of flowers, intermixed with poppies. The cieling of the king's dressing-room is also painted, Mars is sleeping in the lap of Venus, while several Cupids are stealing away his armour, sword and spear. Others are binding his legs and arms with fetters of roses. The room is hung with straw-coloured India damask, with which the screen, chairs and stools, are also covered.

Queen Mary's closet is hung with needle-work, said to be wrought with her own hand, as are also a screen, an easy chair, and four others. The work is extremely neat, and shews some judgment in drawing. The queen's gallery, which is about  
seventy

seventy feet long, and twenty-five wide, is hung with seven beautiful pieces of tapestry, representing the history of Alexander the Great, done after the paintings of Le Brun.

On the cieling of the queen's state bed-chamber is painted Aurora, rising out of the ocean in her golden chariot, drawn by four white horses. The bed is of crimson damask, and besides other furniture, the room is adorned with a number of fine portraits, and a glass lustre.

The cieling of the queen's drawing-room is painted by Verrio: in the middle, queen Anne is represented in the character of Justice, holding the sword and scales, with a crown supported over her head by Neptune and Britannia. The room is hung with damask, upon which are placed nine pictures of the triumph of Julius Caesar, by Andrea Montegna.

The queen's state audience-room has a fine canopy of state, and is hung with rich tapestry, representing the children of Israel carrying the twelve stones to the river Jordan, as mentioned in Joshua iv. and has five pictures at full length of the duke, dutchess and marchioness of Brunswick, the dutchess of Lenox, and Margaret, queen of Scots, all by Holbein.

The prince of Wales's presence-chamber is hung with tapestry, and has a canopy of state of green damask; and both this, and the prince's drawing-room, are adorned with a number of portraits, by Holbein.

In the private drawing-room are four pictures of the defeat of the Spanish armada, by Vandeveldt; and over the chimney is a very fine one by Vandyke, of the lord Effingham Howard.

In the admiral's gallery are the pictures of a considerable number of celebrated admirals; and  
in

in the room of beauties, are the portraits of many of those ladies, who, in the reign of king William, adorned the English court; among which is that of queen Mary. The cartoons of Raphael Urbino, which were long esteemed the most considerable ornament of this palace, at present adorn the queen's palace in St. James's park.

The two parks adjoining to this palace are well planted, stocked with deer, and adorned with pleasure-houses, fine canals, fish-ponds and water-works.

Two miles to the north of Hampton-Court is TWICKENHAM, a pleasant village seated on the Thames, and between two brooks, that, at a small distance, fall into that river. The church is a modern edifice, rebuilt by the contribution of the inhabitants, and is a fine structure of the Doric order. This church was formerly appropriated to the abbey of St. Vallery in Picardy, but was seized by Edward the Third, as belonging to an alien priory. Richard the Second bestowed it on William of Wickham, bishop of Winchester, who settled it on the college of Winchester: but Edward the Second transferred it to the dean and canons of the free chapel of Windsor castle. Here is a charity-school for fifty boys, who are clothed and taught. This delightful village is adorned with the seats of several persons of distinction, particularly an elegant Gothic seat, called Strawberry-hill, belonging to the honourable and ingenious Mr. Walpole; a beautiful-house, late the earl of Radnor's, Sir William Stanhope's, formerly the residence of that celebrated poet, Mr. Alexander Pope; Mrs. Backwell's, and Mr. Paulet's. All which, besides several others on this delightful bank, enjoy a fine prospect, both up and down the river, perpetually enlivened with the west country navigation, and other moving pictures,

pictures, on the surface of that enchanting stream. Below the church is the fine seat of Mr. Whitchurch, those of the earl of Strafford, and Mrs. Pitt; and at the entrance into the meadows, the elegant structure, called Marble-hall, belonging to the countess of Suffolk. Still farther down the river is a fine house of Mr. Cambridge, and the sweet retirement, called Twickenham park. This brings you down to Isleworth, which, from the entrance into the meadows, at lady Suffolk's, is about a mile and a half on the bank of the river, opposite to Richmond-hill, and is one of the most beautiful walks in England.

ISLEWORTH, or THISTLEWORTH, is a village pleasantly seated on the Thames, opposite to Richmond. Here Richard, king of the Romans, had a palace, that was burnt down by the Londoners in an insurrection. In this village are two charity-schools. At a small distance is SION-HOUSE, which is seated between Isleworth and Brentford, and is one of the seats of the duke of Northumberland. It is called Sion from a monastery of the same name, founded by Henry the Fifth in 1414, in honour of the Holy Trinity, the glorious Virgin Mary, the Apostles and Disciples of God, and all Saints, especially St. Bridget, for sixty nuns under the government of an abbess; and for thirteen priests, four deacons, and eight lay-brethren, under the government of a confessor, each sex to live in a separate cloyster, and follow the rule of St. Austin. That prince endowed it with one thousand marks yearly out of his Exchequer. This was almost one of the first monasteries suppressed by Henry the Eighth, on account of the members of that society having shewn remarkable favour to the king's declared enemies, and particularly to the maid of Kent; for she met with a very friendly reception among them, and so far  
excited

excited the curiosity of the neighbourhood, as to induce Sir Thomas Moore, to have two private conferences with her in this monastery. On its being suppressed, its revenues, according to Speed, amounted to 1944l. 11s. 11d. and, on account of its fine situation, was appropriated to the king's own use. In the next reign, the monastery was given by the king to his uncle, the duke of Somerset, the protector, who, about the year 1547, began to erect the present edifice, and finished the shell of it. The house is built on the very spot, where the church belonging to the monastery formerly stood, and is a very large venerable structure, built of white stone, in the form of a hollow square, so that it has four external, and as many internal fronts, the latter surrounding a square court in the middle. The roof is flat, covered with lead, and surrounded with battlements. At each corner is a square turret, flat roofed, and embattled, like the other parts of the building. The east front, which faces the Thames, is supported by arches, forming a fine piazza. The gardens formed two square areas, inclosed with high walls, and were laid out and finished in a very grand manner; but this being done at a time when extensive views were inconsistent with the stately privacy affected by the great, they were so situated, as to deprive the house of all the beautiful prospects the neighbourhood afforded, none of which could be seen from the lower apartments. To remedy, in some measure, this inconvenience, the protector erected a very high triangular terrace, in the angle between the walls of the two gardens; and this his enemies afterwards called a fortification, and alledged it as a proof, amongst many others, of his having formed a design dangerous to the liberties of the king and people. After his attainder and execution, on the 22d of January, 1552, Sion was

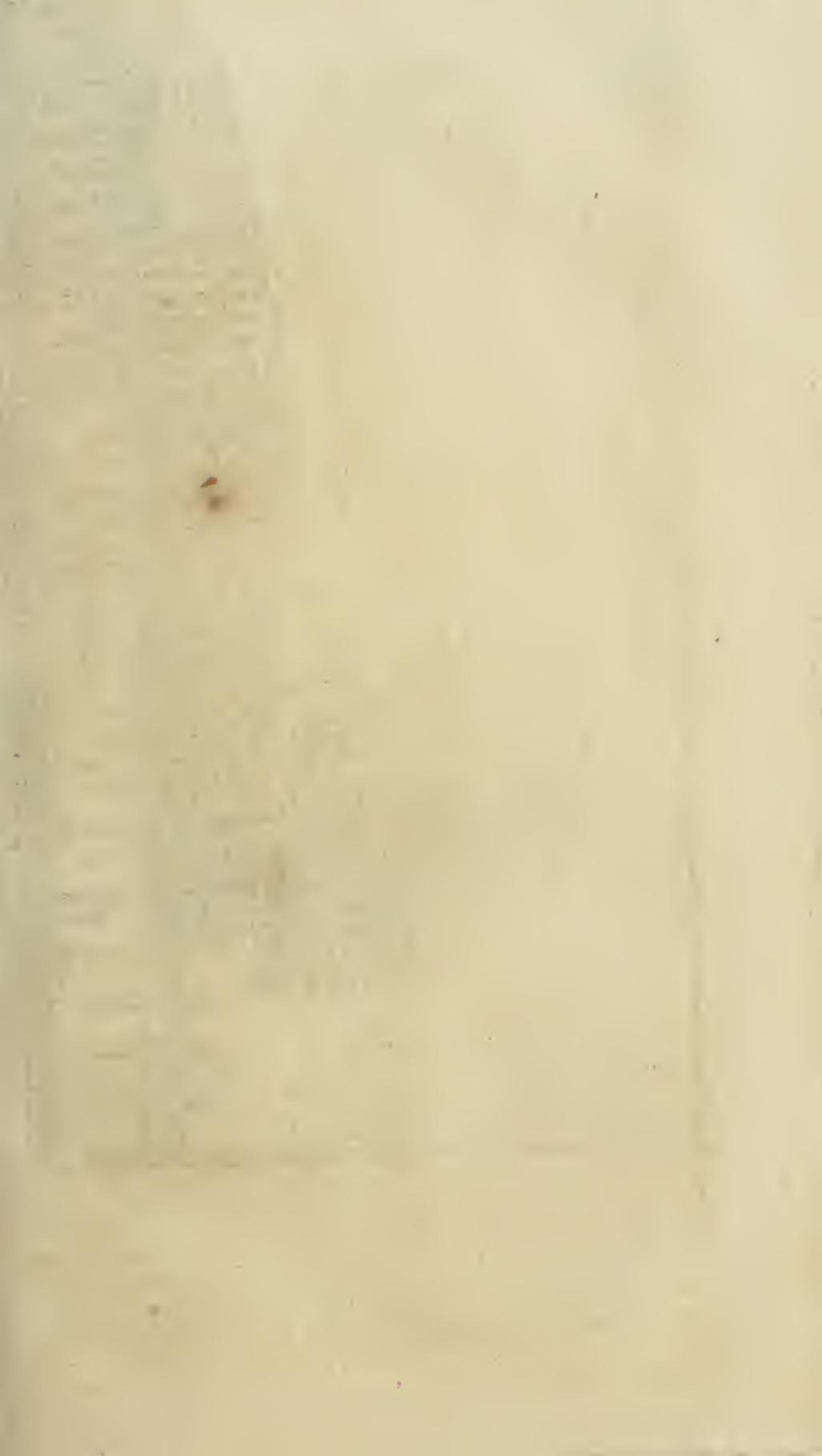
was confiscated to the crown, on which the present house was given to the duke of Northumberland, and became the residence of his son, the lord Guilford, and his daughter-in-law, the unfortunate lady Jane Grey. The duke being beheaded on the 22d of August, 1553, Sion-house, once more, reverted to the crown, and three years after queen Mary restored it to the Bridgettines, in whose possession it remained till they were expelled by queen Elizabeth, in the first year of her reign. Some years after the second dissolution of this monastery, it was granted, by a long lease, to Henry, earl of Northumberland; who, on account of his eminent services to the government, was permitted to enjoy it, on paying a very small rent, which, when offered, was generally remitted. King James the First, however, considered his lordship no longer as a tenant, but gave Sion to him and his heirs for ever; on which he laid out great sums on the improvement of the house and gardens. His son Algernon succeeded to the estate, in the year 1632, and employed Inigo Jones to new face the inner-court, to make many alterations in the apartments, and to finish the great hall in the manner in which it appears at present.

It is observable, that the dukes of York and Gloucester, and the princess Elizabeth, were sent hither by an order of parliament, in 1646, and according to lord Clarendon, were treated by the earl and countess of Northumberland in a manner suitable to their birth. The unhappy king frequently visited them in 1647, and thought it a great alleviation of his misfortunes, to find his children so happy in their confinement.

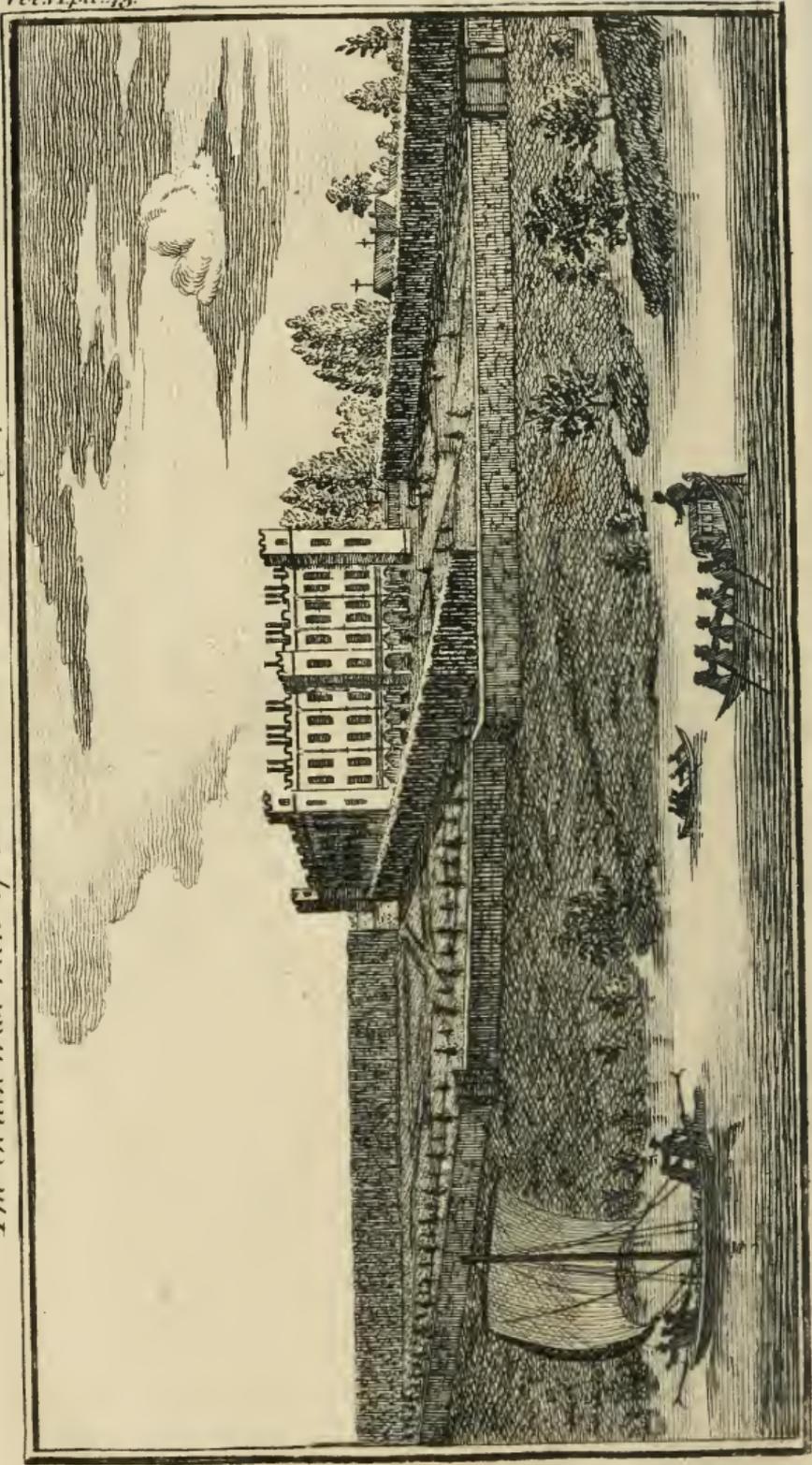
On the thirtieth of May, 1682, Charles, duke of Somerset, married the lady Elizabeth Percy, the only daughter and heiress of Josceline, earl of Northum-

Northumberland, by which means Sion, and the immense estate of the Percy's, became his grace's property. The duke and dutchess, afterwards lent this house to the princess of Denmark, who honoured it with her residence during the time of the misunderstanding between her sister queen Mary, and her royal highness. Upon the death of Charles, duke of Somerset, on the 2d of December, 1748, Algernon, earl of Hertford, his only surviving son, succeeded to the title and a vast estate, and soon after gave Sion to his daughter, and son-in-law, the present countess and earl of Northumberland, to whose fine taste are owing the many and great improvements that have rendered the gardens of Sion universally admired. The high triangular terrace, which the protector had raised at a great expence, were taken down, and the ground before the house being levelled, now forms a fine lawn, extending from Isleworth to Brentford. By this means a delightful prospect is opened into the king's gardens at Richmond, as well as up and down the Thames. Towards that river the lawn is bounded by an ha ha, and a meadow, which his lordship ordered to be cut into a gentle slope, that the surface of the water might be seen, even from the lowest apartments and the gardens. Thus the most beautiful piece of scenery imaginable, is formed before two of the principal fronts; for even the Thames seems to belong to the gardens, and the different vessels which successively sail, as it were, through them, appear to be the property of their noble proprietor.

The house is seated nearly in the midst of that side of the lawn, which is the farthest from the Thames, and has a communication with Isleworth and Brentford, either by means of the lawn, or a fine gravel walk, which, in some places, runs along the side, and, in others, through the  
 midst



*The South West View of 'Sion House in the County of Middlesex*



midst of a beautiful shrubbery; so that, even in the retired parts, where the prospect is most confined, the whole vegetable world seems to arise around you, and presents you with a variety of foreign shrubs, plants, and flowers. His lordship has also made very large additions to the garden, and separated the two parts, by a new serpentine river, which has a communication with the Thames, and is not only well stored with all sorts of river fish, but can be emptied and filled by means of a sluice, which is so contrived, as to admit the fish into the new river, and prevent their returning back again into the Thames. His lordship has also erected two bridges, which form a communication between the two gardens, and has raised in that which lies near Brentford a stately Doric column, upon the top of which is a fine statue of Flora, so placed as to command, as it were, a distinct view of the situation over which she is supposed to preside.

The kitchen gardens, which are very extensive, lie at a proper distance from the house. The green-house is a neat building, greatly admired for the lightness of the stile. The back and end walls of it are the only remains of the old monastery. This structure stands near a circular basin of water, well stored with gold and silver fish, and in the midst of the basin is a fountain which plays without intermission. His lordship has also made many considerable alterations in the apartments of the east front, and other parts of the building; but that the reader may form a more just idea of this structure, than can be given by a mere verbal description, we have caused a view of it to be engraved on copper.

Before we leave Sion-house, it will be proper to add, that, at the west end of the above-mentioned abbey, John Somerset, chancellor to the exchequer,

chequer, and king's chaplain, in the twenty-fifth year of Henry the Sixth, founded a friary, hospital or fraternity of the nine orders of angels, consisting of a master and several brethren, who, at the dissolution, had a revenue which amounted to 40*l.* a year.

We shall now proceed to BRENTFORD, which is situated a little to the north-east of Isleworth, and ten miles distance from London. It derives its name from a little river called the Brent, which runs through it, and here falls into the Thames. It is divided into the Old and New town, the former of which is on the east, and the latter on the west, in which is a church, which was first built in the reign of king Richard the First, but is only a chapel of ease to Great Eling, a village about a mile distance. In this town the knights of the shire are elected. Here are two charity-schools, and this being a great thoroughfare to and from the west, it has a considerable trade, especially in corn, both by land and water-carriage. It has a market on Tuesdays, and two fairs, held on the 17th, 18th, and 19th of May, and on the 12th, 13th, 14th, and 15th of September, for horses, cattle and hogs.

About a mile and a half to the north, are GREAT and LITTLE ELING, of which Great Eling lies to the east, and has a workhouse, and a charity-school, with a pretty church, that has eight musical bells. This is the mother-church of that of Brentford.

Near ELING is Gunnersbury-house, a very noble structure, erected either by Inigo Jones, or by Mr. Webb, who was son-in-law to that great architect. This structure has great boldness and simplicity. It is situated on a rising ground, and the approach to it from the garden is remarkably fine. It commands a fine prospect of the county  
of

of Surry, the river Thames, and of all the meadows on its banks; and in clear weather, even of the city of London. The apartments are extremely convenient and well contrived. The hall, which is very spacious, is on each side supported by a row of columns, and from thence you ascend by a noble flight of stairs to a saloon, which is a double cube twenty feet in height, and most elegantly furnished. This fine room has an entrance into the portico on the back front, which is supported by Corinthian columns, and commands a fine prospect over the Thames. This portico is a delightful place to sit in during the afternoon in the summer-season, for being contrived to face the south-east, the sun never shines upon it after two o'clock, but extending its beams over the country, enlivens the fine landscape that lies before this part of the edifice. On entering the garden from the house, you ascend a noble terrace, that also affords a delightful view of the neighbouring country; and from this terrace, which extends the whole breadth of the garden, you descend by a beautiful flight of steps, with a grand ballustrade on each side.

From this fine seat the road extends eastward thro' the pleasant villages of TURNHAM-GREEN and HAMMERSMITH, near which are many pretty seats, and the latter has a church, a Presbyterian meeting-house, two charity-schools, a work-house, and a kind of nunnery.

To the south-west of Hammersmith is the village of CHISWICK, where are two manors, one belonging to the prebend of Chiswick, in St. Paul's cathedral, and the other called the Dean's manor, from its belonging to the dean and chapter of St. Paul's. In this village is a charity-school. It is adorned with several elegant seats, the most remarkable of which is that built by the  
late

late earl of Burlington, and of which we shall here give a short description. The court in the front is of a proportionable size with the building, and on each side are yew hedges, with termini placed at proper distances; and in the front of these hedges are two rows of cedars of Libanus, which, by the darkness of their shade, afford a pleasing contrast to the whiteness of the elegant building that appears between them. The ascent to the house is by a noble flight of marble steps, on one side of which is the statue of Paladio, and on the other that of Inigo Jones. The portico is supported by six fluted columns of the Corinthian order, with the richest cornice, frieze and architrave. The octagonal saloon, finishing at top in a dome, through which it is enlightened, is likewise very elegant. The other rooms are extremely beautiful, they are adorned with pictures done by the great masters, and the ceilings are richly gilt and painted. The front towards the garden is plainer, but very bold and august.

The gardens are laid out in the finest taste; descending from the back part of the house, you enter a lawn planted with clumps of ever-greens, between which are two rows of large vases, and at the end next the house, are two wolves in stone, done by that celebrated statuary Scheemaker; at the farther end are two large lions, and the view is terminated by three fine antique statues, dug up in Adrian's garden at Rome; with stone seats between them, and behind a close plantation of ever-greens. On turning to the house on the right hand, an open grove of forest trees affords a view of the orangery, which is seen as perfectly, as if the trees were planted on the lawn; and when the orange trees are in flower, their fragrance is diffused over the whole lawn to the house: these are separated from the lawn by a  
follie,

fossee, to prevent their being injured by the strangers permitted to walk in the garden.

On leaving the house to the left, an easy slope leads down to the serpentine river, on the side of which are clumps of ever-greens, with agreeable breaks that afford a view of the water; and at the farther end is an opening into an inclosure, in which are a Roman temple, and an obelisk, with grass-slopes, and in the middle a circular piece of water. From hence you are led to the wilderness, through which are three strait avenues, terminated by as many different edifices; and within the quarters are serpentine walks, through which you may ramble near a mile in the shade. On each side of the serpentine river is a green path, accompanying it in all its windings. On the left of the river, the wilderness is laid out in regular walks, and over this stream is a Paladian wooden-bridge. With the earth dug from the bed of this river, his lordship raised a terrace, that affords a delightful prospect of the adjacent country, which, at high water, is greatly enlivened by the view of the boats and barges, passing up and down the Thames.

From hence a road leads southward to FULHAM, a village four miles from London, seated on the side of the Thames, over which it has a wooden bridge to Putney; for the passing of it, not only horses, coaches, and all other carriages, but also foot-passengers, pay toll. The manor of Fulham is the demesne of the bishops of London, and has been so ever since the time of William the Conqueror, and here they have a palace.

A little to the north of Fulham are the pleasant villages of Parsons-Green and Walham.

From Hammersmith the road leads eastward to KENSINGTON, a large and populous village, about two miles from Hyde park Corner, part of which

is in the parish of St. Margaret, Westminster. The palace was a seat of the lord chancellor Finch, afterwards earl of Nottingham. King William purchased it of him, and having greatly improved it, caused a royal road to be made to it through St. James's and Hyde parks. The gardens were enlarged by queen Mary, queen Anne improved what her sister had begun, and was so pleased with the place, that, during the summer, she frequently supped in the green-house, which is a very fine one. Queen Caroline completed the design, by extending the gardens to Acton, by bringing what is termed a serpentine river into them, and by taking in a part of Hyde park, on which she caused a mount to be raised, with an alcove upon it, that could be easily turned round, so as to afford shelter from the wind. This mount is encompassed with a grove of ever-greens, and commanded a fine view over the gardens when first raised. In short, these gardens, which are three miles and a half in compass, are agreeably diversified with a variety of pleasant walks, and pleasing objects, and are kept in good order. During the summer, they are resorted to by great numbers of people.

The palace has, indeed, none of that grandeur, which might be expected to appear in the residence of so great a monarch, as the king of Great-Britain, and is besides very irregular in point of architecture. The royal apartments are, however, very noble. On passing the base-court, you enter a large portico, and from thence proceed into a stone gallery that leads to the great stair-case, which is a very fine one, and consists of several flights of steps of black marble, adorned with iron ballustrades finely wrought, and the stair-case is richly decorated, and painted by Mr. Kent,

The first room is hung with a beautiful tapestry, representing the goddess Diana hunting and killing a wild boar. Over the chimney is a fine picture of one of the Graces in the character of Painting, receiving instructions from Cupid, done by Guido Reni. In one corner of the room is a marble statue of Venus, holding in her hand an apple, and in another a statue of Bacchus.

On the ceiling of the second room, Minerva is painted, surrounded by the arts and sciences, by Mr. Kent. Over the chimney-piece is a fine painting, representing Cupid admiring Psyche, while she is asleep, by Vandyke; and on each side of the room are hung several portraits, by the same hand.

The third room, which was the apartment of queen Caroline, is hung with a beautiful tapestry, representing a Dutch winter-piece, by Vanderbank, and is also adorned with several portraits, done by Vandyke.

In the fourth room is the picture of a battle or skirmish between the Germans and Italians, by Holbein; another of Danae, with Jupiter, descending in a shower of gold; and another of the widow Elliot, finely executed, by Riley.

In the fifth room is a picture of the crucifixion; and another of our Saviour laid on the cross, both by Titian: of our Saviour calling St. Matthew from the receipt of customs, by Annibal Caracci, and of his healing the sick in the temple, by Verrio: several portraits by Sir Peter Lely; and some heads by Raphael. In the gallery, or sixth room, are a variety of portraits of the kings and queens of England, by Holbein, Vandyke, and Sir Godfrey Kneller.

The seventh, which is called the Cupola room, has a star in the centre, and the ceiling all round it is adorned with paintings in mosaic: at proper

distances round the room, are six statues of the heathen gods and goddesses at full length, gilt, and eight bustos of ancient poets. Over the chimney-piece is a curious bas relief in marble, representing a Roman marriage, with a busto of Cleopatra, by Rysbrack.

The cieling of the king's drawing-room is painted with the story of Jupiter and Semele. Over the chimney is a picture of St. Francis adoring the infant Jesus, held in the lap of the Virgin Mary, by Rubens. In this room were also a few years ago the holy family, by Paul Veronese; part of the holy family, by Palma the elder; our Saviour in the manger, by Bassan; three priests, by Tintoret; a noble picture of St. Agnes, by Domenichino; St. John Baptist's head, Mary Magdalen, and a naked Venus, all by Titian; a Venus in a supine posture, stealing an arrow out of Cupid's quiver, with beautiful ornaments in the high gusto of the Greek antique, representing Love and the Drama, by Jacobo de Puntormo, on the original outlines of Michael Angelo Buonaroti; Villiers, duke of Buckingham, and his younger brother, when boys, one of the capital pieces of Vandyck; and two large pictures by Guido Reni, one of Venus, dressing by the Graces, the other of Andromeda chained to a rock.

In the state bed-chamber, the bed is of crimson damask, and over the chimney is a picture of our Saviour, and St. John Baptist, by Raphael.

In the state dressing-room, the hangings are of needle-work, and were a present from the queen of Prussia. Here is a picture of Edward the Sixth, by Holbein; Titian's lady painted by himself, and two pictures of Venetian noblemen, by Tintoret.

The painted gallery contains many admirable pieces. At one end is king Charles the First on  
a white

a white horse, with the duke d'Espornon, holding his helmet, which is finely executed. Fronting this picture, at the other end of the gallery, is the same king, with his queen and two children, king Charles the Second when a child, and king James the Second an infant in the queen's lap. The king's paternal tenderness is finely expressed; the queen's countenance is expressive of an affectionate obedience to his majesty, and a fond care of her child. The vacancy of thought in the face of the infant, and the inactivity of the hands, are equal to life itself at that age. These two admirable pieces by Vandyck. One of the next capital pictures is of Esther fainting before king Ahasuerus, by Tintoret. The next piece is the nine muses in concert, by the same master. St. John in prison; the story of the woman of Samaria; the shepherds offering gifts to Christ, and St. John Baptist's head, are fine pieces, by old Palma. Noah's flood, by Bassan, is a masterly performance. Over the chimney is a Madona, by Raphael, finely executed, and another exquisitely performed by Vandyck. Here are likewise the birth of Jupiter, by Giulio Romano; a Venus and Cupid, by Titian, and a Cupid whetting an arrow, by Annibal Caracci.

About a mile to the south of Kensington is CHELSEA, a very large and populous village, two miles from St. James's park, and pleasantly situated on the bank of the Thames, almost opposite to Battersea. It contains a noble hospital, erected for the invalids in the land service; Ranelagh gardens, and many genteel private buildings.

Chelsea-hospital is a very noble edifice. The original building was a college founded by Dr. Sutcliff, dean of Exeter, in the reign of king James the First, for the study of polemic divinity, and was intended for the support of a provost

and fellows, for the instruction of youth in that branch of learning. That king, not only laid the first stone, but gave many of the materials, and a large sum of money; some of the clergy were likewise very liberal upon this occasion, but the sum settled upon the foundation by Dr. Sutcliff, being very unequal to the end proposed, and private contributions coming in slowly, the work was stopped before it was compleated, and therefore soon fell to ruin. At length the ground becoming escheated to the crown, Charles the Second began to erect the present hospital, which was carried on by James the Second, and compleated by William and Mary.

The whole structure, which was erected by Sir Christopher Wren, forms a prodigious range of building. The front, towards the north, opens into walks laid out for the pensioners, and that facing the south into a square, beyond which are gardens, which extend to the Thames, affording, not only a view of that fine river, but of the county of Surry beyond it. In the centre of this edifice is a pediment supported by four columns, over which is a handsome turret, and underneath is an opening, which leads through the building. On one side of this entrance is a chapel, which has an altar-piece of the resurrection, painted by Sebastian Ricci. On the other side the entrance is the hall, where all the pensioners dine in common, the officers by themselves. In this hall is the picture of king Charles the Second on horseback, with several other pieces as large as the life, designed by Verrio, and finished by Cook. The wings, which extend east and west, join the chapel and hall to the north, and are open towards the Thames on the south. These are near three hundred and sixty feet in length, and about eighty in breadth; they are three stories high, and the  
rooms.

rooms so well disposed, that nothing can be more perfect. On the front of this inner square is a colonade extending along the side of the chapel and hall; over which, upon the cornice, is the following inscription.

IN SUBSIDIUM ET LEVAMEN EMERITORUM  
 SENIO BELLOQUE FRACTORUM, CANDIDIT  
 CAROLUS II. AUXIT JACOBUS II. PERFE-  
 CERE GULIELMUS ET MARIA, REX ET RE-  
 GINA, MDCXC.

In the midst of the quadrangle is a statue of king Charles the Second in the ancient Roman dress, standing on a marble pedestal. There are several buildings adjoining, that form two other large squares, and consist of apartments for the officers and servants of the house; for old maimed officers of horse and foot, and the infirmary for the sick. An air of neatness and elegance appears in all these buildings. They are of brick and stone, and on which side soever they are viewed, there seems a disposition of the parts, perfectly suited to the purposes of the charity, the reception of a great number, and the providing them with every thing capable of contributing to the convenience and pleasure of the pensioners. The expence of erecting these buildings amounted to 150,000 l. and the extent of the ground is above forty acres.

In the wings are sixteen wards, in which are accommodations for above four hundred men, besides those contained in the other buildings. These pensioners consist of superannuated veterans, who have been in the army above twenty years; or those who are disabled in the service of the crown. They have red coats lined with blue, and are provided with all other cloaths, diet, washing and lodging. The governor is allowed 500 l. a year, the lieutenant-governor

250 l. and the major 150 l. Thirty-six officers are allowed six-pence per day, thirty-four light-horse men, and thirty-two serjeants, have two shillings a week each, forty-eight corporals and drums have ten pence per week, and about four hundred private men have eight pence a week each. As the house is termed a garrison, they are all obliged to do duty in turn, and have prayers twice a day in the chapel, performed by two chaplains, each of whom has a salary of 100 l. per annum. The physician, comptroller, secretary, deputy-treasurer, steward and surgeon, have also 100 l. a year each, and many other officers have considerable salaries. Besides these, there are about twelve hundred out-pensioners, who are allowed 7 l. 12 s. 6 d. a year each. These great expences are supported by a poundage, deducted out of the pay of the army, with one day's pay once a year from each officer and common soldier; and when there is any deficiency, it is supplied by a sum raised by parliament. The hospital is governed by the following commissioners, the president of the council, the first commissioner of the treasury, the principal secretary of state, the paymaster-general of the forces, the secretary at war, the comptroller of the army, and the governor and lieutenant-governor of the hospital.

Ranelagh-gardens, are thus called from their formerly belonging to the earl of Ranelagh, who had a seat here, which is now become one of those public places of pleasure, resorted to by people of the first quality. The gardens are beautiful, and kept in excellent order; in the midst of them is a noble amphitheatre, one hundred and eighty-five feet in diameter. Round the whole is an arcade, and over that a gallery with a ballustrade, to admit the company into the upper boxes. Over this

are the windows. The internal diameter is one hundred and fifty feet, and the architecture of the inside corresponds with the outside, except there being over every column between the windows termini, which support the roof. In the midst of the area is a chimney that has four faces. The entertainments here, consists of a fine band of musick placed in the orchestre, with an organ, accompanied by the best voices. The regale is only tea and coffee.

Before we take leave of Chelsea, it will be proper just to take notice of the water-works, which supply that extensive village and its neighbourhood with so essential a necessary of life. These water-works are under the management of a society, incorporated by act of parliament, in the year 1722, by the name of the governor and company of the Chelsea water-works. They have a common seal, and power to purchase lands &c. in mortmain, to the value of 1000 l. per annum. The works are divided into two thousand shares, and the affairs of the company are managed by a governor, deputy-governor, and thirteen directors.

Charles Boyle, earl of Orrery in Ireland, and baron of Marston in England, was the second son of Roger, earl of Orrery, and born at Chelsea, in the month of August, 1676. At the age of fifteen he was entered as a nobleman of Christ-church in Oxford, where he had for his tutors the celebrated Dr. Atterbury, and the reverend Dr. Friend, under whose care he made so rapid a progress in his studies, that he was soon considered as an ornament to the college. The first work that fell from his pen was, *The Life of Lysander*, translated from the Greek of Plutarch; soon after which he published a new edition of the Epistles of Phalaris, which gave rise to a violent dispute

between him and Dr. Bentley. In 1700, he was chosen member for the town of Huntingdon; which occasioned a warm contest between him and Mr. Wortley, between whom a duel ensued in Hyde-park, when Mr. Boyle was dangerously wounded. Some time after, his elder brother dying, he succeeded to the title of earl of Orrery; obtained the command of a regiment; was elected a knight of the Thistle, and advanced to an English peerage, by the title of lord Boyle, of Marston, in the county of Somerset. On the accession of king George the First, he retained his command in the army, which, however, he soon after left; and being suspected by the government of being concerned in Lacy's plot, he was thrown into the Tower, though, as appeared by the sequel, without any sufficient reason; for, after the strictest and most severe scrutiny, nothing of importance could be found against him. He died on the 28th of August, 1731, in the fifty-sixth year of his age. He wrote a comedy, entitled, *As you find it*; and was likewise the improver of that noble instrument, which, after him, is called *The Orrery*.

We have now described the principal places on the west side of this county, situated near the Thames, which most abounds with the seats of the nobility, we shall proceed again to the west, and take a view of the most remarkable places and seats farther to the north.

The principal town in this county on the Oxford road is UXBRIDGE, which is eighteen miles and a half distant from London, and is a handsome, large, well inhabited town, seated on the east bank of the Colne, consisting chiefly of one long street, in which are several good inns, and near it are brooks famous for excellent trout. Though this town is entirely independant of any other,

other, and is governed by two bailiffs, two constables, and four headboroughs, it is only a hamlet to Great Hillington, a village about a mile distant, and yet has a church, or rather chapel, built in the reign of Henry the Sixth, and a stone bridge over the Colne, on which river are many corn-mills. This town is particularly distinguished for the whiteness of the bread, especially the rolls, and a considerable number of waggon loads of meal are carried from thence to London. Uxbridge gives the title of earl to the noble family of Paget, and is famous for a treaty carried on here between Charles the First and the parliament, in the year 1644. It has a market on Mondays, and two fairs, held on the 31st of July, and the 10th of October, for horses, cows and sheep. Near Uxbridge are the remains of an ancient camp, which is supposed to be British.

HILLINGTON, or HILLINGDON, is the name of two villages, seated near each other, at a small distance from Uxbridge, and distinguished by the epithets Great and Little. The church of Great Hillington is a vicarage, to which the town of Uxbridge is a hamlet, and here Meinhardt, late duke of Schomberg, had a seat.

At a village called KING'S ARBOUR, seated three miles and a half to the south of Hillington, is a small Roman camp, consisting of a single work; and at about the distance of a mile from this, is another Roman camp.

About five miles and a half to the north-west of Uxbridge is HARROW ON THE HILL, which is situated fifteen miles north-west of London, on the highest hill in the county, on the summit of which stands the church, which has a very lofty spire. It is famous for a free-school, founded by Mr. John Lyons, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, in which there are usually a great number  
of

of boarders, the sons of persons of rank, and every fourth of August, a select number of the scholars, dressed in the habit of archers, come with their bows, and shoot at a mark, for a silver arrow.

About four miles to the north-east of Harrow on the Hill is EDGORTH, or EDGWARE, which is situated twelve miles from London, in the road to St. Albans, on the very edge of the county of Middlesex. It consists only of one street, and has a charity-school. It has a market on Thursdays, but no fair. The old Roman way, called Watling-street, passes by this town.

At a small distance, the late earl of Chandos built one of the most noble seats in England, which he adorned and furnished at so vast an expence, that it had scarce its equal in the kingdom. The great saloon, or hall, was painted by Paolucci, and the plastering and gilding of the house was done by the famous Pergotti. The columns, by which the building was supported, were all of marble: the grand stair-case was extremely fine; the steps were marble, and each of them consisted of one piece twenty-two feet in length. The avenue was spacious and majestic, and afforded the view of two fronts joined, as it were, in one, the distance not permitting you to see the angle that was in the centre, so that you were agreeably deceived in the opinion, that the front of the house was twice as large as it really was; and yet on approaching nearer, you were again surprized by perceiving a winding passage, opening, as it were, a new front to the eye, of near a hundred and twenty feet in length, which you imagined not to have seen before. The gardens were well designed, and the canals large and noble. The chapel was a singularity, both in its building, and the beauty of the workmanship; and the late duke,

duke, at one time, maintained there a full choir, and had divine worship performed by the best music, after the manner of the chapel royal. But all this grandeur was soon brought to a period, the furniture and curiosities were exposed to sale at a public auction, and the superb structure entirely demolished. The land, on which this edifice was erected, was, some years ago, purchased by Mr. Hallet, an eminent cabinet-maker, who having acquired a large fortune in that business, built an elegant small house upon the spot.

About five miles from Edgworth, in the road to London, is KILBURN, a village in the parish of Hampstead, where Herebert, abbot, and Osbert de Clara, prior of Westminster, founded a nunnery, about the end of the reign of king Henry the First, which was dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. John the Baptist. It was of the Benedictine order, and was subordinate to the abbey of Westminster. Its revenues were valued at its suppression at 74 l. 17 s. 11 d. per annum.

HAMPSTEAD is a pleasant village, seated on the top of a hill, about four miles north-west of London. This village is adorned with groves and gardens, many gentlemens houses, and extends about a mile every way, affording a most extensive and delightful prospect over the city, as far as Shooter's-hill, and over the counties all round it, as far as the eye can reach. This village was formerly resorted to for its mineral waters, and there is here a fine assembly-room for dancing. The old church, which was a chapel belonging to the lord of the manor, was some years ago pulled down, and a new one erected in its room. There is also a handsome chapel near the wells, built by the contribution of the inhabitants, who are chiefly citizens and merchants of London; and there is here also a meeting-house. It is observable,

vable, that in the reign of Henry the Eighth, Hampstead was a poor place, chiefly inhabited by laundresses, who washed for the inhabitants of the metropolis.

At a small distance eastward of Hampstead is **HIGHGATE**, a very large and populous village, a little above four miles north of London. It received its name from its high situation on the top and brow of the hill, and a gate erected there, upwards of four hundred years ago, to receive toll for the bishop of London, upon an old miry road, from Gray's-Inn-lane to Barnet, being, at that time, turned through the bishop's park. The church, which is a very old edifice, is a chapel of ease to Hornsey, and where it stands was formerly an hermitage, near which the lord chief baron Cholmondeley, in the year 1562, built and endowed a free-school, which was enlarged in 1573, by Edwin Sandys, bishop of London, and a chapel added to it. There are also here several dissenting meeting-houses. Part of the town is in the parish of Pancras. On the brow of the hill, next London, the fineness of the prospect over the city, as far as Shooter's-hill, and below Greenwich, has occasioned several handsome edifices to be built, among which is a very fine house, erected by Sir William Ashurst. There are likewise in this village several handsome public houses; and it is remarkable, that most of them have a large pair of horns placed over the sign, and that when any of the country people stop for refreshment, a pair of large horns, fixed to the end of a staff, is brought to them; and they are earnestly pressed to be sworn. On their consenting, a kind of burlesque oath is administered, that they will never kiss the maid, while they can kiss the mistress; never eat brown bread when they can get white, and many other things of the same kind, which they repeat

repeat with their hand fixed upon one of the horns. This ceremony, which is sufficiently ridiculous, is altered according to the sex of the person who is sworn, and who is permitted to add to each article, Except I like the other better. The whole is concluded by the oath, which consists in kissing the horns, and by paying a shilling to be spent among the company, to which the person belongs.

Proceeding towards London, by the west road, we come to KENTISH-TOWN, a very pretty village, chiefly consisting of one street. The upper part of it, near Green-street, has a row of genteel houses, with a rookery before it. This village is in the parish of Pancras, and has a chapel of ease to that church.

PANCRAS, which is seated about a mile and a half nearer London, is a very small village, consisting only of a few houses about the church-yard, and in the garden of one of them is a mineral spring, of which we have taken notice, in treating of the medicinal waters of this county. The church is a small ancient building, which makes but a mean appearance, though the parish is extremely large, it extending several miles round. The church-yard is noted for being the burying-place of a great number of Roman Catholics.

BLACK MARY'S HOLE, a small hamlet of this parish, near London in the road to Hampstead, took its name from a blackmoor woman, called Mary, who about forty years ago lived by the side of the road, in a circular hut built with stones. In this village is a mineral water, called Bagnigge wells, which rises in a small but pleasant garden, belonging to a house of public entertainment, and is laid out and accommodated in a very pretty manner. In this garden, an organ plays several tunes by means of a water-wheel, and in a large  
room

room is a harpsichord, on which in the summer evenings, one of the company usually plays for the entertainment of the rest.

To the south-east of Pancras is TOTTENHAM-COURT, a very pleasant village, situated near London; and at a small distance from it, to the west, is ST. MARY LE BONNE, thus called, from its being supposed to signify St. Mary the Good; though, according to Maitland, its original name was Maryborne. That gentleman gives the following account of the rise of this village, and says, that the village of Tyborne going to decay, its church, named St. John the Evangelist, being left alone by the side of the highway, was robbed of its books, vestments, images, bells, and other decorations; upon which the parishioners applied to the bishop of London for leave to take down their old church, and erect a new one, which being readily granted, they in the year 1400, erected a new church in a place, where they had before built a chapel, and dedicating it to the Virgin Mary, it received the epithet of Borne, from its vicinity to the neighbouring brook, or bourn. This village is almost joined by new buildings to the metropolis. The old church, which was a mean edifice, was pulled down, and a plain structure of brick, erected here in 1741. There are also in this village a French meeting-house, a charity-school, and a place of public entertainment, with pleasant gardens, in which is a fine orchestre, and a band of vocal and instrumental music. These gardens have received all possible improvements, and are in every respect, a kind of imitation of the entertainments at Vauxhall.

Turning back to the east, at about the distance of two miles from St. Mary le Bonne, is ISLINGTON, which is likewise almost contiguous to London. This village appears to have been built in  
the

the time of William the Conqueror, and has been lately much improved and enlarged by new buildings. By the south-west side of this village is a fine reservoir, called New River Head, into which that fine stream, after passing by this village, discharges itself. Part of the water is, from thence, conveyed by pipes to London, while another part is thrown, by an engine, through other pipes, up hill, to a second reservoir, which lies much higher, in order to supply the highest parts of this metropolis. At a small distance is a spring of chalybeate water, in a very pleasant garden, which for some years was honoured with the constant attendance of the princess Amelia, and many persons of quality to drink the waters: to this place, which is called New Tunbridge wells, many people resort, particularly during the summer season. The church is one of the prebends of St. Paul's. The old building, which is a plain structure of stone, was erected in 1503, and stood till the year 1751, when the inhabitants applied to parliament for leave to rebuild it, and soon after erected the present structure, which is a substantial brick edifice. The body is well enlightened, and the angles decorated with a plain rustic. The door in the front is adorned with a circular portico, consisting of a dome, supported by four doric columns, but both the portico and the door appear too small for the rest of the building. The steeple consists of a tower that rises square to a considerable height, and is terminated by a cornice, supporting four vases at the corners. From hence rises the spire, which is supported by Corinthian columns, with their shafts wrought with rustic. Though the body of the church is very large, the roof is supported without pillars, and the inside is well disposed and adorned with an elegant plainness. The parish is very extensive,

five, and includes Upper and Lower Holloway, three sides of Newington-Green, and part of Kingsland. There are in this village also, an independant meeting-house, a row of alms-houses, under the care of the brewers company, and a charity-school, founded in 1613, by dame Alice Owen, for educating thirty children; and also a house of public entertainment, called Sadler's-Wells, where, during the summer season, people are amused with balance masters, rope dancing, walking on the wire, tumbling, singing, and pantomine entertainments.

Near Islington is likewise a place of public entertainment, called White Conduit-house, from a stone conduit placed near it. It contains some spacious rooms, and gardens divided into extensive walks, in which are a great number of seats, and upon the whole is extremely pleasant, the rooms affording a fine prospect over the country to a considerable distance, and the garden being rendered as rural and commodious as possible. Hither great numbers of citizens resort, particularly in the summer evenings, to drink tea, coffee, syllabubs, &c. Near Islington is also another house of the same kind, likewise accommodated with a spacious garden.

Near a place called Highbury-barn, in this parish, is a field termed Reedmoat, and also Six-acre-field, from its contents. It appears to have been an ancient fortrefs, inclosed with a rampart and ditch; and from its form, and the manner of its fortifications, is supposed to have been the Roman camp possessed by Suetonius Paulinus, after his retreat from London, and out of this camp it is thought he sallied upon the Britons, under the conduct of queen Boadicea, whom he totally routed. In the south-west angle of the field, is a square division, which is supposed to have been  
the

the Roman general's praetorium, or tent, and is now commonly called Jack Straw's castle, from Wat Tyler and Jack Straw, being said to take possession of it, with their followers, before they entered London.

HORNSEY is a village about a mile north-east of Highgate, and contains a parish church, to which great part of Highgate belongs. There is here a park, in which is an eminence called Lodge-hill, where seems to have been the foundation of an old castle; and on it a lodge was built, when the park was well stocked with deer. The church is said to have been built with the stones taken from the ruins of this place.

ENFIELD is seated about ten miles north of London, and, according to Dr. Fuller, was formerly famous for tanning of hides. Near the center of Enfield-chace are the ruins of an old house, which is said to have belonged to the earls of Essex. Here is a fine lodge for the ranger, and the skirts of the chace abounds with handsome country-houses, belonging to the citizens of London. When king James the First kept his court at Theobald's, this chace was well stocked with deer, and all sorts of game; but in the civil wars, it was stripped of the game, the trees were cut down, and the land let out in farms. However, after the restoration, it was laid open again, woods were planted, and the chace again stocked with deer. Enfield was formerly a royal seat, of which there are still some remains, and by the coats of arms yet visible in some parts of it, seems to have been built by Sir Thomas Lovel, knight of the garter, and secretary of state to king Henry the Seventh. It has a market on Saturdays, and two fairs, held on the 25th of May, and the 29th of November.

TOTTENHAM-HIGH-CROSS is a village on the west side of the river Lee, situated on the road to Ware, and received its name from its cross, which was once much higher than it is at present; and on that spot queen Eleanor's corps was rested, when on the road from Lincolnshire to London. This manor was possessed by the earls of Northumberland and Chester, and afterwards by David, king of Scotland, who gave it to the monastery of the Trinity in London; but afterwards Henry the Eighth granted it to William, lord Howard of Effingham, who being afterwards attainted, it again reverted to the king, who gave it to the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, to whom it still belongs. The earl of Northumberland and the lord Coleraine have seats here; and there are likewise a great number of pretty houses belonging to the citizens of London. The church is situated on a hill, at the foot of which runs a little river called the Mosel. In 1596, an almshouse was founded here by one Zancher, a Spaniard, who was the first confectioner ever known in this kingdom. Here is also a free-school, and a charity-school for twenty-two girls, who are cloathed and taught.

The parish is divided into four wards, namely, the Nether-ward, in which stands the parsonage, and vicarage: the Middle-ward, which comprehends Church-end and Marsh-street: High-cross-ward, containing the High-cross, Page-green, the hall and the mill; and Wood-green, which is bigger than the other three wards together, and comprehends all the rest of the parish. St. Loy's-well in this parish, is said to be always full, and never to run over; and the people report many strange cures, performed by a spring called Bishop's-well.

NEWINGTON, or STOKE-NEWINGTON, is a very large village, and the first in the north road from Shoreditch. It is inhabited by a great number of wealthy citizens, is a prebend of St. Paul's, and has an old church. The earl of Oxford had a house here in the reign of queen Elizabeth.

Between this village and Islington is NEWINGTON-GREEN, which chiefly consists of a handsome square, of a considerable extent, encompassed by houses, which are, in general, well built. It has an extensive grass-plot in the middle; before each side is a row of trees, and on the east side is a meeting-house.

HACKNEY is a very large and populous village, on the north-east side of London, about a mile and a half to the eastward of Newington, and is inhabited by such a number of merchants and persons of wealth, that it is said there are near one hundred gentlemen's coaches kept there. The parish has several hamlets belonging to it, among which are, Dorleston and Shacklewell on the west, Hummerton which leads to Hackney-marsh on the east, and Clapton on the north. Hackney church was a distinct rectory and vicarage in 1292. It was dedicated to St. Augustine, but the knights templars obtaining a mill and other possessions in the parish, they were, upon the suppression of their order, granted to the knights of St. John of Jerusalem, from whom the church is supposed to have received its present appellation of St. John, though it was not presented to by that name till after the year 1660. It is in the gift of Mr. Tyson, lord of the manor, but in ecclesiastical affairs is subject to the bishop of London. Some years ago were discovered, at the bottom of Hackney-marsh, the remains of a great stone causeway, which, from the Roman coins found in the same place, appears to have been one of the

the

the famous roads made by the Romans. Before we leave this village, it will be proper to mention, that the horses let out to hire in the city of London, were, from hence, called hackneys; for this village being anciently celebrated for the numerous seats of the nobility and gentry it contained; this naturally occasioned a great resort thither, of persons of all ranks from the city of London, whereby so great a number of horses were daily hired in the city on that account, that, at length, all horses to be lett received the common appellation of hackney-horses, which has since been also given to public coaches and chairs.

Robert South, a learned and witty divine, of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, was the son of an eminent merchant at London, and born at Hackney, in the year 1633. In 1647, he was admitted a king's scholar in Westminster school, under the famous Dr. Busby; and the next year he made himself remarkable by reading the Latin prayers in the school, on the day of king Charles the First's martyrdom, and praying for his majesty by name. Having perfected himself in classical learning, he was, in 1651, elected a student of Christ church in Oxford; and about three years after he wrote a copy of Latin verses, to congratulate Cromwell upon his concluding a peace with the Dutch. In 1658, he entered into orders; and, in 1660, was chosen public orator of the university. Next year he became domestic chaplain to Edward, earl of Clarendon, lord high chancellor of England, and chancellor of the university of Oxford; and about two years after, he was installed prebendary of Westminster, and created a doctor of divinity. He was afterwards chaplain to the duke of York; and, in 1676, attended, as chaplain, Laurence Hyde, Esq; ambassador

ambassador extraordinary to the king of Poland. In the latter end of the reign of king Charles the Second, whose chaplain he likewise was, he is said to have refused several offers of bishoprics in England, as also that of an archbishopric in Ireland, which was made him in the beginning of king James's reign, by the earl of Rochester, lord-lieutenant of that kingdom. This nobleman, being importuned by the king to change his religion, agreed to a dispute between two divines of the church of England, and two of the church of Rome, and named for one of the former Dr. South, who, on account of his sharp and sarcastic humour, was excepted to by his majesty. After the revolution, he took the oath of allegiance to their majesties, but declined accepting a bishopric, which was offered him, and which had been possessed by one of the non-juring prelates. He died July the 8th, 1716, and was interred in Westminster abbey, where a handsome monument was erected to his memory. His sermons, printed in four volumes, are greatly esteemed, and have gone thro' many editions. The author of the Tatler says, "That this learned gentleman had a talent of making all his faculties bear to the great end of his hallowed profession. His charming discourses," adds he, "have in them, whatever wit and wisdom can put together. Happy genius! He was the better man for being a wit; and the best way to praise him is to quote him."

STEPNEY, a very ancient village, is seated on the east of London, to which it is almost contiguous. This parish was of such vast extent, and so increased, in buildings as to produce the parishes of St. Mary Stratford at Bow, St. Mary Whitechapel, St. Matthew Bethnel-Green, Christchurch Spital-fields, St. George's Ratcliff-highway, St. Ann Limehouse, and St. John Wapping;

ping; and yet, though all these have been separated from it, it remains one of the largest parishes within the bills of mortality, and contains the extensive hamlets of Mile-End, Ratcliff and Poplar. This village is remarkable for its church, which is a very old structure, and for the great number of tomb-stones, both in that edifice and the church-yard. There was a church here so early as the time of the Saxons, when it was called the church of All Saints; and we read of the manor of Stepney under the reign of William the Conqueror, by the name of Stibenbrode, or Stiben's heath, but we have no account when the church changed its name, by its being dedicated to St. Dunstan, the name it at present bears. To this church belonged both a rectory and vicarage. The former, which was a sinecure, was in the gift of the bishop of London, and the latter in the gift of the rector, till Ridley, bishop of London, gave the manor of Stepney, and the advowson of the church to Edward the Sixth, who granted them to Sir Thomas Wentworth, lord chamberlain of his household. The advowson was afterwards purchased by the principal and scholars of King's-hall, and Brazen-nose college in Oxford, who presented two persons to the rectory and vicarage, by the name of the Portionists of Ratcliff and Spital-fields, till the year 1744, when the hamlet of Bethnal-green being separated from it, and made a new parish by act of parliament; Stepney became possessed by only one rector; hence it is, at present, a rectory impropriate; the above principal and scholars receiving the great tythes, and the incumbent the small, together with Easter-offerings, garden pennies, and surplice fees. There is here also an independent meeting and an alms-house. The village is, however, but small, and consists of few  
houses,

houses, besides those of public entertainment. Crouds of people of both sexes, chiefly of the lower class, resort thither on Sundays, and during Easter and Whitsun holidays, to regale themselves with Stepney buns, beer, ale, cyder, &c.

John Strype, author of several volumes relating chiefly to the ecclesiastical history of England, and a most faithful and laborious compiler, in the end of the last and beginning of the present centuries, was of German extraction, but born in the parish of Stepney, November 1, 1643. He had his education in St Paul's school, and in Jesus-college and Catharine-hall in Cambridge, where he took the degrees of bachelor and master of arts. His first preferment in the church was the curacy of Theydon-Boys in Essex; but this he quitted upon his being appointed minister of Low Leyton in the same county. Here he contracted an acquaintance with Sir Michael Hicke, formerly secretary to William lord Burleigh: and from the manuscripts of this gentleman it was that he extracted the substance of most of his books, which amount to no less than thirteen volumes in folio, and three in octavo. He died December the 13th, 1737, at the uncommon age of ninety-four. So little had his constitution been hurt by his intense application to study!

