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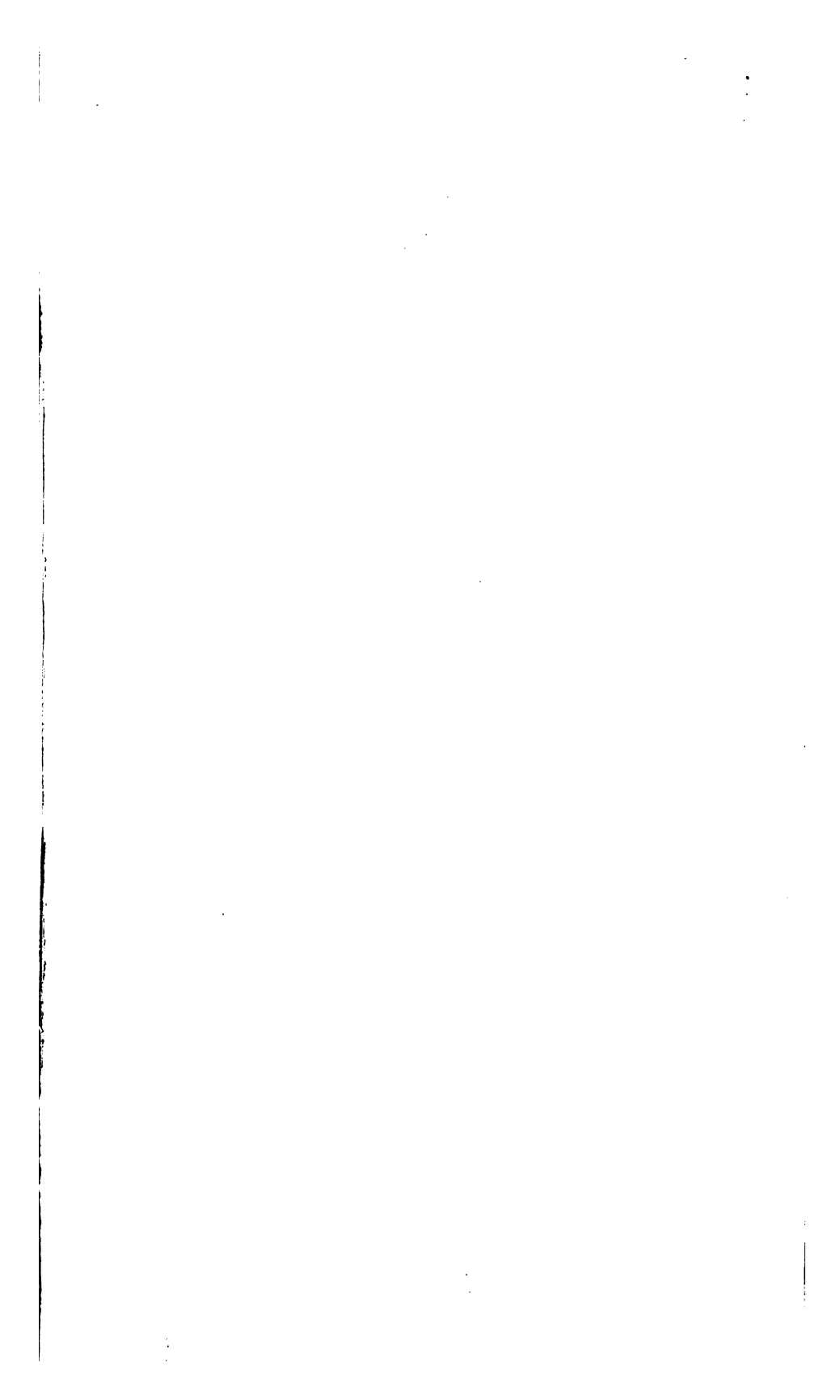