Richard Mead, the most eminent physician of his time, son to Mr. Matthew Mead, a celebrated nonconformist minister, was born in the parish of Stepney, on the 11th of August, 1673. Accompanying his father, in his early youth, to Holland (whither the latter was obliged to retire on account of some suspicions he had fallen under with the government) he received his education at Utrecht and Leyden, under the illustrious Graevius, Herman, and Pitcairne. His studies at the university were no sooner finished, than he made a

journey to Italy, and took the degree of doctor of philosophy and physic at Padua. Returning to his native country, he began to practise his profession; and in this he soon acquired such a high reputation, that he was chosen physician to St. Thomas's hospital, fellow of the Royal Society, and member of the college of physicians. At the same time he was complimented, by the university of Oxford, with the degree of doctor of physic. In 1727 he was appointed physician in ordinary to his majesty; and his practice was by this time become so extensive, that he is said to have cleared upwards of seven thousand pounds a year. His spirit and his generosity were equal to his fortune, and he lived with all the state of a nobleman. His advice was ever ready to the poor and necessitous, whom he even frequently assisted with his purse. The learned in general, and the clergy in particular, were always welcome to his table and his library. In a word, he was the patron of every useful and ingenious art, and might justly be considered as the Mecaenas of the age. He died February the 16th, 1754, and was interred in the Temple church. Besides several essays inserted in the Philosophical Transactions, or printed in detached pamphlets, he published a Mechanical account of Poisons; a Discourse concerning the Plague; another on the Small-pox; a *Treatise de Morbis Biblicis*; and Medical Precepts and Cautions.

MILE-END, so called from its being a mile from Aldgate, is situated near Stepney, in the road to Bow. Here was anciently a lazaretto, or hospital of lepers, called the House of Our Saviour Jesus Christ, and Mary Magdalen. To this hospital Edward VI. granted letters patent, allowing these lepers to beg for their support. Here is, at present, an hospital of the corporation of Trinity-house, which

which is a very noble building, rendered beautiful by its situation, and the agreeable manner in which it is laid out. It consists of two wings and a center, wherein is a chapel which rises much higher than the other buildings, and has an ascent to it by a handsome flight of steps, secured by iron rails. The chapel is adorned with a pediment, behind which rises a turret, and on each side of the chapel are two sets of apartments, exactly resembling the wings. These last are low, but neat buildings, with an ascent of seven steps to each pair of doors, and it is remarkable, that all these ascents lead to the upper story. There are, however, rooms below, but these are under ground, and the windows upon a level with a broad stone pavement, that surrounds the area next the houses. In the center of each wing, is a handsome pediment, adorned with the company's arms, and the representation of ropes, anchors, and sea-weeds in open work, spread over the face of the pediments. The area within consists of handsome grass-plats, divided by gravel walks; and in the center is a statue in stone of Mr. Robert Sandys, well executed. He has a bale of goods behind him, and stands with his right hand upon another bale. At his feet is a small globe and anchor, and on the pedestal is the following inscription.

To the memory of captain Robert Sandes, an elder brother, and deputy master of the corporation of Trinity House, who died in 1701, and bequeathed to the poor thereof one hundred pounds, also the reversion (after two lives) of a freehold estate in the county of Lincoln, of 147 l. a year, now in their possession. This statue was erected by the corporation, A. D. 1746.

Captain Henry Mudd, an elder brother, gave the ground, on which this hospital stands, and the above beautiful and commodious structure was erected by the company in the year 1695, for the reception of twenty-eight masters of ships, or their widows, each of whom receives sixteen shillings every month, besides twenty shillings a year for coals, and a gown every second year.

Here is also Bancroft's beautiful alms-house, school and chapel, erected by the Draper's company in the year 1735, pursuant to the will of Mr. Francis Bancroft, who bequeathed to that company upwards of twenty-eight thousand pounds, for purchasing a site, and building upon it an alms-house, with convenient apartments for twenty-four alms-men, a chapel, and school-room for one hundred poor boys, and two dwelling-houses for the school-masters. He also ordered, that each of the alms-men should annually receive eight pounds, and a chaldron of coals, and every third year a gown of baize; that the school-boys should be clothed and taught reading, writing, and arithmetic; that each of the masters, besides their houses, should have a salary of thirty pounds a year, and the annual sum of twenty pounds for coals and candles for their use, and that of the school, with a sufficient allowance for books, paper, pens and ink; that the committee of the court of assistants, should have five pounds for a dinner, at their annual visitation, and that three pounds ten shillings should be given for two half yearly sermons, to be preached in the churches of St. Helen, and St. Michael's Cornhill, in commemoration of this foundation. He likewise ordered, that each of the boys put out apprentice, should receive four pounds, but if they were put to service, they should have no more than fifty shillings, to buy them cloaths.

This

This hospital is not only a neat, but a very elegant structure, consisting of two wings, and a center detached from them both. In the middle of the center is the chapel, before which is a noble portico, with Ionic columns, and coupled pilasters at the corners, supporting a pediment, in the plane of which is the dial. There is an ascent to the portico by a flight of steps, and over the chapel is a handsome turret. On each side of the portico are two houses, like those in the wings. The construction of the wings is uniform, lofty and convenient: twelve doors in each open in a regular series, and the windows are of a moderate size, numerous, and proportioned to the apartments they are to enlighten. The square is surrounded with gravel walks, with a large grass-plat in the middle, and next the road are handsome iron rails and gates.

At Mile-end, are also the Drapers alms-houses, which are eight in number, for four widows of the Draper's company, and four widows of seamen, who have each one and eight-pence a week, half a chaldron of coals for the year, and a gown once in two years. The Skinners alms-houses are on the north side of Mile-end green, for twelve poor widows of that company, who have each 5l. 4s. a year, and half a chaldron of coals. There is another alms-house for twelve poor men of Stepney parish, who have each 4l. a year. In Dog-row, near Mile-end, is another alms-house, for the widows of eight masters of ships, erected by captain Fisher, who settled upon it an estate of 40l. a year.

POPLAR, another hamlet of Stepney, obtained its name from the great number of poplar-trees, that anciently grew there. Here are two alms-houses, besides an hospital, belonging to the East-India company. The chapel of Poplar was erect-

ed in 1654, when the ground, upon which it was built, together with the church-yard, were given by the East-India company, and the edifice raised by the voluntary contributions of the inhabitants and others; since which time that company has allowed the minister a convenient dwelling-house, with a garden and field, containing about three acres, and also 20*l.* per annum during pleasure. There are here four meeting-houses of the Presbyterians, Independents, Baptists and Quakers, and a burying-ground of the Portugueze, and another of the German Jews.

Poplar-marsh, is called the ISLE OF DOGS, from the noise made by the king's hounds that were kept there, during the residence of the royal family at Greenwich, but is so far from being an island, that it can scarcely be called a peninsula. This is esteemed one of the richest spots of ground in England; for it not only raises the largest cattle, but the grass it bears, is esteemed a great restorative of diseased horses.

Bow, also called STRATFORD-LE-BOW, is named Bow from the stone arches of its bridge; is said to have been the first built in England with arches, which were anciently called bows. This bridge was built on the river Lea, by Maud, the wife of Henry the First, and its church was erected by Henry the Second. This was a chapel of ease to Stepney, but some years ago was made parochial. In the sixteenth century, most of the bread consumed in the out-parts of London, on that side, was baked at Bow, and carried from thence in bread-carts. This village is, at present, inhabited by many whittsters, and scarlet dyers, and here is also a manufactory of porcelain, in imitation of that brought from China.

BROMLEY lies to the south of Bow, and joins to it; but though it abounds with handsome  
houses,

houses, it is only a small parish. The great house here was erected by Sir John Jacob, Bart. commissioner of the customs at the restoration, and afterwards became the seat of Sir William Benson, sheriff of London, in the reign of queen Anne, the father of William Benson, Esq; auditor of the imprest. Here was a priory of nuns, of the Benedictine order, which, as some affirm, was founded and endowed by Christiana de Summers, and her sons; but Tanner tells us, that it was erected by William the Norman, in the Conqueror's time. However, it is certain, that the former were great benefactors thereto. It was valued at the dissolution at 1081. a year by Dugdale, but at 1221. by Speed. The church at Bromley is thought to have been only a part of the church anciently belonging to the monastery.

Having now described the principal places in the county of Middlesex, except London, we come to that city, the metropolis of Great-Britain, which we have placed last, in order that the various parts of the county might be more easily found.

LONDON and WESTMINSTER, though distinct cities, with respect to their jurisdictions, as they were formerly, by their situations, are now united, so as to form one of the largest, and the richest cities upon earth. Camden supposes, that London derived its name from the British words Llhun, a wood, and Dinas, a city or town, signifying a city in a wood; and both Caesar and Strabo assert, that the ancient Britons lived in fenced woods and groves. It has likewise been supposed, that the name London was derived from the British word Lohng Dinas, a harbour for ships. This city is situated in fifty-one degrees, thirty minutes north latitude; and, on account of its being the metropolis of the British domi-

ons, is the meridian, from which all British geographers, at present, compute the measures of longitude.

The antiquity of the city of London is undoubtedly very great. It probably existed in the time of the ancient Britons, before the art of writing was brought into England, but was neither built by Brute, nor king Lud, as some fabulous authors pretend. It had no buildings, either of brick or stone, till they were erected by the Romans; the dwellings of the Britons being only huts, formed of twigs wattled together; yet Tacitus observes, that it was a place of considerable trade in the reign of Nero, about the year 26, when it was famous for the multitude of its merchants. But soon after, Suetonius abandoned the city to the fury of Boadicea, on account of its being too large to be defended by his army of ten thousand Romans; whence it appears, that it was then of considerable extent. That exasperated princess, however, burnt the city, and put all its inhabitants to the sword. From this great catastrophe London soon recovered, so that Herodian, in the life of the emperor Severus, calls it a great and wealthy city; and about that time it changed its name of Londinum, for that of Augusta, but some time afterwards it recovered its ancient name. It must be observed, that Ptolemy, and some other writers of great antiquity, and also some moderns, among whom is the Rev. Dr. Gale, dean of York, have endeavoured to prove, that it was originally a Roman station in St. George's-fields, to secure their conquests on that side of the river; many Roman coins, bricks, and checquered pavements having been found there. Besides three Roman ways from Kent, Surry and Middlesex, intersected each other in that place; and, about a century

ago,

ago, an urn filled with bones was dug up there. Hence that was supposed to be the original Londinum, but that after the Romans had subdued the Trinobantes, they settled on the north side of the Thames. Mr. Maitland, however, has opposed this opinion with great strength of argument, and observes, that the Romans were too wise, to make use of so unhealthful a situation as St. George's-fields then was, they being constantly overflowed by every spring tide, till the river was confined by artificial banks; and, that if the antiquities discovered are any proof, above twenty times the quantity of Roman antiquities have been found on the north, than on the south side of the river.

By whom this city was first walled is uncertain; some ascribing this work to Constantine the Great, and others to his mother Helena. But it is most probable, that the wall was erected by the emperor Valentinian the First, about the year 368, and it quite surrounded the city, to secure it from being invaded by water, as well as by land. The extent of the wall, which was alternately composed of layers of flat Roman brick, and rag-stones, was three miles in compass, and it was fortified on the land side by fifteen lofty towers. In the reign of king Henry the Second, the wall was considerably raised, but in that of Richard the First, a part of it was demolished, to make room for the ditch round the tower; and being much decayed in the reign of king Henry the Third, that prince obliged the citizens to repair it at a great expence. In the reign of king John, the city was fortified by drawing a deep moat, two hundred feet wide, round the wall. And afterwards the crown usually granted the magistrates of London a duty on certain goods, to defray the expence of cleaning the ditch, and repairing

pairing the wall. In the reign of Edward the Fifth, great part of the city wall was rebuilt at the expence of the city companies.

The original gates of the city, erected at the same time with the wall, are supposed to have been four: Newgate, Cripplegate, Aldgate, and Dowgate, but Dowgate has been long demolished. These original gates were erected over the three great Roman military ways in this part of Britain: The Roman road, called Watling-street, intersecting the Thames, entered London through Dowgate, and, crossing the city, passed through Newgate. The military way, called Ermine-street, is supposed to have pointed to Cripplegate, and the vicinal way to have run through Aldgate. In king Henry the Second's reign, the wall had the seven following gates: Aldgate, Bishopsgate, Cripplegate, Aldersgate, Newgate, Ludgate, and a postern near the Tower; but that part of the wall next the Tower being demolished, in the reign of king Richard the First, the postern fell down. All the six remaining gates, with Moorgate, which was afterwards built, stood till very lately, they being all taken down in the years 1761, and 1762, except Newgate, which is soon to be demolished. Some ruins of the walls were then also taken down to make way for new buildings, when, notwithstanding their antiquity, the mortar, which united the bricks and stones, was as hard as the most solid rock.

Aldgate was one of the original gates of the city, and is mentioned in a charter of king Edgar, as early as the year 967. It stood at the east end of the city, and being ruinous, was rebuilt in 1609. In digging the foundation several Roman coins were discovered, two of which were ordered to be cut on stone, and to be placed on each side of the east front. On the same front was placed,  
in

in a large square, the statue of king James the First, in gilt armour, with a golden lion, and a chained unicorn couchant at his feet. On the top of the gate was a vane, supported by a gilt sphere, on each side of which stood the statue of a soldier holding a bullet. On the west front, was a statue of Fortune, gilt, standing on a globe, with a spreading sail over her head; under which was carved the king's arms. A little lower, on the south side, stood Peace, with a dove on one hand, and a gilt wreath on the other; and on the north side was a figure of Charity: but all these statues had been removed long before the gate was demolished.

Bishopsgate was situated on the north side of the city, next to Aldgate, and is supposed to have received its name from the figures of two bishops, one on the north, and the other on the south front; but these have been long removed. When it was first built is uncertain. The late structure was a neat edifice, erected in 1735. On the top, over the gateway, which was very lofty, was the city arms, supported by dragons, and on each side of the gate was a postern, for the convenience of foot-passengers.

Moorgate, which stood between Bishopsgate and Cripplegate, was first built in 1415, and received its name from its opening into Moorfields. It was rebuilt after the fire of London, in the year 1674, and consisted of a very lofty arch, and two posterns for foot-passengers. It was adorned with Corinthian pilasters, supporting their proper entablature, and with a round pediment, in which was the city arms.

Cripplegate stood also on the north side of the city, between Moorgate and Aldersgate, and is supposed to have received its name from the cripples usually begging there. It had been several times rebuilt,

rebuilt, and was a plain solid edifice, with only one postern, and void of ornament.

Aldersgate, the most ancient north gate, was rebuilt in 1616, and being damaged by the fire, was repaired in 1617. On the north front was a statue of king James the First on horseback, in a niche; on one side was the prophet Jeremiah; and in a niche, on the other, the prophet Samuel. Over the king's head was quartered the arms of Great Britain and Ireland. On the south front was king James the First, sitting on a throne in relievo, and by the sides of the gate were two posterns.

Newgate stands in the north-west corner of the city, and is said to have been the common jail for felons for the city of London, and the county of Middlesex, ever since the year 1218. It having been much damaged by the fire of London, the present structure was erected, the west side of which is adorned with Tuscan pilasters, with an entablature; and in the intercolumniations are four niches, with as many figures, as big as the life. The east front is also adorned with a range of pilasters, and in three niches are the figures of Mercy, Judgment, and Truth.

Ludgate is supposed, by an ancient author named Geffry of Monmouth, to have taken its name from king Lud, by whom it was originally built; but this is impossible, as the ancient Britons had no walled towns; the name is, therefore, with greater propriety, derived from its situation, near the Flud, or Fleet, which ran into Fleet-Ditch. It was rebuilt in 1586, and repaired and beautified in 1699. The east front was adorned with four pilasters of the Doric order, and in the intercolumniations were placed the figures of the pretended king Lud, and his two sons, Androgeus and Theomantius, in their  
British

British habits. The west side was adorned with two pilasters of the Ionic order, with their entablature, and also with two columns and a pediment. In a niche was a good statue of queen Elizabeth in her robes, and over it, the queen's arms between the city supporters. This gate was a prison for such debtors as were freemen of the city, from the year 1373 till 1760.

Temple bar is situated to the west of Ludgate, the only gate erected at the extent of the city liberties; and here there are certain ceremonies performed, particularly at the coronation of the kings and queens, and the declaration of war; for then the herald at arms, coming from St. James's, knocks hard at the gate; upon which one of the sheriffs calls out, Who is there? then the herald answers, I am come to proclaim the king or queen, mentioning the name, and repeating their titles. Upon which the sheriffs open the gate, and bid the herald and his train welcome; after which they ride into the city, and make proclamation at proper places. The same ceremony is performed at the declaration of war, and the proclamation of peace. This gate was erected in the year 1670, and resembles a triumphal arch. It is built of Portland stone, and each side adorned with four pilasters with their entablature of the Corinthian order. The niches within the bar contain the figures of James the First and his queen, and those without, the statues of Charles the First and Charles the Second in Roman habits. Since the erection of this gate, the heads of such as have been executed for high treason, have been usually placed over it.

But were we to give the most concise history of the antiquities and ancient structures in general of this city, it would far exceed the bounds allotted us; we shall therefore return to its present state.

Those

Those who are desirous of having a more full account of these particulars, may meet with full satisfaction, by consulting a work, entitled, London and its Environs described, 6 Vols. 8vo.

London, as hath already been observed, is situated on the north side of the Thames, on a gentle rise from that river, and upon a gravelly loamy soil, which greatly conduces to the health of its inhabitants. The adjacent country consists of gardeners grounds and fine meadows, and an intermixture of delightful plains and elevations. For many miles round, the roads are as fine as can be imagined, and the distances from London, in all the great roads, are marked on stone posts, set up at the end of every measured mile.

The united cities of London and Westminster, with their out-parishes, are computed to extend seven miles and a half in length from Blackwall in the east to Tothill-Fields in the west; and six miles three quarters along the Thames, from Poplar in the east to Peterborough-house in Westminster: the breadth from Newington Butts on the south side of the borough of Southwark in Surry, which is generally included in this great city, to Jeffrey's alms-houses in Kingsland-road in Middlesex, is three miles, thirty-one poles; though in other parts the breadth is not more than two miles, and in others, as in Wapping, scarce half a mile: however, the circumference is computed to be, at least, eighteen miles. By a computation made in the year 1739, it was supposed, that in the cities and suburbs of London and Westminster, there were five thousand and ninety-nine streets, lanes and allies; ninety-five thousand nine hundred and sixty-eight houses, and about seven hundred and twenty-six thousand inhabitants: but since that time, the new buildings have been immense, many thousand houses having been erected

erected on new foundations, and a prodigious number of streets and squares added to this metropolis, while the number of the inhabitants are proportionably encreased.

No city in Europe is better lighted than this metropolis; above 10,000 l. a year being collected for the public lamps, exclusive of many thousand belonging to the houses of noblemen, gentlemen, taverns and wealthy citizens, lighted at their private expence. This metropolis is also better supplied with water than any other great city in the world: every house being furnished with pipes, which bring it in great plenty from the Thames, the New River-Head, or from the ponds at Hampstead. The city likewise abounds with fine springs.

We shall now take a view of the city of London, as distinct from that of Westminster, and shall begin with its civil government.

The chief magistrate of the city is the lord mayor, who is annually chosen at Guildhall, when such of the aldermen below the chair, as have served the office of sheriff, are put in nomination, and the livery-men, who are chosen from among the freemen of each company, and are about eight thousand in number, return two to the court of aldermen, who generally chuse the senior of them. Upon the eighth of November following, he is sworn into his office at Guildhall, and the next day is inaugurated at Westminster. For that purpose the aldermen and sheriffs meet him at Guildhall, from whence they proceed in great state in their coaches to the stairs on the Thames, called the Three Cranes, where they take water in the lord mayor's barge, and proceed towards Westminster, attended by the barges of the twelve principal companies and others, in their furred gowns, with their colours, streamers

streamers and music. After landing at Palace-yard, the companies march in order to Westminster-hall, followed by the lord mayor and aldermen. On entering the hall, they walk round it with the city sword and mace, carried before them, to salute the courts sitting there; then walking up to the court of Exchequer, the new lord mayor is sworn before the barons. His lordship then walking round the hall again, invites the judges to dine with him at Guildhall, after which he returns, with the citizens, by water to Black Friars; from whence they ride in their coaches, preceded by the artillery-company, which are a band of infantry belonging to the city militia, in buff-coats, and attended by the city companies with their flags, streamers and music, to Guildhall, where they generally meet the lord chancellor, the judges, several of the nobility, ministers of state, and foreign ambassadors, who are invited to a magnificent entertainment, which is also sometimes honoured with the presence of the king, queen and princes of the blood, while the city companies march back to dine at their several halls. When the lord mayor appears abroad, he rides in the state coach, robed in scarlet or purple, richly furred, with a hood of black velvet, a great gold chain or collar of S S, and a rich jewel hanging to it, his officers walking on each side the coach.

The lord mayor's jurisdiction extends not only over part of the suburbs, but in some degree over the whole county of Middlesex: he and the recorder sit on the bench, on the trials, not only of the citizens, but on the inhabitants of the county; the county jail is also united to that of the city, and is kept by a citizen. His jurisdiction on the Thames extends eastward as far as its conflux with  
the

the Medway, and west to the river Colne, and he keeps annual courts for the conservation of the river Thames, in the counties through which it flows.

The two sheriffs of this city are also sheriffs for the county of Middlesex, and are annually chosen at Guildhall on Midsummer-day by the liverymen, but not sworn till Michaelmas-Eve, when they enter on their office, and two days after are presented to the lord chancellor in the Exchequer court in Westminster-hall, by the lord mayor and aldermen. Each sheriff has an under-sheriff, six clerks, thirty-six serjeants, and every serjeant a yeoman, who belongs to either of the prisons, called the Poultry, or Wood-Street Compter. If the person chosen sheriff refuses to serve, he is fined 400 l. to the city, and 13 l. 6 s. 8 d. to the city-prisons, unless he swears that he is not worth 10,000 l. After the sheriffs are elected, the livery chuse the chamberlain of the city, the bridge-masters, auditors of the city and bridge-house accounts, and the ale-conners, who hold their places for life, unless removed for some misdemeanor. The recorder is appointed by the lord mayor and court of aldermen, and also enjoys his place for life.

The city is divided into twenty six wards, over each of which is an alderman, and when one of them dies, a precept is issued by the lord mayor, for a wardmote to be assembled for electing a new one, when such housekeepers, who are freemen of the city, meet and chuse one of the candidates, by a majority of voices; but if they elect a person who is unwilling to serve, he cannot be excused, without paying a fine of 500 l. All the aldermen are justices of the peace in the city, by charter.

The common councilmen, who are two hundred and ten in number, are the representatives of the citizens, and are chosen by the housekeepers of each ward, who are freemen, on St. Thomas's-day, at a wardmote then held by the aldermen. The court of common-council, is the name given to the assembly of the lord mayor, aldermen and common-councilmen, who make bye-laws for the city. It is called and adjourned by the lord mayor, and out of it are formed distinct committees, for letting the city lands; and other services.

The lord mayor and court of aldermen form a court of record, in which all leases and instruments are executed that pass under the city-seal. They determine all differences relating to lights, water-courses and party walls, fix the price of bread, suspend or punish offending officers, and annually elect the rulers of the watermens company: they likewise appoint most of the city officers, as the four common pleaders, the comptroller of the chamber, the two secondaries, the remembrancer, the city solicitor, the sword-bearer, the common hunt, the water-bailiff, four attornies of the lord mayor's court, the clerk of the chamber, the three serjeant carvers, the three serjeants of the chamber, the serjeants of the channel, the two marshals, the hall-keeper, the yeoman of the chamber, four yeomen of the water-side, the yeomen of the channel, the under water-bailiff, two meal weighers, two fruit meters, the foreign taker, the clerk of the city works, six young men, two clerks of the papers, eight attornies of the sheriffs court, eight clerk sitters, two prothonotaries, the clerk of the bridge-house, the clerk of the court of requests, the beadle of the court of requests, thirty-six serjeants at mace, thirty-six yeomen, the gauger, the sealer and searchers of leather, the keeper of the green-yard,  
the

the two keepers of the two compters, of Newgate, and of Ludgate, the measurer, the steward of Southwark, the bailiff of the hundred of Ofsulfton, and the city artificers: but the rent-gatherer is put in by Mr. Chamberlain, and the high-bailiff of Southwark, by the common-council.

The court of huftings is faid to be the moft ancient tribunal in the city; and is held at Guildhall before the lord mayor, the fheriffs, and the recorder, who in civil caufes fits there as judge. Here deeds are enrolled, recoveries paffed, wills proved, out-lawries fued out, and writs of right, wafte, partition, dower and replevins, are determined. Here alfo the four representatives of the city in parliament, are elected by the liverymen of the city.

The lord mayor's court is alfo a court of record, held in the chamber of Guildhall every Tuesday, where the recorder likewife fits as judge, but the lord mayor and aldermen may if they will fit with him. Here all actions may be entered, and tried by a jury, as in other courts, for debt, trefpafs, &c. arifing within the liberties of London, and to any value. There belong to this court four attornies, and fix ferjeants at mace.

The two fheriffs courts are held in Guildhall; the one by one fheriff every Wednesday and Friday, for actions entered at Wood-ftreet compter; the other by the other fheriff, every Thursday and Saturday, for actions entered at the Poultry compter. In thefe courts may be tried actions of debt, upon the cafe, trefpafs, account, covenants, attachments and fequeftations. Here the written testimony of a witness is allowed, if he cannot be prefent. To thefe courts belong eight attornies, with two fecondaries, who allow and return  
all

all writs : two clerks of the papers, who draw subpoenas ; two prothonotaries, who draw all the declarations, and eight clerk sitters, who enter actions and take bail.

The orphan's court is held by the lord mayor and aldermen, once a year at Guildhall, as guardians of the children of all freemen that are under twenty-one years of age, at the time of their father's decease. The common serjeant takes inventories of such freemen's estates ; and the common crier summons their widows, and other executors and administrators, before the court of aldermen, to bring in an inventory, and to give security for the testator's estate.

The chamberlain is an office of great trust, for he takes care of the city cash, and the orphans money. Part of his office also relates to apprentices, over whom he has great authority. If an apprentice proves disorderly, or has committed any great offence, he may send him to Bridewell, or otherwise punish him. If a master misuses his apprentice, he may relieve him, or leave him to take his remedy against his master in the lord mayor's court. The chamberlain's court or office is held in Guildhall ; and he attends every morning to enroll or turn over apprentices, or to make them free.

The court of conscience, or requests, was erected by act of parliament, in the reign of James the First, for recovering debts under forty shillings, at an easy expence both for debtor and creditor. This court sits in Guildhall every Wednesday and Saturday in the forenoon, and consists of two aldermen and four commoners, appointed monthly by the lord mayor and court of aldermen ; but any three of them make a court. They proceed first by summons, and when the defendant appears, the debt is ordered to be paid, at such times and proportions,

proportions, as the court thinks the debtor able to discharge it. There are several other courts of the like nature in the out-parts of London, and also in Westminster.

A wardmote-court is annually held by the aldermen of each ward, for chusing the officers, and settling the affairs of the ward; and this court presents such offences and nuisances to the lord mayor and common-council as require redress.

A hallmote-court, is thus called from being held by the governors of the several companies, in their respective halls, to regulate what belongs to their several trades.

The trading companies of the city of London, or the several incorporations of its citizens, in their respective arts and mysteries, are ninety-one in number, besides several incorporated societies of merchants. Of these ninety-one companies, fifty-two have each a hall for transacting the business of the company, which is done by a master, wardens, a court of assistants, and a livery. Every youth, who serves his apprenticeship to a freeman of the city, becomes entitled to his freedom, and may have his name enrolled, not only at Guildhall, as a citizen, but in the books of the company to which his master belonged, as free of that particular corporation; and if he becomes considerable in business, is chosen by the corporation a member of their body, and on public occasions, is distinguished by wearing a long black gown faced with fur, which being the livery of the companies, he is thence called a Livery-man. From the liverymen are chosen the master, wardens, and court of assistants. The sums of money annually distributed in charity, by only twenty-three of the ninety-one companies, amount to 23,655 l. Of these companies, there are twelve  
who

who take place of the rest, as being of greater antiquity, and of one of these the lord mayors generally make themselves free, at the time of their election, if they were not so before. These twelve companies are the mercers, grocers, drapers, fishmongers, goldsmiths, skinners, merchant-taylors, haberdashers, salters, iron-mongers, vintners and cloth-workers.

The principal incorporated societies of the merchants are, the Hamburgh company, the Russia company, the East India company, the Royal African company, the South Sea company, and the Hudson's bay company.

The Hamburgh company, the oldest of all, were originally stiled, the merchants of the staple, and afterwards merchant adventurers. They were first incorporated by Edward the First, and had the staple or mart for the low countries. Edward the Third removed the wool staple first to Calais, in his French territories, and then to several great towns in England, intending to have our wool manufactured at home; but he did not pursue it. Queen Elizabeth enlarged this trade, and impowered the company to treat with the princes and states of Germany, for a proper staple or mart of the woollen manufactures they exported; which was at length fixed at Hamburg, from whence they obtained the name of the Hamburg company. It consists of a governor, deputy governor, and court of assistants; but now this trade lies open for every merchant, inasmuch that this society receive little advantage from their being incorporated.

The Russia company, was first incorporated by queen Mary, in the year 1555, and were impowered to carry on an exclusive trade not only to Russia, but to all the countries they should discover in the northern parts. Their privileges were confirmed

firmed by parliament in the reign of James the First. They have a governor, four consuls, and twenty-four assistants; but the company is not so considerable as it was formerly; for private merchants are admitted to trade on the payment of 5*l*. These merchants export from England coarse cloth, long ells, worsted stuffs, tin, lead and tobacco. And import hemp, flax, linen cloth, linen yarn, Russia leather, tallow, furs, iron and pot ashes.

The Levant, or Turkey company, was first incorporated by queen Elizabeth, in 1555; and their privileges confirmed and augmented in the reign of James the First. They were impowered to trade to the Levant, and particularly to Smyrna, Aleppo, Constantinople, Cyprus, grand Cairo, Alexandria, and in general to all the eastern parts of the Mediterranean. They have a governor, deputy governor, and eighteen assistants or directors, chosen annually. But any person may also enter into this company, on paying a small consideration. They at present export very little, the trade being fallen into the hands of the French, yet they import raw silk, goats hair, gogram yarn, cotton yarn, materials for dying, rhu-barb, galls, drugs, leather, fruit and oil.

The East India company was first incorporated by queen Elizabeth; their trade was laid open in the time of Oliver Cromwell, and continued so for some time; but in the year 1698, a new East India company was established by act of parliament, and the old company was to be dissolved after the expiration of a certain term. However, they were at length united in 1702, and have ever since been stiled the United company of merchants, trading to the East Indies. They have a governor, deputy governor, and twenty-four directors, chosen yearly at their house in Leaden-hall-

hall-street. This was rebuilt in 1726, and is a large convenient structure, with warehouses adjoining. They export fine cloth, glass, other manufactures, and bullion; which last article would be a considerable disadvantage to the kingdom, did they not sell as much India and China goods to foreigners as would repay it. They chiefly import tea, China ware, cabinets, raw and wrought silks, coffee, spices, muslins, callicoes, and other cotton cloth.

The Royal African company was first incorporated in 1588, by queen Elizabeth, for carrying on a trade to Guinea, for gold, elephants teeth, and malaguata. It was reincorporated by Charles the Second, in 1672, with an exclusive power to trade all along the western coast of Africa, from the port of Sallee in South Barbary, to the Cape of Good Hope, during the term of one thousand years. Upon this they erected several forts and factories. But their trade being laid open by parliament, in 1697, they were not able to support them. For this reason it was enacted, that all private traders should pay to the company 10l. per cent. for that purpose; but this proving insufficient, they have had several sums granted by parliament, to supply the defect. When this trade was first set up, they had then no occasion for negroes; but they began to buy them not long after; and by their means, and that of the private traders, our plantations are now supplied with slaves. It has been observed, that the company never exported from Guinea above five or six thousand negroes in a year; whereas there are now upwards of thirty thousand annually purchased and transported. The king is governor, besides whom there is a sub-governor, a deputy, and thirty-six directors.

The Hudson's Bay company were incorporated by king Charles the Second, and carry on a very advantageous trade to North America, by means of Hudson's Bay, for beaver skins, and other rich furs and commodities of the country. This corporation has a governor, deputy governor, and seven assistants; and a handsome hall in Fenchurch-street.

The South Sea company was established by act of parliament, in the ninth year of queen Anne, for paying off a debt of upwards of nine millions, due from the government, and not provided for by acts of parliament. They were empowered to carry on a trade to the South Sea; and in the year 1714, the capital was enlarged to ten millions, for which they received interest at 6 l. per cent. In 1720 an act of parliament passed to enable the company to increase their capital, by redeeming several of the public debts, and to raise money for the discharge of sundry national incumbrances. By the several arts used on this occasion, the subscriptions increased the capital stock, from ten to above thirty-three millions; and by this fatal scheme, the stock that was sold before at 120 l. per cent. was run up to above 1000 l. but it fell so swiftly, that it reduced some great and noble families, and made many beggars; while others, who sold out in time, obtained enormous fortunes. This company has a governor, sub-governor, and thirty directors, who are chosen once in three years. Their house is a beautiful and magnificent structure, and stands between Threadneedle-street and Broad-street. It has a quadrangle in the middle, supported by stone pillars, which form a noble piazza. The walls are very thick, and there are vaults underneath arched over. They had the benefit of an Assiento ship, by which means they furnished the Spaniards

with negro slaves, for their mines and plantations in America; and sent European goods, consisting chiefly of our woollen manufactures, to the Spanish West Indies; but that grant has been revoked by the king of Spain.

There are also two incorporated companies that insure ships at sea, both established in the reign of king George the First, one called the Royal Exchange Insurance, whose office is kept in one of the upper-rooms of that building, and the other the London Insurance, whose office is kept in Cornhill.

There are likewise many other insurance offices for insuring both houses and goods, from loss and damage by fire. They keep firemen in pay, with silver badges of their respective offices; and that water may never be wanting, there are fire plugs at due distances in every part of the town, whose keys are kept by the parish officers, and upon turning a cock, the engines may be immediately filled with water. That every one may know where these plugs are to be found, the two letters F. P. are painted in large black characters on a white ground, on the house that stand next them. These officers, after a fire, pay the whole damage of the houses and goods, according to the sum insured upon them.

There are likewise several offices for the insurance of lives, where, in consideration of a small annual sum paid, during the life of a certain person, a considerable sum is paid at such person's decease.

According to Maitland, the ships belonging to the city, in the year 1732, taken from the general register of the custom-house, amounted to one thousand four hundred and seventeen, and the men employed to navigate them, to twenty-one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven: it also  
appears,

appears, that from Christmas 1727, to Christmas 1728, the number of British ships that arrived in London, from ports beyond the sea, amounted to one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine; of foreign ships two hundred and thirteen; of coasters six thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven, in the whole eight thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine. And yet, prodigious as this number is, it has since that time greatly encreased.

With regard to the military government of this city, it being a county corporate, and a lieutenancy of itself, the power of lord lieutenant is in the lord mayor, aldermen, and other principal citizens, who receive their authority, by commission from the king. These have under their command, the city trained bands, consisting of six regiments of foot, distinguished by the names of the white, orange, yellow, blue, green and red, each consisting of eight companies, of a hundred and fifty men, and the whole of seven thousand two hundred men. Here is also a corps called the artillery-company, from its being taught the military exercise in the artillery ground. This company is independent of the rest, and consists of seven or eight hundred volunteers. These, with two regiments of foot of eight hundred men each, commanded by the lieutenant of the tower, render the whole militia of this city, exclusive of Westminster and Southwark, above ten thousand men.

Having given an account of the civil and military government of the city, it will be proper just to mention its ecclesiastical government. London is a bishop's see, the diocese of which, not only comprehends Middlesex, Essex, and part of Hertfordshire, but, in some instances, the British plantations in America. The bishop of London takes place, next after the archbishops of Canter-

bury and York; but the following parishes of this city are exempt from his jurisdiction, they being peculiars under the immediate government of the archbishop of Canterbury: Allhallows Lombard-street, Allhallows Bread-street, St. Diony's Backchurch, St. Dunstan's in the East, St. John Baptist, St. Leonard's Eastcheap, St. Mary Aldermary, St. Mary-le-Bow, St. Michael Crooked-lane, St. Michael Royal, and St. Vedast Foster-lane. Before the great fire, which, in 1666, burnt down almost all the city of London, there were ninety-seven parishes within the walls of this city, and seventeen without, which made the number of parishes in the city and liberties a hundred and fourteen, exclusive of those in the city and liberties of Westminster, and in the borough of Southwark. There are, however, at present no more than sixty-two parochial churches in the city and liberties of London, and consequently no more parish priests.

We shall now give some account of what is most remarkable in the twenty-six wards of the city of London, and shall begin with Bridge-ward, so called, from the famous stone bridge over the Thames, which was erected in the room of a wooden one. It was thirty-three years in building, but not finished till the tenth of king John,

It ought not to be omitted, that the master-mason of this great work, erected, at his own expence, a chapel within the ninth pier from the north end, which he endowed for two priests and four clerks, and dedicated it to St. Thomas. It was a beautiful arched Gothic structure, sixty-five feet long, twenty feet and a half broad, and fourteen in height. It was paved with black and white marble, and in the middle was a sepulchral monument, in which was probably interred Peter, curate of Cole-

Colechurch, the architect or master mason, who died before it was completed. Clusters of small pillars arose on the sides at equal distances, and bending over the roof, met in the center of the arch, where they were bound together by large flowers, cut in the same stone: between these pillars were the windows, which were arched, and on each side afforded a view of the Thames. It had an entrance from the river, as well as from a house in the street upon the bridge; from which last was a descent, by a winding pair of stone steps, into a passage, on the right hand of which was a cavity in the wall for holding a basin of holy water. This chapel was pretty perfect so lately as September 1758, soon after which it was pulled down.

Notwithstanding the art and expence in building the bridge with stone, about four years after it was finished, a fire broke out in Southwark, and taking hold of St. Mary Overy's church, a south wind communicated the flames to the north end of the bridge, which stopped the return of a multitude of people, who had run from London to help to extinguish the fire in Southwark; and while the terrified crowd were endeavouring to force a passage back to the city, through the flames at the north end, the houses at the south end also took fire; so that being inclosed between two great fires, above three thousand people perished in the flames, or were drowned by overloading the vessels that came to their assistance. By this dreadful accident, the bridge was greatly damaged. In 1282, five arches of the bridge were borne down and destroyed by the ice and floods. In the year 1426, the draw-bridge was begun to be built, and in 1632, forty-two houses, at the north end of the bridge, were burnt down by a maid servant's setting a tub of hot ashes under a pair of stairs. After this, it

long continued in a ruinous condition; but these houses were at length rebuilt; however, in 1666, the bridge again suffered in the general conflagration of the city, most of the houses upon it being entirely consumed. It is nine hundred and fifteen feet long, and was twenty-three feet wide, exclusive of the houses, built on each side of it, and there were twenty arches. But many fatal accidents having happened from the narrowness of the passage over it, and in going by water under it, the houses were taken down, in pursuance of two acts of parliament obtained in 1756, and 1757, and a temporary bridge built, which was opened in 1758. But when the pavement was dug up, and an opening made into the cavities of all the piers; when some of them were demolished almost to the water's edge, and the whole space where the houses had been taken down, was a confused heap of ruins, the temporary structure, on the 11th of April, 1758, at about eleven at night, burst into a flame, and by nine o'clock the next morning, the whole temporary bridge was consumed, though the draw-bridge, and some pieces of timber among the ruins of the old structure, continued burning all the next day. At this disaster, the citizens were filled with consternation, imagining that the communication between the city and borough of Southwark, would be in a great measure cut off; and every body naturally concluded, that this dreadful disaster was occasioned by some vile incendiaries. The lord mayor, who had attended almost the whole time of the conflagration, in order, if possible, to stop its progress, waited in the morning on Mr. Pitt, now earl of Chatham, with the dreadful account; and having obtained his majesty's pardon for any persons who should discover the authors of the calamity, except the perpetrators of it, caused a  
reward

reward of 200l. to be offered for discovering the base incendiaries, but no discovery has yet been made. “ This prudent step, says the author of “ London and its Environs described, being first “ taken, the builders of the bridge were asked, “ how soon it were possible they could render it “ passable for carriages; when they promised to “ complete it within three weeks, on condition “ of being allowed to work on Sundays, and to “ employ a sufficient number of men. This news “ filled the people with equal joy and surprize; “ but this surprize was greatly encreased, when “ they found, that by keeping men constantly at “ work day and night, this great work was com- “ pleted, and the old bridge opened again in less “ than a fortnight; and that in this short time “ those arches that had been taken down, and “ the deep cavities in all the piers lately used for “ cellars, were covered over; the piers which “ had been demolished, had stages formed of “ large beams of timber, raised to support the “ upper works, and the whole track of ruins was “ covered with rows of strong beams placed close “ together; these were gravelled over to a consi- “ derable depth; and a strong wooden fence on “ each side, raised about six feet high, with “ places formed for foot-passengers to stand in at “ proper distances, to secure themselves from be- “ ing hurt by the carriages.

“ This great work was no sooner finished with “ such amazing expedition, than preparations “ were made for a new temporary bridge, which “ was soon after begun, and in a short time was “ opened.” The bridge itself was afterwards completed, and instead of a narrow street, there is now a passage of thirty-one feet for carriages, and on each side a handsome raised pavement of stone, seven feet broad, for the use of foot-pas-  
 sengers.

sengers. The sides are secured and adorned by fine stone balustrades, enlightened in the night with lamps, and the passage through the bridge is enlarged, by throwing the two middle arches into one. Under the arches next the ends of the bridge are engines, worked by the flux and reflux of the river, raising the water to such a height, as to supply many parts of the city and the borough of Southwark.

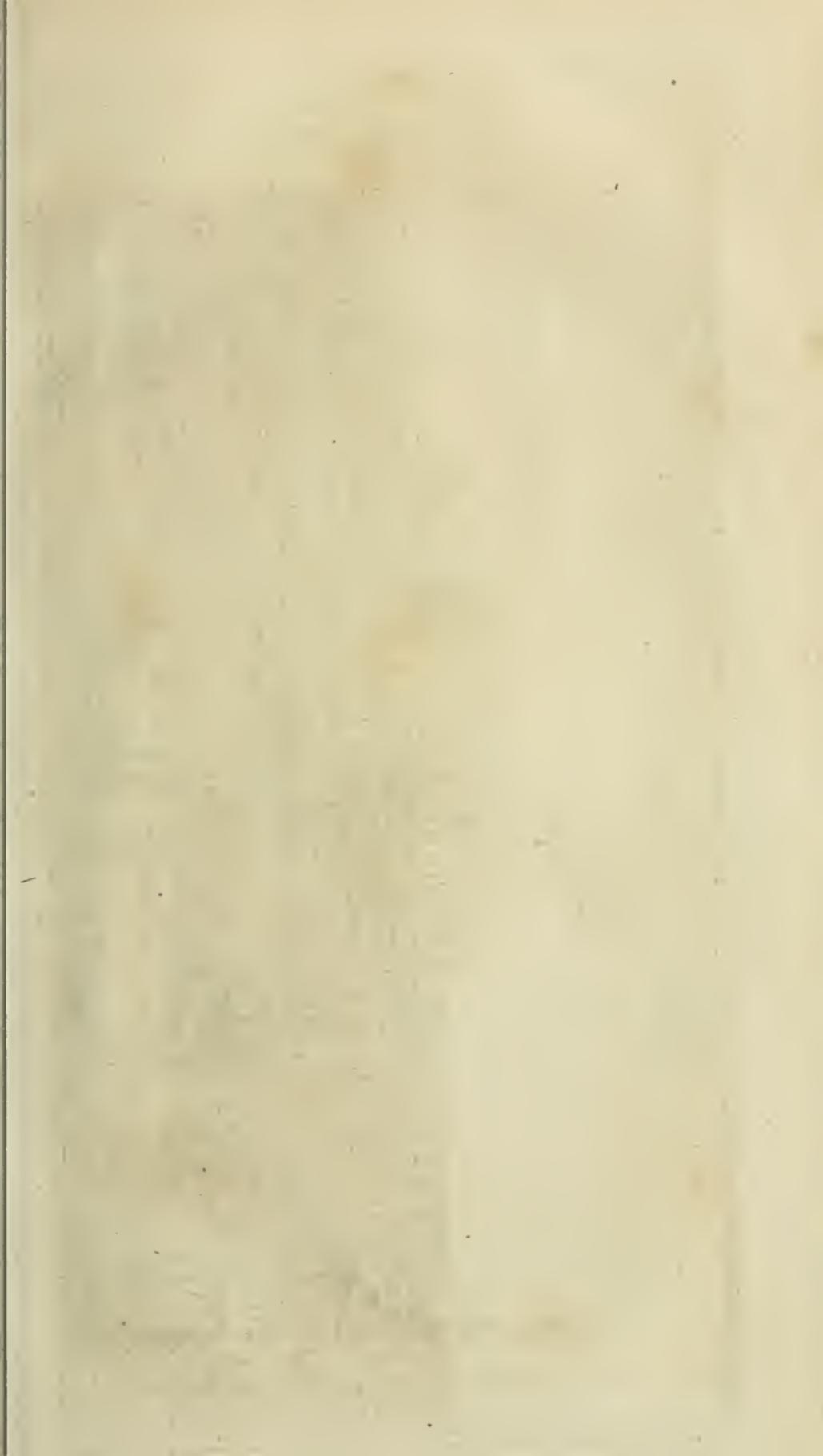
At a small distance from the north side of London-bridge, stands the monument, a magnificent fluted column of the Doric order, built with Portland stone, erected to perpetuate the memory of the dreadful fire of London, which broke out in the year 1666, and destroyed almost the whole city. This column, which was erected by Sir Christopher Wren, was begun in the year 1671, and finished in 1677, is fifteen feet in diameter, and two hundred and two feet from the ground; the exact distance of the very spot from it, where the fire first broke out. It stands on a pedestal forty feet high, and twenty-one feet square, adorned with emblems in alto and basso relievo, by that ingenious statuary Mr. Cibber. The figure, to which the eye is particularly directed, is a female, representing the city of London seated on a heap of ruins; her hair is disheveled, her head droops, and her hand, with an air of languor, lies carelessly on her sword. Behind her is Time, gradually raising her up. Providence, represented by a woman, gently touches her with one hand, and, with a winged sceptre in the other, directs her to regard Peace and Plenty, who are seated in the clouds, one with a palm branch, and the other with a cornucopia. At her feet, is a beehive, to shew that, by industry and application, the greatest misfortunes may be remedied. Behind Time are citizens exulting in his endeavours to  
 restore

restore her; and beneath, in the midst of the ruins, is a dragon, the supporter of the city arms, who endeavours to preserve them with his paw. Still farther on the north side is a view of the city in flames, with the inhabitants in consternation. On the other side, on an elevated pavement, stands king Charles the Second in a Roman habit, with his head encircled with a wreath of laurel, commanding three of his attendants to descend to her relief. The first represents the Sciences, and holds Nature in her hands: the second is Architecture, with a plan in one hand, and a square and compasses in the other: and the third is Liberty. Behind the king stands the duke of York, with a garland in one hand, to crown the rising city, and a sword in the other for her defence. Behind him are Justice, with a coronet; and Fortitude, with a reined lion. Under the pavement Envy peeps from her cell, gnawing a heart; and in the upper part of the back ground, is represented the rebuilding of the city, by scaffolds erected by the sides of unfinished houses, with builders and labourers at work upon them. Each of the other sides of the pedestal has a Latin inscription. At the corners at the top of the pedestal are four dragons, the supporters of the city arms, and between them trophies, with symbols of arts, sciences, commerce, &c. Within is a winding stair-case of black marble, containing three hundred and forty-five steps, ten inches and a half broad, and six inches in thickness, by which is an ascent, through the midst of the column, to an iron balcony over the capital, encompassing a cone thirty-two feet high, which supports a blazing urn of gilt brass.

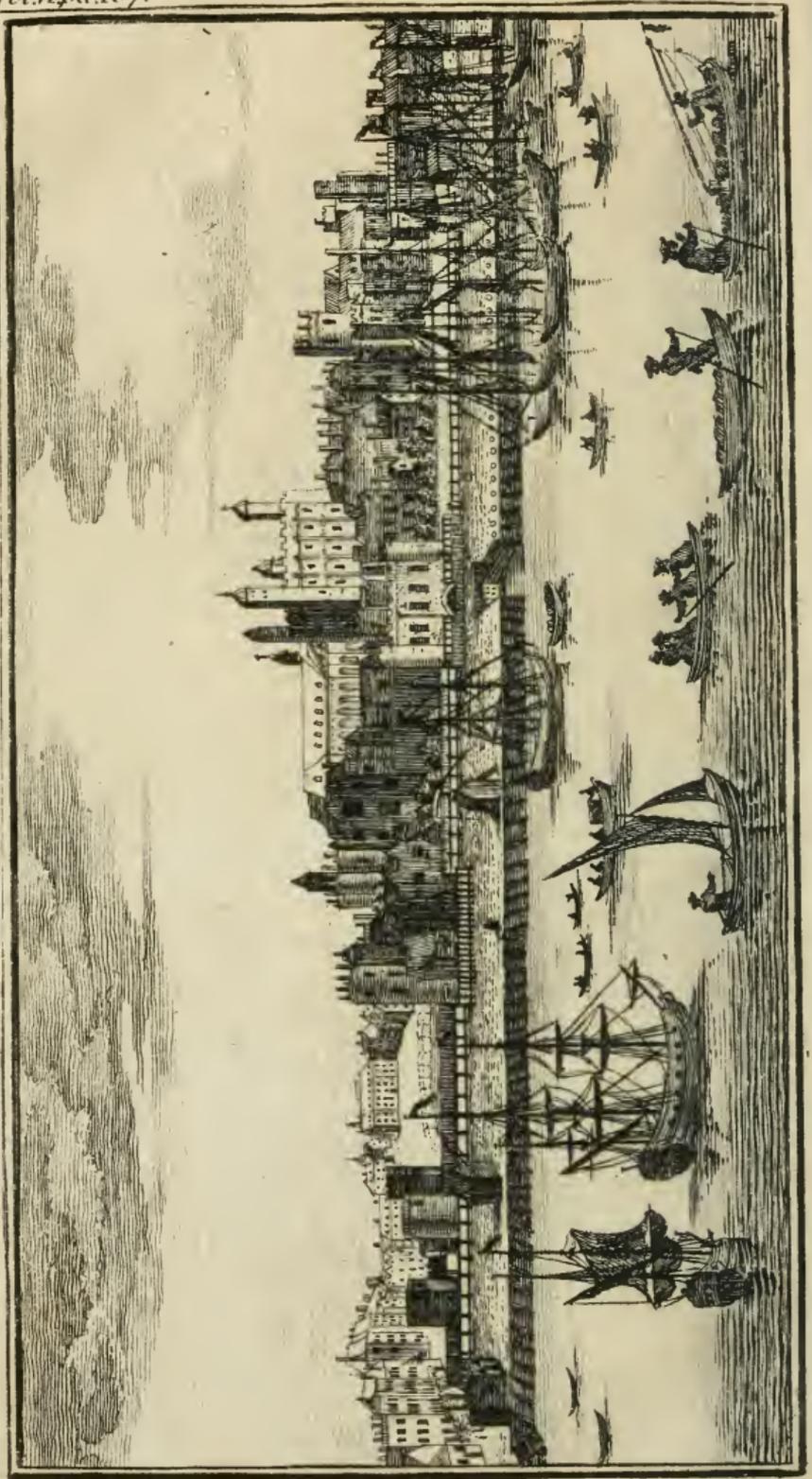
Bridge-ward-without contains the whole borough of Southwark, which, though it in some measure forms a part of this metropolis, it being

joined to it by two bridges, and being nominally governed by an alderman and three deputies; as it yet has neither common council-men, nor is, in general, under the government of the city magistrates, we shall refer the description of it till we come to treat of the county of Surry, in which it is placed.

The Tower-ward is in the most eastern part of the city, and took its name from the Tower of London, which was anciently a royal palace, but is now the only fortress of the city. It stands near the Thames, and is supposed to have been originally built by William the Conqueror, about the year 1076, when it only consisted of what is now called the White Tower. King William Rufus in 1098, surrounded the Tower with walls and a deep ditch, which in some places is one hundred and twenty feet wide; and king Edward the Third built the chapel. In 1638, the White Tower was rebuilt, and since that time a great number of additional buildings have been added; and there are at present the offices of the ordnance, and of the mint, those of the keepers of the records, the jewel office, the Spanish armory, the horse armory, the new or small armory, barracks for the soldiers, handsome houses for the chief officers residing in the Tower, and other persons; so that it at present has more the appearance of a town than of a fortress. New barracks have been erected on the Tower wharf, which parts it from the river; and upon the wharf is a line of about sixty pieces of cannon, which are fired upon state holidays. On that side the Tower the ditch is narrow, and over it is a draw-bridge. Under the Tower-wall on the same side is a water-gate, commonly called Traitor's-gate, from its being customary to convey traitors and other state prisoners through it, by water, to and  
from



*The South View of the Tower of London.*



from the Tower. Upon the wall, parallel to the wharf, is a platform, seventy yards in length, called the Ladies-line, from its being frequented in summer evenings by ladies, who walk under the shade of a row of lofty trees, and have a fine prospect of the shipping and the river Thames. From this line there is a walk round the Tower walls, on which there are three batteries, distinguished by the names of the Devil's-battery, the Stone-battery, and the Wooden-battery, each of which is mounted with several pieces of large brass cannon. The principal entrance to the Tower is at the west end, where there are two gates, one within the other, both large enough to admit heavy carriages, and parted by a strong stone bridge built over the ditch. Of this important structure, with the buildings within its walls, we have caused a south view to be engraved, that the reader may form an idea of their appearance in a distant prospect.

Within the outer-gate is a collection of wild beasts. What is called the Spanish armory, is the depository of the spoils of the Spanish Armada, fitted out to invade England in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and contains several trophies of that memorable victory, with several other curiosities. The new or small armory contains what is called a Wilderness of arms, so artfully disposed, that at one view you behold arms for near eighty thousand men, all bright and fit for service at a moment's warning: these are disposed into such regular and beautiful forms, that it is impossible to behold them without astonishment. Under this magnificent armory is a room filled with cannon and implements of war. The horse armory contains a representation of the kings and heroes of this nation, many of them sitting on wooden horses, in the same bright armour they were

were used to wear when they performed those glorious actions, that give them a distinguished place in the British annals: with several curiosities relating to arms. To the east of the New armoury is the Jewel-office, appointed for keeping the regalia, which are the imperial crown, that most of the kings of England have been crowned with since the time of Edward the Confessor. The diadem which queen Anne wore when she proceeded to her coronation. That made for his present majesty. The orb or globe held in the king's left hand at his coronation, on the top of which is a precious stone, near an inch in height. The royal sceptre with the cross, on which is another jewel of great value. The sceptre with a dove, being an emblem of peace. The staff of St. Edward, all of pure gold, which is carried before the king at his coronation. The sword of mercy, borne before the two swords of justice, at the coronation. The golden spurs, and the armillas that are worn at the coronation. The ampulla, or golden eagle, which holds the sacred oil the kings and queens are anointed with, and the golden spoon, the bishop pours the oil into. The crown of state his majesty wears on the throne in parliament, in which is a large emerald seven inches in circumference, the finest pearl in the world, and a ruby of inestimable value. The coronation crown, globe and sceptre, made for king William's queen. A silver font double gilt, for the use of the royal family, and a large silver fountain presented to Charles the Second, by the town of Plymouth.

The officers of the Tower are a constable, a lieutenant and deputy lieutenant, and under them a gentleman porter; which last has the charge of the gates, the keys whereof are delivered to the constable every night. Under him are forty wardens,

dens, who are to wait at the gates, and admit no stranger to come in with a sword. Their habit is like that of the yeomen of the guard, and they are accounted the king's domestic servants. To the Tower, belong eleven hamlets, the militia of which, consisting of four hundred men, are obliged, at the command of the constable of the Tower, to repair thither, and reinforce the garrison. The reader may see a more full account of the Tower, and the curiosities it contains, in a pamphlet, published by Messrs. Newbery and Carnan, in St. Paul's Church-yard.

On Little Tower-hill is the Victualling-office, for furnishing his majesty's navy with provisions. It is separated from Tower-hill by a wall and gates, and contains houses for the officers, slaughter-houses, store rooms, a salting-house, a barrelling-house, and a brew-house; and is under the direction of seven commissioners, with inferior officers.

In Tower-ward is likewise the Custom-house, erected for the receipt of his majesty's customs, on goods imported and exported. It stands upon the bank of the Thames, and has underneath, and on each side, large warehouses for the reception of goods. This structure is one hundred and eighty-nine feet in length, the center is twenty-seven feet deep, and the wings considerably more. The center stands back from the river; the wings approach much nearer to it, and the building is handsomely decorated with the orders of architecture: under the wings is a colonade of the Tuscan order, and the upper story is ornamented with Ionic pillasters and a pediment, and the top embellished with vases. It consists of two floors, in the uppermost of which is a magnificent room fifteen feet high, that runs almost the whole length of the building: this is called the Long-room, and

and here sit the commissioners of the customs, with their officers and clerks. On the side next the Thames a great extent of ground is taken up with wharfs, keys and cranes for landing goods; The custom-house is governed by nine commissioners, who are entrusted with the management of his majesty's customs in all the ports of England, the petty farms excepted, and also the oversight of all the officers belonging to them. Each of these commissioners has a salary of 1000l. a year, and both they, and several of the principal officers under them, hold their places by patent from the king, but the other officers are appointed by warrant from the lords of the treasury.

Lime-street-ward contains the East-India-house, which was erected by that company in the year 1726. It is a plain Doric structure, on a rustic basement, crowned with a balustrade, but is not equal, either in magnificence, or the extent of the front, to the grandeur of the company; though it would have been a very fine edifice, had it been the house of a single director. But though the front is small, the building extends far backwards, it having large rooms for the use of the directors, and offices for the clerks. In this ward is likewise Leadenhall, a very large building of great antiquity, and Leadenhall market.

In Broad-street-ward lately stood Gresham-college, founded agreeably to the will of Sir Thomas Gresham, who died in July, 1575, for lectures in divinity, geometry, astronomy, civil law, rhetoric, physick and music. He appointed a professor of each science, with a salary of 50 l. per annum, and spacious apartments in the college. The building is however demolished, in order to erect a new Excise office. The professors have however their salaries continued, and 50 l. a year added to each for lodging. The lectures,

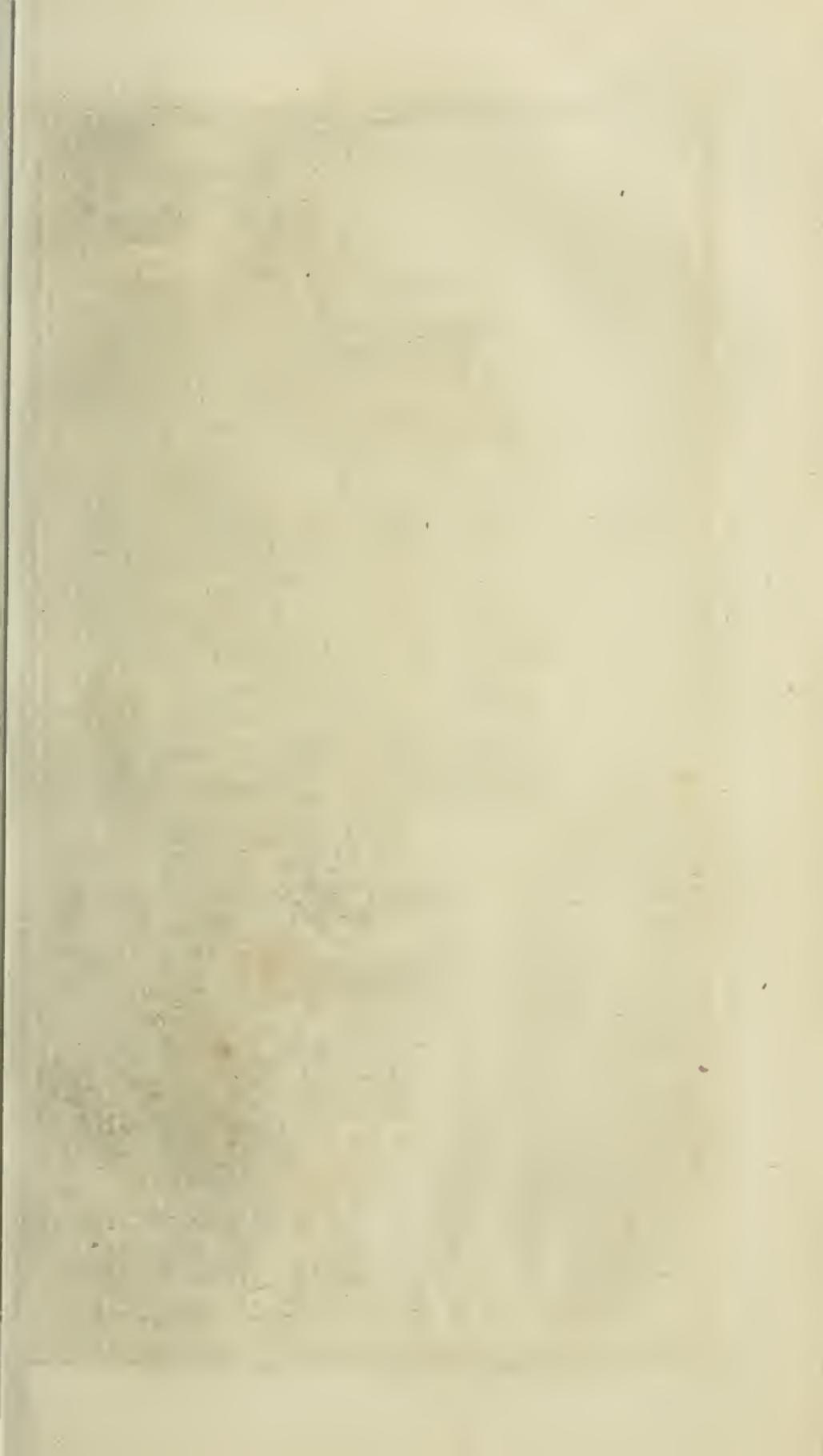
tures, which are held only in term time, are at present read in a room of the Royal Exchange.

In the same ward is the Pay-office of the royal navy, which is a structure unworthy of notice.

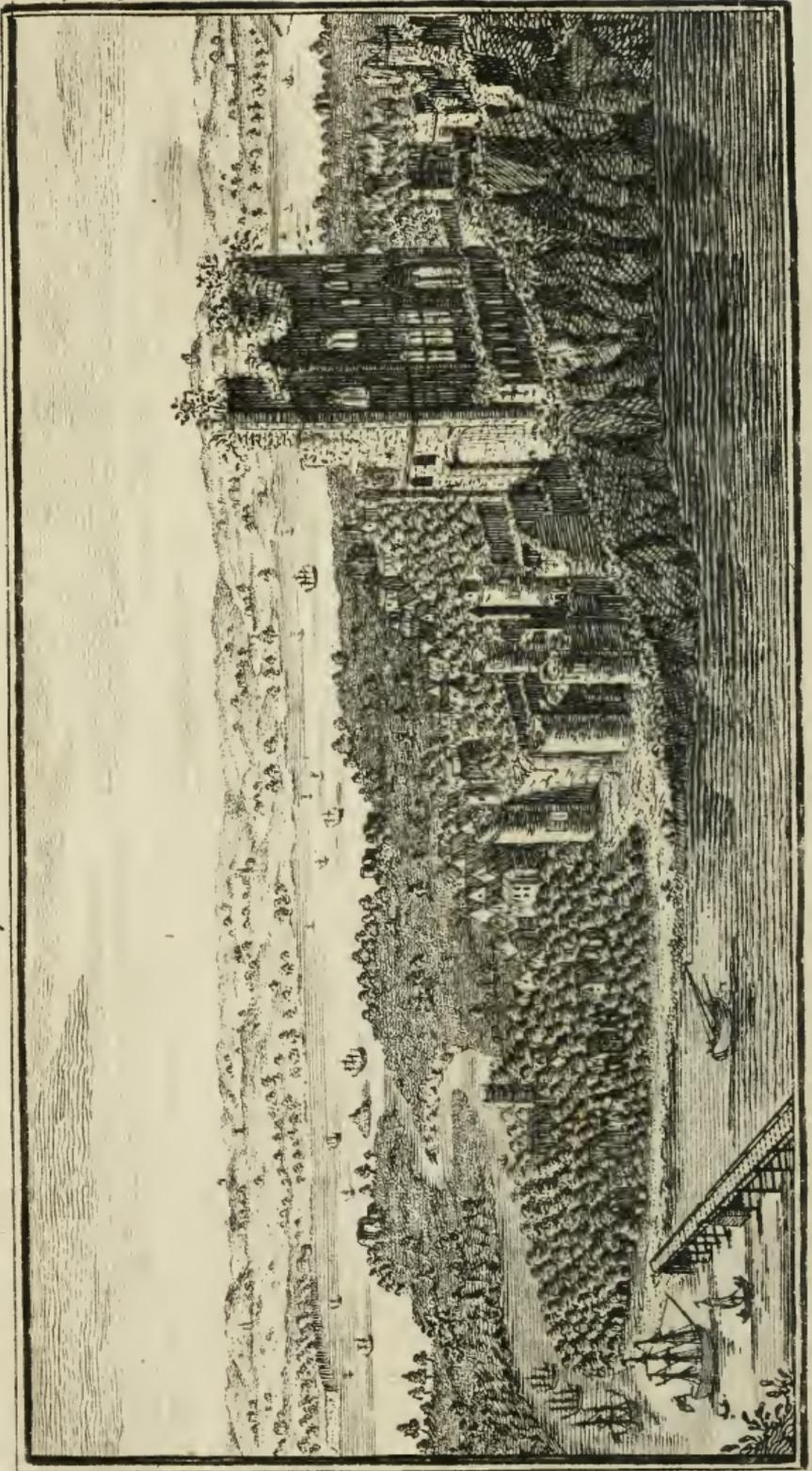
The Bank of England is also in this ward. This structure has lately received great additions. The oldest part of the building was finished in 1735. Its principal front is about eighty feet in length, and is of the Ionic order, raised on a rustic basement in a good style. The top is adorned with a balustrade and handsome vases. There have been just erected a range of buildings of considerable extent, of Portland stone, adorned with columns and pilasters of the Corinthian order, and likewise adorned with a balustrade and vases. This new part of the structure is in a peculiar taste: no windows appear to the street, but all the offices are enlightened by domes, in a most beautiful manner, supported by Corinthian columns, and finished in a fine and elegant taste. In order to open a more commodious passage to the bank, many houses in Cornhill have been pulled down, and a new street of elegant houses have been built leading to the principal gate. The bank is under the direction of a governor, a deputy governor, and twenty-four assistants.

In Coleman-street-ward is Bethlehem-hospital, which is seated on the south side of Moorfields. This was originally a priory founded in the year 1247, by Simon Fitzroy, or Fitzmary, sheriff of London, on the south-east side of Moorfields. This priory consisted of brothers and sisters, who wore a star on their coats and mantles, in commemoration of the star that guided the wise men in their visit to our Saviour at his birth; and the monks were to receive the bishop and canons of Bethlehem in Judea, whenever they came to London. This priory, which stood in the place called

ed Old Bedlam, being dissolved by king Henry the Eighth, and the house given to the city, it was converted into an hospital for the cure of lunatics ; but afterwards becoming ruinous, and unable to receive the number of lunatics, whose friends sued for their admission, the lord mayor, aldermen and common-council, granted the governors the ground on which this hospital now stands. The foundation was laid in 1675, and notwithstanding the prodigious extent of the building, was erected in fifteen months. It is a noble edifice, built with brick and stone, adorned with pilasters, entablatures and sculpture, particularly with the figures of two lunatics on the piers of the outer gate, which are finely executed. This edifice is five hundred and forty feet in length, forty in breadth, and about thirty years ago was augmented with two wings, by the charitable contribution of the citizens, for the reception of such lunatics as were deemed incurable. In this hospital is a great number of convenient cells, where the patients are taken care of, without any expence to their friends. The inside chiefly consists of two galleries, one over the other, which cross the wings, and are one hundred and ninety-three yards long, thirteen feet high, and sixteen feet broad, without including the cells for the patients, which are twelve feet deep, and are extended along the south side of these galleries. These are divided in the middle by two iron grates ; by which means all the men are placed at one end of the house, and all the women at the other ; and in each gallery servants lie in the night to be ready at hand on all occasions. Near the upper gallery is a large spacious room, where the governors meet ; and by the lower, another room for the weekly committee, and where the physicians prescribe for the patients. There are also convenient



*The North East View of Chepstow Castle, in the County of Monmouth.*



nient apartments for the steward of the house, the porter, matron, nurse and servants; and below stairs, offices for keeping and dressing the provisions, for washing and other necessary purposes; with a bathing place for the patients, so contrived, as to be an hot or cold bath as occasion requires. There are generally above two hundred lunatics maintained in this hospital, each of whom has a small room or cell to himself, where he is locked up in the night. On the outside, before the building, is a pleasant garden, enclosed by a high wall, near seven hundred feet in length. This hospital being united to the hospital of Bridewell, both are managed by the same president, governors, treasurer, clerk, physician, surgeon and apothecary; but each has a steward and inferior officers peculiar to itself.

Bethlehem-hospital being found incapable of receiving all the unhappy objects, for whom application was made, a plain building was prepared for them on the north side of Moorfields, and was opened for the admission of lunatics, on the thirtieth of July, 1751. This is called St. Luke's hospital, and is entirely supported by private subscriptions. It is under the immediate inspection and government of its own patrons and supporters. In this hospital patients are taken in, according to the order of time in which the petitions of their friends have been delivered to the secretary, without favour or partiality, or even the least expence, except only that such as are parish poor, must have their bedding provided, and this they may take away at their discharge. On the admission of every patient, two responsible house-keepers, residing within the bills of mortality, must enter into a bond to the treasurer, in the penalty of 100 l. to take away such patient within seven days after notice given them for that purpose, by the  
committee

committee or their secretary. The patients are not exposed to public view; and no money received for the use of this charity is expended in entertaining the general court, at any of their meetings. No person is to be admitted, who has been a lunatic above twelve calendar months, or has been discharged as incurable from any other hospital, for the reception of lunatics; or who has the venereal disease; is troubled with epileptic, or convulsive fits; or is deemed an idiot; or any woman with child. Any patient who relapses within two months after being discharged, is immediately received into the hospital. The general committee also take in, by rotation, such patients as are discharged uncured, but each of them is to pay five shillings a week, and the number is not to exceed twenty. Every person paying twenty guineas or upwards, or paying five guineas, and signing an agreement to pay the same sum for the four following years, is admitted a governor.

In Cornhill-ward is the Royal Exchange, which was first erected by Sir Thomas Gresham in 1567, at his own expence, and in 1570 was proclaimed the Royal Exchange, in a solemn manner by a herald, with the sound of trumpets, at the command, and in the presence, of queen Elizabeth. That structure being destroyed by the fire of London in 1666, it was soon after rebuilt of Portland-stone, in a much more magnificent manner, at the expence of 80,000*l*. The whole is a parallelogram, two hundred and three feet in length, and one hundred and seventy-one in breadth, inclosing an area one hundred and forty-four feet long, and one hundred and seventeen broad. In the center of each of the principal fronts are the grand entrances into the area, under a lofty and noble arch: on each side that of the principal front, which is in Cornhill, are Corinthian demi-columns;

columns, supporting a compass pediment, and in the inter-columniation on each side next the street is a niche, with the figures of king Charles the First, and his son Charles the Second. On each side of this entrance is a range of windows placed between demi-columns and pilasters of the Composite order, about which runs a balustrade. The height of the building is fifty-six feet, and from the center of this side rise a lantern and turret, one hundred and seventy-eight feet high, on the top of which is a fan, in the form of a grasshopper, the crest of Sir Thomas Gresham's arms. The inside of the area is surrounded with piazzas, like those of the south and north fronts. Above the arches of these piazzas is an entablature with curious enrichments, and on the cornice a range of pilasters with an entablature extending round, and a compass pediment on the middle of the cornice of each of the four sides. In the inter-columniations are twenty-four niches, nineteen of which are filled with the statues of the kings and queens of England, from king Edward the First to his present majesty, all adorned with the ensigns of royalty, except those of king Charles the Second, king James the Second, and king George the Second, which are habited like the Roman emperors. Under the piazzas, within the exchange, are twenty-eight niches, all vacant except two; one in the north-west angle, where is the statue of Sir Thomas Gresham, and the other at the south-west, in which is a statue of Sir John Barnard, a magistrate of exemplary virtues, who was living when it was erected, and had been twice lord mayor of the city, and many years one of its representatives in parliament. In the center of the area, upon a marble pedestal, is a fine statue of king Charles the Second, in a Roman habit. In this area the merchants of all nations

meet

meet every day at twelve o'clock at noon, each nation having its respective walk, that they may more readily be found. They continue there to transact business till two o'clock, when the gates are shut, and not opened till four. The west end of the Royal Exchange, which was till lately of brick, has been rebuilt with stone in a magnificent manner, correspondent to the rest of the building.

The General post-office is to the south of the Royal Exchange, near the south-west end of Lombard-street. This is a handsome and convenient building, under the direction of two post-masters general, a secretary, a receiver-general, an accomptant-general, and many other officers and servants.

In Walbrook-ward is the mansion house of the Lord Mayor, a large and magnificent edifice, built on a spot where was formerly a market for flesh and greens, called Stocks-market. The first stone of this building was laid in 1739, and it was finished in 1753. It is substantially built of Portland stone, with a portico of six lofty fluted columns of the Corinthian order in the front, the same order being continued in pilasters both under the pediment and on each side. The basement story is built in rustic work, and is very massy: in the center of it is the door, leading to the kitchen, cellars and other offices, and on each side of it rises a flight of steps of very considerable extent, up to the portico, in the middle of which is a door leading to the apartments and offices. The stone balustrade of the stairs is continued along the front of the portico, and the columns support a large angular pediment, adorned with a group of figures in bas relief. In the center stands a woman representing the city, crowned with turrets, and her left foot placed upon

upon the figure of Envy, which lies on her back. Her left arm rests upon a shield, bearing the city arms, and in her right hand she holds a wand: this being the principal figure, is done in alto relievo. Near her, on her right side, stands a Cupid holding the cap of Liberty over his shoulder, at the end of a short staff, in the manner of a mace; and a little farther, the Thames is represented as a river-god pouring a stream of water from a large vase: near him is anchor fastened to its cable, with shells lying on the shore. Plenty is kneeling on the left hand of London, beseeching her to accept of the fruits she is pouring from her cornucopia; and behind her are two naked boys with bales of goods. The apartments are extremely noble, but the building has the disadvantage of being too closely crowded with houses, which prevent its being seen in a proper point of view.

Behind the mansion-house is St. Stephen's church in Walbrook, esteemed the master-piece of the celebrated Sir Christopher Wren; and with respect to the disposition of the inside, is said to exceed every modern structure in the world in proportion and elegance.

In Dowgate-ward, is Merchant Taylor's school; which was founded by that company in 1561. It was burnt by the great fire of London, and afterwards was more commodiously rebuilt, with apartments for the masters and ushers; and there is also a fine library. In the year 1557, Sir Thomas White, Lord Mayor of this city, founded St. John's college in Oxford, and established forty-six fellowships there, who are to be elected from this school.

In Cordwainer's-street-ward is the church of St. Mary-le-Bow, originally built in the reign of William the Conqueror, and being the first church  
in

in this city built with stone arches, then called bows, had its surname le Bow from thence. It was destroyed by the fire of London in 1666, but was rebuilt by Sir Christopher Wren, and finished in 1673. The steeple of this church is esteemed the most beautiful of its kind in Europe: the tower rises square from the ground to a considerable height, where the first stage is terminated by an elegant cornice, supporting a balustrade with turrets at the corners, each of which is composed of four handsome scrolls, which, joining at the top, support urns with flames. From this part rises a plain circular course, upon which is placed a circular range of Corinthian columns, while the body of the steeple is continued plain and round within them. These support a second balustrade, with large scrolls extending from it to the body of the steeple. Above these is placed a series of composite columns, and from the entablature rises another set of scrolls, supporting the spire, which rests upon four balls, and is terminated by a globe, whence rises a fanè in the form of a dragon. In this steeple is a ring of eight bells of such deep notes, as to be easily distinguished from the peels of all the other churches in the city.

In Cheap-side-ward is Guildhall, the town-house for holding the courts, and transacting the business of the city. This hall was begun in the year 1411, and ten years were employed in completing it, but being much damaged by the fire of London in 1666, was repaired and beautified two years after at the expence of 2500*l*. It is situated in view of the most frequented thoroughfare of the whole city, and at the end of a pretty good vista, which shews the building to the best advantage; but the present old Gothic front has no excellence either of design or execution, and  
consists

consists of little parts and trifling ornaments, that have no effect at a distance. The hall within is a very fine room, one hundred and fifty-three feet long, forty-eight broad, and fifty-five high, and will hold near seven thousand persons. Nearly fronting the gate are nine or ten steps leading to the lord mayor's court, over which is a balcony, supported at each end by four iron pillars, in the form of palm-trees. In the front of this balcony is a clock, and on the outside of the balcony, close to the wall, are the figures of two monstrous giants, standing one on each side: they have black and bushy beards; one holds an halbert, and the other a staff, from which hangs a ball set round with spikes. These absurd ornaments, which Mr. Strype supposes were designed to represent an ancient Briton and a Saxon, are painted, in order to give them a greater appearance of life. This hall is adorned with the arms of twenty-four of the city companies, with the king's-arms, the arms of king Edward the Confessor, and the city arms. At the east end are the pictures at full length of king William and queen Mary, king George the First, king George the Second, and queen Caroline, and their present majesties king George the Third, and queen Charlotte. At a small distance is the portrait of lord Camden, and round the hall, are also the portraits at full length of eighteen judges, put up here by the city, as a testimony of public gratitude for their signal services, in determining the differences that arose between landlords and tenants, without the expence of law suits, on rebuilding the city after the fire of London.

In Bassishaw, or Basinghall-ward, is Blackwell-hall, esteemed the greatest mart for woollen cloth in the world.

In Cripplegate-ward is Sion-college, founded in 1627, by Dr. Thomas White, vicar of St. Dunstan's in the west, for the improvement of the London clergy, with alms-houses for ten poor men and as many women, each of whom is allowed 6l. a year. In 1631, a charter was procured for incorporating the clergy of London, by which the several rectors, lecturers, vicars and curates of the city and suburbs, were constituted fellows of the college, and out of the incumbents are annually elected on Tuesday three weeks after Easter, a president, two deacons, and four assistants, who meet quarterly to hear a Latin sermon, and are afterwards entertained at dinner in the college-hall, at the expence of the foundation. Here is a public library, containing about fifteen-thousand books printed and in manuscript.

Castle Baynard-ward received its name from an ancient castle built by William Baynard, lord of Dunmow, and contains the college of Heralds, who were incorporated by king Richard the Third, the chief officer of which is the earl marshal of England: here are three kings at arms, garter, clarencieux and norroy, with six heralds, four pursuivants, and eight proctors. The office of garter is to attend the installment of the knights of that order; he carries the garter to foreign princes, regulates the ceremonies at coronations, and the funerals of the royal family and nobility; clarencieux orders the ceremonies of the funerals of those under the degree of peers south of Trent; and norroy performs the like office for those north of Trent. The six heralds are distinguished by the names of Richmond, Lancaster, Chester, Windsor, Somerset, and York; and the pursuivants are called blue mantle, rouge-crois, rouge-dragon, and port-cullice, probably from the badges they formerly wore. They have all a salary

out of the king's Exchequer, but that of garter is double, besides which he has fees at the installment of knights, and yearly wages paid by all the knights of the garter. This college is a neat spacious quadrangle, built of brick, with convenient apartments, and has a library relating to heraldry and antiquities, and a handsome courtroom, where the earl-marshal's deputy determines causes relating to arms, achievements and titles. In this college are kept records of the coats of arms of all the families in England, when granted, and on what occasion.

In this ward is a spacious structure, called Doctor's Commons; consisting of several handsome paved courts, in which the judges of the court of admiralty, these of the court of delegates, of the court of arches, of the prerogative court, with the doctors that plead causes, and the proctors that draw up the pleadings, live in a collegiate way, and from their commoning together, as in other colleges, the name of Doctor's Commons is derived. This is a college for the study and practice of the civil law, where courts are kept for the trial of civil and ecclesiastical causes, under the archbishop of Canterbury, and the bishop of London. Here is also a fine library.

In this ward was anciently a monastery of Black friars or Dominicans, twelve of whom came into England about the year 1221, and had their first house in Holborn, near the Old Temple; but Robert Kilwarby, archbishop of Canterbury, having obtained two lanes near Baynard's castle, and the tower of Montfitchet, caused them to be demolished, and with the stones erected a new church, to which they removed. King Edward the First, and Eleanor his queen, were great benefactors to this new erected friary, and the buildings were so much enlarged by them, that

several parliaments were held there. This priory enjoyed many privileges, and was valued by Speed, at the suppression of religious houses, at 154l. 15 s. 5 d. per annum.

The most remarkable building in this ward is Black-friars bridge, which is built according to a plan drawn by Mr. Robert Mylne, and the first stone of it laid in 1760, by Sir Thomas Chitty, then lord mayor. The arches, which are only nine in number, are elliptical, and the center arch one hundred feet wide, those on the sides decreasing in width in a regular gradation, and the arch next the abutment at each end is seventy feet wide. It has an open balustrade at the top, and a foot way on each side, with room for three carriages a-breast in the middle. There are also recesses on the sides for the foot passengers, each supported by two lofty Ionic columns. This structure appears extremely light and elegant, all the arches being very large, and that of the center already mentioned, is exceeded by few in the world, it being considerably wider than that of the Rialto at Venice.

In Farringdon-ward-within is St. Paul's cathedral, the most magnificent Protestant church in the world, which may be seen at a great distance every way from London. Some tell us it was founded in the year 610, by Ethelbert, a Saxon king, on the same spot where the temple of Diana formerly stood; and it is concluded there was a temple here dedicated to that goddess, because oxes horns have often been dug up near it, together with the implements used in sacrificing.

The son of Sir Christopher Wren, the architect of the present structure, gives us a very different account, and observes in his Parentalia, that the first cathedral of the episcopal see of London was built in the area, where had been the

Roman

Roman praetorian camp, and in the situation on which all the succeeding fabricks stood, but that this structure was demolished during the persecution under the emperor Dioclesian. The church is, however, supposed to have been rebuilt under Constantine, but it was destroyed by the Pagan Saxons, and rebuilt on the old foundation in the seventh century, when Sebert, king of Essex, advanced Melitus to the bishopric of London. The church was however destroyed by fire in 961, but was soon rebuilt. During the Saxon heptarchy this church flourished extremely; Kenrad, king of Mercia, declared it as free in all its rights, as he himself desired to be at the day of Judgment; Athelston endowed it with fifteen lordships, Edgar with two, and Eglefede his queen with two more. King Edward the Confessor was also a benefactor to it. But in the reign of William the Conqueror, it was consumed a second time by a dreadful fire, which happened in 1086, when the greatest part of the city was also reduced to ashes. This destruction served to make way for a more magnificent structure than had ever yet been applied to the purposes of devotion in this kingdom. Maurice, then bishop of London, spent twenty years in rebuilding it, but left it unfinished; his successor followed his example, and even applied the whole revenue of his see towards the advancement of this great work, but also left it unfinished; after which it is supposed to have been compleated by lay persons, but at what time, and in what manner, is no where mentioned. Yet notwithstanding the length of time, and the great expence bestowed on this structure, it had not been long compleated before it was thought not sufficiently magnificent; the steeple was therefore rebuilt, and Roger Niger, being afterwards promoted to the see of London, proceeded with the

choir, and finished it in 1240, when it was solemnly consecrated afresh in the presence of the king, the pope's legate, and many lords, both spiritual and temporal.

St. Paul's cathedral being thus compleated, a survey was taken of it, by which it appears that it had the following dimensions: the body of the church was six hundred and ninety feet in length; the breadth one hundred and thirty; the height of the roof of the west end, on the inside, one hundred and two feet; that of the east eighty-eight, and that of the body one hundred and fifty; the tower was two hundred and sixty feet high from the ground, and from thence rose a wooden spire, covered with lead, two hundred and seventy-four feet in height, on the top of which was a ball, nine feet one inch in circumference, crowned with a cross.

This church was at that time more richly adorned than any other in the kingdom. The high altar stood between two pillars, enriched with precious stones, and encompassed with images most beautifully wrought, and was covered with a wooden canopy, on which was painted saints and angels. The new shrine of St. Erkenwald stood on the east side of the wall above the high altar, splendidly adorned with gold, silver and precious stones. The picture of St. Paul was placed in a wooden tabernacle on the right side of the high altar, and was esteemed a masterly performance. Against a pillar in the body of the church, was placed a beautiful image of the Virgin Mary, before which was kept a lamp continually burning. In the center stood a large cross, and towards the north door a crucifix, at which offerings were made that greatly encreased the revenue of the dean and canons.

Under

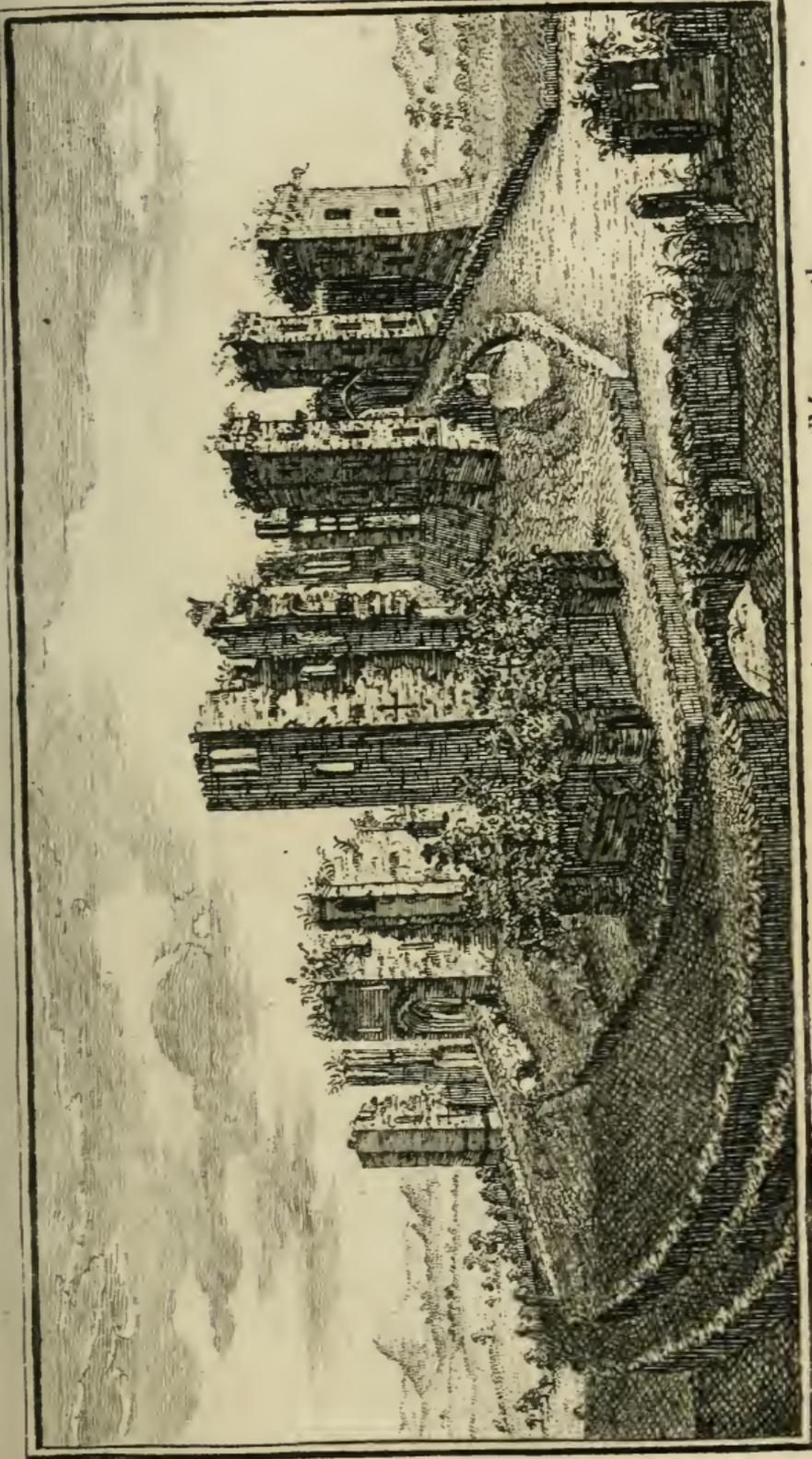
Under this cathedral was a parish church, called St. Faith's, in which several persons of distinction were formerly interred.

St. Paul's was encompassed with a wall about the year 1109, which extended from the north-east corner of Ave-Maria-lane eastward, along Pater-noster-Row, to the north-end of the Old Change in Cheap-side, whence it ran southward to Carter-Lane, and extended westward to Ludgate-Street. To this wall were six gates. In the middle of the church-yard on the north side was a pulpit-cross, at which sermons were weekly preached, and facing the cross stood a charnel-house, in which the bones of the dead were decently piled up together. In the north-west corner of the church-yard was the episcopal palace, and in the east part of the church-yard was a bell-tower, in which were four great bells, called Jesus bells, from their belonging to Jesus chapel in St. Faith's church.

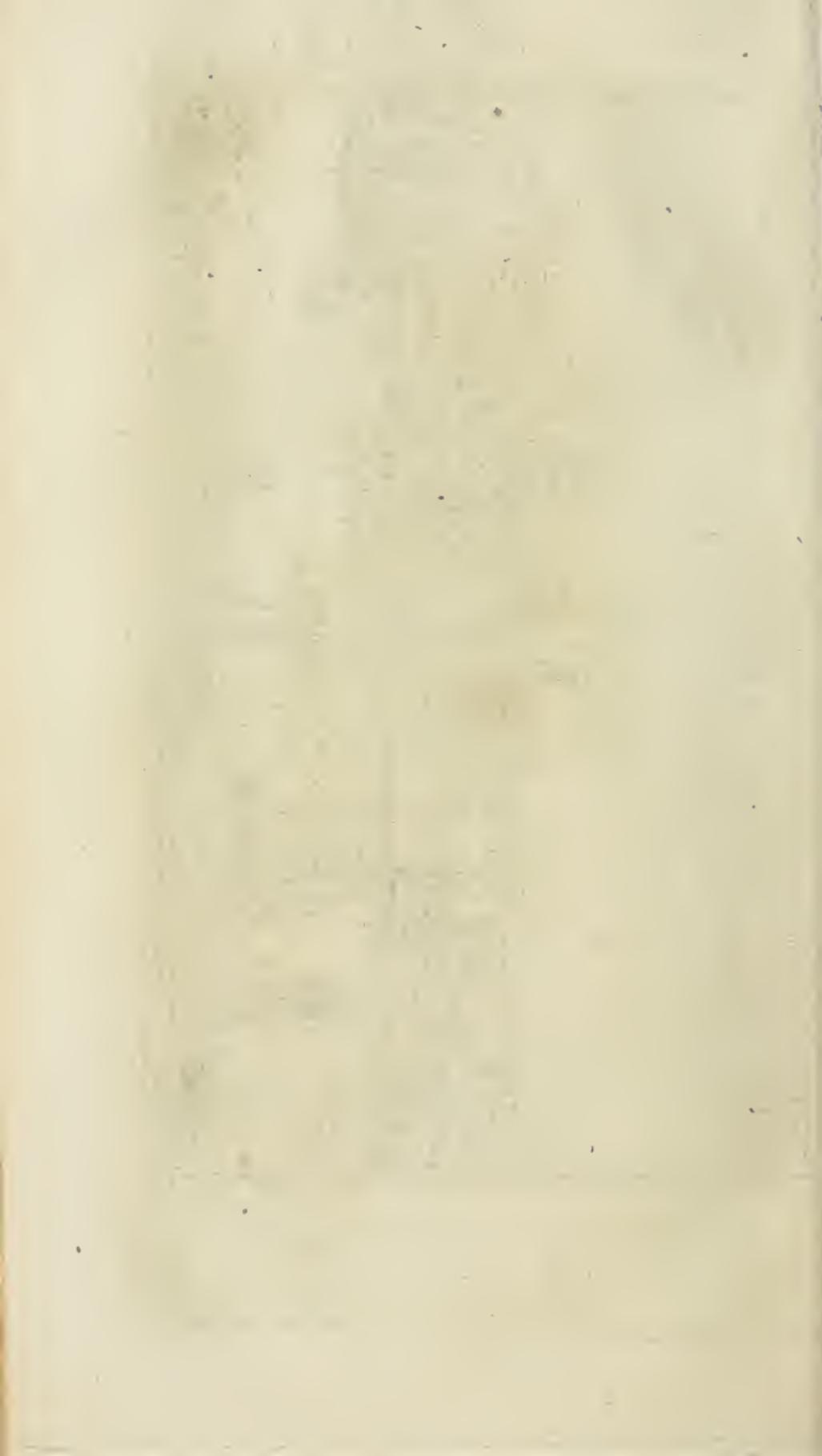
Thus this magnificent edifice appeared while in its splendor; but in the year 1444, at about two in the afternoon, its lofty wooden spire was fired by lightening; but by the assiduity of the citizens, it was soon, to appearance, extinguished; yet at about nine at night, it broke out again with redoubled fury; however, by the indefatigable pains of the lord mayor and citizens, it was at last effectually extinguished; yet it was not fully repaired till the year 1462, when the spire being completed, a beautiful fane of gilt copper was placed upon it. About one hundred years after, another accident of the same kind happened, that was generally attributed to the same cause; but its effects were much more fatal, the fire consuming, not only the spire, but the roof of the church; for in the space of four hours, it burnt

all the rafters, and every thing else that was combustible; but though this fire was universally attributed to lightening, Dr. Heylin observes, that an ancient plumber confessed at his death, that it was occasioned through his negligence, in leaving a pan of coals in the steeple, while he went to dinner, which taking hold of the dry timber in the spire, was at his return got to such a height, that he judged it impossible to quench it, and therefore thought it most consistent with his safety not to contradict the common report.

After this calamity the timber roofs were finished and covered with lead, but the spire was never after rebuilt, and a general repair of the whole building was deferred for a long time. An attempt was made to raise contributions for the repair of the church in the reign of James the First, but without effect. In the succeeding reign, that great architect Inigo Jones completed the repairs, except the steeple, which was intended to be entirely taken down, and a magnificent portico of the Corinthian order was erected at the west end, but the flames of civil war soon put a period to this design. The revenues collected for this purpose were seized, the pulpit cross in the churchyard was pulled down, the scaffolding of the steeple was assigned by parliament for the payment of arrears due to the army, the body of the church was converted into saw-pits, the west parts of the building converted into a stable, and the new portico into shops for milliners and others, with lodging-rooms over them. However, at the restoration, a new commission was procured for its immediate reparation; but before any thing material could be accomplished, the fire of London reduced the whole structure to little better than a heap of ruins.



*The West View of Ragland Castle, in the County of Monmouth.*



It being now found that the building was incapable of any substantial repairs, it was resolved to erect, on the same spot, a new cathedral that should equal, if not exceed, the splendor of the old. Contributions were raised, and above 126,000 l. was in the first ten years paid into the chamber of London, a new duty was laid on coals, which, at a medium, produced 5000 l. a year, and king Charles the Second generously contributed 1000 l. per annum towards carrying on the work. It was rebuilt according to a model prepared by Sir Christopher Wren, who laid the first stone of the present structure, on the 21st of June, 1675, and the last stone on the top of the lantern was laid by his son Mr. Christopher Wren, in 1710.

In clearing the foundation Sir Christopher found, that the north side had been anciently a great burying-place, for under the graves of the latter ages, he found those of the Saxons, who cased their dead in chalk-stones, though persons of great eminence were interred in stone coffins: below these were the graves of the ancient Britons, as was evident from the great number of ivory and wooden pins found among the mouldered dust, they only pinning the corpse in woollen shrouds, and laying it in the ground; and this covering being consumed, the ivory and wooden pins remained entire. He also discovered a great number of Roman urns and dishes, found, and of a beautiful red like our sealing-wax; on the bottoms of some of them were inscriptions, which shewed they had been drinking vessels; and on others which resembled our modern salad-dishes, and were curiously wrought, was the inscription DZ. PRIMANI; and on others, those of PATRICI. QUINTIMANI VICTOR JANUS. RECINIO, &c. The pots and several glass vessels were of a mur-

rey colour; and others resembling urns, were beautifully embellished on the outside with raised work representing grey-hounds, stags, hares, and rose trees. Others were of a cinnamon colour, in the form of an urn, and though a little faded, appeared as if they had been gilt. Some resembling jugs formed an hexagon, and were curiously indented and adorned with a variety of figures in basso relievo. On the red vessels were inscribed the names of their deities, heroes and judges; and the matter of which these vessels were made, was of such an excellent composition, as to vie in beauty with polished metal. There were also discovered several brass coins, on one of which was an Adrian's head, and on the reverse a galley under oars; on others, the heads of Romulus and Remus, Claudius and Constantine.

This noble structure is built in the form of a cross, and there are two ranges of pilasters, consisting of one hundred and twenty each, one above another, the lower Corinthian, and the upper Composite. The spaces between the arches of the windows, and the architrave of the lower order, are filled with a variety of enrichments, as are also those above. The west front has a very magnificent portico, supported by twelve lofty Corinthian columns, and over these are eight columns of the Composite order, which support a noble pediment crowned with its acroteria; and in this pediment is the history of St. Paul, boldly carved in basso relievo. The ascent to this portico is by a flight of steps of black marble, that extends the whole length of the portico; and over each corner of the west front is a most beautiful turret. The figure of St. Paul on the apex of the pediment, with St. Peter on his right hand, and St. James on his left, on its sides, have a fine effect, as have also the Evangelists,  
with

with their proper emblems on the front of the towers. On the north side is a portico, the ascent to which is by twelve steps of black marble, and its dome is supported by six Corinthian columns. Upon the dome is a large urn finely ornamented with festoons, and over this is a pediment supported by pilasters, in the face of which is the royal arms, with the regalia, supported by angles. On the top, at proper distances, are the statues of five of the apostles. The south portico is placed directly opposite to the north, but the ground being lower, it has a larger and different flight of steps; the columns and pedestal resemble those on the north side, but above the pediment is a Phoenix rising from the flames. At the east end of the church is a circular projection for the altar, finely ornamented.

A vast dome rises from the center of the building: twenty feet above the roof is a circular range of thirty-two columns, with niches placed exactly against others within; these are terminated by their entablature, which supports a handsome gallery, adorned with a stone balustrade. Above these columns is a range of pilasters with windows between them; and from the entablature of these, the diameter of the dome gradually decreases. On the summit of the dome is an elegant balcony, and from its center rises a beautiful lantern, adorned with Corinthian columns, and the whole is terminated by a ball, from which rises a cross, both finely gilt.

On the inside the dome, or cupola, is supported by eight large pillars, richly adorned. Round the bottom part of the dome is a whispering iron balcony or gallery, and round the upper part of the dome it is painted by Sir James Thornhill. The roof of the choir is supported by six pillars,

and the roof of the church by two ranges, consisting of twenty more.

The length of this cathedral from east to west, between the walls, is four hundred and sixty-three feet, and if the west portico be included, five hundred : the west front is one hundred and eighty feet in breadth, and in the center of the church, where it is widest, including the north and south porticos, is three hundred and eleven feet. The height of the body of the church is a hundred and twenty feet, and the height from the ground, to the top of the cross, is three hundred and forty-four feet. The cupola is on the outside one hundred and forty-five feet in diameter, and on the inside one hundred. The outward diameter of the lantern is eighteen feet, and the height of the turrets two hundred and eight feet.

At a proper distance the church is surrounded by a dwarf stone wall, on which is placed a fine balustrade of cast iron, in which are seven beautiful iron gates, which, together with the balusters, weigh two hundred tons, and eighty-one pounds ; which, having cost six-pence per pound, amounted to above 11,000 l. In the area before the west front is a marble statue of queen Anne, holding a sceptre in one hand, and a globe in the other, surrounded with four emblematical figures, representing Great-Britain, France, Ireland and America. But the attitude of the queen is generally allowed to be stiff, and the habit Gothic and formal. The reader, who is desirous of seeing a more particular description of St. Paul's cathedral, may obtain full satisfaction by consulting a pamphlet, entitled, a Description of St. Paul's, sold at the publishers of this work.

Opposite to the east end of the cathedral is St. Paul's school, founded in 1509, by Dr. John Collet, dean of this church, for a principal mas-

ter,

ter, an under-master, a chaplain, and one hundred and fifty-three scholars. He appointed the company of mercers trustees of this school, and left eleven exhibitions, which the trustees apply for such of the scholars, as are sent to the universities, as they do others left to the school for the same purpose. The original building was destroyed by the fire of London, and the present structure was built soon after. It is a very handsome edifice, built partly of stone, and adorned with busts and carvings. Here is a good library of classic authors, the gift of the gentlemen who have received their education there. The upper-master has a salary of 300 l. a year, besides what he acquires by additional scholars and boarders; the second master has 250 l. a year, and the third 90 l. per annum.

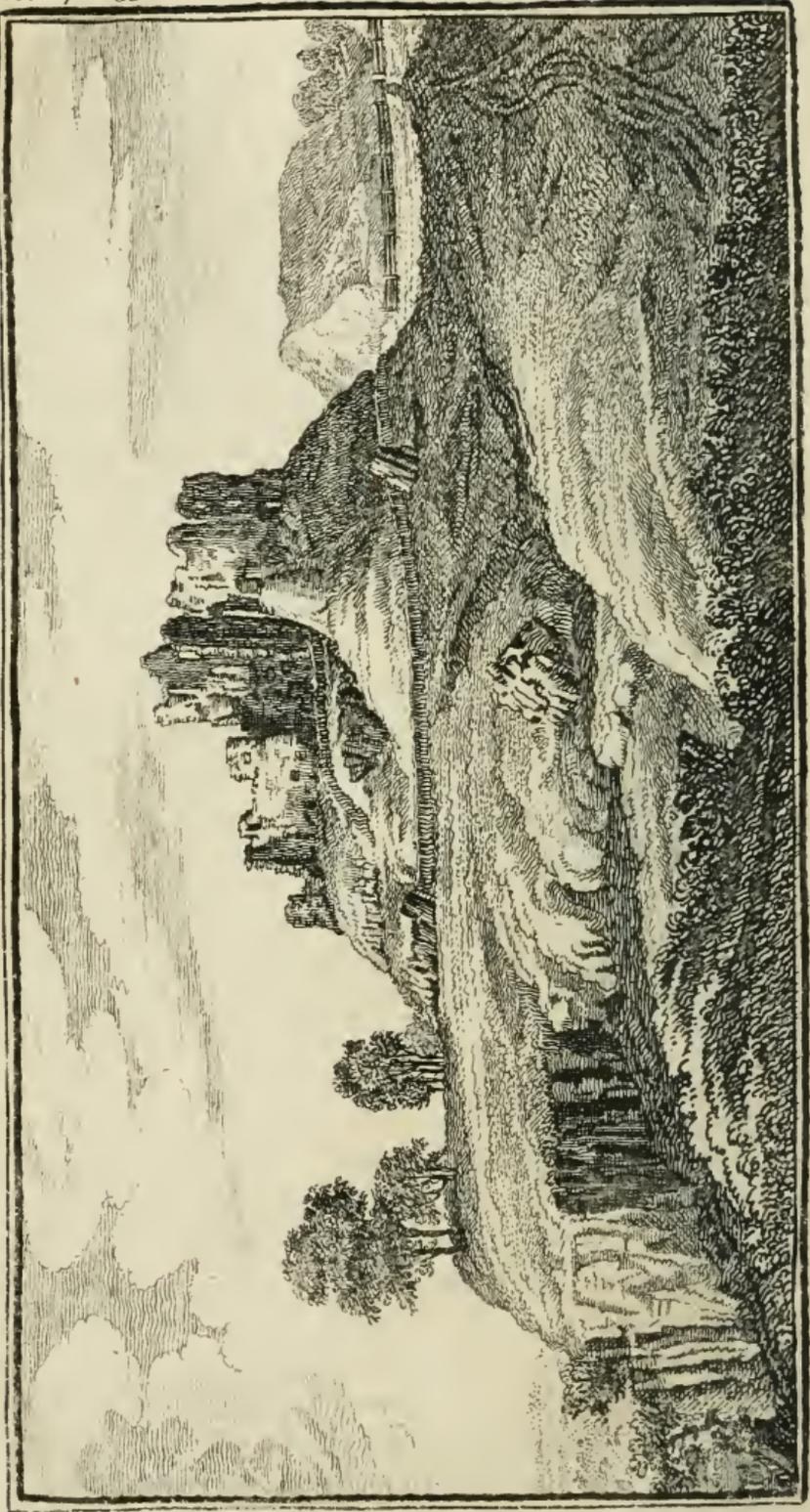
In Warwick-lane, in this ward, is the college of physicians, erected by Sir Christopher Wren, in 1682. It is built of brick, with a spacious stone frontispiece, and is a very beautiful structure, though it is so surrounded with other buildings, that it can scarce be seen. Besides a hall, in which two of the fellows of the college meet twice a week to give advice and medicines to the poor gratis, here is a committee room, and a large hall, adorned with paintings and sculpture, where all the members meet quarterly. There is likewise a theatre for anatomical dissections, a good library, a room for preparations, and convenience to dry herbs for the use of the dispensary. In the front of the hall, towards the court, is a statue of king Charles the Second cut in stone; on the west side of the theatre is another of Sir John Cutler; and in June 1739, a fine marble bust was erected in the great hall, of the famous Dr. Harvey, at the expence of the late Dr. Mead. The college

college consists of a president, censors, fellows, honorary-fellows and licentiates.

In this ward is Christ's hospital, which was formerly a convent of Grey friars, but being dissolved by Henry the Eighth, it was converted in 1553, by Edward the Sixth, into an hospital for fatherless children the sons of freemen, and afterwards several considerable benefactions were left to it for the support of the orphans of non-freemen. The number maintained herein is generally about a thousand, most of whom are in the house; but the younger sort are maintained at Hertford, at the expence of the foundation. Here the boys have a grammar school. There is also a writing school, built at the charge of Sir John Moore, alderman of the city, which is said to have cost 4000 l. A drawing school, and a mathematical school, founded by Charles the Second, for forty of the most promising boys; who are taught all parts of the mathematics, but chiefly navigation. After the boys have been seven or eight years on the foundation, some are sent to the university, others are sent to sea, and the rest put apprentices to mechanic trades, at the expence of the hospital. The boys are cloathed in blue coats, with petticoats of the same colour, and yellow stockings; hence it is frequently called the Blue coat hospital. The affairs of this charity are managed by a president, and about three hundred governors, besides the lord mayor and aldermen, who appoint the treasurer, register and two clerks, a physician, a surgeon, steward, cook, porter, four beadles, a matron and eleven nurses. The building, which is partly Gothic and partly modern, was much damaged by the fire of London, but was speedily repaired, and has been since augmented with several new structures. The principal buildings, which form the four sides of an  
area,



*The South View of Montgomery Castle.*



area, have a piazza round them with Gothic arches, and the walls are supported by abutments. However, the front of the building is more modern, and has Doric pilasters supported on pedestals. Among the ancient buildings that still remain, is an old cloister, which formed a part of the priory.

The monastery of Franciscans, or Grey friars, converted into this hospital, was of ancient date. These friars came into England in the reign of Henry the Third, and five of them were entertained for some time by the Preaching friars, in Oldbourn. At length John Ewen, mercer, purchased this spot of ground for them, and with the help of other benefactors erected this friary, chiefly at his own expence, and afterwards became a lay-brother in it. Queen Margaret, wife to king Edward the First, was a great benefactress to it, as were also John de Dreux, earl of Britain and Richmond, and several mayors, aldermen and others. In the ancient church of this monastery were interred four queens, one duke, four dutchesses, two earls, four countesses, eight barons and thirty-five knights. At the suppression, the revenue was valued by Speed at 32 l. 19 s. 10 d. per annum, and the church made parochial.

At a small distance from this friary stood the priory of St. Bartholomew, which was founded by one Rahere, about the year 1102, for canons of St. Augustin, of whom he became the first friar, and governed them twenty-two years. King Henry the First granted to Rahere and his canons many privileges and immunities, and particularly a fair on the eve, day and morrow of St. Bartholomew's festival, and confirmed to them all the lands and churches given them by other benefactors. This priory, being much decayed by time, was repaired, and in a manner rebuilt in 1410. It had then

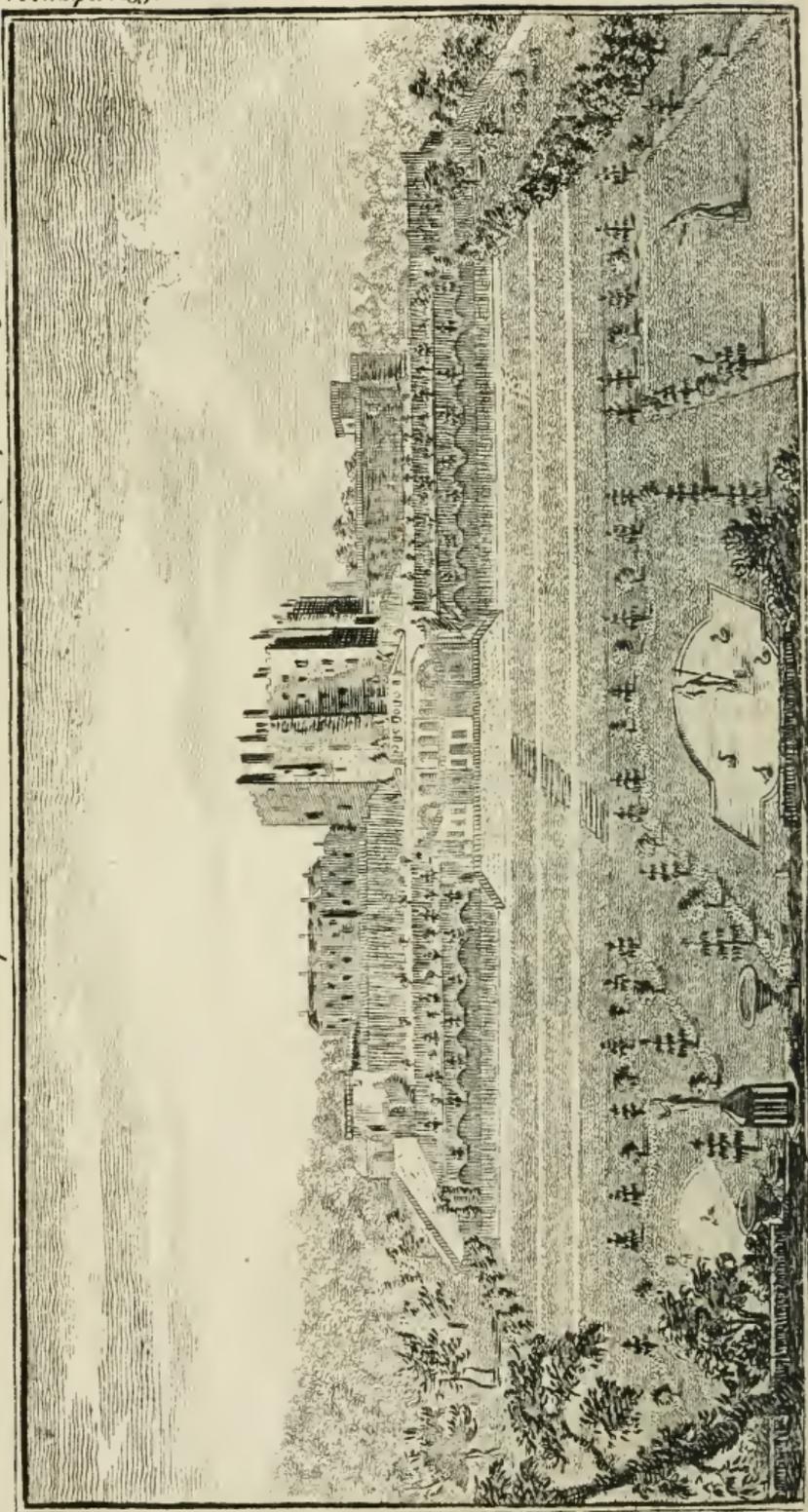
an hospital belonging to it, and at its dissolution was valued at 653*l.* 15*s.* per annum by Dugdale, and at 757*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* by Speed.

Catharine, widow of William Hardell, by the grant of king Henry the Third, built for herself a recluse near the chapel of this priory, twenty feet square, where she spent the remainder of her life.

The hospital belonging to this priory was founded anew by king Henry the Eighth, who endowed it with the annual revenue of five hundred marks, upon condition, that the city should pay the same sum; which proposal being readily embraced, the managers were incorporated by the name of the hospital of the mayor, commonalty, and citizens of London, governors for the poor, called Little St. Bartholomew's, near West Smithfield. Since that time, the hospital has received a great number of generous benefactions. The ancient hospital, which escaped the fire of London, becoming ruinous, it was found necessary in the year 1729 to rebuild it, and a very noble edifice of Portland stone was built, since which time three other magnificent piles of building have been erected, which form a very elegant square. Here not only the poor of London and Southwark, who are maimed or sick, but those of any other part of the king's dominions, and even from foreign countries, are taken in, and have lodging, food, attendance and medicines, with the advice and assistance of some of the best physicians and surgeons in the kingdom, who belong to the hospital, and attend the patients as occasion requires. They have likewise matrons and nurses to assist them. By these means several thousands of persons, afflicted with the most dreadful diseases and wounds, are annually cured at this hospital, and in those of Kent-street in Southwark, and the  
Lock



*The South East View of Powis Castle, in the County of Montgomery.*



Lock at Kingsland, both of which are dependant on it. There are besides, a great number of out-patients, who receive advice and medicines gratis.

At a small distance near the liberties of the city is the Charter-house, which was founded in the reign of king Edward the Third, as a monastery of Carthusians, and, from the corruption of the word Chartreux, by which the French mean a house of Carthusians, it obtained the name of Charter-house. This monastery being dissolved at the reformation, at length fell to the earl of Suffolk, who sold it to Thomas Sutton, Esq; a citizen of London, for 13,000l. and the latter having obtained a patent for his intended charitable foundation in 1611, spent 7000l. in fitting up the house for the reception of his pensioners and scholars: and afterwards endowed his hospital and school with fifteen manors and other lands, to the value of about 4490l. per annum; and the estate is at present improved to above 6000l. a year.

In this house are maintained eighty pensioners, who, according to the institution, are gentlemen who have fallen into misfortunes. These are provided with handsome apartments, and all the necessaries and conveniences of life, except cloaths, instead of which each of them is allowed a gown and 7l. a year. There are also forty-four boys supported in the house, where they have handsome lodgings, and are instructed in classical learning, &c. whence they are removed to the universities, where they have twenty-nine students, who have each an allowance of 20l. per annum, for the term of eight years. Others, who are judged more fit for trades, are put out apprentices, and the sum of 40l. is given with each of them. As a farther encouragement to the scholars brought up on this foundation, there are nine ecclesiastical preferments

preferments in the patronage of the governors, who are to confer them upon those who are educated there. The pensioners and youths are taken in at the recommendation of the governors, who appoint in rotation. The building is an old Gothic structure of stone, but before it is a very neat square, and behind it are large gardens.

Farringdon-ward-without, is entirely situated without the walls of London, and extends to the extremity of the city liberties. It contains several inns of court and chancery, particularly the Inner and Middle Temple, Serjeants Inn, for the use of the judges and serjeants, and six inns of chancery for attornies; namely, Clifford's Inn belonging to the Inner Temple, Staples Inn, and Barnard's Inn to Gray's Inn, and Furnival's Inn and Thavy's Inn to Lincoln's Inn. The inns of court are generally accommodated with a great number of handsome and convenient chambers; and each has a hall to dine in during the terms.

The Temple was so called, from its being originally founded by the Knights Templars, who settled here in 1185. It was at first called the New Temple, to distinguish it from the first house of the knights templars, which stood in Holborn, over-against Chancery-lane, from which they removed hither. The original building was divided into three parts, the Inner, the Middle, and the Outer-Temple: the Inner and the Outer-Temple were thus called, because one was within, and the other with out the posts and bars, then erected at the extremity of the city liberties; and the Middle Temple received its name from its situation between them.

The New Temple in this place was dedicated to God and the Blessed Virgin, in the year 1185, by Honorius, patriarch of the church of the Holy Resurrection in Jerusalem. These templars consisted

consisted of several of the crusaders, who originally settled at Jerusalem, about the year 1118, where they had formed themselves into an uniform militia, under the name of Knights of the Temple, a title which they had assumed from their being quartered near a church built on the spot where Solomon's temple had stood. They first guarded the roads, in order to render them safe for the pilgrims who came to visit the Holy Sepulchre, and some time after had a rule appointed them by pope Honorius the Second, who ordered them to wear a white habit, and soon after they also distinguished themselves by wearing crosses of red cloth on their upper garments. In a short time many noblemen, in all parts of Christendom, became brethren of this order, and erected temples in many cities in Europe, and particularly in England, where this was their chief house. In the thirteenth century, they were in so flourishing a situation, that they frequently entertained the nobility, the pope's nuncio, foreign ambassadors, and even the king himself; and many parliaments and great councils have been held there. However, in 1308, all the templars in England were apprehended, and committed to prison, and five years after, Edward the Second gave Aimer de la Valence, earl of Pembroke, this house of the templars, with all their possessions in the city. At his death it reverted to the crown, and in 1324, was given to the knights hospitallers of the order of St. John of Jerusalem, who had their chief house in St. John's square, Clerkenwell. These knights soon after let this edifice to the students of the common law, in whose possession it has remained ever since; but the Outer Temple became a house for the earl of Essex. The buildings of the Temple escaped the fire of London, but most of them have been destroyed

stroyed by subsequent fires, and are now handsomely rebuilt. The Temples are divided into several courts, and have pleasant gardens on the bank of the Thames: they are appropriated to separate societies, and have separate halls, where the societies, during term-time, dine in common. The Inner Temple hall, is said to have been erected in the reign of king Edward the Third, and that of the Middle-Temple hall, which is a large fine structure, was rebuilt in 1572. Each society has a good library, adorned with paintings, and well furnished with books. An assembly called a parliament, at which the affairs of the society of the Inner Temple are managed, is held twice every term. Both Temples have one church, which was founded in 1185, but the present edifice is thought to have been built in 1240. It is supported by neat slender pillars of Suffex marble, and is one of the most beautiful Gothic structures in England.

In Chancery-lane by this ward is an office of chancery, consisting of a house and chapel, called the Office and Chapel of the Rolls; from their being the great repository of the modern public rolls and records of the kingdom. Here was originally the house of an eminent Jew, which being forfeited to the crown in the year 1233, king Henry the Third converted it into an hospital, for the reception and maintenance of Jews and other profelytes; but in 1377, the same prince granted this hospital and its chapel to William Burstall, master of the rolls of chancery, to whose successors it has belonged ever since; but the mansion-house of the master of the rolls being much decayed, has been rebuilt in a very handsome manner, with stone and brick; and in it is a room, in which he hears and determines causes in chancery. The chapel is partly of Gothic structure, and here the rolls are kept in presses fixed to the sides

of the chapel; and here also divine service is regularly performed. There is a certain district round this office called the Liberty of the Rolls, over which the city has no authority.

In this ward is Bridewell, a large building, thus called from a spring named St. Bride's, or St. Bridget's-well. It was originally a royal palace, and took up all the ground from Fleet-ditch on the east, to Water-lane on the west; but that part of it where now is Salisbury-court, was given to the bishops of Salisbury for their city mansion. The east part, now called Bridewell, was rebuilt by king Henry the Eighth, and this palace Edward the Sixth gave to the city for an hospital, which he endowed for the lodging of poor travellers, and the correction of vagabonds and strumpets. On its being burnt down by the fire of London, it was rebuilt in 1668, and is now a spacious, commodious structure, consisting of two courts, in which, besides the other buildings, is a handsome chapel and a hall. In one part of the building, are houses for twenty decayed artificers; and here about one hundred and fifty boys, who wear white hats and blue doublets, are apprentices to glovers, flax-dressers, weavers, &c. and on their having served their time, are not only entitled to their freedom of the city, but to receive ten pounds each. The other part of Bridewell is a prison, and a house of correction for disorderly servants, vagrants and strumpets, who are made to beat hemp. The affairs of this hospital are conducted by the lord mayor and court of aldermen, with about three hundred other governors, who are likewise governors of Bethlehem hospital, these two hospitals being but one corporation. They have also the same presidents, clerk, physician, surgeon and apothecary; but this hospital

pital has its own steward, a porter, a matron and four beadles.

Near Bridewell is St. Bride's church, which was rebuilt in 1680, after its being burnt down by the fire of London. It is a fine structure, one hundred and eleven feet long, fifty-seven broad, and forty-one high, with a light and beautiful spire, two hundred and thirty-four feet in height, and a ring of twelve musical bells in its tower.

Tho' there has been a market or two in the city already mentioned, it will not be improper to mention them altogether; thus Smithfield has a market on Mondays and Fridays, for live cattle and hay; Leadenhall for butchers, wool, hides, leather, and Colchester bays; as also Honey-lane, Newgate and Fleet markets, wherein there are also separate places for herbs and fruits, besides a few stalls for fish; but Billingsgate and Fish-street-hill, are the most noted markets for fish; as the Three Cranes in Thames-street is for apples and other fruit. In the city are also two great corn markets, Bear-key and Queen-hithe. The former is furnished with grain from different parts of England, and here it is commonly sold by ship loads. Queen-hithe is the grand market for malt, from Surry, Hampshire, Bucks, and other western counties; add to this, that it is the greatest market for meal in England. Some of the barges that are employed in bringing malt and meal, are of such a length, that they carry a thousand quarters of malt, and yet do not draw two feet water. There is also a Corn Exchange, a very handsome structure, in Mark-lane, in which the cornfactors sit under a colonade, each with a desk before him, on which are several handfals of corn; and from these small samples, when the exportation of corn is not prohibited, several thousand quarters are sold every market day. Billingsgate is also a market

ket for coals, and is kept every morning; and at least six hundred thousand chaldrons are brought by sea every year into the port of London, from the counties of Durham and Northumberland.

With respect to the ancient religious houses belonging to the city, they were too numerous to admit of a particular description in a work of this kind; and it will be sufficient just to mention them.

The priories were, that of St. John of Jerusalem, near Clerkenwell.

That of the Holy Trinity of Christ-church, or Creed-church, within Aldgate.

That of St. Bartholomew the Great, within Aldgate.

That of the Knights Templars in Fleet-street already mentioned, and the Old Temple of Holborn.

The friaries were, that of the Brethren de Sacca, or de Poenitentia Jesu Christi, in the Old Jewry.

The Crutched or Crossed-friars, in St. Olave's, Hart-street.

The Carthusians, or Charter-house monks, between St. John's-street and Goswell-street.

And the New Abbey by East-Smithfield.

The five following were convents of begging friars.

The Black friars, Dominicans, or Preaching friars, near Ludgate, and the Black friars in Holborn.

The Franciscans, or Grey friars near Newgate.

The Augustine friars, and the Carmelites, or White friars in Fleet-street.

The convents of women were, that of St. Helen, within Bishopsgate.

That of Clerkenwell,

That

That of St. Clare, in the Minories.

And that of Holywell, by Shoreditch.

The Guilds, or Fraternities were, the brotherhood of St. Fabian and St. Sebastian, in St. Botolph's Aldgate.

The Fraternity and chapel of the Holy Trinity in Leadenhall, and innumerable others founded in most of the churches.

Having now given a particular description of the principal buildings in the city of London and its liberties, properly so called, we come to Westminster, which is generally considered as a part of London: but though it is called a distinct city, it is not even incorporated, nor is it the see of a bishop. Westminster had its name from its abbey or minster, situated to the westward of the city of London, to distinguish it from St. Paul's church in the city, which was anciently called Eastminster. In early times this noble part of the metropolis, was a little mean unhealthy place, with nothing worthy of notice, but its minster or abbey, situated in a marshy island, surrounded on one side by the Thames, and on the others by what was called Long-ditch. This island was a kind of waste, overgrown with thorns and briars, and thence called Thorny Island.

Till the general dissolution of religious houses, Westminster, and all the buildings it contained, were subject to the arbitrary rule of its abbot and monks; but in 1541, king Henry the Eighth, upon the surrender of William Benson, its last abbot, made it the see of a bishop, with a dean and twelve prebendaries, and appointed all the county of Middlesex, except Fulham, which belonged to the bishop of London, for its diocese. Upon this occasion, Westminster became a city; but

but as it had never more than one bishop, the bishopric being, soon after its institution, dissolved by Edward the Sixth, it could no longer be strictly termed a city, though, by the public courtesy, it has retained that distinction, except in acts of parliament, and other public deeds, where it is stiled the city or borough of Westminster.

The district anciently included in the city of Westminster, was a mile to the westward of London, and even still contains only two parishes, those of St. Margaret and St. John, besides two chapels of ease. Its liberties are, however, very extensive, and contain eight other parishes. These are, St. Martin's in the fields, St. James's, St. Ann's, St. Paul's Covent-Garden, St. Mary le Strand, St. Clement Danes, St. George's Hanover-square, St. George's Queen's-square, and the precinct of the Savoy, each of which is of such extent, that it is impossible for one tenth part of the inhabitants to attend divine worship at one and the same time: hence there are many chapels of ease, for the convenience of those, who could not be so well accommodated in their parish churches, and many meeting-houses of dissenters.

The city of Westminster is governed by the dean and chapter of Westminster, both in civil and ecclesiastical affairs, and their authority likewise extends, not only to the precinct of St. Martin's-le-Grand, and to some towns in Essex, but to some towns that are exempted from the jurisdiction of the bishop of London, and the archbishop of Canterbury. The civil administration is in the hands of laymen elected by the dean and chapter. The principal magistrate is the high-steward, who is commonly one of the greatest peers of the kingdom, and is chosen for life; a deputy-steward, who is nominated by the high-steward, and confirmed by the dean; an high-bailiff, nominated

minated by the dean and chapter, and confirmed by the high-steward. These enjoy their places for life. Besides these officers, there are also sixteen burgeses, and as many assistants, a high-constable chosen by the burgeses at the court-leet, which is held by the deputy of the high steward. The high-bailiff is always supposed to be conversant in the law. He has the power of a sheriff, summons juries, presides over the bailiffs of the city and liberties, superintends elections for members of parliament, and in the court-leet sits next to the deputy-steward, where he receives all the fines and forfeitures to his own use, but the business of this office is commonly executed by a deputy well versed in the laws. Out of the sixteen burgeses, two chief burgeses are chosen, one for the city, and the other for the liberties, and each of the others has his proper ward under his jurisdiction. There is also a high-constable, who is likewise chosen by the court-leet, and has all the other constables under his command.

The most remarkable structure in Westminster is its cathedral, originally an abbey church, to which the city itself owes its being. It is said that Sebert, king of the East-Saxons, who died in 616, being converted to Christianity by Austin's discourses, and the example of his uncle Ethelbert, erected this church on the ruins of a temple dedicated to Apollo, in the island of Thorny, and caused Mellitus, bishop of London, to consecrate it to St. Peter. This church and its monastery were repaired and enlarged by Offa, king of Mercia, but was soon after destroyed by the Danes, and rebuilt by king Edgar, who, in the year 969, endowed them with lands and manors, and granted them many ample privileges. The church and monastery having again suffered by the ravages of the Danes, were rebuilt by Edward the Confessor, who demolished

molished the old church, and in its room erected a most magnificent one for that age, in the form of a cross, which afterwards became a pattern for that kind of building. This work being finished in 1065, he caused it to be consecrated with the utmost pomp and solemnity; and by several charters both confirmed all its ancient rights and privileges, and endowed it with many rich manors and additional immunities; also by a bull of Pope Nicholas the First, this church was constituted the place for the inauguration of the kings of England. These charters drew people thither from all parts, so that in a short time there was not sufficient room in the abbey-church for the accommodation of the numerous inhabitants, without incommoding the monks; he therefore caused a new church to be erected on the north side of the monastery, for the use of the inhabitants, and dedicated it to St. Margaret. William the Conqueror no sooner arrived in London, than repairing to this church, he offered a sumptuous pall as a covering for king Edward's tomb; he likewise gave fifty marks of silver, two caskets of gold, and a very rich altar-cloth; and the next Christmas was solemnly crowned there, this being the first coronation performed in that place. Henry the Third began in the year 1200, to erect a new chapel to the Blessed Virgin; but about twenty years after, finding the walls and steeple of the old structure much decayed, caused them to be pulled down, in order to enlarge and rebuild them in a more regular manner; but this great work was not completed till 1285, about fourteen years after his decease, and this is the date of the present building.

About the year 1502, king Henry the Seventh began the magnificent structure called by his name; for which purpose he pulled down the

chapel of the Blessed Virgin just mentioned, and an adjoining house, called the White Rose Tavern; this chapel he dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, and designing it for a burial place for himself and his posterity, ordered in his will, that none but those of royal blood should be permitted to lie there.

At length, on the general suppression of religious houses, the abbey was surrendered to Henry the Eighth in 1539, when its revenues amounted to 3977 l. 6 s. 4 d. per annum, an immense sum in those days. Besides its furniture, which was of inestimable value, it had two hundred and sixteen manors, seventeen hamlets, and ninety-seven towns and villages; and its abbots had a seat in the house of lords. We have already observed, that king Henry the Eighth converted this abbey into a bishopric, which was dissolved nine years after by Edward the Sixth; and in 1557, queen Mary restored it to its ancient conventual state; however, queen Elizabeth again ejected the monks, and in 1560 erected the abbey into a college, under the government of a dean, and twelve secular canons, a school-master, usher, and forty scholars, denominated the queen's, to be educated in the liberal sciences, preparatory to the university, and to have all the necessaries of life except cloathing. To this foundation likewise belong choristers and organists, alms-men, &c.

This venerable fabrick has been since new coated on the outside, except Henry the Seventh's chapel, which is indeed a separate building, tho' united to it, and the west end has been adorned with two stately towers, erected in such a manner, as to be thought equal in point of workmanship to any part of the ancient structures; but though such pains have been taken in the coating to preserve the ancient Gothic grandeur, yet the beautiful carving, with which it was once adorned, is irretrievably

Irretrievably lost: the buttresses, once capped with turrets, are now made in plain pyramidical forms, and the statues of our ancient kings, that formerly stood in niches, are for the most part removed. The whole length of the abbey, including Henry the Seventh's chapel, is about four hundred and ninety feet, the breadth at the west end sixty-six, that of the cross isle one hundred and eighty-nine, and the height of the middle roof is ninety-two. The Gothic arches and side isle are supported by forty-eight pillars of grey marble, each composed of clusters of very slender ones. There are ninety-four windows in the upper and lower ranges, of which the four at the ends of the isles are very spacious; and these, with the roof, doors and arches, are in the Gothic taste. There are here twelve sepulchral chapels, which contain ancient monuments of the kings, queens, and nobility of this kingdom: these are the chapels of Edward the Confessor, Henry the Seventh, St. Benedict, St. Edmund, St. Nicholas, St. Paul's, St. John Baptist, St. Erasmus, St. John the Evangelist, St. Michael, St. Andrew, and St. Blaise. Besides the monuments contained in these chapels, there are many very curious modern ones, adorned with all the elegance that the finest sculpture, and the richest marble, can give them. Among these are those of the duke of Argyle, Sir Isaac Newton, lord Stanhope, captain Cornwall, Sir Peter Warren, Sir Charles Wager, general Gueft, general Wade, Shakespear and Prior.

King Henry the Seventh's chapel is supported by fourteen Gothic buttresses, all beautifully ornamented, and projecting from the building in different angles. This chapel is one of the most expensive remains of the ancient English taste and magnificence. The entrance from the east end of the abbey is by a flight of steps of black mar-

ble, under a very noble arch. It has three spacious portals of solid brass. The roof, which is all of stone, is divided into sixteen circles of most curious workmanship, and supported by pillars and arches, enriched with figures of fruit and other ornaments. Here are likewise many statues in niches, with angels supporting imperial crowns. Among the tombs is that of the royal founder and his queen, whose figures of solid brass lie on it at full length. At each corner is an angel of the same metal. On the sides of the pedestals are two Cupids, supporting an imperial crown and the king's arms, with an angel treading on a dragon, and the whole is inclosed with a screen of cast-brass, most admirably designed and executed, and adorned with statues, of which those only of St. James, St. Bartholomew, St. George, and St. Edward, are now remaining. In this chapel are several other tombs of a more modern construction, as those of George Villiers, duke of Buckingham, of John Sheffield, also duke of Buckingham, of Charles Montague, marquis of Halifax, of queen Elizabeth, and several others. Here are also wainscot presses, in which are the effigies in wax-work of several persons of distinguished rank. For a more particular description of this structure, and its numerous magnificent tombs, see an excellent pamphlet published by Messrs. Newbery and Carnan on that subject, in which a description of all the new tombs are constantly inserted in every new edition.

On the north-east side of the abbey is Westminster-hall, an old Gothic structure, first built by William Rufus, as an addition to a royal palace which stood there, and afterwards rebuilt by king Richard the Second, in 1397. It is reckoned one of the largest rooms in Europe, it being two hundred and seventy feet long, seventy-four feet

feet broad, and ninety feet high, supported only by buttresses, without one pillar. In this spacious room the kings of England have generally held their coronation, and other solemn feasts. It is likewise used for the trial of peers; and ever since the reign of Henry the Third, the three great courts of chancery, king's-bench, and common-pleas, have been usually held here, and the court of exchequer above stairs.

Adjoining to the south-east angle of Westminster-hall, is a building formerly called St. Stephen's chapel, it being originally a chapel built by king Stephen, and dedicated to the saint of that name. In 1347, it was rebuilt by king Edward the Third, who converted it into a collegiate church for a dean, twelve secular canons, thirteen vicars, four clerks, six choristers, and other officers and servants; and was endowed with revenues valued at the suppression at 1085 l. 10 s. 5 d. per annum. This chapel, ever since its being surrendered to Edward the Sixth, has been used for the assembly of the representatives of the commons of England, and is now generally termed the House of Commons. It is a neat room, capable of holding six hundred persons. The benches for the members, which gradually ascend one above another, as in a theatre, are covered with green cloth; the floor is matted, and there are wainscot galleries around it. Adjoining to this room are commodious apartments, as the speaker's chamber, rooms for committees, and other offices.

On the south side of Westminster-hall is the House of Lords, or the House of Peers, thus called from its being the place where the peers of Great Britain assemble in parliament. This is an oblong room, somewhat less than the House of Commons, and is hung with tapestry, represent-

ing the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588. Here is a throne for the king, with seats on the right and left for the princes of the blood. Before the throne, are three broad seats stuffed with wool; on that next the throne sits the lord chancellor, who is speaker of the House of Peers, and on the other two sit the master of the rolls, the masters in chancery, and the judges, who attend occasionally to be consulted in points of law. The two archbishops sit on the right hand, at some distance from the throne, and the other bishops in a row under them. The benches for the lords spiritual and temporal are covered with red cloth, and at the end, opposite to the throne, is a bar across the house. Adjoining to this room is an apartment called the Prince's chamber, where the king is robed when he comes to the House; and there are other apartments, in which the peers put on their robes. Between the House of Lords, and the House of Commons, is a spacious apartment termed the Court of Requests, where such attend as have business in either House. Another apartment, termed the Painted chamber, stands between both Houses: this is said to have been the bed-chamber of Edward the Confessor, and the room in which the parliaments were anciently opened. Conferences are frequently held here between the two Houses, or their committees, there being a gallery of communication for the members of the House of Commons to pass without being crowded.

One of the principal public buildings is Westminster-bridge, erected over the Thames, the first stone of which was laid on the 29th of January, 1738-9; the building was finished on the 10th of November, 1750, and the bridge opened on the 17th following. This is accounted one of the finest bridges in the world, it extending  
one

one thousand two hundred and twenty-three feet from wharf to wharf, it being three hundred feet longer than London-bridge. It is forty-four feet wide, a commodious foot-way being allowed for passengers, on each side, of about seven feet broad, paved with broad moor-stones; the intermediate space being sufficient to admit three carriages and two horses, to go a-breast. This bridge consists of thirteen large, and two small arches, with fourteen intermediate piers. Each pier terminates with a saliant right angle against the stream, both upward and downward. The two middle piers are each seventeen feet wide, at the springing of the arches, and contain three thousand cubic feet each, or near two hundred tons of solid stone; and the others decrease equally in width on each side, by one foot. The arches are all semicircular, and spring from about two feet above low-water-mark. The middle arch is seventy-six feet wide, and the rest decrease in width equally on each side by four feet. The free water way under the bridge is eight hundred and seventy feet, so that there is no sensible fall of water. There are semi-octangular towers, which form recesses in the foot way. The whole is lighted by lamps, and fenced on each side with a stone wall, and a lofty balustrade.

At some distance to the eastward was a palace, called Whitehall, originally erected by Hubert de Burgh, earl of Kent, before the year 1243. It afterwards came to the archbishops of York, and continued their city residence, till king Henry the Eighth purchased it of cardinal Wolsey in 1530, when it became a royal palace; but in 1697 it was accidentally consumed by fire, except the part called the Banqueting-house, which had been added to the palace by king James the First, according to a design of Inigo Jones. This is an ele-

gant structure, built with hewn stone, adorned with an upper and lower range of columns and pilasters, the under of the Ionic, and the upper of the Composite order; and between the columns are the windows. The roof is covered with lead, and surrounded with a balustrade. The banqueting-house chiefly consists of one room, of an oblong form, forty feet high, and of a proportionable length and breadth. The ceiling is painted by Rubens, with the entrance, inauguration and coronation of king James the First, represented by pagan emblems. This great apartment is now used only as a chapel royal, and the rest of the house serves for state offices.

Opposite to the Banqueting-house is a modern edifice, called the Horse Guards, from the king's horse-guards doing duty there, two at a time, while his majesty resides at St. James's palace, they being constantly mounted and armed, under two porches detached from the building, and erected to shelter them from the weather. This structure consists of a center and two wings. In the center is an arched passage into St. James's park; and on the top of the building a pediment, on which are the king's arms in relief. Behind the pediment rises a tower, crowned with a cupola. The wing on each side of this center is a pavilion: they are plainer than the center, and consist each of a front projecting a little, with ornamented windows in the principal story, and a plain one in the sides; each has its pediment, with a circular window in the center.

Near the Horse-guards is the Treasury, which fronts the parade in St. James's-park, and consists of three stories, ornamented with columns, and a pediment. It has a court on the inside, surrounded with buildings. The Treasury is under the government of seven lords commissioners,

one of whom is called the first lord of the treasury : under these are two joint secretaries, four chief clerks, sixteen under clerks, and other officers. Here is also kept the office of trade and plantations, which is under the government of eight commissioners, and other officers, whose business is to examine the custom-house accounts of all the goods exported and imported to and from the several parts of the kingdom, in order to discover the advantages and disadvantages of the trade of this nation with other states ; and also to promote the trade of our plantations, by encouraging such branches as will best conduce to their respective interests, and to that of this kingdom.

A little to the east of the Horse-guards is the Admiralty-office, which is a handsome structure built with brick and stone. The front, which faces the street, has two deep wings, and is entered by a very lofty portico, supported by four very large columns of the Ionic order, to which is an ascent by a flight of steps. Over the portico is a pediment, in which is an anchor in relievo. Besides a hall and other common rooms, here are seven spacious apartments for seven commissioners of the Admiralty. The wall before the court, has been lately rebuilt in an elegant manner : a colonnade runs almost from one end to the other, and each side of the gate is adorned with a sea-horse, well executed in stone. In this office, the lords of the Admiralty regulate the affairs of the navy, nominate and give instructions to admirals, captains, and other naval officers ; and issue orders for those who failed in their duty. The lords commissioners of the Admiralty are, as we have already intimated, seven in number, and each has a salary of 1000 l. a year ; and under them are many clerks and other officers.

On the other side of St. James's-park is an old building, called St. James's-house, to which the court removed upon the burning of Whitehall in 1697, and our kings have resided there ever since. Before the conquest, there was an hospital here, founded by the citizens of London, for fourteen leproous maids, and from this hospital the present palace, which was erected by king Henry the Eighth, soon after the general dissolution, derived its name. It is an irregular structure, and has a mean appearance, but contains some magnificent apartments. The chapel of the hospital is still used by the royal family, and is a royal peculiar, exempted from all episcopal jurisdiction. The service of the chapel is like that in cathedrals, and it has a lord almoner, a dean, a sub-dean, forty-eight chaplains, who preach in turn before the royal family, twelve gentlemen of the chapel, two organists, ten children, a serjeant, a yeoman, a groom of the vestry, and the bell-ringer.

On the building of this palace, king Henry the Eighth converted a swampy tract of ground adjoining to it into a park, from the palace called St. James's-park: he collected the water into one body, and laid out the walks. King Charles the Second enlarged and improved it, by planting it with lime-trees, and forming a beautiful vista, near half a mile in length, called the Mall. He also formed the water into a canal of one hundred feet broad, and two thousand eight hundred feet long. At the east end is a spacious parade for the exercise of the horse and foot guards.

On the west side of St. James's-park is the queen's palace, originally known by the name of Arlington-house; but being purchased by the late duke of Buckingham's father, who in 1703 rebuilt it, it was called Buckingham-house, till its being bought by his present majesty in the year

1762, when it obtained the name of the queen's palace, from the particular pleasure the queen expressed in this retirement. This is, in every respect, a fine building. It has a spacious courtyard, enclosed with iron rails fronting St. James's-park, with offices on each side, separated from the mansion-house by two wings of bending piazzas, and arched galleries elevated on columns of the Ionic order. At the entrance of the edifice is a very broad flight of steps, upon which are four tall Corinthian pilasters, that are fluted and reach to the top of the second story; and at each corner is a plain pilaster of the same order. Within this compass are two series of very large and lofty windows, above which is the entablature, and in the middle this inscription in large gold characters.

SIC SITI LAETANTVR LARES.

Thus situated may the household gods rejoice.

Over this is an attic story, with square windows and Tuscan pilasters; over which was an acroteria of figures, representing Mercury, Secrecy, Equity, Liberty, &c. But these figures were taken down soon after the late duke of Buckingham's death. Behind the house is a garden, lately much enlarged, with a canal, and a terrace, from whence there is a fine prospect of the adjacent country; whence on that side of the house is the inscription

RUS IN URBE.

On account of its having the advantage of both city and country; above which were the statues of the four seasons. The apartments of this structure are very noble, and the cielings finely painted, the rooms richly furnished, and adorned with the capital pictures of the greatest masters, among which are the celebrated cartoons of Raphael,

phael, which have been brought hither from Hampton-Court. These pictures, which may properly be termed coloured drawings on paper, are painted in water-colours with surprising delicacy and beauty. The first is the miraculous draught of fishes, in which Christ appears in the boat, with an air of divine goodness. The exotic birds and large fowl placed on the shore, in the fore-ground, have a sea-wildness in them, and their food being fish, contribute to express the business in hand, which is fishing.

The second is Our Saviour's appearance after the resurrection, where present authority, late suffering, humility, majesty, and divine love, are at once visible in his celestial aspect. He is wrapped only in a large piece of white drapery; his left arm and breast are bare, and part of his legs naked, to denote his appearing in his resurrection-body. The figures of the eleven apostles are all expressive of their admiration, but discover it differently, according to their different characters. Peter receives his master's orders on his knees, with an admiration mixed with a more particular attention. The two next express a more open extacy, though still constrained by their awe of the divine presence. The beloved disciple has in his countenance, wonder drowned in love. The personage, whose back is towards the presence, appears to be St. Thomas, whose perplexed concern could not be better drawn than by this acknowledgment of the difficulty to describe it. The harmony of the colours of the draperies of the several figures is wonderfully beautiful.

The third is the miracle of healing the cripple at the beautiful gate of the temple. All the figures are admirably done, and are placed at one end near the corner, which varies the side of the picture,

ture, and gives the opportunity to enlarge the building with a fine portico.

The fourth is the history of the death of Ananias. Here the apostles appear with the greatest dignity. They are, however, only a subordinate group, because the principal action relates to the criminal; thither the eye is directed by almost all the figures in the picture. What horror and reverence is visible in the whole assembly, on this mercenary man's falling down dead!

The fifth is Elymas the forcerer, struck with blindness. His whole body, says the ingenious painter from whom we have taken these remarks, from head to foot, expresses his being blind. How admirably are terror and astonishment expressed in the people present! and how variously according to their several characters! what grace and majesty is seen in St. Paul in all his actions, preaching, rending his garments, and denouncing vengeance on the forcerer! the proconsul Sergius Paulus has a greatness and grace equal to what one can suppose in Caesar, Augustus or Trajan.

The sixth is the people of Licaonia attempting to offer sacrifice to St. Paul and Barnabas. The occasion of this is finely told. The man healed of his lameness has a crutch under his feet on the ground, and an old man takes up the lappet of his garment, and looks upon the limb he remembers to have been crippled, expressing great devotion and amazement; which sentiments are seen in the other, with a mixture of joy. The group of the ox and popa are taken from a basso relievo in the villa de Medici.

In the seventh St. Paul is seen preaching to the Athenians. The divine orator is the chief figure, but in the audience are expressed, with wonderful art, almost all the different tempers of mankind: one is eminently distinguished as a believer

iever holding out his hand in rapture, and has the second place in the picture; another is wrapped up in deep suspense; another appearing to say there is some reason in what he says; another angry at his destroying some favourite opinion; others attentive, and reasoning on the matter within themselves, or with one another, while the generality attend, and wait for the opinion of those who are leading characters in the assembly. This picture is conducted with the greatest judgment. St. Paul's attitude is as fine as possible, pointing out his hands to the statue of Mercury, alluding to their idolatry; for the men of Lystra would call him by that name, and worship him as a god presiding over eloquence. Thus the picture shews the subject of his preaching. The little drapery thrown over the apostle's shoulder, and hanging down to his waist, poizes the finger, which would otherwise seem ready to fall. The drapery is red and green, and the back ground expressive of the superstition St. Paul was preaching against. No historian, orator, or poet, says the ingenious Mr. Richardson, can possibly give so great an idea of the eloquent and zealous apostle, as this figure does: for there we see a person, whose face and actions no words can sufficiently describe.

There were in all twelve of these pieces, two of which are in the possession of the French king: the king of Sardinia has two of the others, and one, representing Herod's cruelty, belonged to a gentleman in England, who pledged it for a sum of money; but when the person, who had taken this valuable deposit, found it was to be redeemed, being very unwilling to part with it, we are told that he greatly damaged the drawing, for which the gentleman brought his action; and for  
this.

this base and infamous proceeding, he was tried in Westminster-hall.

We are sorry that we are unable to give a description of the many fine paintings, the rich furniture, and the improvements made in this palace by their majesties, whose elegant taste and skill, in painting and architecture are well known; but the brutality and ill breeding of some of those who have been permitted to view this palace, have occasioned its being shut up and excluded from the view of the public.

On the side of the Green park is the noble edifice belonging to the lord Spencer. The park front is a most beautiful piece of architecture, and nothing can be more pleasingly elegant. Nor is the fitting up and furniture of the rooms inferior to the beauty of the outside. Lord Spencer's library, which is thirty feet long and twenty-five broad, is richly ornamented, and the chimney-piece very light, of polished white marble. On one side of the room hangs a capital picture of the nature of witchcraft, in which the expression and finishing are very great. The painter has drawn into one point, a multitude of the emblems of witchcraft, designed with a beautiful wildness of fancy.

The dining-room, which is forty-six feet long and twenty-four broad, is adorned in the finest taste. The ceiling and cornice of white and green, very beautiful: the slabs of Sienne marble large and finely veined: the chimney-piece basso relievo, of white marble beautifully polished. On one side of it is a landscape, in which is the killing of a dragon; and on the other side, is another landscape, in which a centaur is carrying off a naked woman. Her back, which appears, is painted with the most delicate softness; the

she has a slight drapery, which is very elegantly designed.

The drawing-room is twenty-four feet long, and twenty-one broad, clear of a noble bow-window, parted from the room, only by two pillars of the most exquisite workmanship. They are carved in leaves, the thick foliage of which bends round in a fine arch, from one to the other, in a most elegant taste. In a semicircular cove in the wall, on each side, is an urn of white marble, beautifully adorned with basso relievos. The chimney-piece is extremely elegant, and has a fine border of Sienna marble, with a festoon of flowers upon it, in white marble polished. Over the chimney is a picture of two usurers, finely expressed; and the cieling, cornice and ornaments, are of green, white and gold, in a most exquisite stile.

The music-room is twenty-five feet by twenty-three; the chimney-piece extremely light and elegant. This leads into the grand dressing-room, which is of the same dimensions as the other, and is fitted up in the most elegant taste. Nothing can be more beautiful than the Mosaic cieling, the cornices, and all the ornaments. The chimney-piece is exquisitely designed, and admirably executed. Over the cornice are festoons of the lightest carving, and two eagles, with a very fine basso relievo of carving, in a glass in the center. The pictures are disposed with great elegance, and hung up by ribbons of gilt carving, in a fine taste. Among these are ten pieces, companions, exceeding beautiful, the colouring, attitudes and drapery, very striking, as the rape of Europa, Andromeda, Neptune, Venus, &c.

From this room you enter the saloon, which is forty-five feet long, thirty broad, and fitted up and furnished in the most exquisite taste. The  
cieling

cieling is coved, and adorned with compartments of Mosaic, green, white and gold, interspersed with gilt medallions. The door-cases are extremely elegant, and their cornices supported by columns beautifully carved and gilt, with the same mixture of green as in the cieling. The chimney-piece is large, but very light. Between the windows are two very large slabs of the finest Sienna marble, the frames carved in the most elegant taste, and richly gilt. The pier-glasses of a vast size, with frames of admirable workmanship; and the carving and gilding of the Sopha frames are in a stile and taste, till now unknown. In the center of the room hangs a very fine glass lustre. On each side of the chimney is an historical landscape.

The next, which is called the Painted-room, is twenty-four feet long, and twenty-two broad: on one side is a bow window, adorned with gilt pillars most exquisitely carved; the walls and cieling are painted in compartments, by Mr. Steuart, in the most beautiful taste. Two of the small compartments on the wall are landscapes let into it, with no other than the painted frame of the divisions: one represents a water-fall, and the other a bridge over a stream, both fine. The ground of the whole room is green, and the general effect more pleasing than is easily conceived. Nothing can be lighter or more elegant than the chimney-piece; the frieze contains a most beautiful painting, representing a clandestine marriage; in which nothing can be finer than the drapery, which is designed with the justest taste, displaying the form of every limb through it, in a most pleasing manner. In short, the frames of the tables, sophas, stands, &c. are all carved and gilt with the utmost elegance, and the taste in which every article throughout the whole house is executed,

curted, is astonishingly beautiful. No expence has been spared, and the whole has been conducted by the brightest fancy, and the correctest judgment.

At some distance to the north of this structure, is St. George's hospital, which is a neat plain building, at the south-east corner of Hyde-park, formerly belonging to lord Lansborough, but was in the year 1733, taken and fitted up by a charitable society, for the reception of the sick and lame, by the name of St. George's hospital. It was opened for the admission of patients on the 1st of January, 1734, and has ever since been supported by voluntary subscriptions and donations. The governors of this charity amount to about three hundred. Here no security for the burial of the patients is required, nor any money, gift or reward, taken of them or their friends, on any account whatsoever. Those who die, if their friends are unable to bury them, are interred at the charge of the society; and the money collected in the poor-box at the door, is kept as a separate fund for furnishing those with a small sum of money, whose distance from their habitations, or other particular necessities, require it.

Near St. George's hospital is a Lock-hospital, erected for the reception of persons afflicted with venereal disorders, also supported by voluntary subscriptions.

In the parish of St. Martin's, where several capital streets terminate, is Charing-cross, so called from here being one of the crosses, which king Edward the First caused to be erected in memory of Eleanor his queen, and Charing, the name of a village, in which the cross was built. The cross continued till the civil wars, in the reign of Charles the First, when being destroyed during the rebellion, after the restoration, an equestrian  
statue

statue of king Charles the First was set up in its stead. This statue is of brass, and finely executed. It stands on a pedestal seventeen feet high, and is secured by a pallisade, inclosing an area thirty feet in diameter.

Near Charing-cross is Northumberland-house, which received its name from its being in the possession of the earls of Northumberland, for above a hundred years. It was built in the reign of king James the First, by Henry Howard, earl of Northampton. It originally consisted of only three sides, but is now a spacious quadrangle, with a large garden, and fine walks behind it, extending to the Thames. The entrance into it, is on the side of the court opposite to the great gateway. The vestibule is about eighty-two feet long, and above twelve broad, ornamented with columns of the Doric order. Each end of it communicates with the stair-case leading to the principal apartments, which face the garden and the Thames, and consist of spacious rooms, fitted up in the most elegant manner.

The dining-room is forty-five feet long, and twenty broad; the chimney-piece, which is elegant, consists of Sienna and white marble in compartments, with a central piece of basso relievo polished, and all supported by two very fine fluted columns of Sienna marble. In this room is found that noble picture, the Cornero family, by Titian, which is worthy of the admiration of every lover of painting. The heads and hands do not appear to be the imitation of life, but life itself, and nothing can be in a finer taste than the three exquisite portraits.

The drawing-room is forty feet long, and twenty broad, and is also well furnished; the chimney-piece is light and elegant, and the ceiling is of Mosaic work, in the Fresco style. This room is  
richly

richly adorned with paintings, particularly at one end is a large landscape by Salvator Rosa, in which the rocks and trees are mingled together in the wildness of that romantic genius, which seemed formed by nature to catch her sublimest hints. Over this landscape is a very pleasing picture of Venus lying on a couch.

The great ball-room is one of the most elegant in London: it is a hundred and three feet long, twenty-seven broad, and thirty-two high, richly ornamented with gilding and painting. The ceiling is coved, and beautifully adorned with medallions, and copies of antiques, particularly a Fame, a Flora, a Victory holding out a laurel wreath, a Diana, and a triumphal Car drawn by two horses. On one side of the room are two chimney-pieces, the cornices of which are basso relievos of white marble, supported by figures of Phrygian captives, copies from others in the capitol. The other side of the room contains a double range of windows, contrived in a very peculiar manner. The lower ones are of the common dimensions and height, and the upper range is quite concealed behind the cornice, insomuch, that you must be close to the opposite side of the room, to discover the immediate tract of their light: by this contrivance the room is equally enlightened from the floor to the ceiling, and the pictures are viewed without the least glare. In the piers between the windows of the lower range, are very elegant looking-glasses, and several slabs of agate, and the finest marbles. The window-curtains, sofas and chairs, are of crimson damask, and the arms and legs of the latter are richly gilt. The principal ornaments of this fine room are the paintings, which consist of copies of the capital pieces of the greatest painters, done by the first artists of the present age. In the center

is the School of Athens, after Raphael, by Raphael Mengs. On one side of this is the Feast, and on the other the Council of the Gods, both by Raphael, and copied by Pompeo Battoni. At the upper end of the room is the triumph of Bacchus, after Annibal Caracci, by Costanzi. At the other end of the room is Aurora, after Guido, by Masuccio, a most admirable piece. “ Sure never was grace, says an ingenious author, in all the divinity of its most pleasing attitudes, more elegantly caught than in this happy, this sweet idea, which is executed with as much spirit, as it was conceived with elegance. The whole range of painting cannot exhibit a more pleasing group : each figure is shewn to the best advantage ; and each most peculiarly elegant : but the principal of the graces is Grace itself ; the arms are extended in so beautiful a manner, the whole body is turned with such amazing elegance, that a superior is scarcely to be imagined. The colouring, the general diffusion of the clear obscure, the wonderful elegance of the whole is unparalleled. One remark, however, I must be allowed, which is, that Apollo (the principal figure) is by no means equal to any of the graces ; his attitude is not unpleasing, but it is tame, inexpressive, and infinitely inferior in grace to the figure above-mentioned.” This noble room is lighted up for the reception of company in the evenings, by four glass lustres, which contain as many branches as will receive a hundred large wax candles, and these lustres are suspended from the ceiling, by long chains richly gilt.

The lord and lady Northumberland’s apartments are also very commodious, and elegantly furnished. Her ladyship’s closet is a repository of curiosities, and contains so fine a collection of pictures,

tures, as to afford a most pleasing, and almost endless entertainment to a connoisseur. Besides the apartments already-mentioned, there are about a hundred and forty rooms in this noble house.

It would be an almost endless task to describe the numerous houses of the great in Westminster, with their rich furniture, and principal paintings, we shall therefore pass over Carlton-house, belonging to the princess dowager of Wales, Marlborough-house in Pall-mall, the duke of Montague's, and the duke of Richmond's, in Privy-garden; Devonshire-house, and the earl of Bath's, in Piccadilly; the earl of Chesterfield's by Hyde-Park, the duke of Bedford's, the duke of Queensberry's, and many others of the nobility, which we have not room to describe, and shall therefore return to the public buildings.

At a small distance from Northumberland-house is St. Martin's church, called St. Martin's in the Fields, from its being formerly seated in a field, though it is now nearly in the centre of the vast mass of buildings, which connect Westminster and London. It was rebuilt by Henry the Eighth, and afterwards by king James the First; but being still not large enough to accommodate the inhabitants, it was taken down in 1720, and a new church erected, which was finished in 1726. This is a fine edifice built of stone. The west front has a noble portico of Corinthian columns, supporting a pediment, in which are the royal arms in bass relief. The ascent to the portico is by a flight of very long steps. This church is about a hundred and forty feet long, sixty broad, and forty-five high: it has a fine arched roof, supported by Corinthian columns, and the steeple has a beautiful spire. This parish has so increased, both in houses and inhabitants, that it is esteemed one of the most populous in the bills

bills of mortality; and notwithstanding the parishes of St. James's, St. George's Hanover Square, St. Ann's, and St. Paul's Covent Garden, have been taken out of it, it is said to contain no less than four thousand houses.

At a small distance from the above church is the Mews, used for the accommodation of the king's falconers and hawks, so early as the year 1377; and here are at present, the king's stables and coach-houses. The building consists of a quadrangle, which being greatly decayed, one side of it was rebuilt in a magnificent manner by king George the Second in the year 1732.

St. Mary le Strand, is a church thus named from its being built in a street called the Strand, and its being dedicated to St. Mary. This is one of the fifty new churches erected within the bills of mortality in the reign of queen Anne, and the first of them that was finished. It is a very fine, though not a very extensive edifice, and appears a light building, though formed to stand for ages. At the entrance on the west end is an ascent by a flight of steps, cut in the sweep of a circle: these lead to a circular portico of Ionic columns, covered with a dome crowned with a vase. These columns are continued along the body of the church, with pilasters of the same order at the corners; and in the inter-columniations are niches handsomely ornamented. Over the dome is a pediment supported by Corinthian columns, which are likewise continued round the body of the structure, over those of the Ionic order; and between these are the windows placed over the niches. These columns are supported on pedestals, and have pilasters behind, with arches sprung from them; and the windows have alternately angular and circular pediments. A handsome balustrade is carried round the top of the church,  
and

and its summit is adorned with vases. The steeple is light, though solid, and adorned with Composite columns.

St. Paul's Covent Garden was erected in 1641, by Francis earl of Bedford, as a chapel for the use of his tenants in and about Covent Garden; and in 1645, this was rendered an independant parish, and separated from that of St. Martin's. The church was built by Inigo Jones, and is esteemed one of the most simple and perfect pieces of architecture in the world. In the front is a plain portico of the Tuscan order; the columns are massy, and the inter-columniation large. This portico is defended by an iron pallisade and gates, the gift of the duke of Bedford. This structure has no pillars to support the roof, nor any tower or bell to ring in peal.

St. George the Martyr, near Hanover-square, is a beautiful structure, and was one of the fifty new churches erected within the bills of mortality by act of parliament, in the reign of queen Anne. It has a plain body with an elegant portico: the columns, which are of the Corinthian order, are very large, and the pediment has its acroteria. The tower is above the clock, elegantly adorned at the corners, with very lofty coupled Corinthian columns. These are crowned with an entablature, which at each corner supports two vases, and over these the tower still rises, till it is terminated by a dome crowned with a turret.

We might mention several other churches both in Westminster, and in the city, which, from the beauty of the architecture, are worthy of notice: but those already described are sufficient to give an idea of the magnificence of this metropolis; and this article has been already extended to a very great length. Those who are willing to have a more complete idea of these structures, will

will find full satisfaction by consulting London and its Environs described.

The British Museum is a structure which ought not to be omitted. It was formerly called Montague house, from its having been the residence of the dukes of Montague. It was built in 1677, and in 1753, the parliament having passed an act for purchasing the Museum of the late Sir Hans Sloane's executors, and the Harleian library for the use of the public, twenty-six trustees were appointed and incorporated, in order to provide a repository for these, for the Cottonian library, and a collection of books given by the late major Edwards, which repository was to be called the British Museum. These trustees elected fifteen others, and having bought Montague house, repaired and fitted it up for the reception of these collections. They also appointed proper officers to superintend the Museum; and having formed certain statutes with respect to the use of the collection contained in it, the public were first admitted to view it in 1757.

The house, in which the British Museum is contained, is large and magnificent, and behind it is a garden, which contains near eight acres. The building is finely ornamented with paintings, and the disposition, in which this noble collection is arranged, is so orderly and well designed, that the British Museum may be justly esteemed an honour and ornament to this nation. His late majesty, in consideration of its great use, was graciously pleased to add to it, the royal libraries of books and manuscripts, collected by the several kings of England.

The Sloanian collection alone cost Sir Hans 50,000 l. and consists of an astonishing number of curiosities. The library, including books of drawings, manuscripts, and prints, amount to about fifty thousand volumes.

Among the other curiosities are the following.

Medals and coins ancient and modern	23000
Cameos and intaglios, about	700
Seals	268
Vessels, &c. of agate, jasper, &c.	542
Antiquities	1125
Precious stones, agates, jaspers, &c.	2256
Metals, minerals, ores, &c.	2725
Crystals, spars, &c.	1864
Fossils, flints, stones	1275
Earths, sands, salts	1035
Bitumens, sulphurs, ambers, &c.	399
Talcs, micae, &c.	388
Corals, sponges, &c.	1421
Testacea, or shells, &c.	5843
Echini, echinitae, &c.	659
Asteriae, trochi, entrochi, &c.	241
Crustaceae, crabs, lobsters, &c.	363
Stellae marinae, star fishes, &c.	173
Fishes and their parts, &c.	1555
Birds and their parts, eggs and nests of different species	1172
Quadrupedes, &c.	1886
Vipers, serpents, &c.	521
Insects, &c.	5439
Vegetables	12506
Hortus ficcus, or volumes of dried plants	334
Humana, as calculi, anatomical prepara- tions, &c.	756
Miscellaneous things, natural	2098
Mathematical instruments	55

This noble collection of curiosities, and these excellent libraries, being chiefly designed for the use of learned and studious men, both natives and foreigners, in their researches into the several branches of knowledge, the whole may be viewed without expence: for which purpose, gentlemen and

and ladies send in their names, with their addition and place of abode, to the porter's lodge; on which they have notice given them what day and hour to attend, and receive tickets, by shewing which they are admitted.

You first enter the hall, in which are several blocks of that surprizing natural curiosity, the giant's causeway in Ireland; a large piece of the lava, which flows from Mount Vesuvius; several ancient monuments of stone, with inscriptions in Latin, Greek and other languages; two antique heads of Termini, used as land-marks by the ancient Romans; a fine skeleton of a sea unicorn, with several other antiquities and curiosities.

From the hall, you ascend a magnificent staircase, painted by la Fosse. On the cieling is represented Phaeton, entreating Apollo to permit him to draw his chariot for a day; and on the wall is a fine landscape by Rousseau. You then enter the vestibule, the cieling of which represents the fall of Phaeton; in this room is a mummy and some other antiquities. The saloon is a magnificent room, the cieling and side-walls of which are painted by la Fosse, with some landscapes by Rousseau, and flowers by Baptist.

You then enter the room that contains the Cottonian and Royal manuscripts, which amount to about seven hundred and fifty volumes. The next room contains the Harleian manuscripts, consisting of about seven thousand six hundred and twenty. Then turning to the right, you enter a room which contains the royal charters, which amount to about sixteen thousand. Contiguous to this is the room of medals, which amount to upwards of twenty-three thousand. The next room contains Sir Hans Sloane's manuscripts; and adjoining to it is a room that contains the antiquities.

This brings you again into the vestibule, and passing through the saloon, you enter the room which contains minerals and fossils; the next has the collection of shells; and a third of vegetables and insects. Then turning again to the left, the next room contains animals in spirits; and contiguous to that is the room of artificial curiosities.

Now descending a small stair-case, and passing through a room, in which is a magnetic apparatus given by Dr. Knight, you are conducted thro' two rooms, which contain the royal libraries, collected by all the kings and queens of England, from Henry the Seventh to Charles the Second, and afterwards through six rooms, containing the library of Sir Hans Sloane, consisting of about forty thousand volumes. From thence you enter the withdrawing room for the trustees; then into major Edward's library, consisting of about three thousand volumes; and lastly, enter a room that contains a part of the king's library, which, in the whole, consists of about twelve thousand volumes.

In Lamb's Conduit fields is a large and commodious structure, called the Foundling-hospital, for the reception of exposed and deserted children. It consists of two wings, in one of which are kept the boys, and in the other the girls. These wings are built in a plain, but substantial manner, of brick, with handsome piazzas. In the center is placed the chapel, which is also built with brick, and finished with the utmost neatness, the inside being adorned with elegant carving, and on the altar-piece is finely painted, representing the wise men making their offerings, a present from the chevalier Casauli. Before the hospital is a large piece of ground, on each side of which is a colonade of great length, in which the children

dren learn spinning, weaving, &c. These colonades extend towards two gates, separated by a massy pier, in such a manner, that coaches may pass and repass at the same time; and on each side of the gates is a door for persons on foot. The area between the outer gates and the hospital is adorned with grass plats, gravel walks, and lamps; and behind it are two handsome gardens. In erecting these buildings, care was taken to render them neat and substantial, without any costly decorations; but the first wing was scarcely inhabited, when several eminent masters in painting, carving, and other of the polite arts, were pleased to contribute many elegant ornaments, as monuments of the charity, and abilities of those great masters. In the court-room are placed four capital pictures, taken from sacred history, the subjects of which are suitable to the place for which they were designed. The first is Pharaoh's daughter, delivering Moses to be nursed by his mother, by Hayman; the next is the child's being restored to Pharaoh's daughter, by Hogarth. The third is the history of Ishmael, by Highmore; and the fourth is Jesus desiring that little children might come to him. On each side of these pictures are placed small drawings in circular frames, of the most considerable hospitals in and about London, by Haytley, Wilson, Whale, and Gainsborough. Over the chimney is a curious bas relief, presented by Rysbrack, representing children employed in husbandry and navigation, to which those of the hospital are principally destined. The other ornaments of the room were given by ingenious workmen, who had been employed in the building, and were willing to contribute to adorn it. The stucco work was given by Mr. Wilton; the marble chimney-piece by De-

val ; the table with its frame curiously carved, by Mr. Saunderson ; and the glass by Mr. Hallet.

In the other rooms are the pictures of several of the governors and benefactors, particularly Mr. Thomas Coram, by Hogarth ; Mr. Milner and Mr. Jacobson, by Hudson ; Dr. Meade, by Ramsay ; and Mr. Emmerson, by Highmore. In one of the rooms is Hogarth's original painting of the march to Finchley ; and in the dining-room is a fine sea-piece of the English fleet in the Downs, by Monamy.

This laudable charity was first projected by several eminent merchants in the reign of queen Anne ; but being unable to obtain a charter, some of them left large sums for the use of such an hospital, in case it should ever be erected ; which coming to the knowledge of Mr. Coram, a commander of a ship in the merchants service, he, with unwearied assiduity, spent the remainder of his life in promoting this humane design, which he lived to see firmly established.

Besides the hospitals already mentioned, there are many others belonging to the city of Westminster, its liberties, and the adjoining parishes, as the Westminster Infirmary, the British Lying-In-hospital for married women, in Brownlow-street ; the General Lying-In-hospital in Duke-street, Grosvenor-square ; the Asylum for deserted girls ; the Middlesex-hospital in Marybone-fields, &c. And the alms-houses in this metropolis are almost innumerable.

This part of the great metropolis is also adorned with a number of beautiful squares, as St. James's, Hanover, Grosvenor, Cavendish, Berkeley, Soho, Bloomsbury, Red-Lion squares, Leicester-fields, and Lincoln's-Inn-fields, the latter being one of the most extensive squares in Europe. Most of these squares have a fine grass plat, encom-  
passed

passed with iron rails, and in some of them is a statue richly gilt.

The markets of Westminster are also very numerous: these are, that of Westminster near the abbey, St. James's-market, Newport-market, Oxford-market, the Hay-market near Piccadilly, Bloomsbury, Brookes and Carnaby-markets; Covent-Garden, Clare, and Hungerford-markets.

Here are also several societies of a very extraordinary nature, and a great number of public schools and libraries, both in London and Westminster, besides those already mentioned; as the society for propagating the gospel in foreign parts, which meets at St. Martin's library near the Mews, Charing-cross; the society for promoting christian knowledge, in Hatton-Garden; the society for the encouragement of arts, manufactures and commerce, &c. in the Strand; the Royal Society in Crane-court, Fleet-street; the Antiquary Society in Chancery-lane; the Marine Society, begun in the last reign, and lately revived, &c.

In short, both the late and the present reign have been rendered remarkable by the multitude of magnificent buildings, fine streets, and spacious squares that have been added, and are still adding to this metropolis. The streets have been paved in a more neat and beautiful manner; the signs taken down, and the streets rendered more airy; and consequently more healthful. A taste for elegance in architecture, and a desire to improve and adorn this great metropolis, have produced surprizing effects. We are become sensible of the folly of building magnificent structures in obscure corners and narrow passages, where they cannot be seen to advantage, and it is now resolved to make what is beautiful in itself, an ornament to the city.

“ During the last reign, says the author of  
 “ London and its Environs, the wealthy shewed  
 “ their humanity and pity for the distresses of  
 “ their fellow creatures, by erecting a great num-  
 “ ber of infirmaries and hospitals, for the  
 “ relief of those afflicted with any of the diseases  
 “ to which human nature is subject; while others  
 “ were appropriated to the cure of particular dis-  
 “ tempers. The deserted infant is received into  
 “ an hospital founded for its education and sup-  
 “ port; the young, innocent, friendless girl finds  
 “ an asylum; even the repenting prostitute has  
 “ an opportunity of returning to virtue. The  
 “ poor married woman is relieved and supported  
 “ in the time of her greatest difficulty, distress,  
 “ and danger; she who is under the same dis-  
 “ tress, with the additional pangs of guilt, has a  
 “ receptacle in which she also may be delivered,  
 “ and supported during her lying-in, without the  
 “ least expence. Those under the small-pox, who  
 “ were formerly sent to pest-houses, and treated  
 “ as if they had the plague, are now happily ac-  
 “ commodated in places prepared for their relief;  
 “ and there is even an hospital for inoculating  
 “ the young who never had this formidable dis-  
 “ ease, in order to prevent the fatal effects which  
 “ commonly attend its being caught in a riper  
 “ age. In short, the last charitable foundation  
 “ I shall mention, as an honour to the present  
 “ age and nation, is the Marine Society; a so-  
 “ ciety formed for encreasing our mariners, by  
 “ clearing our streets of poor vagabond boys,  
 “ and men destitute of the means of procuring  
 “ an honest support; thus those are made to con-  
 “ tribute to the glory and safety of the nation,  
 “ who would otherwise be brought up to plunder  
 “ and rapine, who would live in misery and vice,  
 “ and probably end their days with ignominy.

Among

Among the many great men born in this metropolis, are the following.

Sir Thomas More, lord high chancellor of England in the sixteenth century, was the only son of Sir John More, one of the judges of the King's Bench, and born in Milk-street, London, in the year 1480. He was educated at Canterbury-college in Oxford, where he learned Greek and Latin under Lynacer and Grocinius. Having finished his studies at the university, he removed to the inns of court, and was, in a little time after, called to the bar. Here he so distinguished himself by his uncommon abilities, that, after passing through several inferior offices, he was, upon the fall of Cardinal Wolsey, advanced, by king Henry the Eighth, to the post of lord high chancellor, which he discharged with great integrity for the space of three years; when, foreseeing the storm which soon after overwhelmed him, he resigned the seal with much more pleasure than he had at first accepted it; but having refused to take the oath of supremacy and succession, he was committed prisoner to the tower, arraigned of high treason, and condemned to lose his head; and this severe sentence he accordingly underwent on Tower-hill, July the 5th, 1535, in the fifty-fifth year of his age. He was a man of great wit and humour: and this character he preserved to the last. When mounting the scaffold, he said to one of the by-standers, "Friend, help me up, and when I go down again, let me shift for myself." The executioner asking him forgiveness, he granted the request, but told him, "You will never get credit by beheading me, my neck is so short." Then laying his head on the block, he bid the executioner stay till he put aside his beard: "For," said he, "it never committed treason." He was interred in

Chelsea church, where his monument, with an inscription written by himself, is still to be seen. He wrote a kind of political romance, called *Utopia*; *A History of Richard the Third*; and a Treatise, entitled, *De Quatuor Novissimis*.

William Camden, usually stiled, by way of eminence, the learned Camden, one of the most accurate antiquaries, and impartial historians, that ever appeared in this kingdom, was descended of honest and reputable parents, and born at his father's house in the Old Bailey, on the 2d day of May, 1551. He had his education in Christ's hospital, and in St. Paul's school, and afterwards in the university of Oxford, where he took the degree of bachelor of arts. In 1575 he was appointed second master of Westminster-school; and, in 1586, after having spent ten years in collecting materials for that work, he published the first edition of his *Britannia*. In 1593 he was constituted head master of Westminster-school, for the use of which he afterwards composed an excellent Greek grammar; but this place he resigned in a very little time, upon his being declared Clarencieux king at arms. His annals of queen Elizabeth were published in 1615. They reached from the beginning of the reign of that princess, to the year 1589. The continuation was finished in 1607, but did not make its appearance till after his death, which happened on the 9th of November, 1623, in the seventy-third year of his age. His body was interred in Westminster-abbey, where a monument was erected to his memory. Besides the works above-mentioned, he was the author of several other tracts; he likewise founded a history-lecture at Oxford.

Edmund Spencer, a celebrated poet of the sixteenth century, was descended from the ancient family

family of the Spencers in Northamptonshire, and born in London about the year 1553. After finishing his studies at Cambridge, he retired into the north, where he became acquainted with his first mistress, whose name is not known, but whom he has rendered immortal, under the appellation of Rosalinde. Leaving this retreat, he came up to London, and was introduced to Sir Philip Sidney, the generous patron of all men of learning, by whom he was recommended to queen Elizabeth, who appointed him poet-laureat. In 1580 he was constituted secretary to the lord Grey of Wilton, lord deputy of Ireland, whom he accompanied into that kingdom; where, by his lordship's interest, and the queen's generosity, he obtained a grant of land to the amount of three thousand acres. Here he lived, for some time, in a state of independance, and employed himself chiefly in composing part of his *Fairy Queen*, which had been begun long before; but, upon the breaking out of the rebellion, raised by the earl of Tyrone, he was obliged to abandon Ireland, and return once more to London, where he died, in extreme poverty, in the year 1599. He was interred near Chaucer in Westminster-abbey, where, about thirty years after his death, a handsome monument was erected to his memory. Besides the *Shepherd's Calendar*, *Colin Clout*, and the *Fairy Queen*, his capital performance, he wrote a great number of other pieces both in poetry and prose.

Sir Francis Bacon, lord Verulam, and viscount St. Alban's, the glory of his age and nation, and one of the greatest and most extraordinary geniuses that ever appeared in this, or in any other country, was the son of Sir Nicholas Bacon, lord-keeper of the great seal in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and was born at York-house in the Strand, January the 22d, 1561. Such was the pregnan-  
cy

cy of his parts, even in his tender years, that persons of the greatest worth and dignity, took a pleasure in conversing with him while a perfect boy; and queen Elizabeth herself, who was an excellent judge of merit, was so charmed with the solidity of his sense, and the gravity of his behaviour, that she would often call him, by way of humour, *her young lord-keeper*; a happy presage of his future fortunes. Having received the rudiments of classical learning, he was admitted, in the twelfth year of his age, into Trinity-college in Cambridge, under the famous Dr. John Whitgift, afterwards archbishop of Canterbury; and under the care of that able tutor, he made such quick advances in his studies, that, by the time he had attained to his sixteenth year, he had not only run through the whole circle of the arts as they were then taught, but even began to perceive the imperfections of the Aristotelian philosophy, and to lay the foundation of a more rational and liberal system of knowledge. After going thro' the usual course of an academical education, he went over to France with Sir Amias Powlet, ambassador to that court; and by him he was intrusted with a commission to queen Elizabeth, which he executed with a prudence superior to his years. His father dying during his absence in France, he returned to England, and applied himself to the study of the common law, which he intended to make his profession. Before he had passed his twenty-eighth year, he was appointed one of the queen's council. But, notwithstanding this circumstance, and his near relation to the treasurer, to whom he was allied in blood, he received no other favour from the court, than the reversion of the registership of the court of Star-chamber; and even this he did not enjoy till near twenty years after. This neglect of his merit,

rit, was probably owing to his close connection with the earl of Essex, who was at the head of the antiministerial party, and whom he endeavoured to dissuade from those rash councils, which brought that nobleman to the block. Upon the accession however of king James to the throne, ample amends was made him for all his former disappointments. For, besides receiving the honour of knighthood, he was successively appointed solicitor-general, attorney-general, lord-keeper of the great seal; and, in 1618, was advanced to the high office of lord-chancellor of England, and created baron of Verulam. These honourable employments, it is evident, must necessarily have engaged a great part of his time; but they did not engross the whole of it. He still found leisure to pursue his philosophical studies, which always bore the upper place in his affections; and he wrote, during the time that he held these offices, his *Essays*, his treatise *of the Wisdom of the Ancients*, and his *Novum Organum*, the most perfect work that ever fell from his pen. In 1621, he was raised to the dignity of viscount St. Alban's, and appeared with great pomp and splendour at the opening of the session of parliament, which met on the 30th of January of the same year. But he was soon after surprized with a melancholy reverse of fortune. For an accusation of bribery being lodged against him, and the fact being proved, as well by his own confession, as by the evidence of several witnesses, the lords pronounced the following sentence upon him; "That he should undergo a fine of 40,000 l. and be imprisoned in the Tower during the king's pleasure: that he should be for ever incapable of any office, place, or employment in the state; and never sit in parliament, or come within the verge of the court." He accordingly

cordingly suffered a short imprisonment; but being soon after restored to his liberty, and the king having remitted his fine, and afterwards the whole of his sentence, and even conferred upon him a pension of 1800*l.* per annum, he devoted the remainder of his days to the pursuits of literature; and it appears from the works, which he composed during that period, that, notwithstanding his late misfortunes, his thoughts were still free, vigorous, and noble. He died at the earl of Arundel's house at Highgate, April the 9th, 1626, and was interred in the chapel of St. Michael's church within the precincts of old Verulam.

Inigo Jones, a celebrated architect, son to Mr. Ignatius Jones, a citizen and clothworker in London, was born in the neighbourhood of St. Paul's in that city, about the year 1572. Discovering, in his youth, a strong turn for architecture and landskip painting, he was sent abroad at the expense of William, earl of Pembroke, a generous patron of all men of genius, to perfect himself, by studying the works of the great masters in Italy. He accordingly fixed his residence at Venice, where he continued for some time, and where he soon acquired such reputation in his profession, that he was appointed architect-general to Christian the Fourth, king of Denmark, to whose court he immediately repaired. Returning thence to his native country in 1686, he was appointed architect to queen Anne, consort to king James the First, and afterwards enjoyed the same post under Henry, prince of Wales. After the death of that prince he travelled once more into Italy; and, at his return to England, was constituted surveyor-general of his majesty's works. In 1620 he took an accurate survey of the famous *Stone-Henge*, which he supposed to be a Roman temple; though this opinion has been since entirely exploded.

Upon

Upon the demise of king James, he was continued in his post by king Charles the First, during whose reign he built the banqueting-house at Whitehall, the queen's chapel at St. James's palace, and the piazza and church of Covent-Garden; nor were his talents confined to the art of architecture; while he was raising these noble monuments of his skill in that profession, he employed his leisure hours in designing decorations for the stage; and in this character he is mentioned with honour by the poet, Ben Johnson. During the civil war he adhered, as might be expected, to his royal master; for whose cause he was a considerable sufferer; but he did not live to see the event he so much wished for, the restoration of his son and successor king Charles the Second. He died in June 1652, and was interred in St. Bennet's church near St. Paul's wharf, London.

Ben, or Benjamin Johnson, an excellent dramatic poet in the beginning of the seventeenth century, was the son of a clergyman in Westminster, and born in that city in 1574, about a month after his father's death. He had his education, first in a private school in St. Martin's in the Fields, and afterwards in Westminster-school under the learned Mr. Camden; but his mother marrying a second husband, who was by trade a bricklayer, Ben was obliged to leave the school, and work at his step-father's business. This indignity he resented so much, that he enlisted as a soldier, and went over to the Low Countries, where he distinguished himself by his bravery, he having killed one of the enemy in single combat, and carried off the spoils in sight of both armies. Upon his return home, he entered himself of St. John's college, Cambridge; but his finances not permitting him to prosecute his studies, he was glad to be admitted into a company of players.

Here

Here he had another opportunity of signaling his courage; for a quarrel happening between him and one of his fellow actors, a duel ensued, when Ben killed his antagonist. His first play was brought upon the stage by the interest of Shakespear, who was then an actor and manager; and was generally pleased to perform himself one of the capital parts of it. Thus encouraged, his genius ripened apace; and from 1598 to 1603, he furnished the stage regularly with a new play every year. Afterwards he became more slow in his productions, though he still continued to write. In 1619, he was appointed poet-laureat, and had, besides a tierce of wine, a salary of an hundred marks a year, which was afterwards encreased to 100 l. He attempted tragedy; but could never succeed in it. Some of his comedies are excellent, particularly *Every man in his humour*, *Volpone*, and the *Alchemist*. He died in 1637, and was buried in Westminster abbey, where was erected to him a monument, with this laconic inscription, *O Rare Ben Johnson*.

Sir Thomas Gresham, an eminent merchant of the sixteenth century, and a generous benefactor to the public, was the son of Sir Richard Gresham, lord mayor of London, and born in that city in the year 1519. After studying, for some time, at Cambridge, he resolved, in imitation of several of his predecessors, to apply himself to trade; and in this he met with such uncommon success, that he soon became one of the richest merchants in the kingdom. He managed the money-affairs of the crown at Antwerp during the reigns of king Edward the Sixth and queen Mary; and was not only continued in the same employment on the accession of queen Elizabeth, but was likewise raised to the honour of knight-hood, and constituted the queen's merchant. About

bout the year 1560 he built his spacious and magnificent house in Bishopsgate-street, which he afterwards endowed and converted into a college; and, in 1566, he erected the stately and superb fabric of the royal exchange, for the reception of the merchants. This structure was unhappily destroyed by the great fire in 1666; but was immediately rebuilt by the city and the mercers company. Sir Thomas died suddenly on the 21st of November, 1579, in the sixty-first year of his age.

Sir Thomas Browne, an eminent English physician, and celebrated writer of the seventeenth century, was born in London, October 19, 1605. He had his education in Winchester-college, and in the university of Oxford, where he took the degrees in arts and in physic. He afterwards travelled into foreign parts; and, in 1635, he wrote his *Religio Medici*, which made much noise. The next year he settled at Norwich, where he followed his profession. In 1646 he published his *Treatise on Vulgar Errors*, which met with a very favourable reception; and, about twelve years after, he composed a *Discourse on the sepulchral Urns, and the Net-work-plantations of the Ancients*. By these writings, and by his skill in his profession, his name was become so famous, that he was elected a fellow of the college of physicians, and received the honour of knighthood from king Charles the Second. He died at Norwich October 19, 1682.

John Milton, the prince of English poets, and one of the greatest and most exalted geniuses, that ever appeared in this, or in any other nation, was descended of an ancient family near Abingdon in Oxfordshire, and born in Bread-street, London, on the 9th day of December, 1608. He had his education in his father's house under a private tutor, and afterwards at St. Paul's school,  
and

and at Christ's college in Cambridge, where he took the degrees of bachelor and master of arts. Such was his love of learning, and his application to his studies, that he seldom went to bed before midnight; and this imprudent conduct, joined to a head-ach, with which he was almost constantly afflicted, laid the first foundation of that distemper, which, at last, deprived him of the use of his eyes. His father originally intended him for the church; nor had young Milton, for some time, any other thoughts; but upon his arriving at years of maturity, and consulting his own judgment, he dropped that design, and resolved to devote himself to the service of the muses. Having finished his studies at the university, and spent about five years with his parents, at Horton in Buckinghamshire, where he wrote his *Comus*, *l'Allegro*, *Il Penseroso*, and *Lycidas*, he set out on his travels; and at Paris was introduced to the famous Hugo Grotius; and, continuing his rout through Nice, Genoa, Leghorn and Rome, made the tour of the greatest part of Italy. He was just preparing to pass over to Sicily, when he heard of a civil war breaking out in England; and esteeming it unworthy of him to be taking his pleasure in foreign parts, while his countrymen were fighting for their liberties at home, he returned to England, with the utmost expedition; but not chusing to take up arms, employed himself in the education of youth. In 1641, he published four very spirited pieces against the bishops and the hierarchy. In 1643, he married his first wife of the name of Powel, who, soon after, left him, and refused to return upon his repeated solicitations. He therefore resolved to break off all connections with her, and even to marry another wife; and actually made his addresses to a young lady for that purpose, and

wrote

wrote an essay on divorce in defence of his conduct; but, upon his wife's submission, he was at last reconciled to her. In 1644, he wrote his *Treatise of Education*; and his juvenile poems were published at London in the course of the ensuing year. Possessed, as he was, of the most absolute republican principles, he composed, immediately after the death of king Charles the First, a Tract, entitled, *The Tenure of Kings and Magistrates*; in which he endeavoured to prove the justice and expediency of that action. Having discovered his sentiments in so public a manner, he was taken into the service of the common-wealth, and appointed Latin secretary to the council of state; and he shewed, by his subsequent conduct, that he well deserved the confidence which was reposed in him. He wrote, in 1651, his *Defensio pro Populo Anglicano*, for which he received from the government a present of 1000l. and he added to it a sequel about three years after. Upon the death of Oliver Cromwell, and the accession of his son Richard, he continued his attachment to the new protector; and when Richard was deposed, and every thing hastened towards the restoration, he exerted his utmost efforts to defeat that event. He was therefore obliged to keep himself concealed, till an act of indemnity came out, when he again appeared in public. He had hitherto, for the most part, resided in a house in Holborn; but he now removed to another in the artillery walk leading to Bunhill-fields, where he continued almost constantly till the day of his death. At what time he laid the plan of his great work, his *Paradise Lost*, it is hard to determine; but he certainly finished it about the year 1666, though it was not published till 1667. For several years before his death, he was entirely deprived of his eye-sight;

and

and employed two of his daughters to read to him the learned languages, though they did not understand them. He was wont to say, that one tongue was enough for a woman. He died in the beginning of November, 1674, and was interred near his father in the church of St. Giles's, Cripplegate. A monument was afterwards erected to his memory, in Westminster-abbey, by William Benson, one of the auditors of the imprest. Besides the works already mentioned, of which his *Paradise Lost* will remain an eternal monument of his genius, he wrote a *History of Britain*; *Thesaurus Linguae Latinae*, never published, but which formed the ground-work of the *Cambridge Dictionary*; *Paradise Regain'd*; *Sampson's Agonistes*; a *Treatise of Toleration*; together with a variety of other pieces, both in Latin and English, which were all published, after his death, in three vols. in folio, and have since gone thro' a number of editions.

Abraham Cowley, an eminent poet of the seventeenth century, was the son of a grocer in London, and drew his first breath in Fleet-street in that city, in the year 1618. His father dying before he was born, his mother procured his being a king's scholar in Westminster-school, where he gave early proofs of his surprizing genius. His inclination to poetry was first discovered by his accidentally lighting on *Spencer's Fairy Queen*, when he was but just able to read; and this inclination he so successfully cultivated, that he began to write poems at the age of thirteen, a collection of which was published before he had attained to his fifteenth year. It is very remarkable, what he himself tells us, that, while he was at school, he had this defect in his memory, that he could never, by any means, retain the rules of grammar; but this want he abundantly supplied

supplied by an intimate acquaintance with the books themselves, from which these rules had been drawn: so that having learnt the Greek and Latin tongues, as he had done his own, by practice and not precept, he wrote them with all the ease and elegance of a native. From Westminster-school he removed to Trinity-college, Cambridge, of which he was elected a scholar in 1636; and here it was, that, before he had arrived at his twentieth year, he laid the plan of those great works, which he afterwards finished. For the space of ten years he was absent from his native country, and that time he employed either in bearing a share in the distresses of the royal family, or in labouring for their interest. In 1656 he came over to England, where he published some of his poems; but being discovered and seized, he was committed to close custody, and could not obtain his liberty but upon very hard conditions. In 1657 he was created doctor of physic. At the time of the restoration, he was turned of forty; and the greatest part of his life having been hitherto disturbed by the tumults of war, and the intrigues of state, he resolved to pass the remainder of it in a studious retirement. For this purpose he withdrew to Chertsey in Surrey, where he lived seven years; and dying there July the 28th, 1667, in the forty-ninth year of his age, his body was interred with great funeral pomp in Westminster abbey. A monument was afterwards erected to his memory by George, duke of Buckingham, and a Latin inscription engraved upon it, composed by his friend Dr. Thomas Sprat, bishop of Rochester. King Charles the Second, upon the news of his death, said, that *Mr. Cowley had not left a better man behind him in England*. His character indeed was equally amiable and respectable; for he was as much distinguished by the

goodness

goodness of his heart, and the sweetness of his temper, as by the extent of his learning, and the sublimity of his genius. His works are Poetical Blossoms; Love's Riddle; the Mistress, or several copies of Love verses; Pindarick Odes; *Davidis*, a sacred poem; six Books of Plants; Miscellanies; Latin Poems, &c.

Sir William Temple, an eminent statesman and polite writer of the seventeenth century, was the son of Sir John Temple, and grandson of Sir William Temple, secretary to the famous earl of Essex in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and was born in London in 1628. Having received the rudiments of classical learning, at a country-school, he was sent, by his father, to Emanuel-college in Cambridge, where he soon became master of the whole circle of arts, and fitted himself admirably for those public employments, which he afterwards discharged with so much ability. Possessed, at once, of the most untainted loyalty, and the most uncorrupted patriotism, he would not accept of any public post till the restoration of his majesty king Charles the Second; nor would he continue any longer in office, than the year 1680, when finding the French interest prevail in the English councils, he sent his son to acquaint the king, "that he intended to pass the remainder of his life, like as good a subject as any his majesty had, but never more to meddle with public affairs." By his interest, chiefly, was concluded that alliance, distinguished by the name of *the Triple League*, between England, Holland, and Sweden in the latter end of the year 1668; and to him was likewise, in some measure, owing the marriage effected about ten years after, between the prince of Orange, and the lady Mary, daughter to the duke of York, and neice to the king. The latter part of his  
life

life he spent at Moor-park, near Farnham in Surrey, where he died in January, 1698; and his heart, according to his own direction, was buried there in a silver box, under the sun-dial in his garden, opposite to the window from whence he had been wont to contemplate the works of nature. Mr. Boyes pays him the following compliment: "he was," says he, "an accomplished gentleman, a sound politician, a patriot, and a scholar; and if this amiable character should perchance be shaded by some touches of vanity and spleen, it ought to be considered, that the greatest, wisest, and best of men have still some failings and imperfections, which are inseparable from human nature." With regard to his works, they are so well known, and so generally esteemed, that to mention their names, or point out their excellencies, would be only to abuse the patience of the reader.

William Penn, an eminent writer among the Quakers, and founder of the flourishing colony of Pennsylvania in North America, was the son of Sir William Penn, knight, admiral of England, one of the commanders at the taking of Jamaica; and was born in the parish of St. Catharine's, London, October the 14th, 1644. He received the first rudiments of learning at Chigwell in Essex, "where at eleven years of age," says Anthony Wood, "being retired to a chamber alone, he was so suddenly surprized with an inward comfort, and (as he thought) an external glory in the room, that he has many times said, that from that time he had the seal of divinity and immortality; that there was a God; and that the soul of man was capable of enjoying his divine communications." In 1660, he was entered a gentleman-commoner of Christchurch in Oxford; but withdrawing, soon after,  
from

from the national method of worship, and embracing the principles of the Quakers, among whom he became a preacher, he was first condemned in a heavy fine, and then expelled the college. His treatment, upon his return to his father, was, if possible, still more severe; being whipped, beaten, and turned out of doors. Nor was the government more favourable to him, he was frequently imprisoned, sometimes in the Tower, sometimes in Newgate, and sometimes in Ireland; where his father, though still dissatisfied with him, had committed to his care the management of an estate: but the old gentleman at last was perfectly reconciled to him, and left him at his death a very plentiful fortune. His persecutions, however, were still continued till 1681, when king Charles the Second, in consideration of the services of Mr. Penn's father, and sundry debts due to him from the crown, at the time of his decease, granted, by letters patent, to him and his heirs, that province lying on the west side of the river Delaware in North America, formerly belonging to the Dutch, and then called the New Netherlands. The name was now changed to that of Pensylvania, in honour of Mr. Penn, whom and his heirs his majesty made absolute proprietors and governors of that country. Upon this, Mr. Penn published, *A brief Account of the Province of Pensylvania*; and soon after many single persons and families went over out of England and Wales, and laid the foundation of the city of Philadelphia. After the accession of king James the Second to the throne, Mr. Penn was in great favour with his majesty, as he had formerly been with him, when duke of York; but this exposed him to the imputation of being a Papist, from which, however, he vindicated himself in a very satisfactory manner. He continued, nevertheless

theless, to labour under the same suspicion during the reign of king William; but, upon the accession of queen Anne, he was again taken into favour, and frequently appeared at court. In 1699 he went over to Pennsylvania with his wife and family, and returned from thence to England in 1701. The air of London not agreeing with his constitution, he took, in 1710, a handsome house at Rushcomb, near Twyford in Buckinghamshire, where he resided during the remainder of his life; and dying there July the 30th, 1718, in the seventy-fourth year of his age, was buried at Jordans in that county. Never man was better qualified for conciliating the friendship of a barbarous people. By his humane and kind behaviour, he so ingratiated himself with the native Americans, that they still retain a veneration for his memory, and to this day, style the governor of Pennsylvania *Onas*, which, in their language, signifies a *Pen*. His writings in defence of the Quakers are numerous and well known.

Edmund Halley, an excellent mathematician and astronomer of the last and present centuries, son to Edmund Halley, citizen and soap-boiler in London, was born in the parish of St. Leonard Shoreditch in that city, October the 29th, 1656. Such was the pregnancy of his parts, that by the time he had attained the fifteenth year of his age, he was become the head boy in St. Paul's school, where he had received the first rudiments of his education. He had even, before he left that nursery of learning, made himself a complete master of several branches of the mathematics; and, upon his removing to Oxford in his seventeenth year, he continued to prosecute his studies with the same unremitting ardour and astonishing success. At the age of nineteen, he published *A Direct and Geometrical Method of finding the*  
 VOL. VI. I *Aphelia*

*Aphelia and Eccentricity of the Planets*; the want of which had hitherto been considered as the great desideratum in Kepler's Hypothesis. In 1677 he made a voyage to St. Helena, to number the fixed stars near the south pole, which never rise above our horizon; and about twelve years after he traversed the whole Atlantic Ocean, in order to determine the variation of the needle. In 1683, he entered upon his favourite task of finding out the longitude at sea, by carefully observing the moon's motion; and though the observations, which he made for this purpose, did not answer the end proposed, yet they have been of great use to all succeeding astronomers. In 1692, he published his *Tables for shewing the value of Annuities for Lives*; and, about two years after, he printed his *Hypothesis concerning the Physical Cause of the Universal Deluge, by the approach of a Comet involving the Earth in its Watery Atmosphere*. He lived in the closest intimacy with the celebrated Sir Isaac Newton, from whom he received, and to whom he communicated, many useful hints; and the publication of whose *Principia* he afterwards superintended. As a reward of his merit, though hardly any reward could be equal to his merit, he was appointed successively assistant-secretary to the Royal Society, Savilian professor of astronomy at Oxford, and the king's astronomer at Greenwich. He likewise enjoyed, by the interest of queen Caroline, the half-pay of a captain in the navy; which rank he had attained by the voyages he had made. The works we have mentioned form but a small part of this great man's productions: most of them are to be found in the *Philosophical Transactions*, of which his pieces, for many years, were the chief ornament. He died January 16, 1742, in the eighty-sixth year of his age.

William Lowth, a learned divine of the eighteenth century, was born in London, September the 11th, 1661. He received his education in merchant taylor's school, and in St. John's college in Oxford, where he took the degrees of master of arts and bachelor in divinity. His eminent worth and learning recommended him to the favour of Dr. Peter Mew, bishop of Winchester, who conferred upon him a prebend in the cathedral of that city, together with the rectory of Buriton in Hants; both which he enjoyed till his death. He expired May 17, 1732, and was interred in the church-yard of his own parish. Besides his *Commentary on the Prophets*, which is well known, he was the author of several other works, all of the theological kind, and chiefly in defence of episcopacy.

Matthew Prior, an eminent poet in the end of the last and beginning of the present century, was the son of a joiner in London, and born in that city July the 21st, 1664. His father dying, while he was very young, left him to the care of an uncle, a vintner, who, having given him some education at Westminster-school, took him home, in order to breed him up to his own business; and he was actually initiated in that employment. But he still continued, at his leisure hours, to prosecute his studies; and Horace, it is said, was his favourite author. This love of learning recommended him to the notice of several eminent persons, who frequented his uncle's house, and, among others, to that of the earl of Dorset, who, struck with the vivacity of his parts, and the modesty of his behaviour, resolved to remove him to a more suitable station; and accordingly procured him to be sent to St. John's college in Cambridge, where, in 1686, he took the degree of bachelor of arts, and soon

after became a fellow of his college. During his residence in the university, he contracted an acquaintance with Charles Montague, afterwards earl of Hallifax; a connection, which, in the sequel, was of very great advantage to him. Upon the revolution he was brought to court by his great patron, the earl of Dorset; and in 1690, was made secretary to the earl of Berkeley, plenipotentiary at the Hague; as he was afterwards to the embassadors and plenipotentiaries at the treaty of Ryswick in 1697; and the year following to the earl of Portland, embassador to the court of France. He was likewise in 1697 made secretary of state for Ireland; and in 1700 was made master of arts by *Mandamus*, and appointed one of the lords commissioners of trade and plantations. In 1710 he is supposed to have been concerned in writing the Examiner. In 1711 he was made one of the commissioners of the customs, and had a considerable hand in concluding the treaty of Utrecht; and it was for the share which he had, in that negociation, that, upon the accession of his majesty, king George the First, he was called to an account by the new ministry: but after his papers had been seized, and himself detained in custody, and even threatened with an impeachment, he was at last restored to his liberty; and passed the rest of his days in tranquility and retirement. He died at Wimple, near Cambridge, September the 18th, 1721, and was interred in Westminster-abbey, where a stately monument was erected to his memory. His poems are well known, and justly admired.

Anthony Ashley Cooper, the third earl of Shaftsbury, and the celebrated author of the *Characteristicks*, was born February the 26th, 1671, in Exeter-house in London, the town residence of his

his grandfather, Anthony, the first earl of Shaftsbury, who, from the time of his birth, conceived so strong an affection for him, that he undertook the care of his education; and resolving to have him thoroughly instructed in the learned languages, committed him to the tuition of a lady in his house, who was so perfect a mistress of the Greek and Latin tongues, that she could speak either of them with the greatest fluency. By her instructions he profited so much, that by the time he attained to the eleventh year of his age, he could not only read, but even speak, the Greek and Latin, with the utmost ease and accuracy. With the same rapidity he winged his way through a complete course of philosophical learning; and being now deemed fit for entering upon his travels, he began them under the care of an excellent tutor: and, after visiting several other countries, he at last fixed his residence in Italy. Returning to England in 1689, after an absence of three years, he was offered a seat in parliament; but this he declined, as inconsistent with the scheme he had formed to himself, of prosecuting his studies for some time longer. Upon the death, however, of Sir John Trenchard, he complied with the desires of the inhabitants of Pool, who chose him their representative. At his first appearance in the House of Commons he gave a remarkable proof of his oratorical abilities. He had prepared a speech in favour of the bill for granting council to prisoners in case of high treason; but when he rose to deliver it, he seemed so much intimidated by the augustness of the assembly, as to have lost all memory, and to be unable to proceed. The house, after giving him some time to recover from his confusion, called loudly for him to go on; when he proceeded to this effect: “ If I, sir, who rise only  
 “ to give my opinion on the bill now depending,

“ am so confounded, that I am unable to express  
 “ the least of what I proposed to say, what  
 “ must the condition of that man be, who, with-  
 “ out any assistance, is pleading for his life, and  
 “ under apprehensions of being deprived of it ?”

This happy stroke, whether the effect of chance or design, was quite decisive in favour of the bill, which was accordingly passed. Attached, from his infancy, to the principles of liberty, he steadily adhered to them through the whole course of his life: but his bad state of health did not permit him to give that close attendance in the house, which he would otherwise have given. Upon the dissolution of the parliament in 1698, he made a trip to Holland, where he contracted an acquaintance with Mr. Boyle, Mr. Le Clerc, and other learned and ingenious persons. Returning to England, in the course of the ensuing year, he became earl of Shaftsbury by the death of his father; but he took not his seat in the House of Lords till the second year of his peerage, when his particular friend, lord Somers, informed him, that the partition-treaty was under the consideration of parliament. He accordingly made his appearance in the upper house, and strenuously supported the measures of king William, with whom, during his whole reign, he was in very high favour. He had even an offer of being made secretary of state; but this he declined on account of his weak constitution. Upon the accession of queen Anne he retired to a country life, and in 1763 he made another journey to Holland. In 1709 he married Mrs. Jane Ewer, a relation of his own, by whom he had an only son, Anthony, the present earl of Shaftsbury. He had long been afflicted with an asthmatic disorder; and finding the disease still to increase upon him, he removed, for the benefit of the air, in 1711, to Italy; and

and fixing his residence at Naples, he amused himself there with his philosophical studies. He survived his arrival in Italy about two years, dying at Naples on the fourth day of February, 1713. His works, which were admired in his own lifetime, are still held in the highest estimation, and will transmit his name with honour to the latest posterity. They were collected in three volumes octavo, and published under the title of *the Characteristics*. His chief preceptor in philosophy was the celebrated Mr. Locke, for whom, though he differed from him in some important points, he was yet known to entertain a very great regard. His philosophical notions are somewhat similar to those of Plato.

Thomas Sherlock, successively bishop of Bangor, Salisbury, and London, a very learned and elegant writer, was a younger son of the famous Dr. William Sherlock, and born in London in the year 1678. He had his education at Eton-school, and at Catharine-hall, Cambridge, where having taken his degrees at the usual periods, he succeeded his father, in 1704, as master of the Temple. Young as he was, when he attained to this station, he acquitted himself in such a manner, as not only silenced the clamour of his enemies, but even exceeded the expectation of his friends. In 1714 he was advanced to the mastership of Catharine-hall, Cambridge; and having obtained the deanery of Chichester about two years after, he began to distinguish himself as a polemical writer in the Bangorian controversy, having composed a great number of pieces against the celebrated Dr. Hoadley. Upon the appearance of Mr. Collins's discourse of the grounds and reasons of the Christian religion, he preached six sermons at the Temple church, which were afterwards published under the title of the Use and

Intent of Prophecy in the several ages of the World. In 1728 he succeeded Dr. Hoadley in the bishopric of Bangor, as he did also the same prelate in that of Salisbury; and upon the death of archbishop Potter in 1757, he was offered the metropolitan see of Canterbury, which, however, he thought proper, on account of his bad state of health, to decline. Nevertheless, in 1749, he accepted a translation to the see of London, then become void by the demise of Dr. Gibson. He likewise continued to hold, along with this high dignity, the mastership of the Temple, chiefly in compliance with the request of the two honourable societies, who were unwilling to part with him; but he at last resigned it in 1753. Towards the latter end of his life he was afflicted with a terrible malady, which deprived him first almost of the use of his limbs, and then of his speech; but, in this weak state of body, the powers of his mind remained unimpaired; and he published, in 1755, a volume of his sermons, which were followed the next year by four volumes more. In elegance of style, strength of reasoning, and perspicuity of method, these sermons are universally allowed to be some of the very best in the English language. His lordship died in the month of July, 1761, being then in the eighty-fourth year of his age. His body was interred in the churchyard at Fulham.

Thomas Rowe, a gentleman of genius and learning, and a poet too of no inconsiderable rank in the beginning of the present century, was the son of Mr. Rowe, a dissenting clergyman, and born in London, April the 25th, 1687. His passion for letters was conspicuous even in his earliest years. He commenced his acquaintance with the classics at Epsom in Surrey; and afterwards improved it, under the famous Dr. Walker,

ker, master of the Charter-house school in London. Thence he removed to the university of Leyden, where he studied under the learned Witus, Vitriarius and others. Returning home with a large stock of knowledge, and with the purest morals, he married, in 1710, the accomplished Mrs. Singer, afterwards the celebrated Mrs. Rowe, with whom he lived, for five years, in all the raptures of conjugal endearment. But too close an application to study, beyond what the delicacy of his frame could bear, contributed at last to throw him into a consumption, which put a period to his life on the 13th of May, 1715. Besides several poems inserted in his wife's miscellanies, he had formed a design of compiling the lives of all the illustrious persons of antiquity, omitted by Plutarch; and eight of these he actually completed. They were published after his death, and translated into French.

Alexander Pope, the most elegant, and most correct poet that ever appeared in England, was born, June the 8th, 1688, in the city of London, where his father was then a considerable merchant. The old gentleman being of the Romish religion, young pope was brought up in the same persuasion. He had his education, first under one Taverner a priest, afterwards in a popish seminary at Twyford near Winchester, and last of all in a school at Hyde-park corner. Being carried to the play-house, when about ten years of age, he was so struck with the beauty of the representation, that he immediately formed a design of turning the principal events in Homer into a play, composed of a number of speeches from Ogilby's translation of that poet, linked together by verses of his own. This play he persuaded the upper boys to act; and the master's gardener

performed the part of Ajax. At the age of twelve he retired with his parents to Binfield in Windsor-forest, Berks, where he became acquainted with Sir William Trumbull, Mr. Wycherley, and Mr. Walsh; connections, which were of great advantage to him in the sequel. It was owing to the advice of this last gentleman, that he employed his chief care in attending to the correctness of his pieces; that being the way, as the other suggested to him, in which he might most easily excel his predecessors. Such was the peculiar bent of his genius, that the first sight of the poets gave him infinite pleasure. The first poem he perused was Ogilby's translation of Homer; and this, though a very indifferent version, afforded him, nevertheless, the most exquisite delight. He then read the writings of Waller, of Spencer, and of others; but, upon meeting with the works of Dryden, he abandoned all the rest for that favourite poet, whom he ever afterwards proposed as his model. The time of his beginning to write verses was so very early, that, as he himself informs us, he could hardly remember it. Before he had attained the twelfth year of his age, he produced his *Ode on Solitude*, which appears as the first fruits of his youthful muse. In 1704 he wrote his Pastorals; and in the course of the same year he composed the first part of his *Windsor Forest*, though the whole was not published till about six years afterwards. The number of his friends was now greatly encreased; for besides those we have already mentioned, he had by this time contracted an intimacy with the most distinguished geniuses of the age; Congreve, Garth, Gay, Swift, Atterbury, Arbuthnot, Talbot, Somers, Sheffield, Lansdown, Bolingbroke, &c. In 1708, that is, before he had arrived at his twentieth year, he wrote his *Essay on Criticism*, which

which has been always considered as a masterpiece in its kind. Great, however, as was the merit of this essay, it was infinitely surpassed, at least in a poetical view, by *the Rape of the Lock*, which appeared soon after, and in which he has displayed a greater strength of imagination, than in all his other works put together. This was succeeded by his *Temple of Fame*, and in 1715 he published his *Translation of Homer's Iliad*. Being now possessed of an independant fortune, he left Binfield, and settled at Twickenham, where he improved his seat in a very elegant manner. In 1725 he published his *Translation of the Odyssey*; in which, as well as in the Iliad, he had received considerable assistance from Mr. Broome and Mr. Fenton. His *Dunciad* made its appearance about three years after; and this was soon followed by his *Essay on Man*, and his *Ethic Epistles*. He had, in his younger years, wrote an Epic poem, intituled Alcander, which being, at best, but a childish performance, was prudently suppressed. He did not, however, lay aside all thoughts of attempting something in this species of poetry. For he actually formed a design of writing another Epic poem founded on the story of Brutus, the supposed grandson of Æneas, settling in Great Britain; but this scheme, though twice resumed, was never carried into execution. He likewise made two unsuccessful attempts in the drama. A comedy, wrote by him in conjunction with Gay, and Arbuthnot, was damned at its first appearance; and a tragedy, composed entirely by himself, was committed to the flames with his own hands. Towards the latter end of his life, he employed himself wholly in writing satyres, and publishing his miscellaneous productions. From his infancy upwards he had been subject to an habitual head-ach, and this malady being now reinforced

forced by a dropsy in his breast, and other disorders, he expired under this complication of diseases, May the 30th, 1744, in the fifty-sixth year of his age. His body was interred at Twickenham, in the same vault with those of his parents. He constituted Miss Blount (a young lady, with whom he is said to have been in love) his testamentary heiress during her life; and left the property of most of his works to Dr. Warburton, the present bishop of Gloucester. Of all the English poets he is beyond comparison the most harmonious in his numbers; and his voice, in conversation, was so naturally musical, that he was commonly called, by way of distinction, *the Little Nightingale*. With regard to his person, he was of a low stature, thin habit, and crooked shape; but his eye was fine, sharp, and piercing.

William Hogarth, an eminent comic painter, was born in the parish of St. Bartholomew, London, in the year 1698. His father, being one of the lower order of tradesmen, had no higher views for his son, than binding him apprentice to an engraver of pewter pots. How long he pursued this contemptible employment is uncertain; but the first time he distinguished himself as a painter, was in the *Figures of the Wandsworth Assembly*. His next piece was probably that excellent picture of the *Pool of Bethesda*, which he presented to St. Bartholomew's hospital. Hitherto he seems to have confined himself to grave history paintings; a walk in which he had many competitors: but he soon struck out into an unbeaten track, in which he excelled all that ever came before, or have since succeeded him. His admirable turn for comic painting, was, it is said, first discovered by his being employed to draw designs for a new edition of *Hudibras*. His first work of this sort that made its appearance, was his *Har-*  
*lot's*

*lot's Progress*, which was immediately pronounced, and has ever since been esteemed, a master-piece in its kind. The ingenious Abbé du Bos had often complained, that no history painter of his time had gone thro' a series of actions, and thus, like an historian, painted the successive fortunes of an hero from the cradle to the grave. What du Bos wished to see done, Hogarth performed. He launches out his young adventurer, a simple girl upon the town, and conducts her through all the vicissitudes of wretchedness, to a premature death. The *Rake's Progress* succeeded, which, though not equal to the former, was yet allowed to be possessed of much merit. *Marriage-a-la-Mode* came out a few years after; but to give a bare catalogue of his works would greatly exceed our limits. Soon after the conclusion of the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, he made a trip to Paris; the consequence of which was, his humorous print of the *Roast Beef of Old England*. In 1750, he published his *Analysis of Beauty*; and about seven years after he succeeded his brother-in-law as serjeant-painter to his majesty. He died at his house in Leicester-fields on the 25th of October, 1764, and his body was interred at Chiswick. Of Mr. Hogarth's paintings it is generally observed, that his colouring is dry and harsh, and that he could never get rid of the appellation of a *Mannerist*, which was given him early in life.

Besides these, and many other persons of distinguished merit in their several professions born in the metropolis, the county of Middlesex has produced many others besides those we have mentioned in treating of the places of their birth, among whom are the following.

Sir Thomas Pope Blount, an eminent writer of the seventeenth century, was the eldest son of Sir Henry

Henry Blount, of Tettenhanger in Hertfordshire; and was born at Upper Holloway in Middlesex, September the 12th, 1649. He was carefully educated under the eye of his father, who was himself an excellent scholar; and it is not to be wondered, if, under the tuition of so able an instructor, he made a considerable progress in all branches of learning. In 1679 he received from king Charles the Second the dignity of a baronet; and he afterwards served in several parliaments both before and after the revolution. He wrote *Censura celebriorum Auctorum*; or a *Critique on the most celebrated Writers. A natural History, and Remarks on Poetry*; together with a number of detached essays. He died on the 30th of June, 1697.

John Hough, bishop of Worcester in the beginning of the eighteenth century, particularly distinguished by the share which he had in bringing about the revolution, was born in this county in the year 1650. He had his education at Birmingham-school, and at Magdalen-college in Oxford, where he took his degrees in arts and divinity. In 1687 he was elected president of his college by a majority of the fellows, who had rejected a *Mandamus* from his majesty king James the Second, in behalf of one Anthony Farmer, a papist; but, in a little time after, he was ejected from his office by the ecclesiastical commissioners, and Dr. Samuel Parker, bishop of Oxford, substituted in his room. Upon the news, however, of the prince of Orange's preparing to come over to England, Dr. Hough was restored; and that prince had no sooner obtained the English crown, than the doctor was advanced to the bishopric of Oxford. In 1699 he was translated to the see of Litchfield and Coventry; and, after refusing the metropolitan chair of Canterbury, which was offered

offered him in 1715, he was about two years after promoted to the bishopric of Worcester. This new dignity he held above twenty-six years; and his constitution, which was good, being at length entirely worn out, he expired gently, March the 8th, 1743, in the ninety-third year of his age.

Hugh Boulter, archbishop of Armagh, primate and metropolitan of all Ireland, was born of reputable parents, in or near London, and educated in merchant-taylor's school, whence he removed to the university of Oxford, where he finished his studies. In 1700 he was appointed chaplain to Sir Charles Hedges, principal secretary of state, as also to Dr. Thomas Tenison, archbishop of Canterbury; and, by the interest of Charles Spencer, earl of Sunderland, he was soon after preferred to the parsonage of St. Olave in Southwark, and to the archdeaconry of Surrey. In 1719 he attended king George the First to Hanover in the quality of his chaplain; and, during his residence in that place, was promoted to the bishopric of Bristol, which then happened to fall vacant. In this see he continued till 1724, when he was advanced to the archbishopric of Armagh, and primacy of Ireland; a dignity, which, however, he would willingly have declined, but which, in obedience to the express commands of his sovereign, he at last accepted: and happy was it for Ireland, that he did accept it; for never man in his station, or in any other, was a more generous benefactor to that kingdom, either in acts of public or private charity. He died on the 2d of June, 1742, at his house in London, and was interred in Westminster-abbey.



## MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THIS was formerly a Welch county, and was called by the Britons Gwent, from an ancient city of that name, and is at present called Monmouthshire from the county town. It is bounded on the north by Herefordshire, on the east by Gloucestershire, and part of the Severn; on the west by the counties of Brecknock and Glamorgan, and on the south by the Bristol channel, and the mouth of the Severn. It is about twenty-nine miles in length from north to south, twenty in breadth from east to west, and eighty-four in circumference. Usk, a market town nearly in the center of the county, is a hundred and thirty miles almost west from London.

This county was, in the time of the Romans, a part of the country inhabited by the Silures, and long after the inhabitants were cruelly harassed by the lords of the marches, to whom the kings of England granted all the lands they could conquer from them. Indeed, this county was originally considered as a part of Wales, and thus continued till near the end of the reign of king Charles the Second, when it began to be reckoned an English county, because the judges then began to keep the assizes here, in the Oxford-circuit.

The air of Monmouthshire is temperate and healthy, and the soil fruitful. The western parts of the county are mountainous, and the eastern abound with woods; the hills afford pasture for horned cattle, sheep and goats, and the vallies produce plenty of corn and hay. Here is also  
great

great plenty of coals. The principal manufacture of the county is flannels.

This county is watered by several fine rivers, the principal of which are the Severn, the Wye, the Mynow, the Rumney, the Usk, and the Ebwith. The course of the Severn, and the Wye, we have already traced in our account of Gloucestershire and Herefordshire. The Mynow, or Mynwy, rises in Brecknockshire, and running south-east, divides this county from Herefordshire, and falls into the river Wye, at Monmouth. The Rumney also rises in Brecknockshire, and running south-east, divides this county from Glamorganshire, and falls into the Bristol channel. The Usk likewise rises in Brecknockshire, and running south-east, divides this county into two almost equal parts, and discharges itself into the Bristol channel, about two miles below Newport. The Ebwith rises in the north-west part of this county, and after receiving the Stroway, proceeds south-east, and falls into the Bristol channel, near the mouth of the Usk.

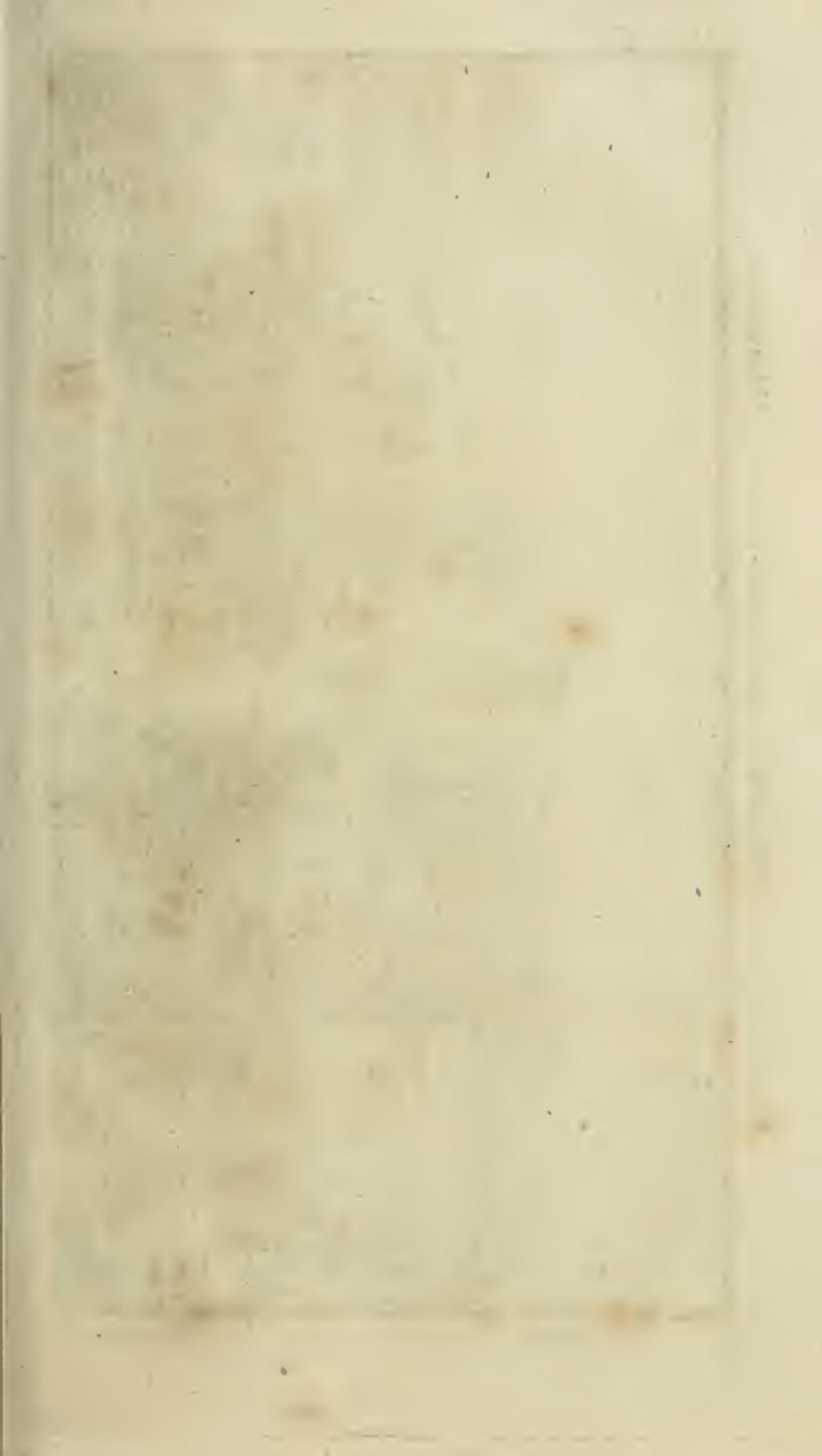
With respect to the methods of husbandry, they have a great mixture of good and bad between Chepstow and Newport. For some miles round Chepstow, they have a great quantity of very good meadow ground, which lets from one guinea to two per acre; but their arable land is, in general, about twelve shillings. They chiefly use six oxen at a time for plowing, and often mix them with horses. The ingenious author of *The Six Weeks Tour through the Southern Counties*, observes, that he found them universally employing supernumerary hands and beasts, though the soil is tolerably light, and in many parts level, and yet with six, and even eight oxen, they never plow up above an acre a day, and very frequently not above half an acre. Most of the  
farmers

farmers in this neighbourhood are sensible of the superior profit attending grass-lands, in comparison with arable, and accordingly they have generally more of it than of plowed land. Lime is here a great manure, and as they think that little can be done without it, every large farm has a kiln for burning lime-stone, of which there are quarries throughout the whole country.

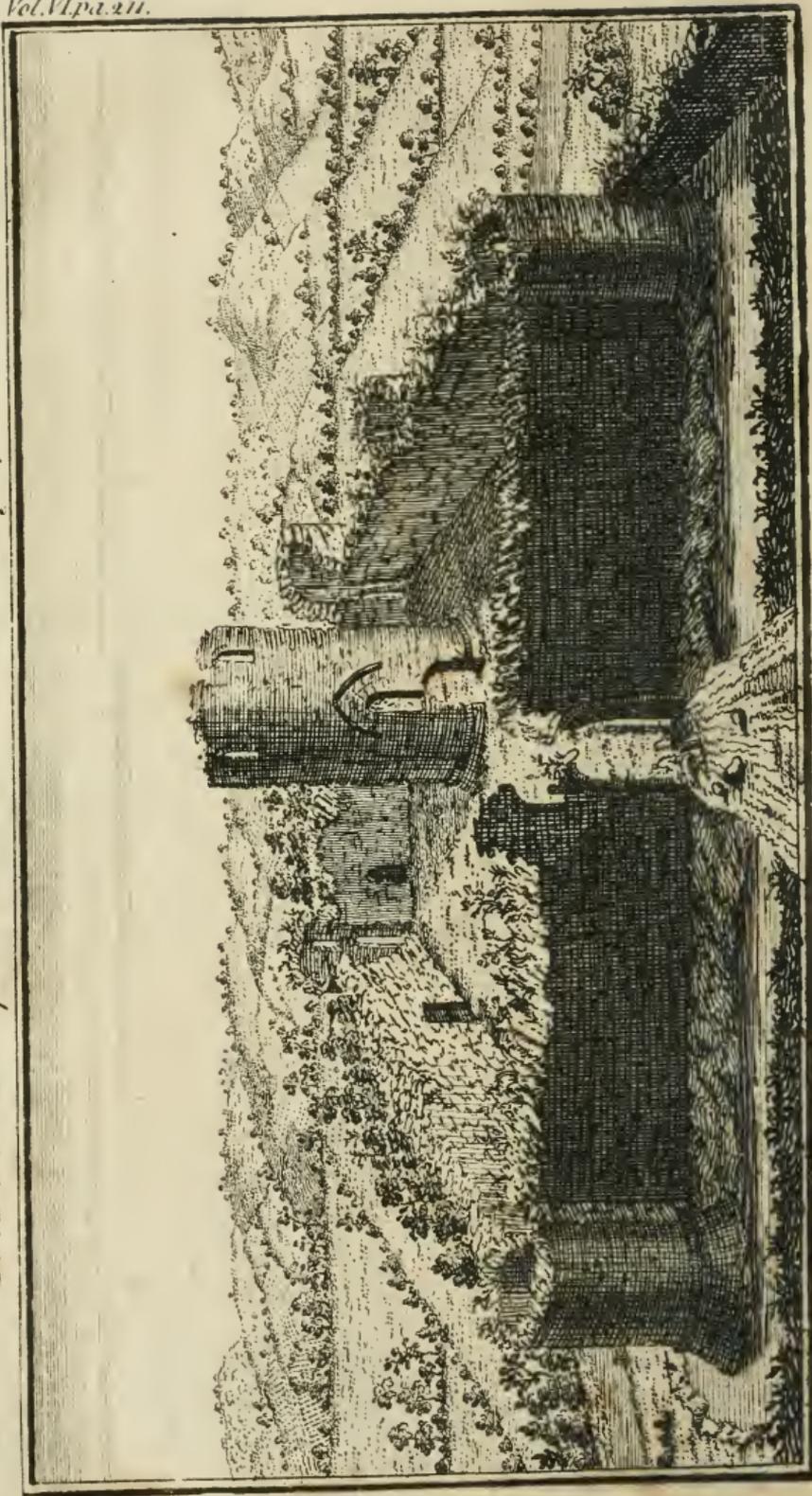
This county is seated in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Landaff, and contains one hundred and twenty-seven parishes. It is divided into six hundreds, and has seven market towns, Monmouth, Abergavenny, Caerleon, Chepstow, Uik, Pontipole and Newport: but sends only three members to parliament, two knights of the shire, and one representative for Monmouth.

MONMOUTH, which took its name from its situation on the river Mynow, is called by the Welch MYNWX, and is situated between the rivers Wye and Mynow, which encompass great part of the town. It has a bridge over each river, and also a third bridge, over the little river Trothy, which falls into the Wye, almost close to the mouth of the Mynow. Monmouth is a large handsome town, seated on the road to Gloucester, a hundred and twenty-seven miles to the westward of London, thirty-two north by west of Bristol, nineteen south of Hereford, and twenty-two south by west of Gloucester. It had a castle, which was a stately edifice, but is now in ruins. It was said to be erected by John Baron of Monmouth, from whom it came to the house of Lancaster, and was the birth-place of king Henry the Fifth. The town was formerly encompassed by a wall and ditch, and has been considerable ever since the conquest. It was incorporated by king Charles the First, and is governed by two bailiffs, fifteen common-councilmen, and a

TOWN.



*The North View of Skinfrith Castle in the County of Monmouth*



town clerk. The church is a handsome structure, the east end of which is much admired. Besides which, at the east end, is another called Monk's church; which formerly belonged to the monastery, where Arthur, bishop of St. Asaph, wrote the history of Great-Britain. Wihenoc de Monmouth, in the reign of Henry the First, founded here a convent for some Black monks, which he brought from St. Florence in France. This alien priory was made denizen, and continued till the general suppression, when it was valued at 56 l. 1 s. 11 d. per annum; and about the year 1240, John of Monmouth, knight, founded here the hospital of the Holy Trinity, and that of St. John. This town has a considerable market on Saturdays, for corn and provisions, and three fairs, on Whitsun-Tuesday, and September 4, for horned cattle, and on November 22, for horned cattle, fat hogs and cheese.

About four miles to the north by west of Monmouth is SKINFRITH, a village which has a castle, that at present belongs to the dutchy of Lancaster; for Hubert de Burgh, earl of Kent, to make his peace with king Henry the Third, and to remove all suspicion of his loyalty, surrendered both this and Grismond castle, into the hands of that king. Of the remains of this structure, the reader will form a just idea, from the view we have here given of it.

At LLANVOITH, a village two miles north-west of Skinfrith, is a church, which, with the manor of the place, was given before the year 1183, to the abbey of Lira in Normandy, which placed here a cell of Black monks.

GRISMOND, or GROSEMONT, is seated on the west bank of the Mynow, near the northern extremity of the county, about five miles north-west of Skinfrith, and has a castle, which anciently belonged

belonged to the family of Braoses, and afterwards to the above Hubert de Burgh, earl of Kent, by which means it came to the dutchy of Lancaster. Of this castle we have also given a view.

About two miles to the south of Monmouth is WELCH BICKNOR, so called to distinguish it from English Bicknor, another parish on the other side of the Wye in Gloucestershire. It stands in a peninsula, made by that river, seven miles in compass, though the isthmus is but one, and was formerly reckoned in Wales, when Monmouthshire was a Welch county, and from thence obtained its distinguishing epithet. The church is so situated as not to be seen from any part of the parish, except the verge of the river, upon whose bank it is built, the hills above it rising to a mountainous height, with such swellings in the middle, as entirely hide the church, till you come within twenty yards of it. In this church is a chalice, which, from its date, appears to have been made in the year 1176. Its form is not unlike those of the present times, but is very rudely done, and has no stamp or mark to denote the name of the workman, or the quality of the silver; nor any ornament, except two rude circles of small roses, very badly executed, one of which is round the cover. The date of the year is in Arabic numerals, which shews, that they were then brought into England.

At GRACEDIU, a village on the little river Trothy, three miles south-west of Monmouth, was a small abbey, built by John of Monmonth, Knt. in the year 1226, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary; but, at the suppression, it had only two monks, and a revenue of 19 l. 14 s. 4 d. per annum.

From Monmouth a road extends to the southward, and at about six miles from that town, are  
the

the remains of TINTON abbey, which stands by the side of the Wye, at about the distance of a mile east of the road. This abbey, which was dedicated to God and St. Mary of Tinton, was founded about the year 1131, by Walter Fitz Richard de Clare, lord of Caerwent and Monmouthshire. William, earl of Pembroke, and marshal of England, who married the daughter and heiress of Richard de Clare, surnamed Strongbow, gave divers lands and privileges to the abbot and monks, who were of the Cistercian order, obliging them to pray for his soul, and those of his and his wife's ancestors. Roger de Bigot, duke of Norfolk, added to these benefactions. This abbey has been famous for the tombs and monuments of several great persons, principally the above Richard de Clare earl of Pembroke, called Strongbow, Walter, earl of Pembroke, and William Herbert, earl of Pembroke, who, in the dispute between the houses of York and Lancaster, was taken prisoner in Banbury fight, beheaded and interred here.

On returning to the road, it extends southward to CHEPSTOW, which is seated on the side of a hill, upon the Wye, near its influx into the Severn, fourteen miles south of Monmouth, and a hundred and thirty-five from London. It was formerly a place of great eminence, and is said to have risen from the ruins of Venta Silurum, which was an ancient Roman city, about four miles distant. It was fortified with a wall of large circumference, and has a castle which stands upon a high rock, on the brink of the river Wye. It was once very spacious and strong, proper for the defence of the town, &c. The present proprietor is the duke of Beaufort. Of this structure we have likewise given a view. Near this castle is a priory, the principal part of which being pulled down, the remainder

remainder was converted into a parish church. Chepstow is still a large, well built and populous town, with a fine bridge of timber, over the Wye, no less than seventy feet high from the surface of the water. Ships of good burthen may come up to it, the tide running with great rapidity, and commonly rising upwards of six fathoms at the bridge. In January 1738, this bridge was much damaged by the tide's rising above its usual height, and as it is reckoned partly in Gloucestershire, it was repaired at the expence of both counties. The market is on Saturdays for corn and provisions, and is very considerable for hogs. It has four fairs, kept on Friday in Whitsun-week, for horned cattle; on the Saturday before June 20, for wool; on the first of August, and the Friday sevennight after October 18, for horned cattle.

KAERWENT is about four or five miles north-west of Chepstow, and is universally allowed to be the Venta Silurum of the Romans; but there are little remains of it left, except ruinous walls. There have been found here chequered pavements, and Roman coins; and particularly in the year 1689, there were three of these pavements discovered in the garden of one Francis Ridley; besides those taken notice of formerly by Camden. The small cubical stones, whereof the pavements were composed, were of various sizes and colours, and are now scattered confusedly in the earth, at the depth of half a yard. In one of these pavements, several flowers were delineated, somewhat like roses, tulips, and flower-de-luces. At each of the four corners was a crown, and a peacock holding a snake in its bill. Another had the figure of a man in armour, from the breast upwards. There were also a variety of other figures, which, had they been preserved, would have been highly valued by the curious. In the gardens, and elsewhere

where, in this village, they frequently meet with brass coins, out of which collections have been made. In the year 1693, part of a Roman brick pavement was discovered, whose bricks were somewhat above a foot long, nine inches broad, and an inch and an half thick. This city took up a mile in circumference, and a considerable part of the wall on the south side was standing in Camden's time.

Five miles west of Kaerwent is seated STRUGLE castle, at the bottom of the hills. It was built by William Fitz Osborn, earl of Hereford, and afterwards became the seat of the Clares, earls of Pembroke.

At Strugle was also an alien priory of Benedictine monks, belonging to the abbey of Corneil in Normandy, as early as the reign of king Stephen. It was dedicated to St. Mary, and at the time of the dissolution had three religious, and a revenue of 32 l. per annum.

Near CALDECOT, a village five miles southwest of Chepstow, where the river Throgey enters the Severn, Camden observed the walls of a castle, which formerly belonged to the high constables of England, and was held in consequence of their being in that office.

In the neighbourhood of Chepstow are the fine gardens of Mr. Morris at PERSFIELD, which the ingenious author of the Farmer's letters, describes in a most pleasing and agreeable manner. " We  
 " were shewn, says he, to a part of the garden  
 " which consisted of slopes and waving lawns,  
 " having shrubby trees scattered about them with  
 " great taste; and striking down a short walk to  
 " the left, we came at once to a little sequester-  
 " ed spot, shaded by a fine beech-tree, which  
 " commands a most beautiful landscape. One of  
 " the sweetest vallies ever beheld, lies immedi-  
 " ately

“ ately beneath, but at such a depth, that every  
 “ object appears in miniature. This valley con-  
 “ sists of a complete farm of about forty inclo-  
 “ sures, grass and corn fields, intersected by  
 “ hedges with many trees; it is a peninsula al-  
 “ most surrounded by the river Wye, which  
 “ winds directly beneath, in a manner wonder-  
 “ fully romantic; and what makes the whole  
 “ picture perfect, is its being entirely surrounded  
 “ by vast rocks and precipices, covered thick  
 “ with wood down to the water’s edge. The  
 “ whole is an amphitheatre, which seems dropped  
 “ from the clouds, complete in all its beauty.  
 “ From thence we turned to the left, through a  
 “ winding walk cut out of the rock; but with  
 “ wood enough against the river, to prevent the  
 “ horrors, which would otherwise attend the  
 “ treading on such a precipice. After passing  
 “ through a hay-field, the contrast to the pre-  
 “ ceding views, we entered the woods again, and  
 “ came to a bench inclosed with Chinese rails  
 “ in the rock, which commands the same val-  
 “ ley and river, all fringed with wood; some  
 “ great rocks in front, and just above them the  
 “ river Severn appears, with a boundless prospect  
 “ beyond it.

“ A little farther we met with another bench  
 “ inclosed with iron rails, on a point of the  
 “ rock which is here pendent over the river,  
 “ and may be truly called a situation full of  
 “ the terrible sublime: you look immediately  
 “ down upon a vast hollow of wood, all sur-  
 “ rounded by the woody precipices, which have  
 “ so fine an effect from all the points of view  
 “ at Persfield; in the midst appears a small  
 “ but neat building, the bathing-house, which,  
 “ though none of the best, appears from this  
 “ enormous height, but as a spot of white, in  
 “ the

the midst of the vast range of green; towards the right is seen the winding of the river.

From this spot, which seems to be pushed forward from the rock, by the bold hands of the genii of the place, you proceed to the temple, a small neat building on the highest part of these grounds; and imagination cannot form an idea of any thing more beautiful, than what appears to your ravished sight from this amazing point of view. You look down upon all the woody precipices, as if in another region, terminated by a wall of rocks; just above them appears the river Severn, in so peculiar a manner, that you would swear it washed them, and that nothing parted you from it but those rocks, which are in reality four or five miles distant. This *deceptio visus* is the most exquisite I ever beheld; for viewing, first the river beneath you, then the vast rocks rising in a shore of precipices, and immediately above them the noble river Severn, as if a part of the little world immediately before you; and lastly, all the boundless prospect over Gloucestershire and Somersetshire, are, together such a bewitching view, that nothing can exceed it, and contains so romantic a variety, with such an apparent junction of separate parts, that imagination can scarcely imagine any thing equal to the amazing reality. The view of the right, over the winding park, and the winding valley at the bottom of it, would, from any other spot but this, be thought remarkably fine.

The winding road down to the cold bath, is cool, sequestered and agreeable. The building itself is excessively neat, and well contrived, and the spring, which supplies it, plentiful

“ and transparent. You wind from it up the  
 “ rock. On the left, towards the valley, there  
 “ is a prodigious hollow filled with a thick wood,  
 “ which almost hangs beneath you.

“ Passing on, there are two breaks from this  
 “ walk, which opens to the valley in a very  
 “ agreeable manner, and then leads through an  
 “ extremely romantic cave, hollowed out of the  
 “ rock, and opening to a fine point of view. At  
 “ the mouth of this cave some swivel guns are  
 “ planted; the firing of which occasions a re-  
 “ peated echo from rock to rock in a most sur-  
 “ prizing manner. Nor must you pass through  
 “ this walk without observing a remarkable phe-  
 “ nomenon of a large oak, of a great age, grow-  
 “ ing out of a cleft of the rock, without the  
 “ least appearance of any earth. Pursuing the  
 “ walk, as it rises up the rocks, and passes by the  
 “ point of view first mentioned, you arrive at a  
 “ bench, which commands a view delicious be-  
 “ yond all imagination: on the left you look  
 “ down upon the valley, with the river winding  
 “ many hundred fathoms perpendicular beneath,  
 “ the whole surrounded by the vast amphitheatre  
 “ of wooded rocks; and to the right, full upon  
 “ the town of Chepstow; beyond it the vast Se-  
 “ vern’s windings, and a prodigious prospect  
 “ bounding the whole.

“ From thence an agreeable walk, shaded on  
 “ one side with a great number of very fine spruce  
 “ firs, leads you to an irregular junction of wind-  
 “ ing walks, with many large trees growing from  
 “ the sequestered lawn, in a manner pleasing to  
 “ any one of taste, and figures in a very striking  
 “ manner, by contrast to what presently suc-  
 “ ceeds; which is a view, at the very idea of  
 “ describing which, my pen drops from my hand:

“ ———No,

“ —No, my good friend, the eyes of your  
 “ imagination are not keen enough to take in  
 “ this point, which the united talents of a Claud,  
 “ a Pouffin, a Vernet, and a Smith, would scarce-  
 “ ly be able to sketch. Full to the left, appears  
 “ beneath you, the valley, in all its beautiful ele-  
 “ gance, surrounded by the romantic rocky  
 “ woods; which might be called (to use ano-  
 “ ther’s expression) a coarse selvage of canvass a-  
 “ round a fine piece of lawn. In the front, rises  
 “ from the hollow of the river, a prodigious wall  
 “ of formidable rocks, and immediately above  
 “ them in breaks, winds the Severn, as if part-  
 “ ed from you only by them; on the right is seen  
 “ the town and castle, amidst a border of wood,  
 “ with the Severn above them, and over the  
 “ whole, as far as the eye can command, an im-  
 “ mense prospect of distant country. I leave your  
 “ imagination to give colours to this mere out-  
 “ line, which is all I can attempt.

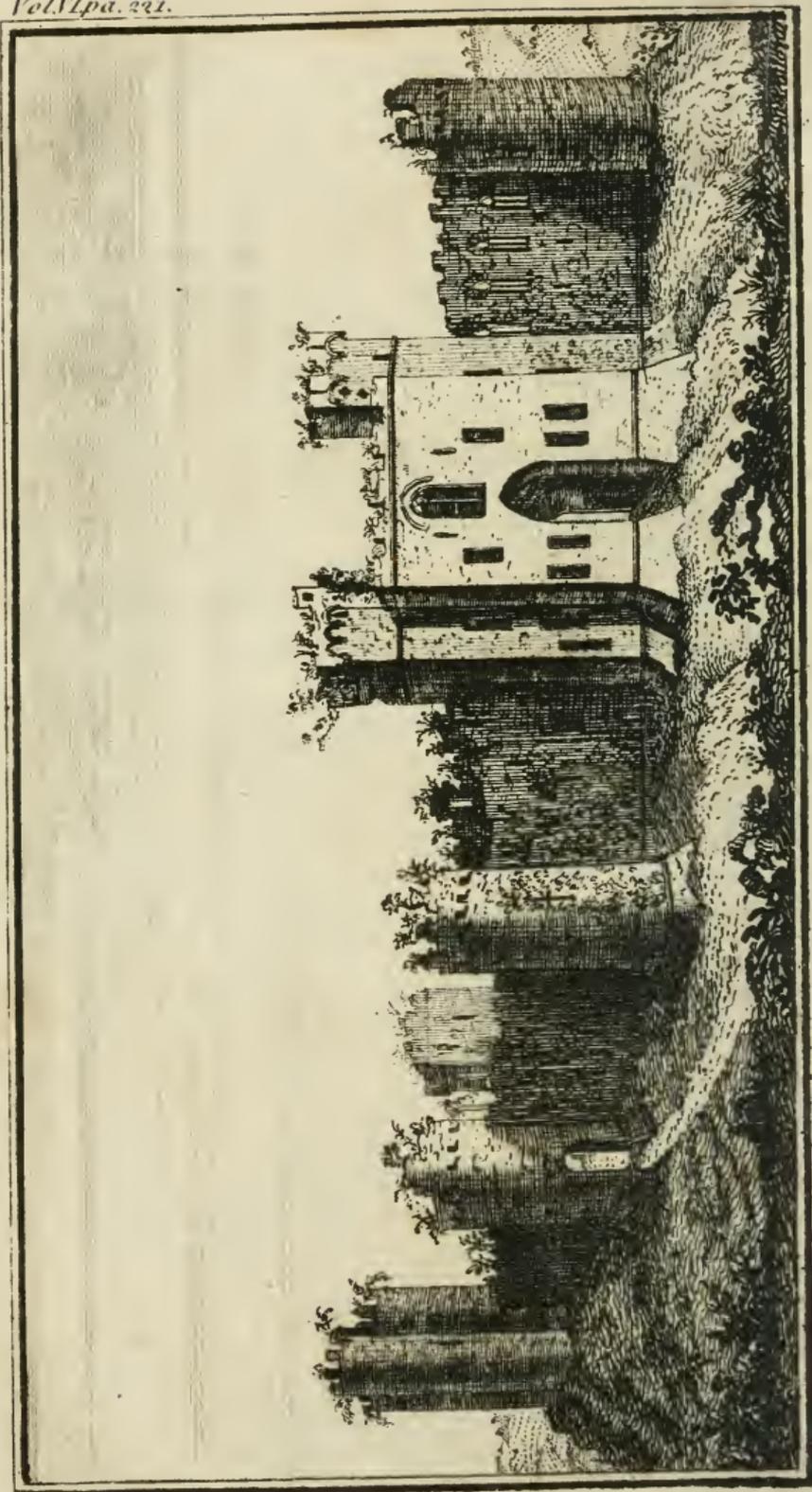
“ The sloping walk of ever-greens, which  
 “ leads from hence, is remarkably beautiful in  
 “ prospect, for the town and the country above  
 “ it, appear perpetually varying as you move;  
 “ each moment presenting a fresh picture, till the  
 “ whole is lost by descending. You next meet  
 “ with the grotto, a point of view exquisite-  
 “ ly beautiful; it is a small cave in the rock,  
 “ stuck with stones of various kinds; cop-  
 “ per, and iron cinders, &c. You look from  
 “ the seat in it immediately down a steep slope on  
 “ to a hollow of wood, bounded in front by the  
 “ craggy rocks, which seem to part you from the  
 “ Severn in breaks; with the distant country,  
 “ spotted with white buildings above all, form-  
 “ ing a landscape as truly picturesque as any in  
 “ the world. The winding walk, which leads

“ from the grotto, varies from any of the former;  
 “ for the town of Chepstow, and the various  
 “ neighbouring objects, break on you through  
 “ the hedge, as you pass along, in a manner ve-  
 “ ry beautiful:—passing over a little bridge,  
 “ which is thrown across a road in a hollow way  
 “ through the wood, you come to a break upon  
 “ a scoop of wood alone, which being different  
 “ from the rest, pleases as well by its novelty, as  
 “ its romantic variety. Further on, from the  
 “ same walk, are two other breaks which let in  
 “ rural pictures, sweetly beautiful; the latter  
 “ opens to you a hollow of wood, bounded by  
 “ the wall of rocks, one way, letting in a view  
 “ of the town another, in an exquisite taste. The  
 “ next opening in the hedge, gives you at one  
 “ small view, all the picturesque beauties of a  
 “ natural camera obscura; you have a bench  
 “ which is thickly shaded with trees, in a dark  
 “ sequestered spot, and from it you look aside  
 “ through the opening, on to a landscape which  
 “ seems formed by the happiest hand of design,  
 “ which is really nothing but catching a view of  
 “ accidental objects. The town and castle of  
 “ Chepstow appear from one part of the bench,  
 “ rising from the romantic steeps of wood, in a  
 “ manner too beautiful to express; a small re-  
 “ move discovers the steeple so dropt in the pre-  
 “ cise point of taste, that one can scarcely be-  
 “ lieve it a real steeple, and not an eye-trap.  
 “ Soon after a large break opens a various view  
 “ of the distant country; and not far from it  
 “ another, which is much worthy of remark;  
 “ you look down upon a fine bend of the river,  
 “ winding to the castle, which appears here ro-  
 “ mantically situated; the opposite bank is a  
 “ swelling hill, part over-run with gorse and  
 “ rubbish, and part cultivated inclosures.

“ The



*The South West View of Caldecot Castle, in the County of Monmouth.*



“ The last point, and which perhaps is equal  
 “ to most of the preceding, is the alcove. From  
 “ this you look down perpendicularly on the ri-  
 “ ver, with a finely cultivated slope on the other  
 “ side. To the right is a prodigious steep shoar  
 “ of wood, winding to the castle, which, with a  
 “ part of the town, appears in full view. On  
 “ the left is seen a fine bend of the river for some  
 “ distance, the opposite shore of wild wood, with  
 “ the rock appearing at places in rising cliffs,  
 “ and farther on to the termination of the view  
 “ that way, the vast wall of rocks so often men-  
 “ tioned, which are here seen in length, and  
 “ have a stupendous effect. On the whole, this  
 “ scene is striking and romantic.

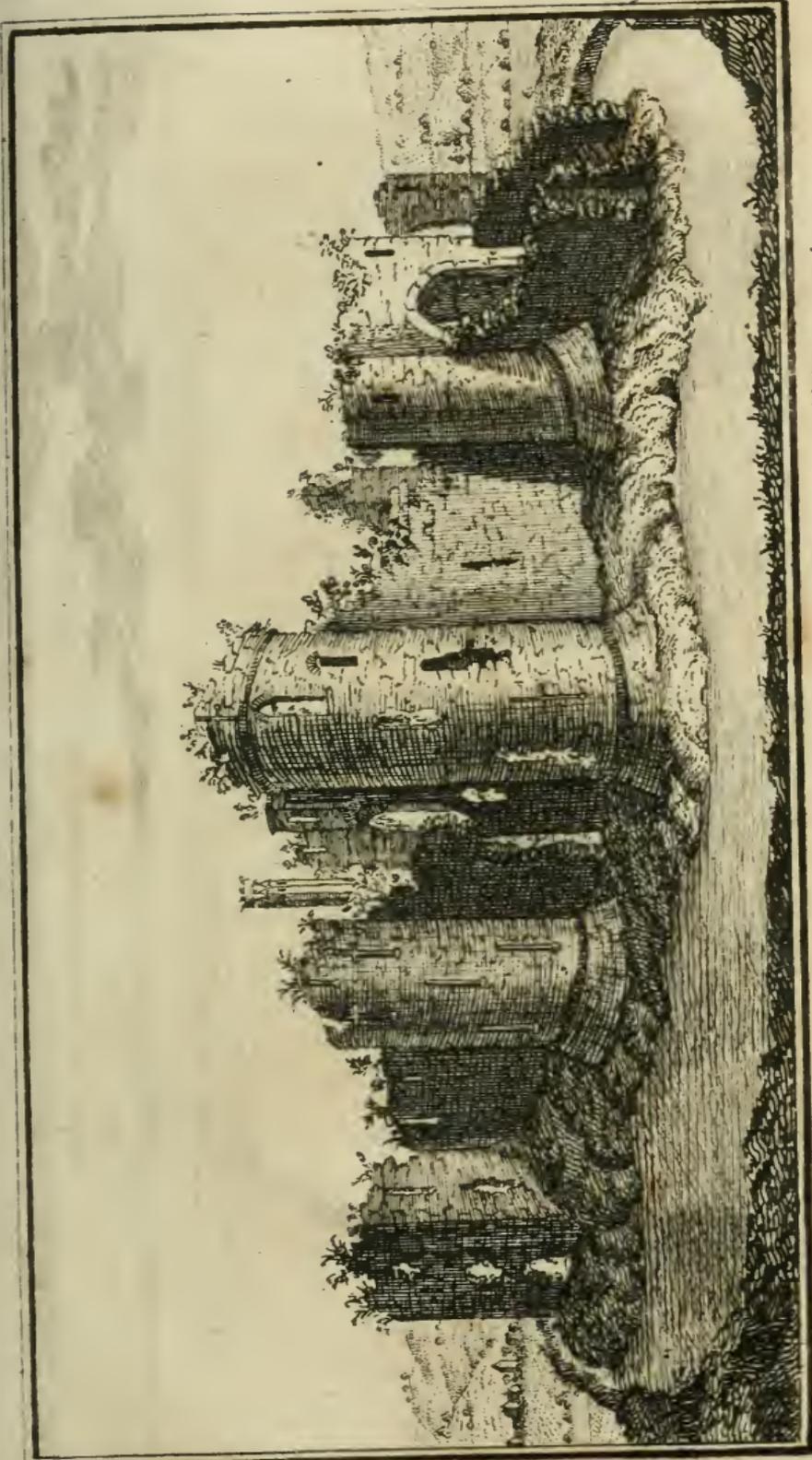
“ About a mile beyond these walks is a very  
 “ romantic cliff, called the Wind Cliff, from  
 “ which the extent of prospect is prodigious;  
 “ but it is most remarkable for the surprising  
 “ echo, on firing a pistol or gun from it. The  
 “ explosion is repeated five times very distinctly  
 “ from rock to rock, often seven; and if the  
 “ calmness of the weather happens to be remark-  
 “ ably favourable, nine times. This echo is  
 “ wonderfully curious. Beyond the cliff at some  
 “ distance is the abbey, a venerable ruin, situat-  
 “ ed in a romantic hollow, belonging to the duke  
 “ of Beaufort, well worth your seeing; and this  
 “ is the conclusion of the Persfield entertain-  
 “ ment.”

About two miles to the south-west of Chepstow  
 is CALDECOT, near which is a castle seated at the  
 influx of the small river Tregony, into the mouth  
 of the Severn. This castle, of which we have  
 given a south-west view, belonged to the high  
 constables of England, and was held by the ser-  
 vice of the office of high constable. It was late-  
 ly in the possession of Uvedale Price, Esq;

About twelve miles to the south-west of Chepstow is a moor which extends to the mouth of the river Usk, where the country formerly suffered a terrible devastation, for the sea being driven over the land by a spring tide, undermined several houses, and drowned a considerable number of men and cattle. On the eastern border of this moor is Gold Cliff, which is so called, because when the sun shines upon it, it appears of a bright gold colour. In this place are the remains of an old priory, founded by Robert de Chandos, in the year 1113, who, having endowed it, gave it to the abbey of Beaumont in Normandy. After the suppression of alien priories, this was annexed to the abbey of Tewkesbury in Gloucestershire, and afterwards to Eton college. At the general suppression, its annual revenue was computed at 144 l. 18 s. 1 d.

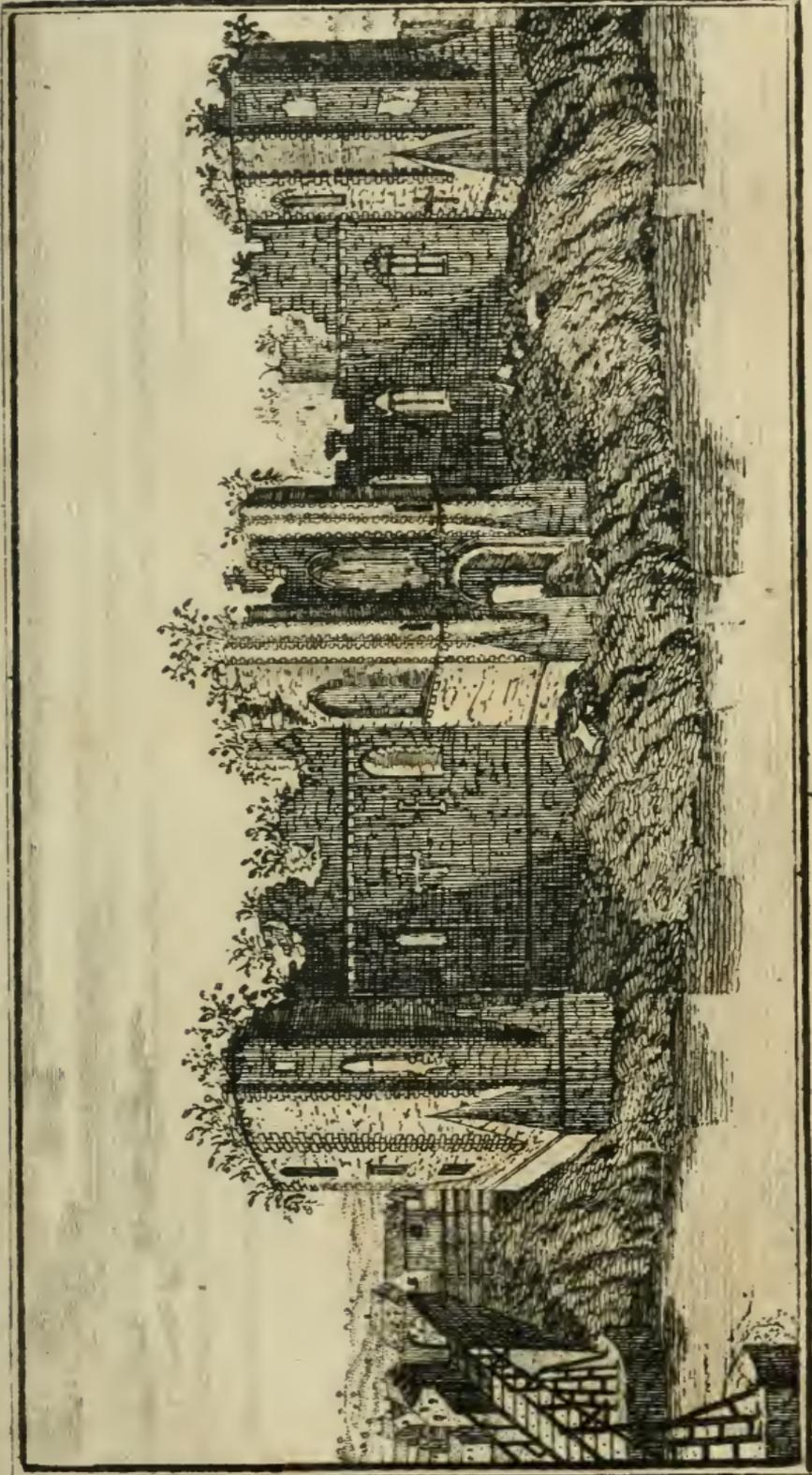
On the west side of the river Usk, and about two miles from its mouth, is NEWPORT, which received its name, from its being built out of the ruins of the old port of Caerleon. It is a pretty considerable town, about thirteen miles to the westward of Chepstow, and a hundred and fifty-one distant from London. It has a good haven, and a handsome stone bridge over the Usk. Near the mouth of that river are the remains of a castle, which appears to have been very strong, and built for the defence of this once frontier town of Wales. And of these remains we have given an accurate view. Newport has a market on Saturdays, and four fairs, held on Holy Thursday, Whitsun-Thursday, August 15, and November 6, for cattle.

About three miles higher up the river is CAERLEON, the Isca Silurum of Antoninus. Giraldus in his itinerary of Wales, says, it was a very ancient city, that enjoyed considerable privileges,

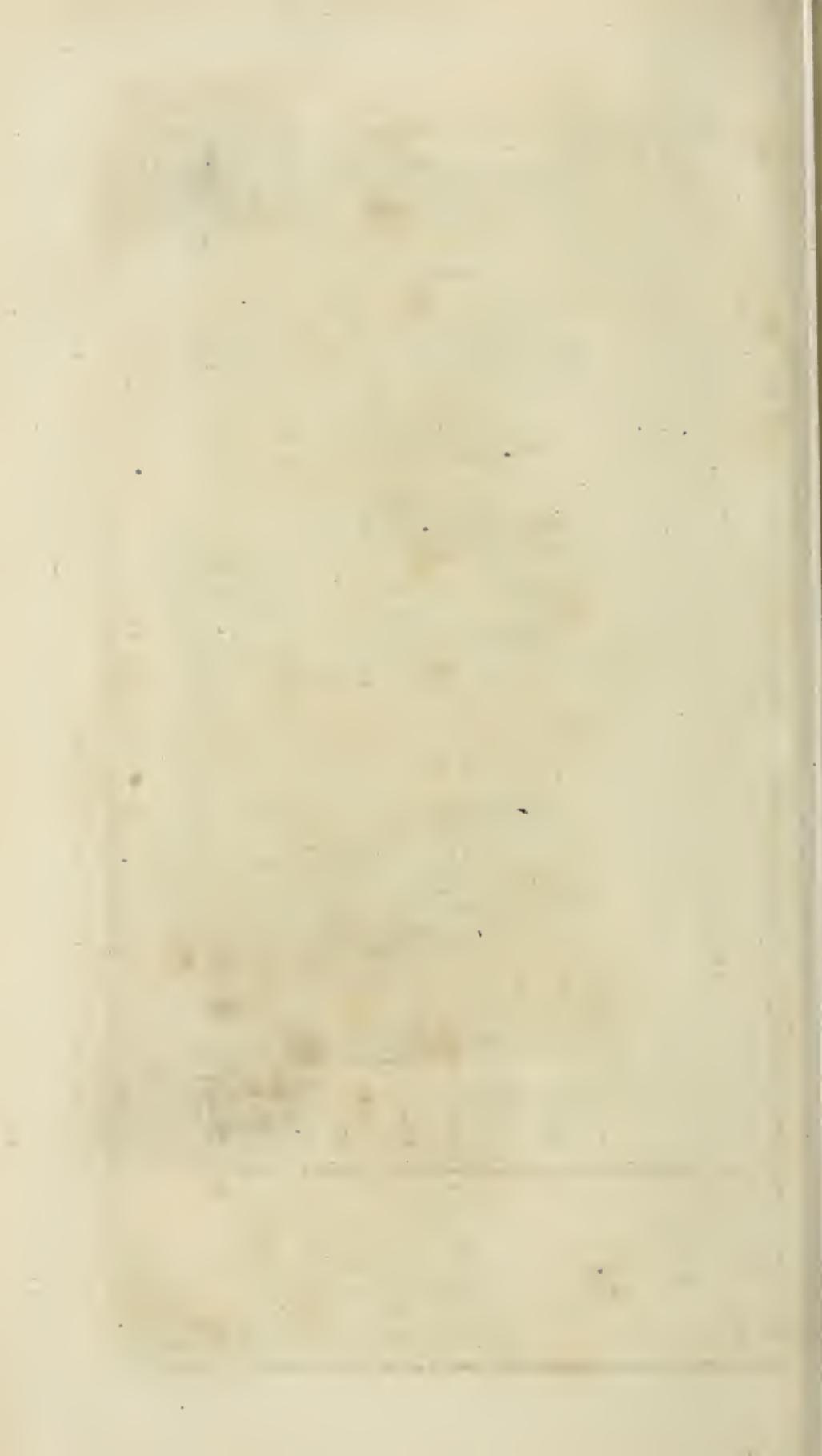


*The West View of Grifinond Castle, in the County of Monmouth.*





*The East View of Newport Castle, in the County of Monmouth.*



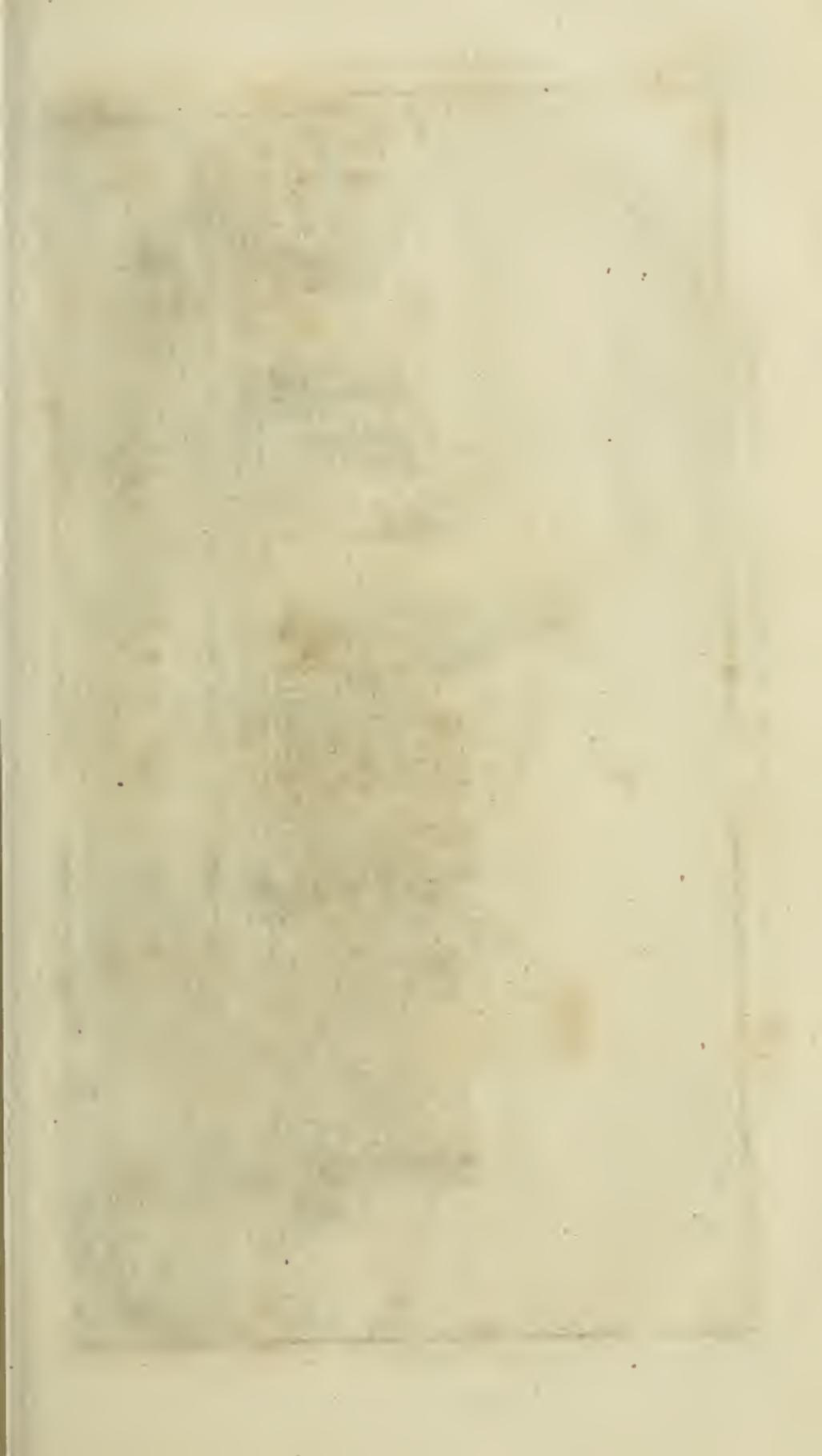
vileges, and was elegantly built by the Romans, who encompassed it with a wall of brick. There are yet, adds he, many marks of its ancient splendor, such as stately palaces, originally built by the Roman nobility. There was also an exceeding high tower, a remarkable hot bath, the ruins of ancient temples, and theatrical places, encompassed with stately walls, which are yet standing in part. Subterraneous edifices, not only within the walls, but also in the suburbs; aqueducts, vaults, stoves contrived with admirable skill, conveying heat insensibly through narrow vents in the sides. He farther tells us, that in ancient times there were three noble churches here, one of Julius the Martyr, graced with a choir of nuns; and that dedicated to St. Aaron his companion; the third was honoured with the metropolitan see of Wales. This city, continues he, is excellently well seated on the navigable river Usk, and encompassed with meadows and woods. There have been many antiquities found here, which are a confirmation of its having been a Roman city; for in the year 1602, some labourers digging in an adjoining meadow, found a chequered pavement, and a statue in a Roman habit, with a quiver of arrows, but the head, hands and feet, were broken off: from an inscription on a stone, found near it, it appears that the statue was that of Diana. There were also found at the same time, the fragments of two altars of stone with inscriptions; one of which appears to have been erected by Heterianus, lieutenant-general of Augustus, and proprætor of the province of Silesia. Here was also found a votive altar, from the inscription of which, the name of the emperor Geta appears to have been erased. In the reign of Henry the Second, this city seems to have been a place of considerable strength; for

we find that Erwyth of Caerleon, defended it a long time against the English forces, till being at length overpowered, he was obliged to abandon it. It was once of such large extent on each side the river, that the church of Julius the Martyr, which stood above a mile out of the town, was formerly in the city. It is now a small town, commodiously seated on the river Usk, over which it has a large wooden bridge; the houses are, in general, well built with stone, and it has the ruins of a castle. It has a small market on Thursdays, and three fairs, on May 1, July 20, and September 21, for cattle.

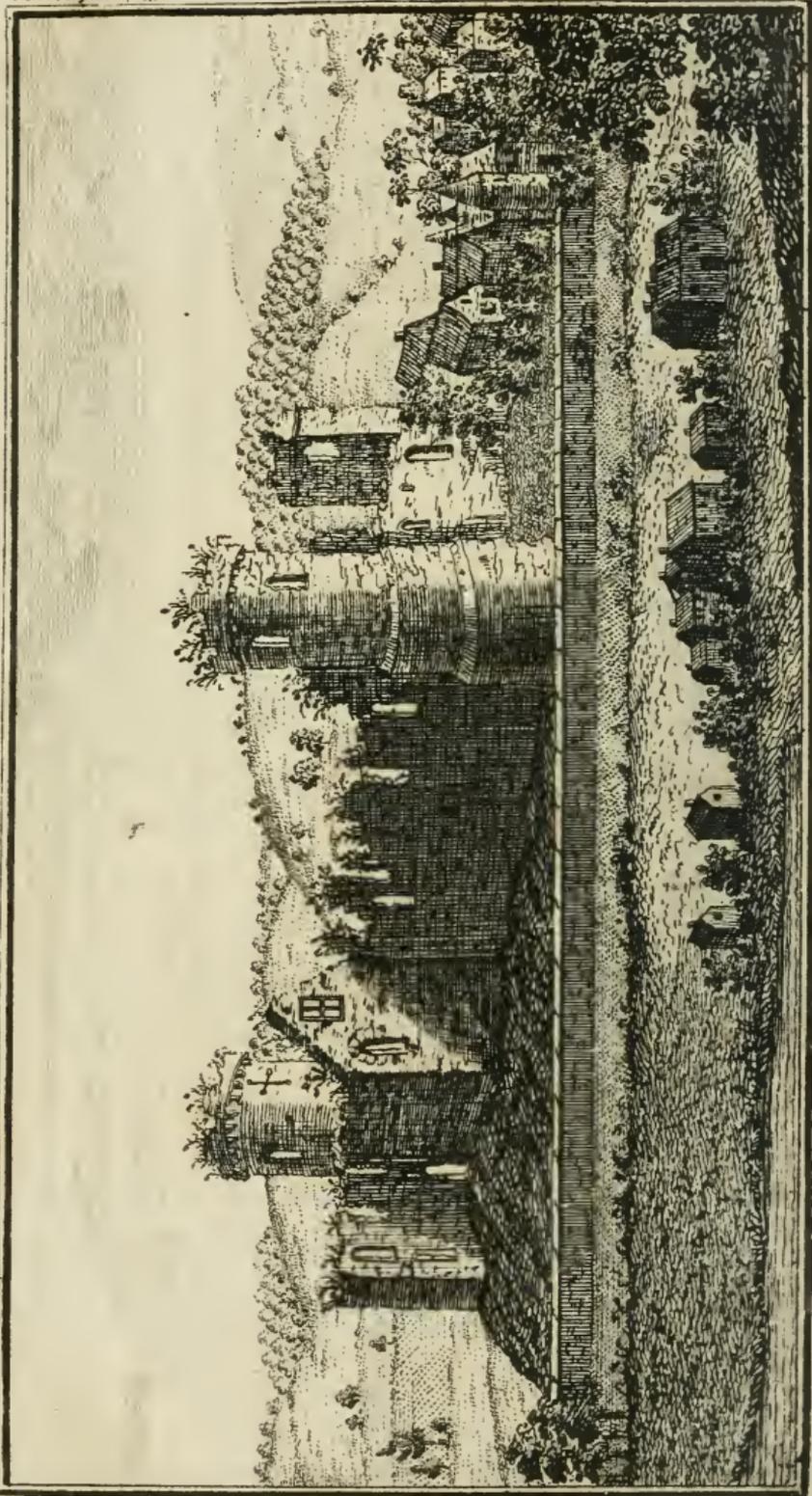
In the year 1654 was founded at ST. JULIAN'S, near Caerleon, a Roman altar of free stone, inscribed to Jupiter, Dolichenus and Juno, by Emilianus Calpurnius Rufilianus; and in 1692 was discovered near Caerleon, a chequered pavement about fourteen feet long, composed of cubical stones of various colours, representing the figures of men, beasts, and birds.

In the church of a village called TREDONOCK, about three miles from Caerleon, towards the end of the last century, was found a fair and entire monument of a Roman soldier of the second legion, named Julius Julianus, erected by his wife; and near this place, other monumental inscriptions were found, and Roman bricks have been frequently dug up with this inscription: LEG II AUG. embossed upon them.

Between Caerleon and Christ church, a small village in its neighbourhood, was discovered in the last century, a free-stone coffin, in which was inclosed an iron frame, wrapped up in a sheet of lead, and within the frame was a skeleton, supposed to be that of a person of very great distinction, from a gilt statue of alabaster found near it, representing a man in armour: in one hand of the  
statue.



*The West View of 'Urk Castle, in the County of Monmouth.*



statue was a short sword, and in the other a pair of scales, in one of which was the bust of a woman, and in the other a globe. Here have been also found several ancient vessels, on one of which was represented the story of the Roman Charity, a lady nourishing her father, who had been sentenced to be starved to death, with the milk of her breasts, through the grate of the prison.

At MALPAS a village near Caerleon, was a cell of two Cluniac monks, belonging to the priory of Montacute in Somersetshire, which, at the dissolution, was valued at 14l. 9s. 11d. a year.

At LANTARNAM, which is also near Caerleon, was an abbey of the Cistercian order, in which were six monks at the dissolution, with a revenue amounting to 71l. 3s. 2d. per annum.

Five miles to the northward of Caerleon is PONTYPOOL, or PONTIPOLE, a small town, remarkable for its iron-mills, and for all sorts of japanned mugs, tobacco and snuff-boxes, with which the inhabitants carry on a very considerable trade. It is situated on the river Avon, between the hills, and has a market on Saturdays, and three fairs on April 22, July 5, and October 10, for horses, lean cattle and pedlars goods.

USK, or KAERWYSK, is seated at the confluence of the Byrden and Usk, five miles to the north-east of Pontypool, eleven miles south-west of Monmouth, and one hundred and thirty west by north of London. This was also an ancient Roman city, called by Antoninus Burrium. There are still to be seen here the ruins of a large, strong castle, built for the security of the town, and pleasantly seated on the bank of the river; this castle, of which we have here given a view, at present belongs to the lord viscount Windsor. The town contains little else worthy of notice. It has a market on Mondays, and two fairs, held on

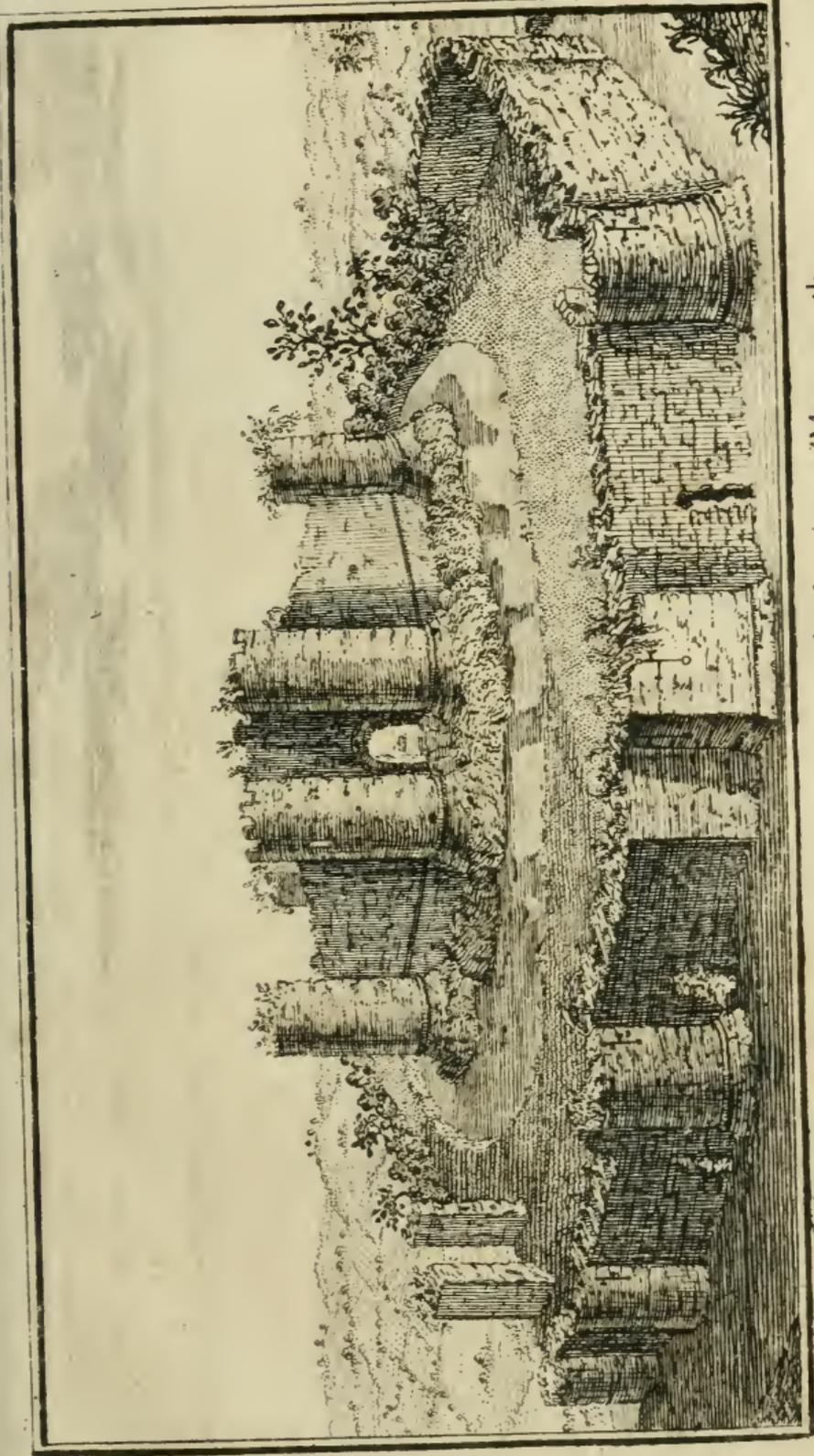
the Monday after Trinity, and on the 18th of October, for horses, lean cattle, and pedlary.

At about three miles to the north of Usk is RAGLAND castle, the ruins of which shew, that it has been a very extensive and magnificent structure, as will sufficiently appear from the engraved view we have given of it.

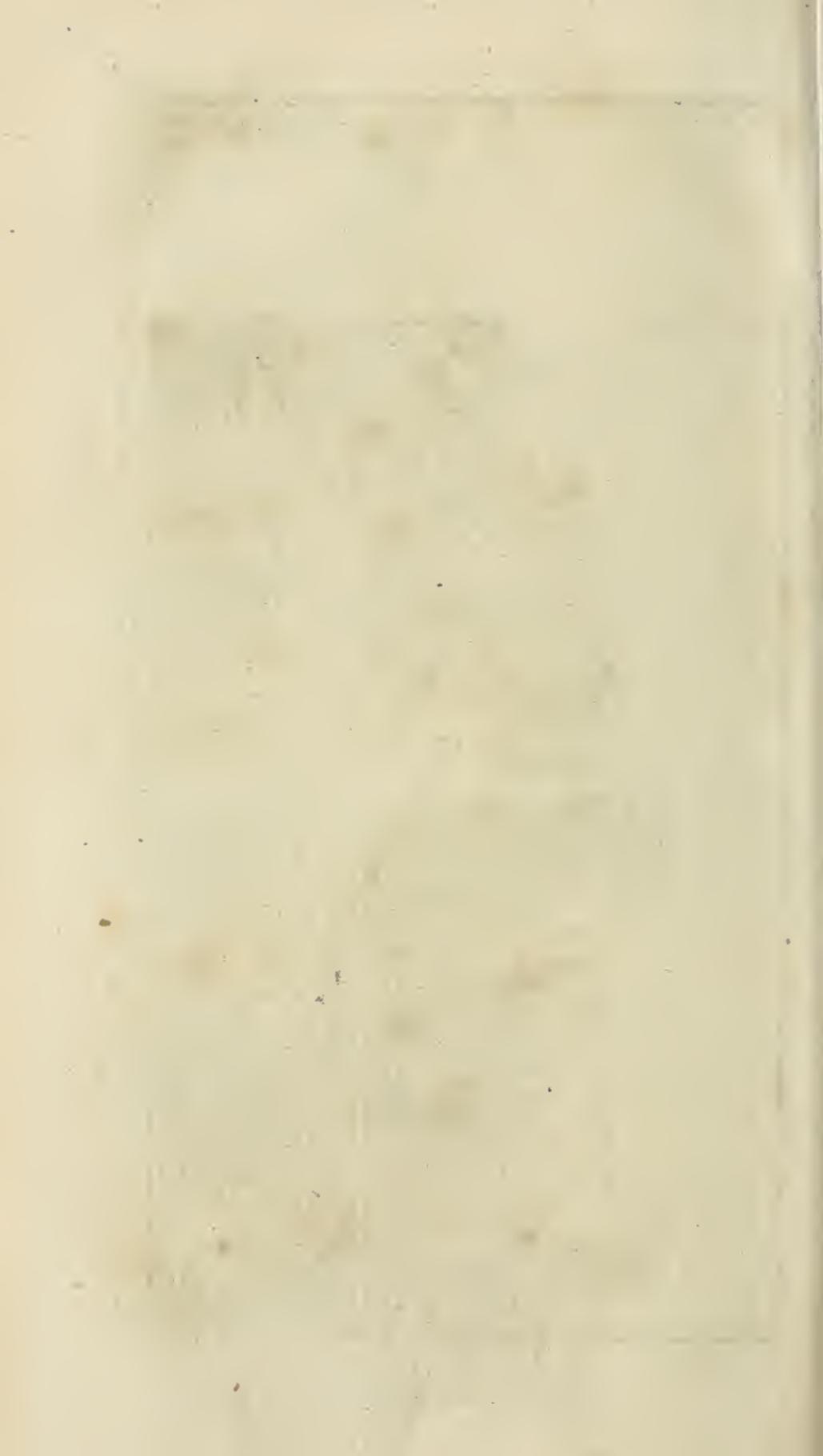
This castle, once the seat of the Somersets, came into that noble family, with the title of lord Herbert, in the reign of king Henry the Seventh, by Charles Somerset's marrying the daughter and heiress of William Herbert, earl of Huntingdon. Henry Somerset, earl of Worcester (and afterwards marquis) held out this castle in a gallant and remarkable manner for king Charles the First, for which, and other great services, as well as on account of this family being descended from king Edward the Third, they were created dukes of Beaufort by king Charles the Second.

Six miles to the north of Usk is WHITE castle, which, with those of Gismond and Skinfrith already mentioned, was given by Henry the Third, in the fifty-first year of his reign, to his son Edmund, earl of Lancaster. Afterwards king Edward the Third converted the county of Lancaster into a dutchy, and created his son John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster, on his marrying the daughter and heiress of the above king Henry. By this means these three castles became annexed to the dutchy of Lancaster, and remain so to this day. Of this structure we have caused a view to be engraved.

ABERGAVENNY, which, in the British language, signifies the mouth of the Gavenny, is situated by a small river of that name, which here falls into the Usk, six miles north-west of the town of the same name, fifteen miles west of Monmouth, and a hundred and forty-two from London. This was  
likewise



*The West View of White Castle, in the County of Monmouth.*



likewise a Roman town, and is called by Antoninus Gobannium. It had a castle that was of great note in former times, and is at present a large, populous and flourishing town; it is still surrounded by a wall, and has a bridge over the Usk, consisting of fifteen arches. It is governed by a bailiff, a recorder, and twenty-seven burgesses, and the inhabitants carry on a considerable trade in flannels, which are brought hither, to be sold from the manufactories in other parts of the county. It is a great thoroughfare from the west parts of Wales to Bristol, Gloucester, and other places; and has therefore good inns, well provided with accommodations for travellers. It gives the title of baron to the noble family of Neville, who have a seat here, and has two excellent markets on Tuesdays and Fridays, with three fairs, held on the 14th of May, for lean cattle and sheep; on the 1st Tuesday after Trinity, for linen and woollen cloth; and on the 25th of September, for hogs, horses and flannels.

In the most northern part of this county, which runs up in a narrow slip between Herefordshire and Brecknockshire, are Hatterel hills, among which is LANTONY abbey, or, as the Welch call it, LHANDEVI NANTHODENY, from an ancient little chapel, which stood here on the river Hodeny. The solitariness of this place, made St. David build here his little hermitage. The valley in which it is seated, is called the Vale of Ewyas, which is about an arrow's shot over, and enclosed with high mountains. This chapel had originally no other ornaments than green moss and ivy; and, according to Giraldus, was a place sufficiently remote from the noise of the world, adapted to religious contemplation, and the most conveniently seated for canonical discipline of any monastery in Britain. We do not

find any succeeded St. David in this hermitage, till about the year 1103, when William, a knight of the family of Hugh de Lacy, retired to an austere life alone in it; but at length Ernesius, chaplain to queen Maud, became his companion, and were both of them remarkable for their sanctity and simplicity of manners, which made Hugh de Lacy offer them many large gifts, all which they refused, except enough to build them a small ordinary church, which was dedicated to St. John Baptist, in 1108. At length Ernesius, by the advice of Anselm, archbishop of Canterbury, persuaded Sir William to accept of some of those generous offers, and form a convent, to which he agreed, and they chose the order of canons regular of St. Austin. This became a very large and noble structure. Its annual value at the dissolution was estimated at 99l. 19s. It lately belonged to Edward Harley, Esq;



## MONTGOMERYSHIRE.



**M**ONTGOMERYSHIRE, an inland mountainous county of North-Wales, derives its name from Montgomery the county town, but is called in Welch Sir-dre-Valdwin. It is bounded by Shropshire on the east; by Radnorshire and Cardiganshire on the south; by Merionethshire on the west, and by part of Denbighshire, Merionethshire and Shropshire on the north. It extends in length thirty miles from east to west, twenty-five from north to south; and is ninety-four miles in circumference.

Under the Romans this county was part of the territories of the Ordovices, of which we have already given some account.

The air of Montgomeryshire, though sharp and cold on the mountains, is pleasant in the vallies, and very salubrious. The northern and western parts being mountainous, the soil is stony and barren, except in the intermediate vallies; which, not only abound in pasture, but yield corn; but the southern and eastern parts, which chiefly consist of a pleasant vale that extends along the banks of the river Severn, are extremely fertile. The breed of horses and black cattle is here remarkably larger than in the neighbouring counties of Wales, and in particular the horses of Montgomeryshire are much esteemed all over England. Here

Here are some mines of copper and lead, and the county abounds with fowl and fish.

The principal rivers of this county, besides the Severn, which will be particularly described in Shropshire, are the Tanat and the Turgh. The Tanat or Tanot rises in the north-west part of the county, a little to the west of Llanvilling, and running eastward falls into the Severn, near the place where the last mentioned river enters Shropshire. The Turgh rises in the western part of the county, and running north-east, is joined by the Warway, and falls into the Tanat north-east of Llanvilling. The smaller rivers of this county are the Dungum, the Carno, the Haves, the Bechan, the Rue, the Riader, and the Vuraway.

Montgomeryshire is divided into seven hundreds: it is seated in the province of Canterbury, in the dioceses of St. Asaph, Bangor, and Hereford, and contains forty-seven parishes, and five market towns, all of which are boroughs, and yet sends only two members to parliament; that is, one knight of the shire for the county, and one jointly for Montgomery, Welch-pool, Machynleth, Llanvilling, and Llanidlos.

On entering this county from Cardiganshire, we come to MACHYNLETH, which is seated on the edge of the county, on the east bank of the Dyffi, over which it has a good stone bridge. It is seated a hundred and eighty-three miles north-west of London, and is an ancient town, that has a market on Mondays, and five fairs, held on May 16, June 26, July 9, September 18, and November 25, for sheep, horned cattle and horses.

This town is supposed to have been the Maglona of the Romans, where, in the reign of the emperor Honorius, the band of the Solenses were stationed, to check the mountaineers.

At KEVN KAER, near Machynleth, are considerable ruins of large fortifications. Here are the traces of a round wall of considerable extent. The main fort, which was on the highest part of the hill, is of a quadrangular form, encompassed with a strong wall, and a broad ditch of an oval form; and excepting that part towards the valley, was extended in a direct line. On the outside of the great ditch, next the river Dyffi, the foundations of many houses have been discovered. And on a lower mount stood a small fort, supposed to have been built with bricks, because they are found here in great plenty. All the out walls were built of a rough hard stone, which must have been brought hither by water, there being none such nearer than seven miles. From the fort to the water-side, there is a broad hard way, made with pebbles and other stones, continued through meadows and marsh grounds, about two hundred yards in length and twelve in breadth. It is very evident, that this fort was demolished before the building of the church of Penlehalt, because we find in the walls several bricks mixed with the stones, beyond all question carried from this place. Roman coins have also been found here, and particularly silver pieces of Augustus and Tiberius. Likewise near the main fort, a small gold chain was found, about four inches long, a wrought sapphire, several pieces of lead and glasses, in the form of hoops, curiously cut, and of various sizes, and likewise a large brass cauldron.

From hence a road extends south-east to LLANIDLOS, which is seated on the eastern bank of the river Severn, not far from its source, in the southern part of the county, at the distance of one hundred and fifty-eight miles from London. It has nothing worthy of notice, but is a small place,  
which

which has a market on Saturdays, and five fairs, held on the first Saturday in April, May 11, July 17, the first Saturday in September, and October 28, for horses, horned cattle and sheep.

Not far from Llanidlos is CAERSWS, which is seated on the banks of the Severn. This was anciently a town of considerable extent, and is supposed to have been founded by the Romans: the traces of fortifications, streets and lanes, are still visible. Roman bricks and hewn stones are frequently dug up, and in the neighbourhood are three intrenchments, with a large barrow.

About ten miles to the westward of Llanidlos is NEWTOWN, or TRENIWYTH, which is three furlongs in length, and was formerly a corporation; but that privilege has been taken away. It has still five fairs, held on the last Tuesday in March, the 24th of June, the last Tuesday in August, the 24th of October, and the 16th of December, for horned cattle, sheep and horses.

At the distance of eight miles north-west of Newtown is LLANLEGAN, where was a nunnery of the Cistercian order, founded before the year 1239, and valued at the suppression of religious houses at 22 l. 14 s. 8 d. per annum.

Eight miles north-east of Newtown is MONTGOMERY, the county town, which is seated on a rising rock, with a pleasant plain underneath, one hundred and fifty eight miles north-west of London, forty-two north-north-west of the city of Hereford, and seventy north-west of Gloucester. It was built by Valdwin, or Baldwin, lieutenant of the marches of Wales, in the reign of William the Conqueror, for which reason the Britons call it Tre-Valdwyn, or Baldwin's town; but the English are said to have named it Montgomery, from Roger Montgomery, to whom king William the First had given the earldoms of Arundel  
del

del and Shrewsbury, who gained the castle and town of Baldwin. The castle was afterwards demolished by the Welch, but William Rufus re-edified it in 1093, and it was burnt by king Henry the Third in 1232. But being afterwards rebuilt, it became the seat of the lords Herbert of Cherbury. It was since ruined in the civil wars of king Charles the First, and was lately, if it is not still, in the possession of Henry Arthur Herbert, Esq; Of this structure we have given a view neatly engraved.

Montgomery was made a borough by king Henry the Third, and is governed by two bailiffs, coroners, burgeses, and other officers. It stands in a healthy air, and is a large handsome town, formerly walled round: yet the buildings, in general, are but indifferent, except a few new houses belonging to considerable families. Here is a jail, which was rebuilt not many years ago, and a pretty good market on Thursdays, with four fairs, held on the 26th of March, the 7th of June, the 4th of September, and the 14th of November, for horned cattle, sheep and horses.

Edward Herbert, baron of Cherbury, an eminent statesman and elegant writer, was descended from an ancient family, and born, in 1581, at Montgomery castle. Having finished his studies at the university of Oxford, he travelled into foreign countries; and returning to England a most accomplished gentleman, was created a knight of the Bath at the coronation of king James the First. In 1616 he was sent ambassador to the court of Lewis the Thirteenth of France, in order to mediate a peace between that prince and his Protestant subjects; and during his residence at Paris, he had a remarkable quarrel with the constable de Luines, whom he set at defiance, and to whom  
he

he almost sent a downright challenge. In 1625 he was created an Irish baron, and advanced to the dignity of an English lord, by the title of baron Herbert of Cherbury in Shropshire. Upon the breaking out of the civil war he sided with the parliament, but hardly lived to see the end of those national troubles; for he died on the 20th of August, 1648, and was buried in the church of St. Giles's in the Fields, London. He wrote a book, entitled, *De Veritate*, &c. Another called, *De Religione Gentilium Errorumque apud eos Causis*; but his most noted performance is his *History of the Life and Reign of King Henry the Eighth*. His lordship is commonly ranked among the deists.

The road from Montgomery extends eight miles north to WELCH-POOL, called by the Welch TRALHWN, which signifies the town by a lake, whence the English name is derived. It is seated in a rich vale, eighteen miles west of Shrewsbury, and a hundred and seventy-six north-west of London. It is the largest and best built town in the county, has a good manufactory of flannel, and carries on a considerable trade with Bristol for English commodities. Its market on Mondays is considerable for cattle, provisions and flannels; and it has the following fairs, on the second Monday in March, on the first Monday before Easter, on the 5th of June, on the first Monday after June 29, on the 12th of September, and on the 16th of November, for horned cattle, sheep and horses.

On the south side of Welch-Pool is Powis Castle, called by the Britons, from the red stone with which it was built, Castell Cock Ymhowys, or the Red Castle in Powys land. There were formerly within these walls two castles, that now remaining is the seat of the duke of Powis.

Whilst

Whilst Cadogan ap Blethin was building Powis Castle, he was slain by his nephew Madoc. Of this castle we have given an accurate view.

At about the distance of nine miles to the north-west of Welch-Pool is LLANVILLING, or LLANVYLLYN, which is seated among the hills, between the river Cain and the brook Eber, a hundred and fifty-six miles north-west of London, and is a quarter of a mile in length on the road from Chester to Cardiff. It was incorporated by Llewelin ap Griffith, during the reign of Edward the Second, and is at present governed by two bailiffs, to whom king Charles the Second, among other privileges, granted the authority of justices of the peace, during the time of their office, which lasts for one year. The town is dirty, on account of its lying on a flat, but is pretty well built, and has a considerable market on Thursdays, for wool, cattle, corn and other provisions; with four fairs, on the Wednesday before Easter, May 24, June 28, and October 5, for horses, sheep and horned cattle.

Three miles to the south of Llanvilling is MEIVOD, an inconsiderable village, which Dr. Powel imagines, was the Mediolanum celebrated by Antoninus and Ptolemy, many incontestible marks of antiquity having been discovered there and in the adjacent fields. But authors are far from being agreed in fixing the situation of that ancient city: for Camden fixes it at Mylhin in this county; and some other antiquarians at Llanvilling, where many Roman coins have been found: but Horsley thinks Mediolanum was seated near Drayton in Shropshire, because the distances mentioned by Ptolemy, between that and the other Roman stations, answer every way.

It is said, that there were only two monasteries in this county, one of which we have mentioned already; the other was a Cistercian abbey, at a place formerly called Y'strat Marchel, and was founded in the year 1170, by Owen Keveliog, or his brother Madoc, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Its revenue at the suppression amounted to 64 l. 14 s. 2 d. per annum.



## N O R F O L K.

**N**ORFOLK, which signifies NORTH-FOLK, received its name, from its situation with respect to Suffolk, and was intended to express the northern people of the East Angles. It is bounded on the north and east by the sea and part of Suffolk; on the south by Suffolk; and on the west by Cambridgeshire and an arm of the German sea, called the Wash, which separates it from a part of Lincolnshire. This county is in some sense an island, the river Ouse separating it from Cambridgeshire, and the rivers Waveny and Little Ouse from Suffolk, while the other parts are washed by the sea. It extends fifty-seven miles in length from east to west, and thirty-five in breadth from Thetford in the south, to Wells in the north, and is one hundred and forty miles in circumference. East Derham, which is a considerable market town near the center of the county, is at the distance of ninety-seven miles north-east of London.

The inhabitants of this county, in the time of the Romans, were named the Iceni, and during the heptarchy it formed the north part of the kingdom of the East Angles.

The air of Norfolk is various in different parts; for in the marshy places, near the sea, it is aguish, particularly in the towns bordering on Lynn-Deep: however, on those parts of the coasts that  
are

are sandy, the air is as good as in any other part of the kingdom; and farther within land, the air is both healthy and pleasant.

The soil is more various than, perhaps, that of any other county, and comprehends almost every species that are to be found in the island: hence here are arable, pasture, meadow, woodlands, light sandy ground, deep clay, heaths and fens: the worst of these are, however, far from being unprofitable; for the heathy and sandy lands contain a great number of warrens, and breed innumerable rabbits, which are extremely good, and also feed great flocks of sheep; even the fens afford rich pasture for cattle. All the country from Holkam to Houghton, was a few years ago, a wild sheep walk, but the spirit of improvement having seized the inhabitants, has produced amazing effects; for instead of boundless wilds and uncultivated wastes, inhabited by scarce any thing but sheep, all the country is cut into inclosures, richly manured, well peopled and cultivated, and yields an hundred times the produce that it did in its former state. These vast improvements have been produced by marling; for veins of a very rich, soapy kind of marle, run under the whole country: these they dig up, and spread on the old sheep walks, and then, by means of inclosing, throw their farms into a regular course of crops, and gain immensely by the improvement. An ingenious author, who is also an excellent husbandman, and has taken great pains to examine the culture of the different counties of this kingdom, observes, that the farmers lay about one hundred loads of marle on an acre. This improvement lasts with great vigour above twenty years, and the land is always the better for it. “ Their course of crops, says he, is marle, and  
 “ break up for wheat. 2. Turnips. 3. Barley.  
 4. Laid

4. Laid down with clover and ray-grafs for three years, or fometimes only two. They dung or fold for all their winter corn, and reckon two nights fold equal to a dunging; the quantity of the latter they lay upon an acre is twelve loads. For fome years after the marling they reap, on a medium, four quarters of wheat per acre, and five of barley; and fifteen or eighteen years after marling, three quarters of wheat, and four and a half of foft corn.

The culture of turnips is here carried on in a moft extenfive manner; Norfolk being more famous for this vegetable, than any other county in Great Britain. They apply their vaft fields of turnips to the feeding of their flocks, and expend the furplus in fattening Scotch cattle, which is done in feveral methods, as by ftall-feeding; in bins in their farm-yards, and in pasture fields; and by hurdling them on the turnips as they grow, in the fame manner as they do their fheep. When the marle begins to wear out of the foil, many of the great farmers manure with oil cakes for their winter-corn, which they import from Holland, and fpread on their fields at the expence of about fifteen fhillings per acre." After all it does not appear that there are any minerals, quarries of ftone, or coal pits in this county; but there is an excellent fort of clay ufed in making earthen ware.

With refpect to the plants of this county, they are extremely numerous, and we are favoured with the following lift of them communicated by a learned gentleman who is a member of the botanic fociety at Norwich.

Upright Speedwell with divided leaves, *Veronica fofculis fingularibus, foliis lacineatis erecta*, R. Syn.

Syn. 280. *Veronica triphillos*, Lin. S. P. 2. edition 19. Hudson flo. Anglica. 6. At Roughton.

The lesser, hairy, grass-leaved plantain, with a round head, *Plantago gramineo folio hirsuto minor, capitulo rotundo brevi*, R. S. 316. B. *Plantago coronopus*, H. flo. Ang. 53. On the banks of the river near Yarmouth, betwixt the town and the pier.

Round rooted bastard cyperus, *Gramen cyperoides palustris panicula sparsa majus*, R. S. 425. *Scirpus maritimus*. H. flo. Ang. 18.

Cock's-foot panick grass, *Ischaemon sylvestre latiore folio*, Park. 1178. *Panicum sanguinale*, Lin. S. P. 84. H. flo. Ang. 22.

Small leaved hair-grass, *Aira setacea*, H. flo. Ang. 30.

Hoary mullein, *Verbascum pulverulentum flore luteo parvo*, R. S. 287. *Verbascum lychnitis*, Lin. S. P. 253. H. flo. Ang. B. 76. Almost every where about Norwich.

Caraways, *Carum, seu careum*, Ray. S. 213. *Carum carvi*, Lin. S. P. 378. H. flo. Ang. 110.

Calathian violet, *Gentiana palustris angustifolia*, R. S. 274. *Gentiana Pneumonanthe*, Lin. 330. H. flo. Ang. 87. On Stratton heath, opposite Mr. Masham's, plentifully.

Shrubby stone-crop, or glass-wort, *Blitum fruticosum maritimum vermicularis frutex dictum*, R. S. 156. *Chenopodium fruticosum*, H. flo. Ang. 93.

Smooth sea-heath, *Lychnis supina maritima erica facie*, R. S. 338. *Frankenia laevis*, Lin. S. P. 473. Hud. flo. Ang. 119. On Clay beach.

Common star of Bethlehem, *Ornithogalum vulgare et verius majus et minus*, R. S. 372. *Ornithogalum umbellatum*, Lin. S. P. 441. H. flo. Ang. 125.

Sweet-smelling flag, *Acorus verus* S. *calamus officinarum*, R. S. 437. *Acorus calamus*, Lin. S. P. 462. H. flo. Ang. 128. In the river Yare near Norwich.

Spanish catchfly, or campion, *Lychnis viscosa flore muscosa*, R. S. 340. *Cucubalus otites*, Lin. S. P. 594. H. flo. Ang. 163.

Mountain stonecrop, *Sedum minimum non acre flore albo*, R. S. 270. *Sedum annuum*, Lin. S. P. 620. H. flo. Ang. 172.

Purple cow-wheat, *Melampyrum purpurascens coma*, R. S. 286. *Melampyrum arvense*, Lin. S. P. 842. H. flo. Ang. 235.

Narrow-leaved wild cresses, or dittander, *Nasturtium sylvestre osyridis folio*, R. S. 303. *Lepidium ruderales*, H. flo. Ang. 244. At Lynn.

Wild rocket, *Eruca sylvestris*, R. S. 296. *Brassica erucastrum*, Lin. S. P. 932. H. flo. Ang. 253. On Yarmouth walls in the church-yard.

Great tower-mustard, *Turritis*, R. S. 293. *Turritis glabra*, Lin. S. P. 930. H. flo. Ang. 254.

Yellow medick, *Medica sylvestris*, R. S. 333. *Medicago falcata*, Lin. S. P. 196. H. flo. Ang. 287. Lucern, *Foenum Burgundicum*, Loc. p. 36. *Medicago sativa*, Lin. S. P. 196. H. flo. Ang. 287.

Creeping rest-harrow, *Anonis procumbens maritima nostras foliis hirsutis pubescentibus*, R. S. 332. *Anonis repens*, Lin. S. P. 1006. H. Flo. Ang. 273.

Field Sothernwood, *Abrotanum campestre*, R. S. 190. *Artemisia campestris*, Lin. S. P. 1185. H. flo. Ang. 311.

Marsh fleabane, *Conyza foliis laciniatis*. R. S. 174. *Othonna palustris*, H. flo. Ang. 372. grows on Acle marsh, and on Ludham marsh.

Roman nettle, R. S. 140. *Urtica pilulifera*, Lin. S. P. 1395. H. flo. Ang. 355. On Yarmouth Danes by the north gate.

Sea orache, with leaves like those of the lesser basil, *Atriplex maritima nostras ocymi minoris folia*, R. S. 153. *Atriplex pedunculata*, H. flo. Ang. 378.

The following have been discovered by the society of botanists at Norwich, who would be glad to correspond with any botanist in England or Wales, by sending specimens or seeds, and receiving such specimens from them; which may be done by directing to Mr. William Aram in Norwich.

Mare's-tail, *Hippuris vulgaris*, Lin. S. P. 6. H. flo. Ang. 1. On a bog near the bridge going to Costessy.

Narrow-leaved water speedwell, *Veronica scutellata*, Lin. S. P. 16. H. flo. Ang. 5. Grows on St. Faith's Newton bogs.

Butter-wort, or Yorkshire fanicle, *Pinguicula vulgaris*, Lin. S. P. 25. H. flo. Ang. 7. On Paulin heath near the mill, and on Cossey common.

Stalked speedwell, *Veronica montana*, Lin. S. P. 17. H. flo. Ang. 5. In Arming-hall wood.

Common hooded milfoil, *Utricularia vulgaris*, Lin. S. P. 26. H. flo. Ang. 8. On Costessy common, and Poringland heath.

Lesser hooded milfoil, *Utricularia minor*, Lin. S. P. 26. H. flo. Ang. 8. On Castor heath, near the Decoy.

Meadow clary, *Salvia pratensis*, Lin. S. P. 35. H. flo. Ang. 9. On Horsford meadows.

Procumbent mossy tillaea, or sedum, *Tillaea muscosa*, Lin. S. P. L. 186. On Drayton heath, and several other places about Norwich.

Wild pinks in tufts, Park. 1338. *Holosteum umbellatum*, Lin. S. P. 130. On several old walls in and about Norwich, plentifully.

N. B. The two last plants were never known to be natives of England till very lately, that they were discovered by some members of the botanic society of Norwich.

Branched reed-grafs, *Arundo calamagrostis*, Lin. S. P. 121. H. flo. Ang. 43. At Hethel, in great plenty.

Small reed-grafs, *Arundo epigejos*, Lin. S. P. 120. H. flo. Ang. 43. At Banaugh, in a meadow, plentifully.

Annual darnel-grafs, *Lolium temulentum*, Lin. S. P. 122. H. flo. Ang. 44. At Heydon, among the corn.

Grass-leaved plaintain, *plantago uniflora*, Lin. S. P. 167. H. flo. Ang. 53. On St. Faith's Newton bogs.

Ever-green alkanet, *Anchusa sempervirens*, Lin. S. P. 192.

Great cowslips, or oxlips, *Primula veris*, B. Lin. S. P. 204. 3. H. flo. Ang. 70. At Lexham.

Sage-leaved black mullein, *Verbascum nigrum*, Lin. S. P. 253. H. flo. Ang. 76. At Hellefden.

The greater periwinkle, *Vinca major*, Lin. S. P. 304. H. flo. Ang. 77. Grows a little beyond Hetherfet.

Periwinkle, *Vinca minor*, Lin. S. P. 304. H. flo. Ang. 77. A little way out of Magdalen-gates Norwich, and in alderman Thomson's grove in Thorp.

Deadly nightshade, *Atropa Belladonna*, Lin. S. P. 260. H. flo. Ang. 79. On the road to Postwick, and at Carrow abbey and Colsey.

Round-leaved water pimpernel, *Samolus valerandi*, Lin. S. P. 243. H. flo. Ang. 79. Between Earlham bridge and Colney.

The lesser Venus looking-glass, or podded corn-violet, *Campanula hybrida*, Lin. S. P. 239. H. flo. Ang. 82. In Catton field, and at Cromer.

Black currants, *Ribes nigrum*, Lin. S. P. 291. H. flo. Ang. 85. By the side of Cosley-beck, and at Horsford.

Hogs fennel, sulphur-wort, *Peucedanum officinale*, Lin. S. P. 353. H. flo. Ang. 101. At Yarmouth, Clay, and some other places.

Long leaved water hemlock, *Cicuta virosa*, Lin. S. P. 366. H. flo. Ang. 106. At Heigham, Salehouse, and at St. Faith's Newton.

Alexanders, *Smyrniolum olusatrum*, Lin. S. P. 376. H. flo. Ang. 109. On Boteler's hills, at Carrow abbey, and in the hedge going to Thorp.

Dwarf elder, wall-wort, or dane-wort, *Sambucus ebulus*, Lin. S. P. 385. H. flo. Ang. 113. Grows by Caister near Norwich.

The least rupture-wort, or all-feed, *Linum radiola*, Lin. S. P. 402. H. flo. Ang. 117. On St. Faith's Newton bogs.

Long leaved rosa folis, or sun dew, *Drosera longifolia*, Lin. S. P. 403. H. flo. Ang. 117. Grows on St. Faith's Newton bogs, and on Musfold heath, by the spring.

Moufetail, *Myosurus minimus*, Lin. S. P. 407. H. flo. Ang. 118. Betwixt Poringland and Brook, and on St. Faith's Fairstead.

Poetick Daffodil, *Narcissus poeticus*, Hill's Eden. 495. In upland pasture, between Ranaugh and Salehouse.

Daffodil with two flowers in a sheath, a short bell-shaped nectarium, and nodding-flowers, *Narcissus medio luteas*. At Beeston Old-hall rookery. Mill. Dict. 8. Ed.

Lancashire asphodel, or bastard asphodel, *Narthecium ossifragum*, H. flo. Ang. 129. At Derfingham near Lynn.

Lesser water plantain, *Alisma ranunculoides*, Lin. S. P. 487. H. flo. Ang. 137. On Costeffly common.

Black whorts, whortle-berries, or bill-berries, *Vaccinium myrtillus*, Lin. S. P. 498. H. flo. Ang. 142. On Paulin heath by the windmill.

Cran-berries, moss-berries, moor-berries, *Vaccinium oxycoccus*, Lin. S. P. 500. H. flo. Ang. 143. On Derfingham moor, and on Cawston heath.

Spurge laurel, *Daphne laureola*, Lin. S. P. 510. H. flo. Ang. 145. On Boteler's hills, near Trowse, and St. Faith's Newton.

Yellow centaury, *Centaureum luteum perfoliatum*, R. S. 287. *Blackstonia perfoliata*, H. flo. Ang. 147. At Arminghall.

Herb Paris, true love, or one-berry, *Paris quadrifolia*, Lin. S. P. 526. H. flo. Ang. 150. In Blackwell and Piffmill woods, and in Rackheath high wood near Norwich.

Common golden saxifrage, *Chrysofplenium oppositifolium*, Lin. S. P. 569. H. flo. Ang. 156. Grows by Poringland and Stoke in several places.

Alternate-leaved golden saxifrage, *Chrysofplenium alternifolium*, Lin. S. P. 569. H. flo. Ang. 156. In the same places with the former.

Deptford pink, *Dianthus armeria*, Lin. S. P. 586. H. flo. Ang. 161. In alderman Thomson's grove in Thorp.

Childing pink, *Dianthus prolifer*, Lin. S. P. 587. H. flo. Ang. 161. Park 1338. In a close on the bank side over against Helsdon old Hall, about half a mile out St. Austin's gates Norwich. N. B. This plant was never found wild in any other place of England but Selfey island in Suffex.

Maiden pink, *Dianthus deltoides*, Lin. S. P. 588. H. flo. Ang. 161. At Clay, in great plenty.

Small corn catchfly, or champion, *Silena Anglica*, Lin. 594. H. flo. Ang. 164. About half a mile without St. Giles's gate Norwich.

Night flowering catchfly, *Silena noctiflora*, Lin. 599. H. flo. Ang. 165. In the road to Bawbergh.

Knotted spurry, or English marsh Saxifrage, *Spergula nodosa*, Lin. S. P. 630. H. flo. Ang. 178. On Costesey common.

Water avens, *Geum rivale*, Lin. S. P. 717. H. flo. Ang. 98. In the Osier ground before Thorp.

Pasque flower, *Anemone pulsatilla*, Lin. S. P. 759. H. flo. Ang. 209. On Tulip hills at Lexham.

Great bastard black hellebore, bears-foot, or fetterwort, *Helleborus foetidus*, Lin. S. P. 784. H. flo. Ang. 215. Betwixt Stukey and Wells, and at Brampton.

Meadow cow-wheat, *Melampyrum pratense*, Lin. S. P. 843. H. flo. Ang. 235. In the meadows near St. Faith's.

Dittander, or pepperwort, *Lepidium latifolium*, Lin. S. P. 899. H. flo. Ang. 244. At Clay.

Treacle worm-feed, *Erysimum cheranthoides*, Lin. S. P. 923, H. flo. Ang. 251. Near Trowse, plentifully.

Yellow rocket, *Sysimbrium monense*, Lin. S. P. 918. H. flo. Ang. 259. On Yarmouth church walls.

Yellow vetchling, *Lathyrus aphaca*, Lin. S. P. 1029. H. flo. Ang. 275. Near Arminghall.

Marsh chickling vetch, *Lathyrus palustris*, Lin. S. P. 1034. H. flo. Ang. 277. In a meadow below Ranaugh.

Spring tare, *Ervum soloniense*, Lin. S. P. 1040. H. flo. Ang. 279. A little beyond Lakenham on the road to Caister.

Imperforate St. John's wort, *Hypericum montanum*, Lin. S. P. 1105. H. flo. Ang. 291. In Thorp wood.

American cudweed, *Gnaphalium margarilaceum*, H. flo. Ang. 312. In gravel pits on Mushhold-heath.

*Carduus heterophyllus*, Lin. S. P. 1154. On Stratton heath.

Plowman's spikenard, *Conyza squarrosa*, Lin. S. P. 1205. H. flo. Ang. 314. About a mile beyond Buxton.

Marsh ragwort, or birds-tongue, *Senecio paludosus*, Lin. S. P. 1220. H. flo. Ang. 317. At Bingham near Wells.

Sea starwort, *Aster tripolium*, Lin. S. P. 1226. H. flo. Ang. At Clay, and the marshes by Acle bridge.

Triple ladies traces, *Ophrys spiralis*, Lin. S. P. 1340. H. flo. Ang. 338. On Coffey common, and Mushold heath.

Bee orchis, *Ophrys apifera*, H. flo. Ang. 340. At Arminghall, Dunstan, Hethel, and Heydon.

The lesser bur-reed, *Sparganium natans*, Lin. S. P. 1378. H. flo. Ang. In water-pits near Heydon.

Rough carex, *Carex brizoides*, Lin. S. P. 1381. H. flo. Ang. 349. Fish street common, Heydon.

Sweet willow, Dutch myrtil, *Mirica gale*, Lin. S. P. 1453. H. flo. Ang. At Colton, Castlerising, and Wood Bastick.

Rough horse-tail, or shave-grass, *Equisetum hyemale*, Lin. S. P. 1517. H. flo. Ang. 381. In Arminghall wood.

Adder's tongue, *Ophioglossum vulgatum*, Lin. S. P. 1518. H. flo. Ang. 382. In a close near Bixley church.

Moon-wort, *Osmunda lunaria*, Lin. S. P. 1519. H. flo. Ang. 382. On Mushold heath.

Marsh fern, *Acrostichum thelypteris*, Lin. S. P. 1528. H. flo. Ang. 384. In Ranaugh meadows.

Hart's tongue, *Asplenium scolopendrium*, Lin. S. P. 1537. H. flo. Ang. 384. On Little Plumpstead, and Sprowston churches.

Spleenwort, *Asplenium ceterach*, Lin. S. P. 1538. H. flo. Ang. 385. On Heydon church walls.

Pepper-grass, *Pilularia globulifera*, Lin. S. P. 1563. H. flo. Ang. 393. On St. Faith's Newton bogs.

Common club-moss, *Lycopodium clavatum*, Lin. S. P. 1564. H. flo. Ang. 393. On Musfold heath, by the spring.

Marsh club-moss, *Lycopodium inundatum*, Lin. S. P. 1565. H. flo. Ang. 394. In the same place with the last.

Smooth chara, *Chara flexilis*, Lin. S. P. 1624. H. flo. Ang. 465. In some water-pits at Heydon.

Sea ragged staff, or gelly fucus, *Fucus gelatinosus*, H. flo. Ang. 471. at Clay on the beach.

Solid puff-balls, or truffles, *Lycoperdon tuber*, Lin. S. P. 1653. H. flo. Ang. 501. In lord Leicester's park, plentifully.

The principal rivers of this county are the Greater and the Smaller Ouse, the Yare, and the Waveny. The Greater Ouse rises in Northamptonshire, and flowing through the counties of Buckingham, Bedford and Cambridge, and dividing the last county from Norfolk, falls into an arm of the German sea, called the Washes, at Lynn-Regis. This river is remarkable for its sudden and impetuous inundations, particularly at the full moon, in the vernal and autumnal equinoxes, when a vast body of water from the sea runs up against the stream with prodigious violence, overflowing the banks, and sweeping off every thing in its way.

The Smaller Ouse rises in Suffolk, and dividing that county from Norfolk, discharges itself into the Greater Ouse, on its entering this county.

The Yare has its source about the middle of the county, and running eastward, passes by the city

city of Norwich, and falls into the German sea, at Yarmouth.

The Waveny rises in Suffolk, and running south-east, after separating that county from Norfolk, discharges itself into the Yare, some miles before it reaches Yarmouth.

On the sea-coast, as well as in the rivers, there is plenty of fish, by which means the principal markets in the county are continually supplied with them, as well as the towns and villages by the sea-side.

This county has but one remarkable mineral spring, which is at Thetford, a market town of great antiquity: the water appears to have somewhat of iron; for galls will turn it first purple and then black. It will let fall spontaneously a dram of an earthy substance of the colour of oker, which being calcined in a crucible, some of its particles may be attracted by a loadstone. From other experiments, it appears to be impregnated with iron, sulphur and natron; and it works gently by stool and urine, and sharpens the appetite: it restores lost strength, and cures pains of the stomach, and of the head, as well as fainting, vomiting, convulsions and indigestions, difficulty of breathing, and the beginning of a consumption; it also kills worms.

The natural productions of Norfolk are corn, saffron, cattle, wool, rabbits and honey; and in the Yare is a delicious fish, called the Ruffe, said to be peculiar to that river. Jet and ambergris are sometimes found on the coast. The principal manufactures are worsted, woollens and silks, in all which the inland parts are employed, particularly in Norwich stuffs and crapes.

This county is divided into thirty-one hundreds. It lies in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Norwich, and has six hundred and six-

ty parishes, one city, and thirty-two market towns: namely, the city of Norwich, Alesham, Attleborough, New Buckenham, Burnham, Castle-Rising, Caston, Clay, Cromar, East Dereham, Disse, Downham, Fakenham, Foulsham, Harleston, East Harling, Hickling, Hingham, Holt, Loddon, Lynn-Regis, Methwold, Repeham, Sechy, Snetsham, Swaffham, Thetford, Walsham, Walsingham, Watton, Windham, Wursted, and Yarmouth. It sends twelve members to parliament; namely, two for the county, two for Norwich, two for Lynn-Regis, two for Yarmouth, two for Thetford, and two for Castle-Rising.

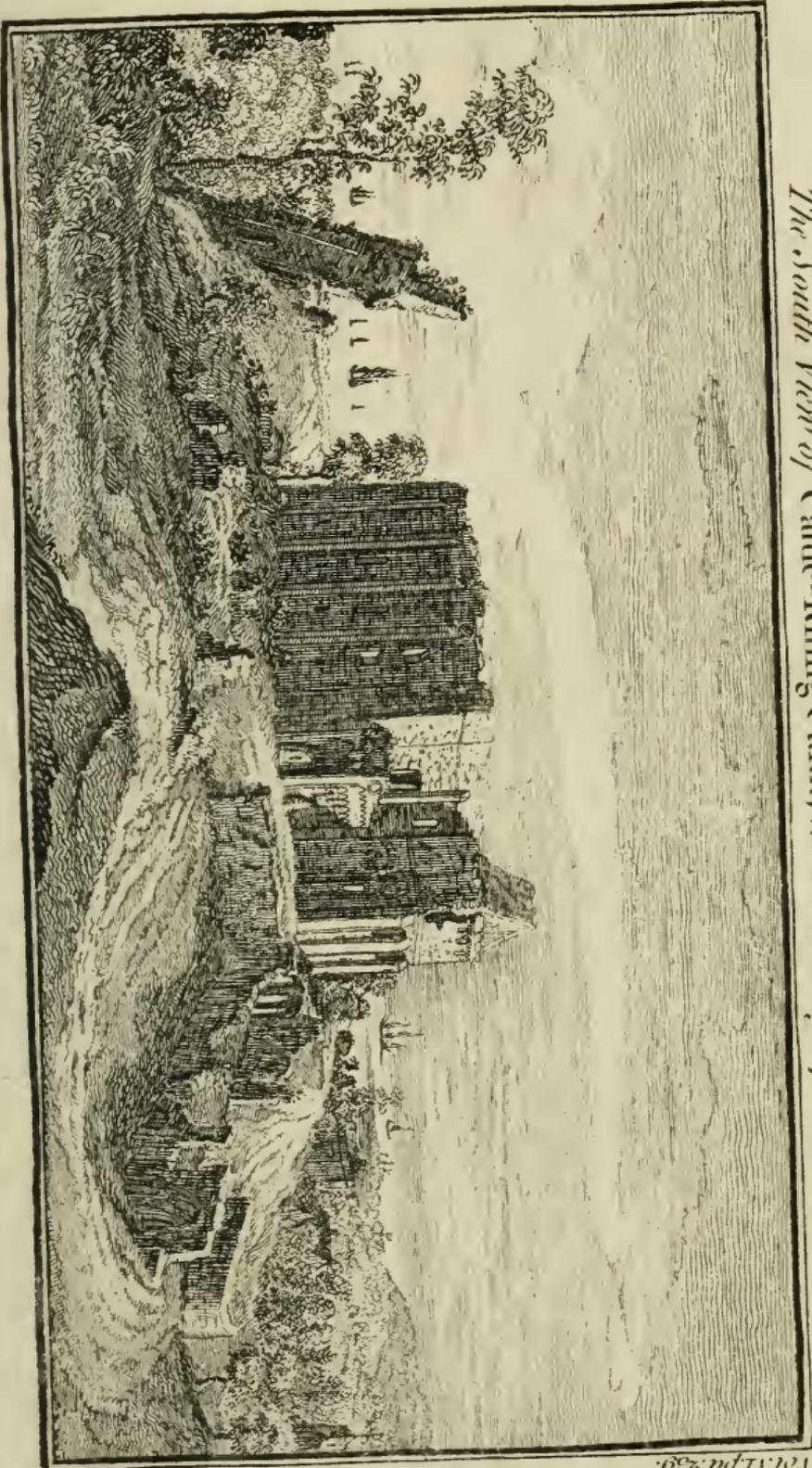
In our account of the towns and villages of this county, we shall enter by the road which leads from London to King's Lynn.

The first town of any consequence is **DOWNHAM**, commonly called **MARKET-DOWNHAM**, which is seated on the Great Ouse, eighty-nine miles north by east of London, and has its name from its hilly situation, Don or Down signifying a hill. It has a bridge, though a very indifferent one, over the Ouse, and a port for barges. Its market is of very ancient date, it being confirmed by Edward the Confessor; and it has two fairs, the first held on the 27th of April, for horses and toys; and the other on November 2, for toys.

**WEST DEREHAM**, a village three miles south-east of Downham, is remarkable for a monastery of White canons, founded by Hubert Walter, archbishop of Canterbury, in the reign of king John, the revenue of which was valued at the suppression at 252 l. a year. This village has two fairs, held on the 3d of February, and the 28th of September, for cattle and toys.

On the west side of the river Ouse lies **Mershland**, so called on account of its low, marshy ground. Several are of opinion, it was formerly

*The South View of Cattle-Riding Castle, in the County of Norfolk.*





merly recovered from the sea; but the inhabitants could not entirely guard against inundations, one of which was by salt-water, and the other the freshes; by the last of these there was damage done to the value of 42,000*l.* They have since attempted to keep out the sea with brick walls, supported with earth; which it is hoped will answer their expectation. Marshland is computed to contain thirty-thousand acres, which yield good profit by grazing; but there are so many ditches made, to draw off the water, that the land looks as if it were cut in pieces; and there are no less than one hundred and eleven brick bridges over them. The soil is so good, that it is said Tilney-Smeeth alone feeds thirty-thousand sheep; but the air is aguish, and an ague caught here is called the Marshland bailiff.

We cannot here forbear mentioning a very remarkable circumstance: there is a little village about three miles from Market-Downham, called HELGAY, situated in a peninsula, that does not consist of above a thousand acres. The inhabitants of which are, once in six or seven years, infested with an incredible number of field-mice, which would, like locusts, devour their corn of every kind; but as certain as this visitation happens, a prodigious flight of Norway owls are sure to arrive, and stay till they have totally destroyed these little mischievous animals. The parishioners pay almost the same veneration to these birds, as the Egyptians did to the ibis, and will not annoy them, which they might easily do, since pigeons are not more tame: they are far more beautiful than ours, and are day birds: they have pretty long ears, and, in other respects, their heads resemble those of cats. They meddle with nothing but the mice, and constantly return home, as soon as they have executed the business, which they  
are

are providentially sent to perform. See *Gent. Mag.* Vol. XXIV. P. 215.

At MODNEY, in the parish of Helgay, was a small priory of Black monks, which was a cell to Ramsey abbey in Huntingdonshire.

At WALSOKEN, eight miles to the west of Downham, and on the west side of Merfhand and Cambridgeshire, was a college or hospital, dedicated to the Trinity, which is said to have belonged to the abbey of Ramsey in Huntingdonshire.

In the parish of WEARHAM, south-east of Downham, was a Benedictine priory, dedicated to St. Guenoto, or St. Winwaloe, as ancient as the reign of king Richard the First, or king John, subordinate to the convent of Musterrill, in the diocese of Amiens in France, which convent sold it in the year 1321, to Hugh Scarlet of Lincoln, who gave it to the abbey of West-Dereham.

In the chapel of St. Mary de Bello Loco, said to lie near Downham, was a priory of Benedictine monks, who, in the twenty-fourth of Henry the Sixth, were united to the monastery of Ely in Cambridgeshire.

On leaving Downham, you proceed eight miles north to SECHY, or SEECHING, a town seated on a small river navigable for boats, and has a considerable market held once a fortnight, that is, every other Tuesday, for fat bullocks.

At WORMGAY, or WRANGHEY, near Sechy, was a priory of Black canons, built by William, the son of Reginald de Warren, in the reign of king Richard the First, or king John, which was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, the Holy Cross, and St. John the Evangelist; and, in 1468, was united to the priory of Pentney.

At SHOULDHAM, south east of Sechy, Jeffrey Fitz-Piers, earl of Essex, in the reign of king Richard

Richard the First, founded a Gilbertine convent for canons and nuns, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and under the government of a prior. This convent was endowed at the suppression with 138 l. 18 s. 1 d. a year.

Four miles north of Sechy is LYNN-REGIS, or KING'S-LYNN, which is thus named by way of distinction from three villages in the county, named West-Lynn, North-Lynn, and Old-Lynn. The learned author of the additions to Camden observes, that its original name was Len, which, in the Saxon tongue, signifies a farm or tenure in fee. It was formerly called Bishop's-Lynn, from its belonging to the bishop of Norwich: but coming by exchange into the hands of Henry the Eighth, it obtained its present name. It is seated ten miles north of Downham, forty-two west by north of Norwich, forty-six north by east of Cambridge, and ninety-eight on the same point from London. It is a rich and large town; tolerably regular and well built: the greatest part of it is surrounded with a wall and a deep trench, and through it runs four small rivers, over which there are about fifteen bridges. From the ruins of the works, demolished in the civil wars, it appears to have been a place of great strength. It extends along the east side of the Ouse, which, upon a high spring tide, is said to rise twenty feet perpendicular, and is about the breadth of the Thames above London bridge.

At the north end of the town is a fortress, commonly called St. Anne's fort, with a platform of twelve large guns, which command all ships that go in and out of the harbour. Besides the wall, it is defended by regular bastions; and the ditch lies almost in the form of a semicircle. The principal church is dedicated to St. Margaret, and is built in the Gothic taste. It is accounted by some,

some, one of the largest parish churches in England. It has a handsome lofty lantern over the middle of the cross isle; and at the west end are two towers, in one of which are eight tuneable bells; and on the other is a lofty spire, which, from the ground, is two hundred eighty-eight feet high, and equal to the length both of the church and chancel. The body consists of three large isles. In this church is a fine library. The other parish church is dedicated to All Saints. In September 1741, the spires of both churches were blown down by a storm of wind; but they have since been both rebuilt. The chapel of St. Nicholas is reckoned one of the handsomest and largest of the kind in England. It consists of three isles, two hundred feet in length from east to west, and seventy-eight in breadth. It has a bell-tower of free-stone, above which rises an octagon spire, which together are a hundred and seventy feet high; and in this chapel is a library erected by subscription. Here is also a Presbyterian and Quakers meeting-house. The streets are narrow, but well paved. It has a spacious fine market-place, in the quadrangle of which is a statue of king William the Third, and a cross covered with a dome, encompassed with a gallery, and supported by sixteen pillars. The market-house is built with free-stone after the modern taste, seventy feet high, and adorned with statues and other embellishments. The theatre, says an ingenious author, is very neat, neither profusely ornamented, nor disgustingly plain. The assembly rooms are capacious, and handsomely fitted up; they consist of three on a line; the first an old town-hall, fifty-eight feet high, twenty-seven broad, and of a well-proportioned loftiness, would be a very good ball-room, had it a boarded floor, but at present forms a very noble anti-room. It

opens

opens into the ball-room, which is sixty feet in length, twenty-seven in breadth, and twenty in height, and would have been an elegant one had the music gallery been placed backwarder. The card room is twenty-seven feet square, and twenty-two high; and as the three are upon a line, it would have given them an uncommon elegance, had the openings from one into another been in three arches in the center, supported by pillars, instead of the present glass doors. The eye would then have commanded at once a suite of a hundred and forty-five feet; which, with handsome lustres properly disposed, would have rendered these rooms inferior to few in England. Here is a good custom-house, with a convenient quay and warehouses. The king's staith, or quay, where the greatest part of the wines imported are landed and deposited in large vaults, is a handsome square, encompassed with brick buildings. In the center of which is a statue of king James the First. The entrance into the harbour has many flats and shoals; but the harbour itself is extremely safe, and so capacious, as to be able to receive two hundred ships. The situation of Lynn, near the influx of the Ouse into the sea, gives the inhabitants an opportunity of extending their trade into eight different counties; so that they supply many considerable cities and towns with heavy goods, not only of our own produce, but imported from abroad. The town deals more largely in coals and wine, than any other place in England, except London, Bristol and Newcastle. In return for these commodities, Lynn receives back for exportation, all the corn which the counties it supplies can spare; and of this single article Lynn exports more than any other port in the kingdom, except Hull in Yorkshire. Its foreign trade is ve-

ry considerable, especially to Holland, Norway, the Baltic, Spain and Portugal.

Among the other public structures, here is a town-house, called Trinity-hall, which is a noble, ancient fabrick, an exchange of free-stone, with two orders of columns, erected at the expence of Sir John Turner: several alms-houses, and in the parish of All Saints, a small hospital, where four men live rent free; and another called St. Mary Magdalen's, which was anciently a priory, but was rebuilt in 1649, and is at present under the care of two senior aldermen, chosen by the other governors. In 1682, a ruinous old chapel in this town, was converted into a work-house, in which fifty poor children are taught to read and spin, and at a fit age put out apprentices. This is, by an act of parliament, settled in the guardians of the poor. Here is also a Bridewell.

King's Lynn was a borough by prescription before the reign of king John, who, on account of its adhering to him against the barons, made it a free borough, with large privileges, appointing the town a provost, and giving it a silver cup of about eighty ounces, double gilt and enamelled, with four large silver maces, that are carried before the mayor: king Henry the Eighth's sword, which he gave to the town, on its coming into his possession, by exchange with the bishop of Norwich, is likewise carried before the mayor. King Henry the Third made it a mayor town, on account of the inhabitants serving him against the barons; and in the late civil wars it held out for king Charles the First, and sustained a siege against upwards of eighteen thousand men, for above three weeks; but for want of relief, was at length obliged to surrender, and to pay ten shillings a head for every inhabitant, with a month's pay to the soldiers, to prevent its being plundered. In short,  
this

this town, which has had fifteen royal charters, is governed by a mayor, an high-steward, an under-steward, a recorder, twelve aldermen, and eighteen common-councilmen, with other inferior officers; and every first Monday in the month, the mayor, aldermen, the rest of the magistrates, and the preachers, meet, to determine all controversies in an amicable manner, between the inhabitants, in order to prevent law-suits. This excellent custom was first established in 1588, and is called the feast of reconciliation. The town, besides its market on Saturdays, has a fair on the 2d of February, for wearing apparel, and all sorts of goods from London.

There were anciently in this town many religious foundations, particularly a cell of a prior and three Benedictine monks, belonging to the monastery of Norwich cathedral, founded by bishop Herbert about the year 1100, and dedicated to St. Margaret. Petrus Capellanus founded an hospital here in 1145, for a prior and twelve brethren and sisters, nine of whom were to be found, and three leprous: this was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen. About the year 1261, a convent of Grey friars was founded here by Thomas de Fletcham. The friars Poenitentia Jesu Christi, were settled in this town before the fifth of Edward the First, and continued here till the suppression of that order. In the same reign was an hospital here of St. John Baptist, consisting of a warden or master, and several poor brothers and sisters, the revenues of which were valued at the dissolution at 7 l. 7 s. 1 d. per annum. Here was likewise, in the same reign, a house of Austin friars, but it was valued at the dissolution at only 1 l. 4 s. 6 d. per annum. There was also in this town a house of Black friars before the twenty-first of Edward the First, said to have been founded by Thomas Gedney.

ney. And not far from the town house called Trinity hall, but nearer to the river, was a college of twelve priests, founded by Thomas Thursby, mayor of this town, about the year 1500.

At BLACKBOROUGH, a village in the parish of Middleton, south-east of Lynn, Roger de Scales, and Muriel his wife, erected a priory in the reign of Henry the Second, and dedicated it to the Virgin Mary and St. Catharine. In this priory were religious of both sexes; but before the year 1200, Robert, the son of the above Roger, settled this house upon nuns of the order of St. Benedict, who were about ten in number, and continued till the general suppression, when their revenue was valued at 42 l. 6 s. 7 d. a year.

At SOUTH LYNN, near Lynn-Regis, we find mention made of a house of White friars, founded in the thirteenth century, but the foundation is by different authors ascribed to different persons. At the dissolution it had a prior and ten brethren, and yet the revenue was only valued at 1 l. 15 s. 8 d. per annum.

From King's Lynn we shall follow the road to the northern part of the county, and at the distance of four miles north-east of the above town, we come to CASTLE-RISING, which obtained its name from an old castle, which, together with the town, is situated on a lofty eminence. This castle was built by William de Albini, earl of Arundel and Sussex, in the time of king Henry the First. There were in the walls of it three towers, which the lords Hunstanton, Watton and Ridon, were bound to defend and maintain; and to support their men they had a power given them by a statute of the third of Edward the First, to take provision of the circumjacent villages, paying for it within forty days. From king Henry the First to the twenty-seventh of Henry the Third, the  
Albines,

Albines, earls of Arundel and Suffex, held this castle, by which tenure they enjoyed a third part of the customs of the port of Lynn, till the people of Lynn besieged one of the earls in the castle, and so streightened him, that he was forced to release his right to them, and swear never to attempt the recovery. Of the remains of this castle we have given a view.

Castle-Rising is ninety-seven miles distant from London, and is an ancient borough by prescription, governed by a mayor and twelve aldermen. It was formerly a considerable place, but its harbour being choaked up with sand, it is in a manner deserted, and has lost both its trade and most of its inhabitants. Here is, however, an hospital for twelve poor men, and an alms-house for twenty-four poor widows, both founded by the family of the Howards. In the neighbourhood of the town is a large chase, with the privileges of a forest. This town, and some of the neighbouring parishes, retain the old Norman custom, by which all wills must be proved before the parson of the parish.

From hence a road extends six miles north to SNETSHAM, which is situated ninety-nine miles north by east of London, near the rise of the little river Ingol, and was formerly famous for its herds of cattle, on which account it was called Neotsham, which in length of time became changed to Snetsham. It was once a royal demesne with many privileges, but is now an inconsiderable place, yet has a market on Fridays.

Here is the seat of Nicholas Styleman, Esq; where Mrs. Styleman has formed some very agreeable plantations, particularly those upon a stream, which she calls Newbridge and Catharine's Island. This stream, which is naturally only a ditch, she has improved with such taste, that it resembles a winding

winding river, and is the greatest ornament of her plantations. On one part of its banks, is a neat circular cottage for breakfasting; near it is a menagery, with a great variety of birds; and in this part of the plantation are all sorts of water-fowl. From hence you cross the stream, and pass along its winding banks to a grotto, stuck full of spars, shells, sea-weed, coral, ore, &c. disposed with taste and elegance, on a ground of powdered shells, stuck in cement. It is in a very pretty situation, by the side of the river, close to a small cascade, and in the shade of several large weeping willows. The stream is still more beautiful in the other plantation, called Catharine's Island, which forms five little woody islands, with cool, shady and sequestered walks about it, in a taste that does great honour to this most ingenious lady's fancy. Behind the house, the plantations have great variety, and are also sketched out with much taste.

At *DOCKING*, a village near Snetsham, we find great improvements made in the land; one farm of two thousand five hundred acres being gained from sheep-walks, is regularly inclosed, and yields immense crops of corn; this has been mentioned as the best farm in Europe. At this village we find mention made of a priory, which belonged to an abbey in Normandy, but we have no farther account of it.

In the entrance of *Docking* is the seat of Mrs. Henley, where the plantations, though small, are in a very agreeable taste. There is here a light and elegant temple, so well placed, as both to command a fine view of the country, and also to form an agreeable object in sight of the house. Here is also an hermitage, which consists of a little cottage of two rooms, situated in one of her plantations of firs and shrubs. The first room is walled with oyster-shells, the white side outwards, and the

the brown edges filed off; the pavement is of clean small pebbles; the chimney-piece of grotto shell-work: the ceiling is papered, and at one end of the room is the hermit's bed, which has painted canvas curtains. The other room is wainscotted with curious old carved wainscot of the reign of Henry the Seventh, and the ceiling, &c. decorated in a rustic manner, with festoons of seaweed, painted ropes, and deal shavings, in a Gothic, but very neat taste.

At FLITCHAM, on the south-east of Snetsham, was a priory, or hospital, of the order of St. Augustine, subordinate to Walsingham, to which it was given by Dametta de Flitcham, in the reign of king Richard the First. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and at the dissolution was endowed with 55l. 5s. 6d. a year.

At HITCHAM, a village three miles north of Snetsham, is the mouth of a river which affords a convenient harbour for small vessels. This village has a fair on the 3d of August, for cattle.

The road from hence extends four miles north to HUNSTANTON, where was a royal tower built by St. Edmund, king and martyr; there that prince lived near a year in retirement, during which he got the psalms of David, in the Saxon tongue, by heart. Four miles to the north-east of this village is St. Edmund's cape, so called from the above prince, who landed there, in a neighbouring port, with a great retinue from Germany, on Offa's constituting him his heir by adoption to the kingdom of the East Angles.

From Hunstanton a road runs north-west, and passes a little to the south of BRANCASTER, which is about ten miles north-east of Snetsham, and is generally allowed to have been the ancient Branodunum of the Romans, though it is now but a country village. The intrenchment which remains,

is called by the neighbouring inhabitants *Caster*, and includes about eight acres of ground, where Roman coins have been often dug up. Here are evident remains of a Roman camp, and all the parts shew it was not done in a hurry, it being very regular and well designed, for the station upon the northern shore, against the incursions of the Saxons.

The road passes on the south of *Brancafter*, and extends to the eastward to *MARKET BURNHAM*, which is thus called from its being a market town, to distinguish it from seven villages at a small distance, known by the name of *Burnham*, and distinguished from each other by a particular appellation. It is seated about two miles from the northern shore, and a hundred and sixteen north-north-east of *London*. It has a market on Saturdays, and two fairs, held on the 15th of *March*, for cheese, &c. and on the 1st of *August*, for horses. In this town was *Sir Ralph de Hemenhale*, and *Sir William de Calthorp*, Knights, founded a house of *Carmelite*, or *White friars*, in the year 1241, which upon the dissolution was valued at 2l. 5s. 4d. per annum.

About three miles to the westward of the last mentioned town is *BURNHAM DEEPPDALE*, which stands within half a mile of the sea, and is remarkable for its salt marshes, which are not only excellent for feeding sheep, but for keeping them in health. There are little hills cast up, all along the sea side, which were doubtless the burying-places of the *Danes* and *Saxons*; because these nations were wont to bury the dead bodies, and afterwards raise a hill over them. The other villages of the name of *Burnham* contain nothing remarkable.

At *CREKE*, or *CREAK*, a village, seated four miles to the south of *Market Burnham*, is a large *Saxon* fortification, and the way that leads from  
it

it is still called Bloodgate, from the dismal slaughter made there between the Danes and Saxons.

In a field near Creke, Sir Robert de Nerford, principal warden of Dover castle, built here, in the year 1206, a small church to the honour of St. Mary, also a chapel dedicated to St. Batholomew, and an hospital for the maintenance of a master, four chaplains, and thirteen poor men: immediately after the death of the founder, the master and chaplains assumed the habit of canons regular, and from that time were called the prior and canons of St. Mary de Pratis near Creak. Alice, widow of the said Robert, conveyed the advowson and patronage of this priory to king Henry the Third. It is situated between Burnham and Creak, whence historians sometimes called it by the name of Burnham priory. This priory was made an abbey by king Henry the Third in the year 1230: but it was dissolved in the reign of king Henry the Seventh, and its revenues settled by that prince's mother, on Christ's college in Cambridge.

Four miles to the eastward of Market-Burnham, and about two miles to the north of the high road, is HOLKAM, a village about three miles southwest of Wells, which has a small fair for toys, held on Easter-Monday. Near this village is the seat of the countess of Leicester, built by the late earl. On approaching it from the south, the first objects are a few small clumps of trees, which sketch out the way to a triumphal arch, under which the road runs. This structure is in a beautiful taste, and elegantly finished; it is extremely light, and the white flint rustics have a fine effect. A narrow plantation, on each side a broad vista, leads from hence to an obelisk, at the distance of a mile and a half. At the bottom of the hill, on which the obelisk stands, are two neat small porter's lodges. Rising with the hill, you approach the obelisk through a fine plantation, and at once open

open eight vistles to the south front of the house, which may be said to consist of five quadrangles, the center and the four wings; each of the fronts presenting a center and two wings. That to the south is light, airy and elegant. The portico is in a fine taste, and the Corinthian columns beautifully proportioned: but on your advancing near, you find no entrance to the house, there being no stairs up to the portico; and this circumstance, says our author, after so fine an approach, and so long seeing the portico where you expect to enter, becomes a disappointment, and is a fault in the building. The two wings are light and elegant, but much less magnificent than the center. The north front consists of a row of Venetian windows, over another of common sashes in the rustics.

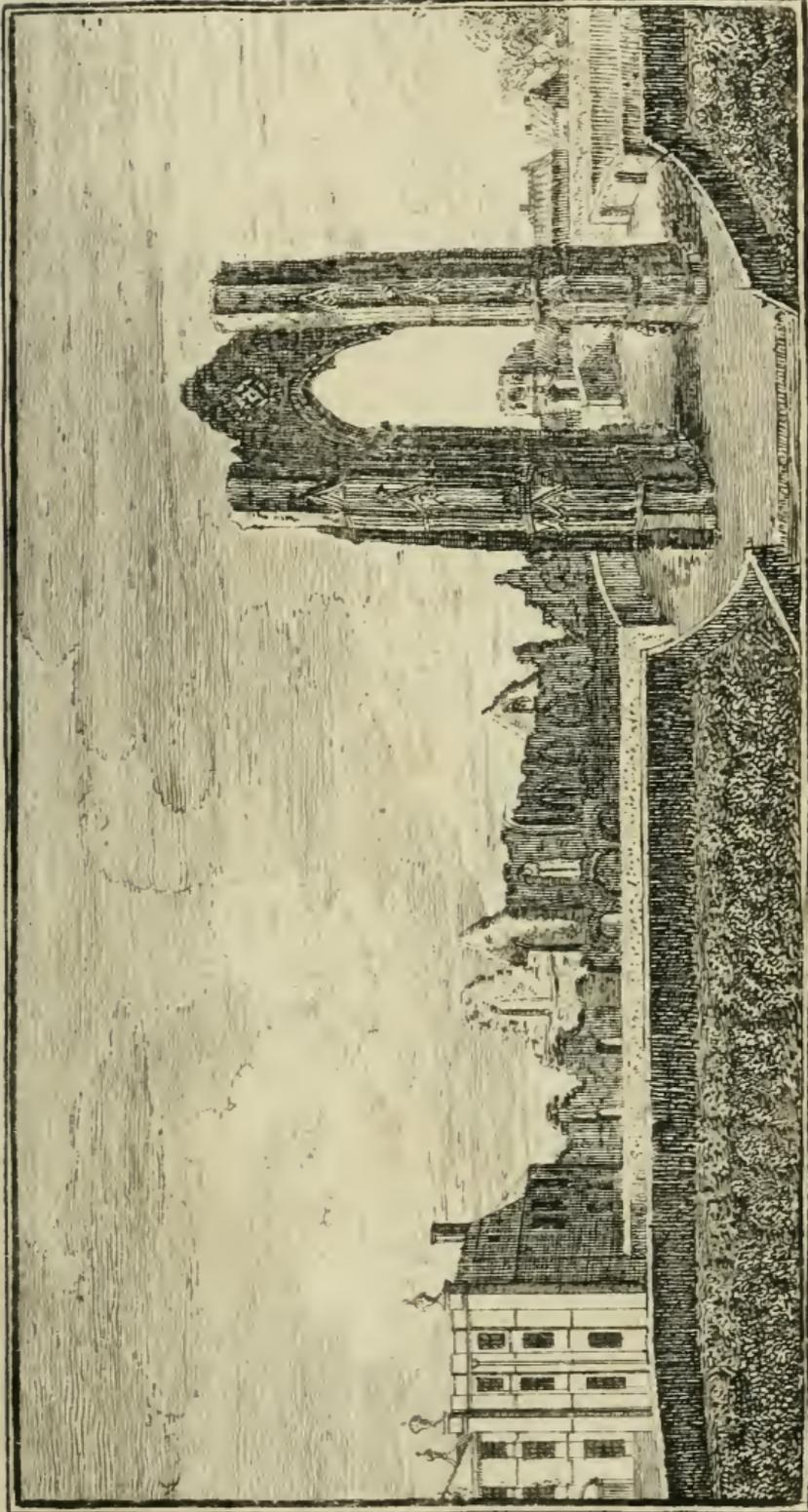
The inside of the house is remarkable for its convenience. You enter the great hall, which is a cube of forty-eight feet, supported by 18 large Corinthian columns. The saloon is forty-two feet by twenty-seven, and hung with crimson cassoy: the pier-glasses are small, on account of the narrowness of the piers, but in a very elegant taste. The rooms to the left of the saloon are, first a drawing room, thirty-three feet by twenty-two, hung with crimson cassoy. The pier-glasses are large and exceedingly elegant: and the agate tables extremely beautiful. The landscape room, which is a dressing room to the state bed-chamber, is hung with crimson damask. The walls of the chapel are of Derbyshire marble, and the altar, with all the decorations, are in a very fine taste. The state bed-chamber is fitted up with great elegance. It is hung with French tapestry, except between the piers, which is painted by Mr. Saunders. The bed is cut velvet, upon a white sattin ground, and appears in common in a very handsome gilt settee under a canopy of state. The chimney-

chimney-piece is remarkably beautiful. The other rooms are very noble, and furnished with great elegance, particularly the drawing-room and the statue-gallery: the last is extremely magnificent. It consists of a middle part, seventy feet by twenty-two, and at each end an octagon of twenty-two, open to the center by an arch; in one are compartments with books, and in the other statues: those in the principal part of the gallery stand in niches in the wall, along one side of the room, on each side the chimney-piece. Among these statues is the figure of Diana, which is extremely fine; and another of Venus in wet drapery, which is likewise exquisite; for nothing can exceed the manner in which the form of the limbs is seen through the clothing. The rooms are adorned with paintings of the greatest masters, and most of the cielings are of gilt fret work and Mosaic.

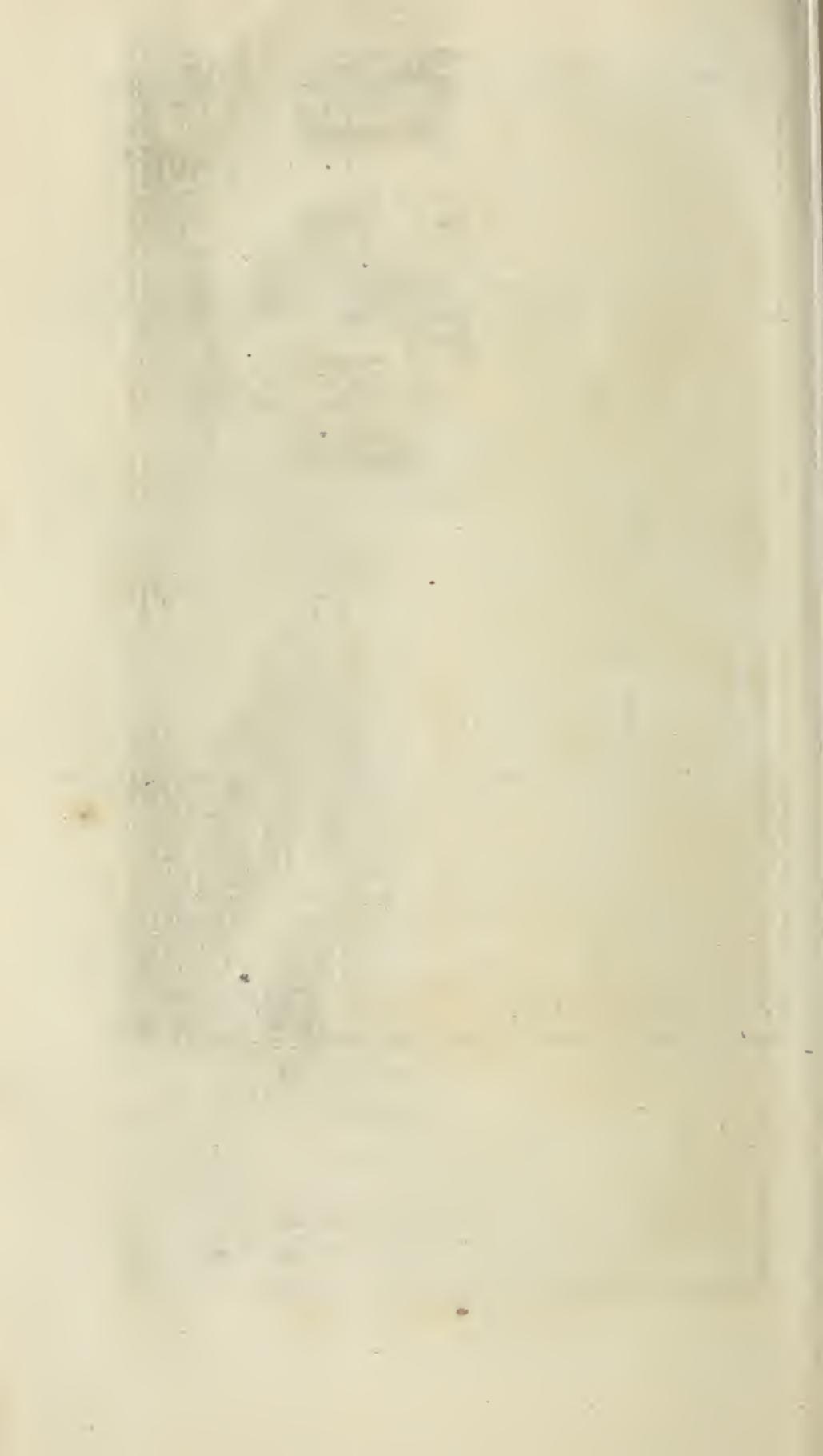
On the north side of the park, the object most striking is a very beautiful lake, the shore of which is bold, and covered with wood to a great height, and on the top is the church. The plantations in general, are sketched with extraordinary taste, and appear in various points of view infinitely more considerable than they really are. At the north entrance into the park, they shew prodigiously grand; you look full upon the house, with a very noble back ground of wood; the obelisk just about the center, with an extensive plantation on each side, that renders the view really magnificent. Nothing can be more beautiful than the prospect from the church; the house appears in the midst of an amphitheatre of wood, the plantations rising one above each other. Another point of view is the vale on the east side of the park, where the north plantation stretches away to the right with vast magnificence, the south woods to the left, and joining in the front, the whole has a noble effect.

Three miles to the south-east of Holkam is **WALSINGHAM**, which is situated one hundred and twenty-two miles north-north-east of London, and is a pretty good town, though it is but a small place to what it was formerly; it having been much frequented by pilgrims, who came to pay their devotions here, at a chapel dedicated to the Virgin Mary, where there is a spring, called the Virgin Mary's, or the Holy well; and on a stone upon the edge of it is a cross, where the people used to kneel, and throw in a piece of gold, while they wished for any thing they wanted. Here are also the ruins of a priory of canons regular of St. Augustine, dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It was at first a chapel founded in the reign of Edward the Confessor, by Richolde, mother of Jeffrey de Favarches, who in the reign of William the Conqueror made it a priory, and introduced the Black canons. After the dissolution the lands were granted to Thomas Sidney, Esq; from whom it descended to Robert earl of Leicester, who in 1650 conveyed it to Henry English, Esq; Its annual value according to Dugdale, was 391 l. 11 s. 7 d. but according to Speed, 446 l. 14 s. 4 d. The walls are generally in ruins, only there are two parts, which seem to have been gate-houses, that still remain, and one of them is finely adorned with carved work; the other parts shew that it was once a spacious, magnificent structure. Of these remains we have caused a view to be engraven. Walsingham has a market on Fridays, and one fair, on Whit-Monday, for pedlars goods and horses.

At **LITTLE or OLD WALSINGHAM**, which is seated about two miles to the north-east of Great Walsingham, was a house of Franciscan friars, founded about the year 1346, by Elizabeth de Burgo, countess of Clare, the foundress of Clare hall

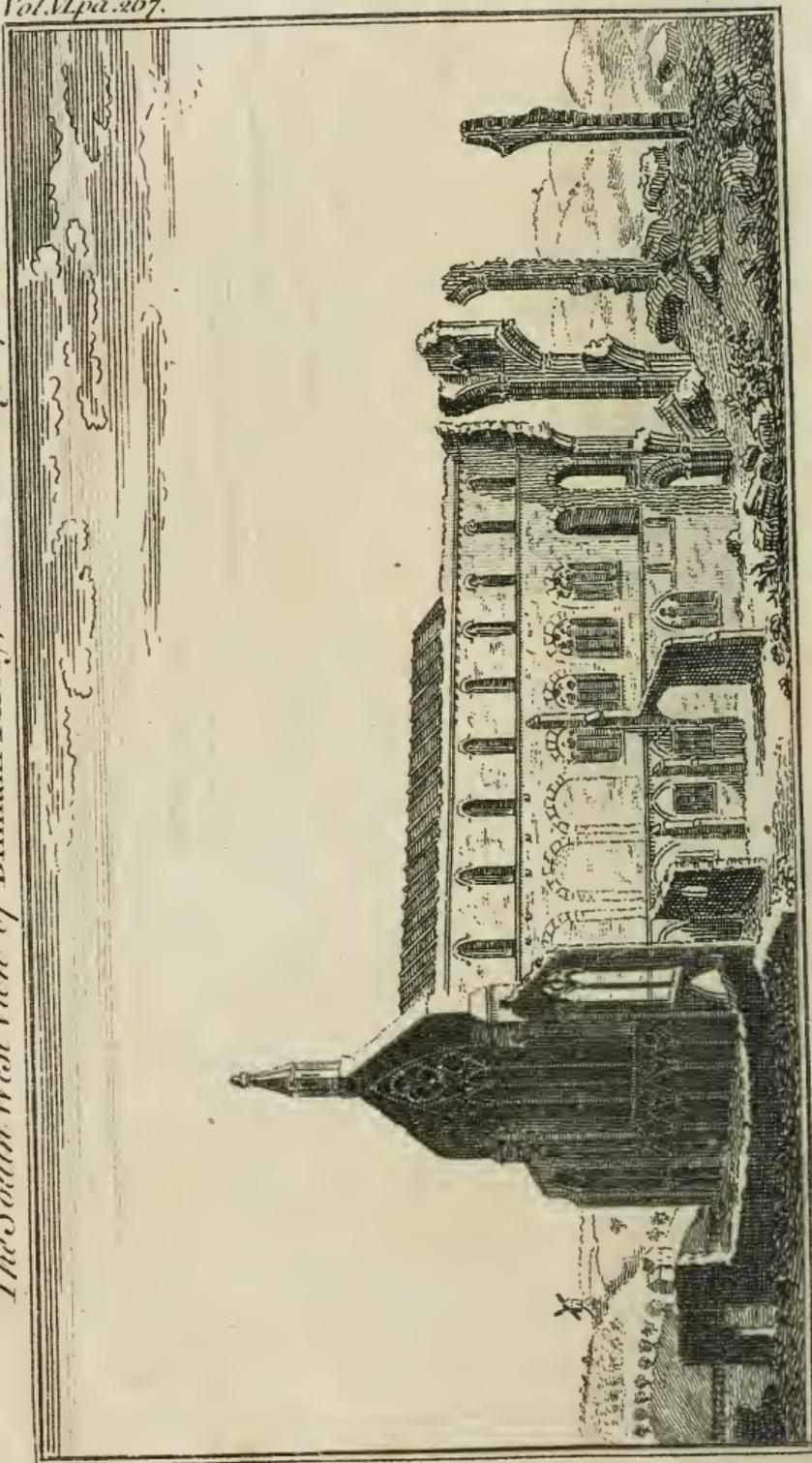


*The East View of Walsingham Priory, in the County of Norfolk.*





*The South West View of Binham Priory, in the County of Norfolk.*



hall in Cambridge. It had houses and gardens valued at the dissolution at 3*l.* per annum. And at Queengate in the parish of Snoring-Parva, also near Walsingham, was a lazer-house in the year 1380.

Near Walsingham was Bingham priory, which was a cell to St. Alban's in Hertfordshire. It was founded by Peter de Valoines, to whom the Conqueror had given twenty manors in this county, and Albreda his wife, sister to Eudo, steward to king Henry the First, for the health of the souls of king William the Conqueror, and Maud his queen, and for the good estate of Henry the First. It was amply endowed with lands and revenues for monks of the order of St. Benedict; and was to pay yearly to the church of St. Albans a mark of silver and no more. In king John's reign, Robert Fitzwalter was the patron who besieged this priory, and reduced it to great distress, in order to reinstate Thomas the prior, whom the abbot of St. Albans had deposed; but the king upon complaint sent down forces, and raised the siege. Part of this priory is demolished, but there is a handsome, large structure, still remaining, which has the appearance of a fine church; and at one end is a beautiful front of Gothic workmanship, and under the great window, a portico. It was valued at the suppression at 160*l.* a year. Of this structure we have caused a view to be engraved.

Five miles to the north of Walsingham is WELLS, which is seated within a mile and a half of the sea, and was, in the last century, a considerable market town. It has pretty good accommodations for travellers, but has at present neither market nor fair. The manor of Wells being given to the abbey of St. Stephen in Normandy by William de Streis, in the reign of William the Conqueror, here was fixed an alien prio-

ry of Benedictine monks from that foreign house; but king Edward the Fourth gave it to the dean and chapter of St. Stephens, Westminster, who enjoyed it till the general dissolution.

Five miles to the south of Walsingham is FAKENHAM, which had anciently salt-pits. On a hill in the neighbourhood of this town are kept the sheriff's term, and a court for the whole county.

A little to the south of Fakenham is a village called HEMPTON, which has a fair on Whitsun-Tuesday, and another on the 22d of November, for horses and horned cattle. In this village was an ancient hospital dedicated to St. Stephen, which afterwards became a small priory of three or four canons of the order of St. Austin. It is said to have been founded by Roger de St. Martino, in the reign of Henry the First. Its revenues were valued at the dissolution at 32l. 14 s. 8 d. per annum.

Near COKESFORD, north-west of Fakenham, Hervey Belet, in the beginning of the reign of king John, founded an hospital for a warden, being a priest, and thirteen poor people, dedicated to St. Andrew.

At the village of EAST RUDHAM, which is situated about six miles to the westward of Fakenham, William Chaney founded a priory of regular canons of the order of St. Austin, in the church of St. Mary, who about the beginning of the reign of Henry the Third were removed to the extremity of the parish eastward, to a place called Cokesford, also dedicated to the Virgin Mary, where a prior and about nine Black canons continued till the time of the dissolution, when their revenue was valued at 121 l. 18 s. 10 d. per annum. At Rudham are two fairs, on the 17th of May, and the 2d of October, for horses, &c.

About

About two miles west of Rudham is HOUGHTON, the seat of the earl of Orford, which was built by Sir Robert Walpole. It is encompassed on every side with noble plantations. The woods, which are seen from the south front of the house, are planted with great judgment, in order to remedy the defect of the flatness of the country, they being so disposed, as to appear one behind another in different shades, to a great extent. The house is a fine building, and the rooms are fitted up in as magnificent a manner as can be conceived, the chimney-pieces, door-cases, windows and cornices being extremely fine, and the pictures are exceeded by no collection in the kingdom, except the royal one, they being some of the best pieces of the greatest masters.

We shall now return back to Fakenham, a few miles to the south of which is RAINHAM, the seat of the lord Townshend. The county around it is finely cultivated, and the situation of the house, the park and the water, very desirable: the building is, however, rather a good house than a magnificent one. The rooms are adorned with several fine paintings, among which is an admirable picture of Belisarius, by Salvator Rosa, in which the expression is inimitable. Lady Townshend's dressing-room is furnished with prints, stuck with much taste on a green paper, which have a very pleasing effect.

From Fakenham a road leads fourteen miles north-east to HOLT, which is a small obscure town, that has a market on Saturdays, and two fairs, held on the 25th of April, and the 24th of November, for horses. It takes its name from the woods growing about it; Holt, in the Saxon language, signifying a wood.

At BLAKENEY, four miles north-west of Holt, Richard and John Stormer, and Thomas Tho-

ber, built a church and habitation for friars of the Carmelite order, about the twenty-first year of king Edward the First.

About three miles north by west of Holt is **CLAY**, a village seated about a mile and a half from the sea side, and had a market, which is now disused, but has still a fair, which is held on the 19th of July for horses. In the reign of king Henry the Second, Maud de Harfcoley gave the manor of Fieldawling, near this town, to the abbot and convent of Savigny in Normandy; upon which there came hither some Cistercian monks of that house, to which this was a cell, as it was afterwards to Long Benington in Lincolnshire.

From Holt a road extends eight miles east to **CROMER**, a town seated on the sea shore one hundred and twenty-seven miles north-north-west of London, and twenty-four north of Norwich. It has a harbour, and was formerly a much larger town than it is at present, it having had two parish churches, one of which, with many houses, was swallowed up by an inundation of the sea. It is, however, still a pretty large town, principally inhabited by fishermen, who chiefly apply themselves to the catching of lobsters, which are caught here in great numbers, and carried to Norwich, and sometimes to London. It has a market on Saturdays, and a fair on Whitfun-Monday, for petty chapmen.

The church of **SHERINGHAM**, a village near Cromer, being given by Walter Giffard, earl of Buckingham, in the reign of king Henry the Second, to the abbey of Nuthall in Buckinghamshire, here was a cell of Black canons for some time, belonging to that abbey.

From Cromer a road extends fifteen miles north-west to **WORSTED**, or **WURSTED**, which is a hundred and seventeen miles north-east of London,  
and

and thirteen miles north by east of Norwich, and is remarkable for the invention of twisted woollen yarn, which from hence obtained the name of worsted. Here is a manufacture of worsted stuffs; and stockings are made in great quantities, both knit and woven. This town has a market on Saturdays, and a fair on the 3<sup>d</sup> of May, for horned cattle, horses and petty chapmen.

In a meadow near **BEESTON**, nor far from Worsted, the lady Margery de Cressy, about the end of the reign of king John, built a small monastery for a prior, an abbot and four Austin canons, which was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and its revenues were valued at the suppression at 43l. 2s. 4d. a year.

At the head of a causeway, in the parish of **GREAT HOBBIES**, south-west of Worsted, Sir Peter de Alto-Bosco, knight, in the reign of king John, or king Henry the Third, founded an hospital dedicated to the Virgin Mary, for a master and several poor people.

The manor of **LESSINGHAM**, north-east of this town, was given by Girard de Gourney, in the reign of William Rufus, to the abbey of Bec in Normandy, upon which an alien priory was settled here, which was subordinate to Ogborn near Marlborough in Wiltshire, but the manor was given by king Edward the Fourth to King's college in Cambridge, to which it still belongs.

The manor of **HORSTED**, a village about four miles south-west of Worsted, with the advowson of the church there, were given by king William Rufus to the abbess and nuns of the Trinity at Caen in Normandy.

About four miles south-east of Worsted was St. Bennet's abbey, commonly called St. Bennet in the Holme. It was built by Canute the Danish king, and afterwards so fortified with strong walls

and bulwarks, that it rather resembled a castle than a cloister. It stood out for some time against William the Conqueror, and at length was betrayed by a monk, on condition of his being abbot, but he was soon after hanged for his villany. Sir Henry Spelman tells us, that in his time there was a great heap of the ruins of this abbey.

Twelve miles south-west of Worsted is the city of NORWICH, the capital of the county. By the Saxons it was called *Norwic*, *nor* signifying north, and *wic* a bay, station, or castle; for it may be considered as seated on a bay of the river Yare, and it received the appellation of north from its situation with respect to a very ancient fortified town, about three miles distant, called *Caster*, from the ruins of which Norwich is generally supposed to have risen. Norwich is seated near the confluence of the rivers *Vensder*, or *Windsder*, and the *Yare*, twenty-seven miles west of *Yarmouth*, forty-two east by south of *King's-Lynn*, and a hundred and nine north-east by north of *London*. It was plundered and burnt by *Sueno* king of *Denmark*; but soon recovering itself, it had in the reign of *Edward the Confessor* one thousand three hundred and twenty burgeses. It suffered greatly by the insurrection of *Ralph*, earl of the *East-Angles*, against *William the Conqueror*, in whose reign it was besieged and reduced by famine.

After this it remained in a state of quiet for some time, and the bishop's see was removed from *Thetford* hither; when *Herbert Losinga*, being accused of simony in obtaining the episcopal see of *Thetford*, endeavoured to atone for this sin by building a very handsome cathedral at *Norwich*, to which he removed the see, and accordingly the first stone was laid in 1096. On the south side of it he founded a monastery, which he very liberally endowed.

endowed. He also built two parish churches, and erected a palace for himself and his successors.

After this Norwich became remarkable for merchandize and the great numbers of inhabitants, who were increased by many Jews, that flocked thereto. In the 17th year of king Stephen, this city was in a manner built anew, and was made a corporation, and that monarch granted it to William his third son; but Henry the Second took it from him. However his son Henry, to engage Hugh Bigod, earl of Norfolk, to assist him in his endeavours to wrest the crown from his father, promised him this city, and put him in possession of the castle; where he fortified himself, and received many French and Flemings. But the king soon vanquished him, and not only took this, but all other castles from him, and forced him to pay a fine of a thousand marks; however, by this means, the city received a great deal of damage. After this Lewis of France, assisting the barons against king John, and his son Henry the Third, soon took it by siege, plundered the citizens, and again reduced it to a poor condition.

In the next age it flourished again, and the inhabitants petitioned the king in parliament, that they might have liberty to wall the city round; which they accordingly did upon leave granted. In the reign of Henry the Fourth, instead of bailiffs and coroners, they began to be governed by a mayor and two sheriffs; and in the heart of the city, near the market cross, they built a beautiful town-house. In the year 1348, they were visited by the pestilence, which about that time was spread not only over England, but almost over all Europe. It swept away in this city in about six or seven months fifty-seven thousand three hundred and seventy-four people, besides mendicants and dominicans, which may serve to shew how well it

was inhabited. Norwich underwent other misfortunes at different times, but it would be too tedious to insist upon them particularly, only we shall take notice, that in 1507, it was almost entirely consumed by fire; and that it was plundered in the time of Ket's rebellion. Since that time it has enjoyed almost continual peace, and is now one of the most considerable towns in this island, if we consider the number and wealth of the citizens, its extent, its manufactures and its commerce. King Henry the Fourth made this city a county of itself, and impowered the inhabitants to choose a mayor and two sheriffs, instead of bailiffs, by whom they had till then been governed, according to the charter they had obtained from king Stephen.

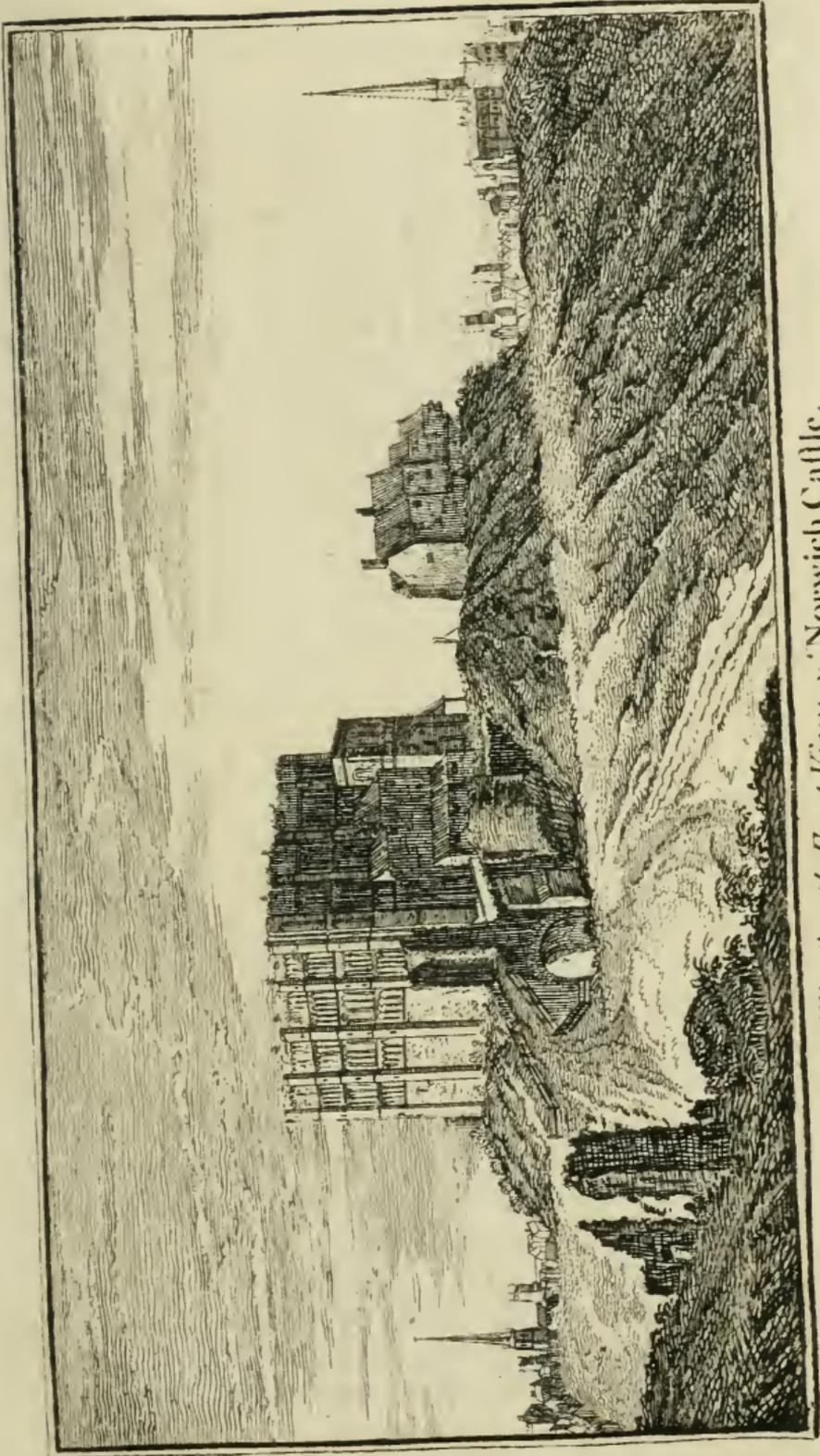
This city has now a mayor, a recorder, a steward, two sheriffs, twenty-four aldermen, and sixty common-council men, with a town-clerk, a sword-bearer, and other inferior officers. The mayor is nominated on May-day by the freemen, who return two aldermen to their court, one of whom is elected, and with great pomp sworn into his office on the Tuesday before Midsummer-eve. The mayor, during his mayoralty, the recorder and the steward for the time being, are justices of the peace and of the quorum, in the city and its liberties, and the mayor, after his mayoralty expires, is justice of the peace during life. One of the sheriffs is annually elected by the aldermen, and the other by the freemen, on the last Tuesday in August, and sworn on the 29th of September. The common-council men are elected in Midlent.

Norwich is seated upon the side of a hill, and is encompassed by a flint stone wall and a deep ditch, which were begun in 1294, and finished in fifteen years; but the wall is now much decayed,  
and

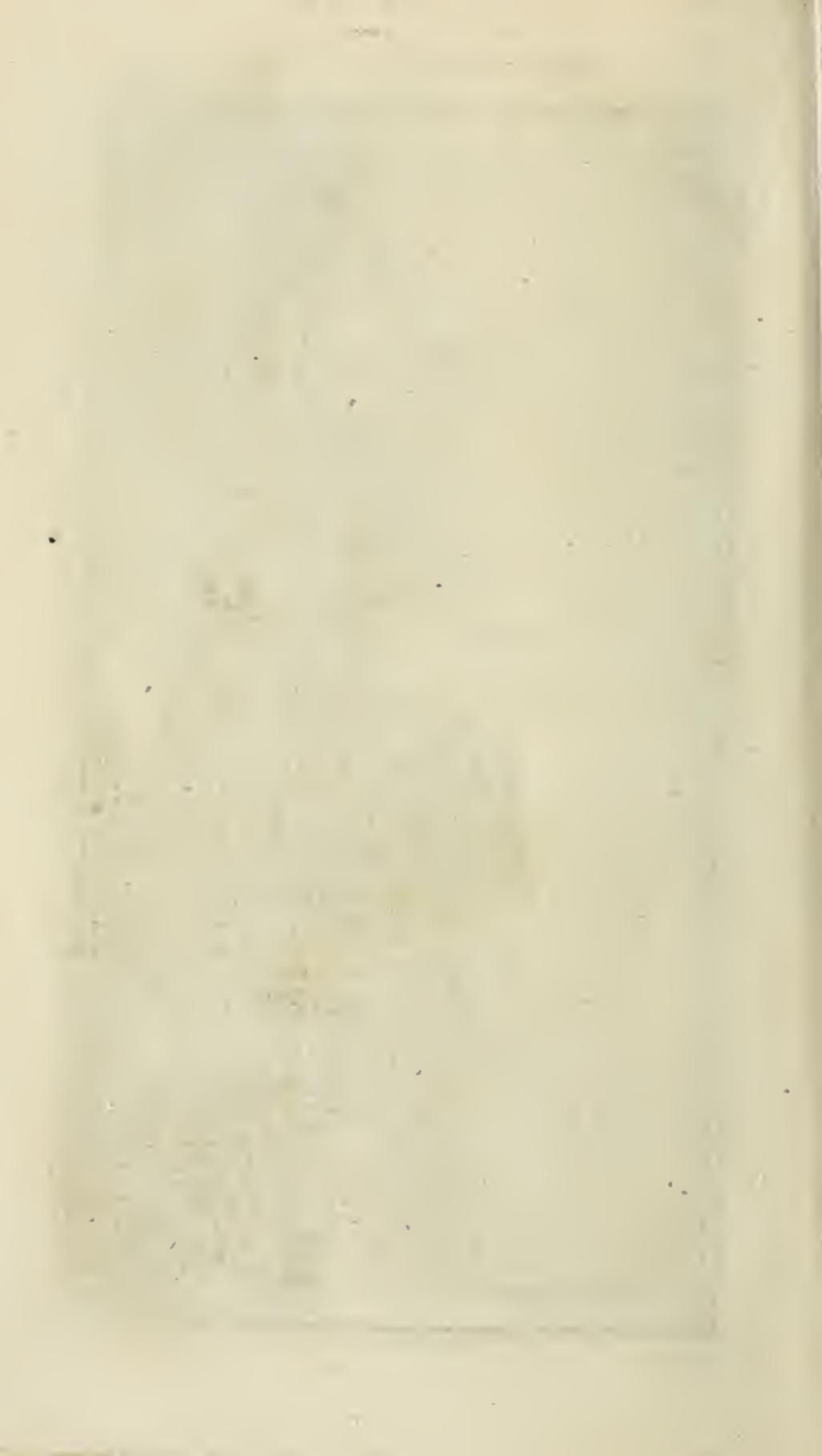
and daily more and more declining. There were at first twelve gates and forty towers; and on the east, it is defended by the river Yare, which has very high banks and a deep channel; and over it are six bridges. There is a constant intercourse and trade between Norwich and Yarmouth, by keels, wherries and boats, daily passing from one to the other, laden with coals, fish, and all sorts of merchandize. It is in length from north to south near two miles, and in breadth about a mile. By a parochial list of the number of houses and inhabitants within the city of Norwich, the precinct of the close, and the hamlets or suburbs belonging to the said city, taken in the month of July, 1752, it appears, that the number of houses then amounted to seven thousand one hundred and thirty-nine, and of souls to thirty-six thousand one hundred and sixty-nine: so greatly have they encreased since the year 1693, when the number of souls in this city amounted only to twenty-eight thousand eight hundred and eighty-one, by which it is evident, that in the space of fifty-two years, Norwich has added seven thousand two hundred and eighty-eight persons to the number of its inhabitants. Yet notwithstanding this, Norwich appears to have been in ancient times, much more populous than it is at present, since it formerly contained fifty-eight parochial churches and chapels, which are now reduced to thirty-six churches, besides the cathedral and a church in the suburbs; and some of these are very mean buildings. The cathedral is a large structure, whose roof and cloisters are admired for their workmanship. It is not that which was built by Herbert Lofinga, for that was burnt down by an accidental fire. After which John of Oxford, bishop of this see, restored it to its former splendor,

dor, and rendered it much more ornamental. On the roof, over the body of the church, is carved in various little images, the history of the bible, from the creation of the world to the ascension of Jesus Christ, and the descent of the Holy Ghost. About one hundred and fifty years ago, the top of the steeple was blown down; it has been but lately rebuilt, and is now one of the highest in England, it being three hundred and fifteen feet high from the ground. The spire is very strong, though the inside is brick, and the weathercock from the top stone is three quarters of a yard high, and one yard and two inches long. King Henry the Eighth, at the dissolution of the abbey, removed the monks, who were sixty in number, and placed in their room, a dean and six prebendaries. There were a great number of magnificent monuments in this church; but most of them were demolished and pulled down, in the time of the grand rebellion.

Besides the churches, there are five dissenting meeting-houses, and a Romish chapel; two of the churches are allowed for the use of the Dutch and Flemings, who were formerly there in great numbers, and had several singular privileges granted them. The other remarkable buildings are the ancient palace of the duke of Norfolk, which was formerly a noble and magnificent structure, reputed the largest house in England. The castle, of which we have given an engraved view, is seated on a high hill, and surrounded by a very deep ditch, over which is a strong bridge, with an arch of an extraordinary size. It is supposed to have been founded in the beginning of the Saxons time, and afterwards repaired by Hugh Bigod, earl of Norfolk. It is now the common jail of the county, and by it stands the shire-house, where the summer assizes are constantly kept. There is a beau-



*The South East View of Norwich Castle.*



beautiful town-house in the market-place, and a Guildhall in St. Andrew's parish, which was formerly the monastery church of the Black friars. The house of correction, called Bridewell, is close by St. Andrew's church, and built with square flint stones, so curiously joined together, that no mortar can be seen. The market-cross is built with free-stone and is very lofty; it is erected in the manner of a piazza, and is very beautiful and commodious. The king's school was anciently a chapel, subject to the prior and convent of the cathedral church; but after the dissolution, it was turned into a grammar-school, by Edward the Sixth; and was endowed with the lands, tenements and possessions of the said chapel, for the maintenance of a school-master and usher, since which time the salary has been enlarged. The scholars are nominated by the mayor for the time being, with the majority of the aldermen. As for the houses, they are generally very handsome and lofty, especially about the market-place; however, in the lanes and lesser streets, there are some thatched-houses, but not very contemptible; and these in time will disappear, for all new houses are to be tiled. Some authors, call Norwich an orchard in a city, or a city in an orchard, on account of the great variety of gardens, and trees in a particular part, near the walls.

In the city are twelve charity-schools, where two hundred and ten boys and one hundred and forty-four girls are taught, clothed, and supplied with books. Here are also four hospitals, one of which, called St. Helen's, was originally founded for the entertainment of strangers by king Henry the Eighth, but is now appropriated to the use of the poor of the city, and in it are maintained a master, a chaplain, and eighty poor men and women,

men, clothed in grey; these must be sixty years of age before they can be admitted. Another of the hospitals, called Doughty's, consists of a master, sixteen poor men, and eight women, all clothed in purple. The other two hospitals are, one for boys, and the other for girls; the boys hospital contains thirty poor boys, who are taught to read and write, and at a proper age put out apprentices; and the girls hospital is for the like number of girls, who are provided for in the same manner. Each of these hospitals was founded by a mayor of this city.

In this city a number of ingenious and learned gentlemen have formed themselves into a botanic society, whose influence will doubtless be very considerable in reviving the study of botany (which has been too much neglected) in different parts of the kingdom.

On the banks of the river, gardens were opened some years ago for the entertainment of the public, in the manner of Vaux-hall gardens, near London. Here is also a play-house.

The river Yare is navigable to this city, without locks, though no less than thirty miles distant from its mouth. The woollen manufacture, for which this city has long been famous, and in which, even the children are employed, was originally brought hither by the Flemings, in the reign of king Edward the Third, and afterwards greatly improved by the Dutch, who, flying from the duke of Alva's persecution, were settled here by queen Elizabeth, and taught the inhabitants to make woollen stuffs, as says, baize, serges, and shalloons, in which this city carries on a prodigious foreign trade, as well as to London, and the other parts of Great Britain. Camblets, druggets, and crapes, are woven here in great perfection,

tion, of which this city is said to sell to the value of 200,000*l.* a year. Four wardens of the worsted weavers are annually chosen out of the city, and four out of the neighbourhood, who are sworn to take care that no frauds are committed in the manufacture. Here is also a body of woollen manufacturers denominated the Russia company, who employ persons in all the country round, to spin yarn for them. There is likewise a stocking manufacture here, of which this city has been computed to vend to the value of 60,000*l.* a year. The inhabitants are, in general, so employed in their manufactures within doors, that the city seems as if it was deserted, except on Sundays and holidays, when the streets swarm with people. By an act of parliament passed in the year 1726, certain duties are laid upon goods brought into the city, and the produce of these duties applied to the repair of its bridges, walls, gates, wastes, wharfs, and roads.

There are here three markets on Wednesdays, Friday, and Saturdays, and the last in particular, is affirmed to be the greatest in England, it being well stocked with corn, horned cattle, hogs and sheep, with prodigious quantities of all sorts of provisions, as likewise yarn, worsted, and every thing usually found in markets. This city sends two members to parliament, and has three fairs, which are held on the day before Good-Friday, on the Saturday before Whit-Sunday, and the Saturday after, for horses, sheep, lambs, and petty-chapmen.

In this city, and its neighbourhood, were formerly many religious foundations. Herbert Losing, as we have already shewn, not only built the cathedral, which he dedicated to the Trinity, but on the south side of it, houses for a prior and sixty Benedictine monks, who  
were

were settled here about the year 1100, and continued till the general dissolution, when the annual revenues of the bishopric were valued at 1050l. 17 s. 6 d. and the revenues of the prior and convent at 1061l. 14 s. 3 d. On a hill in Thorpwood, near the city, bishop Herbert built a little priory and church, dedicated to St. Leonard, in which he placed several monks, while the above cathedral and priory were building, and a succession of others was continued here, as a cell to the priory, till the dissolution. At about half a mile to the north-east of the city, bishop Herbert also built and endowed an hospital for leprous persons, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen: it was under the government of a master or warden, and was valued at the dissolution at 10l. per annum. An hospital dedicated to St. Paul, called the Norman Spital, was afterwards begun in this city by the prior and convent of the cathedral, and finished in 1121, and was under the government of a master or warden, appointed by the monks. Here was an ancient nunnery, dedicated to St. Mary and St. John, to which king Stephen, giving lands and meadows without the south gate, Seyna and Lectelina, two of the nuns, began in 1146 the foundation of a new convent, called Kairo, or Carow, which was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and consisted of a prioress and nine Benedictine nuns, and at the suppression was endowed with 64l. 6 s. 6 d. per annum. On the west side of Conisford-street, was Hildebrond's, or Hilburn's-Spital, sometimes called Ivy-hall, or St. Edward's hospital, which was founded about the year 1200, by Hildebrond le Mercer, citizen of Norwich, and was dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It had a master or warden, and some brethren; but was so decayed, that its revenues, at  
the

the suppression, were valued at no more than 14 s. 2 d. per annum. The Grey friars came to this city in the year 1226, when John de Hastingsford is said to have founded a house for them on the east side of North Conisford. The Black friars came to Norwich about the same year, and by the favour of Sir Thomas Gelham, knight, and other benefactors, were seated in the church of St. John Baptist; but about the first year of the reign of Edward the Second, that king gave them the ground on the south side of the river, in St. Andrew's parish, where the friars de Sacco had their house, and here the Black friars built a new church and convent. Before the year 1249 Walter de Suffield, *alias* Calthorp, bishop of Norwich, built and endowed an hospital near his palace, dedicated to St. Giles, for a master, some priests, and lay-brethren; the revenues of which, at the dissolution, amounted to 102 l. 15 s. 2 d. a year. In the fields, on the south-west part of the city, John Brown, a priest, built about the year 1250 a chapel, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, which was at first designed only for an hospital, but soon became a noble college, consisting of a dean, chancellor, precentor, treasurer, four prebendaries, six chaplains and other officers, whose revenues were valued at the suppression at 86 l. 16 s. per annum. The White friars coming to this city in 1256, Philip Cougate, a merchant here, founded a house for them, on the east side of a street, anciently called Cougate. The friars de Sacco were settled here about the year 1266, at a house in the city, which, at their suppression, was given to the Black friars. The Austin friars were settled here before the eighteenth of Edward I. but it is not agreed who founded their house. At West-acre was a priory of Black canons, who afterwards

terwards became canons of the order of St. Austin, begun by Oliver, a parish priest, and his son Walter, in the time of William Rufus. It was dedicated to St. Mary and All Saints. About the end of the reign of Edward the Third, mention is made of several hospitals, spitals, or lazer-houses, for the reception of leprous people, without the gates of the city; all of which were under the government of a master, and supported by the voluntary alms of the inhabitants.

This city has produced, among others, the following eminent persons.

Matthew Parker, the second protestant archbishop of Canterbury, was born, of reputable parents, in the city of Norwich, August the 6th, 1504. He had his education in Bennet-college in Cambridge, of which he afterwards became master, and to which he proved a very generous benefactor. He was successively chaplain to queen Anne of Boleyn, king Henry the Eighth, and king Edward the Sixth, from the two last of whom he received considerable preferments. Happening to be in Norfolk, during Ket's rebellion, he had the resolution to go to the camp of the insurgents, and preaching to them out of the oak of reformation, he exhorted them earnestly to return to their duty. Being a zealous protestant, he was obliged to abscond during the reign of queen Mary; but, on the accession of queen Elizabeth, he was advanced to the archbishopric of Canterbury, which he held till his death. It was by his interest chiefly, that the great English bible, commonly called *the Bishops Bible*, was published; and to him we are likewise indebted for the publication of several of our ancient English historians, as *Matthew of Westminster*, *Matthew Paris*, *Asser's*  
*Life*

*Life of King Alfred, and Thomas Walsingham.* He died May the 17th, 1575, and was buried in his own private chapel at Lambeth.

John Kaye, or Caius, a famous English physician of the sixteenth century, and co-founder of Gonville and Caius-college in Cambridge, was born at Norwich, October the 6th, 1510. He had his education at the school of his native place, and at Gonville-hall in Cambridge, and afterwards at the university of Padua. Upon his return to his native country, he became physician to king Edward the Sixth, then to queen Mary, and last of all to queen Elizabeth. He was likewise a fellow of the college of physicians, and presided at the head of that learned body for upwards of seven years. In 1557 he obtained a license to convert the hall, in which he had been educated, into a college; and he endowed it liberally for the maintenance of three fellows, twenty scholars, and a porter. He died at Cambridge, July the 29th, 1573.

John Cofin, bishop of Durham in the seventeenth century, was born of reputable parents in this city, on the 30th of November, 1594. Having completed his studies at Caius-college in Cambridge, he was appointed chaplain to Dr. Richard Neille, then bishop of Durham, who presented him to a prebend in that cathedral, and likewise procured for him the archdeaconry of the East-Riding in the church of York. Of these, however, and of all his other livings, he was deprived for his loyalty, at the very commencement of the civil wars, being the first clergyman who underwent that punishment. He therefore went abroad, and fixed his residence at Paris, where he continued till the revolution; but returning in 1660, with king Charles the Second, he was promoted, first to the deanery of Peterborough, and afterwards to  
the

the bishopric of Durham, which he held till his death. During his continuance in this rich see, which was for the space of eleven years, he is said to have expended above two thousand pounds annually in pious and charitable uses. He expired on the 15th of January, 1672, in the seventy-eighth year of his age. He was the author of several learned tracts, chiefly in controversial divinity.

Dr. Samuel Clarke, a very learned and eminent divine of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, was the son of Edward Clarke, Esq; alderman of Norwich, and one of its representatives in parliament for several years; and was born in that city, October the 11th, 1675. He received his education at the free-school of his native place, and at Caius college in Cambridge, where he made so rapid a progress in his studies, particularly in the mathematics, that, before he had attained to the twenty-second year of his age, he had a considerable hand in introducing into the university the Newtonian philosophy. He afterwards applied himself to the study of divinity, which he intended to make his profession; and having entered into orders, became chaplain to Dr. John Moore, bishop of Norwich, who gave him the rectory of Drayton near that city. In 1704 and 1705 he preached his excellent sermons at Boyle's lecture, concerning *The Being and Attributes of God*, and *The Evidences of Natural and Revealed Religion*. The next year he translated into Latin Sir Isaac Newton's Optics; and being recommended to queen Anne, by his patron the bishop of Norwich, he was presented to the rectory of St. James's, Westminster. Upon his advancement to this high station, he took the degrees of doctor in divinity, and acquitted himself admirably in the public

public exercise which he held on that occasion. In 1712 he published a splendid edition of *Caesar's Commentaries*; and the next year appeared his *Scripture Doctrine of the Trinity*, which made so much noise. He was afterwards engaged in a dispute with Mr. Leibnitz, concerning the principles of natural philosophy and religion; and the letters which passed between them on that subject, were published at London in 1717. Upon the death of Sir Isaac Newton, he was offered the place of master of the mint; but this he refused as inconsistent with his character. In the beginning of the year 1729, he published the first twelve books of *Homer's Iliad*, with the Latin version accurately corrected, and learned notes, dedicated to the duke of Cumberland; but before he had finished the rest, he was taken suddenly ill, and died on the 17th of May, of the same year. His *Exposition of the Church Catechism*, and ten volumes of his *Sermons*, were published after his death. His works which are numerous, and of which those we have mentioned form but a part, will remain a perpetual monument of his learning and abilities; all his cotemporaries bear the strongest testimony to his piety, his humanity, and other Christian virtues.

About three miles to the south of Norwich is **CAISTER**, the *Venta Icenorum*, or capital city of the *Iceni*, the broken walls of which contain a square of about thirty acres, with the visible remains of a tower, and four gates. At different times Roman urns, coins, and other relicks of antiquity have been found here.

At **BAKETON**, or **BROMHOLM**, south-west of Norwich, a priory was founded and endowed by William Glanville, in the year 1113, and was a cell subordinate to Castleacre. This priory being  
desirous

desirous of choosing their own prior, was always opposed by Castleacre, till Pope Celestine the Third granted, that this priory should be exempted from all subjection to that of Castleacre. It was valued at the dissolution at 100 l. 5 s. 3 d. a year, by Dugdale; but at 144 l. 19 s. by Speed. The greatest part is entirely in ruins, only there is one part still standing, which is a clumsy structure, and has a lantern on the top.

At HORSHAM ST. FAITH'S, north of Norwich, was a priory of Black monks, dedicated to St. Faith the Virgin Martyr, by Robert Fitz-Walter, and Sibill his wife, about the year 1105, valued at the suppression at 162 l. 19 s. 11 d. per annum. Here was also an hospital, which formerly belonged to the knights of St. John of Jerusalem, who granted it to the above priory.

About twenty-eight miles to the east of Norwich is YARMOUTH, also called GREAT YARMOUTH, to distinguish it from a small village in its neighbourhood, called Little Yarmouth. It took its name from its situation at the mouth of the river Yare, and is a hundred and twenty-two miles north-east of London. This town was generally thought to have been built out of the ruins of an ancient Roman city, named Gariannonum, where the Stableian horse lay in garrison against the ancient Britons; but the site of the ancient Garinaonum, was, according to Camden, at Burgh castle, on the other side of the Yare, about two miles from Yarmouth. This town was anciently one of the Cinque ports. It had a provost granted it by king Henry the First, and was made a borough by king John. In the reign of Edward the First it began to send members to parliament, and was encompassed by a wall and ditch in the reign of king Henry the Third, and in the same  
reign

reign a pestilence raged there, which swept off seven thousand of the inhabitants. In the time of king Edward the Third the inhabitants sent forty-three ships, and one thousand and seventy-five seamen to the siege of Calais. King Richard the Second granted the inhabitants permission to build a quay, after which they had great quarrels with the Cinque ports, for being excluded out of their number, and consequently deprived of their privileges. King Henry the Third granted the city a charter, by which it was governed by two bailiffs and a recorder, who were justices of the peace. At the accession of king James the First, the inhabitants, who amounted to about five thousand, were incorporated by the name of a bailiff, aldermen and common-council; and king Charles the Second granted them a new charter, by which they are now governed by a mayor, seven aldermen, a recorder, and thirty-six common-councilmen: the mayor returns the members chosen to represent the town in parliament, who are elected by the freemen, amounting to about five hundred. The corporation has particular and extensive privileges, it having both a court of record and an admiralty: in the court of record, civil causes are tried for unlimited sums; and in the court of admiralty, they can, in some cases, try, condemn and execute, without waiting for a warrant. The mayor and aldermen are conservators of the river Ouse in this county, and of the Humber, the Derwent, the Wherfe, the Air, and the Dun in Yorkshire. By an ancient custom, Yarmouth still appoints certain bailiffs as commissaries, who, in conjunction with the magistrates of the town, hold a court during a fair held here on the Friday and Saturday in Easter-week, for petty chapmen, called the Herring-fair.

fair, to determine all controversies, execute justice, and keep the peace. By a charter granted by king Henry the Third, the town is bound to send every year to the sheriffs of Norwich, a hundred herrings, baked in twenty-four pasties, which the sheriffs are to deliver to the lord of the manor of East Carleton, a village near New-Buckenham : he gives the sheriffs his receipts for them, and by his tenure, is obliged to present them to the king, wherever he is.

END of the SIXTH VOLUME.