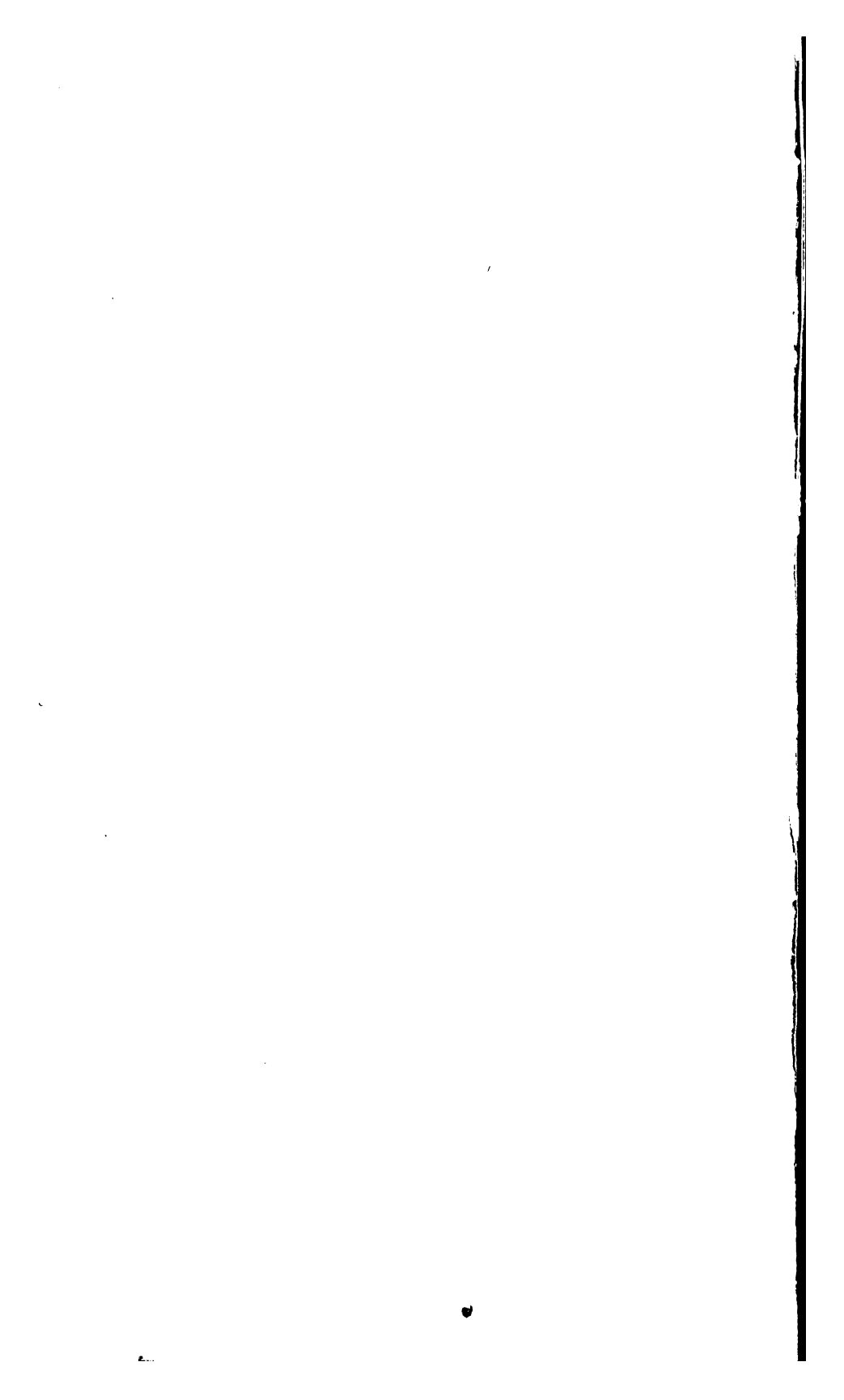
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Arthur









**IRELAND**  
**EXHIBITED TO ENGLAND,**  
IN A POLITICAL AND MORAL  
**SURVEY OF HER POPULATION,**  
AND IN A STATISTICAL AND SCENOGRAPHIC  
**TOUR OF CERTAIN DISTRICTS;**

COMPREHENDING  
SPECIMENS OF HER COLONISATION, NATURAL HISTORY AND  
ANTIQUITIES, ARTS, SCIENCES, AND COMMERCE, CUSTOMS,  
CHARACTER, AND MANNERS, SEATS, SCENES AND  
SEA VIEWS.

*Violent Inequalities in her Political and Social System,*

THE  
TRUE SOURCE OF HER DISORDERS.

PLAN FOR SOFTENING DOWN THOSE INEQUALITIES, AND FOR UNITING ALL  
CLASSES OF THE PEOPLE IN ONE CIVIL ASSOCIATION FOR THE  
IMPROVEMENT OF THEIR COUNTRY.

WITH A  
LETTER TO THE MEMBERS OF HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT  
ON THE  
**STATE OF IRELAND.**

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By A. ATKINSON, Esq.

LATE OF DUBLIN.

Concordiâ res parvæ crescunt—discordiâ maximæ dilabuntur.—SALLUST.

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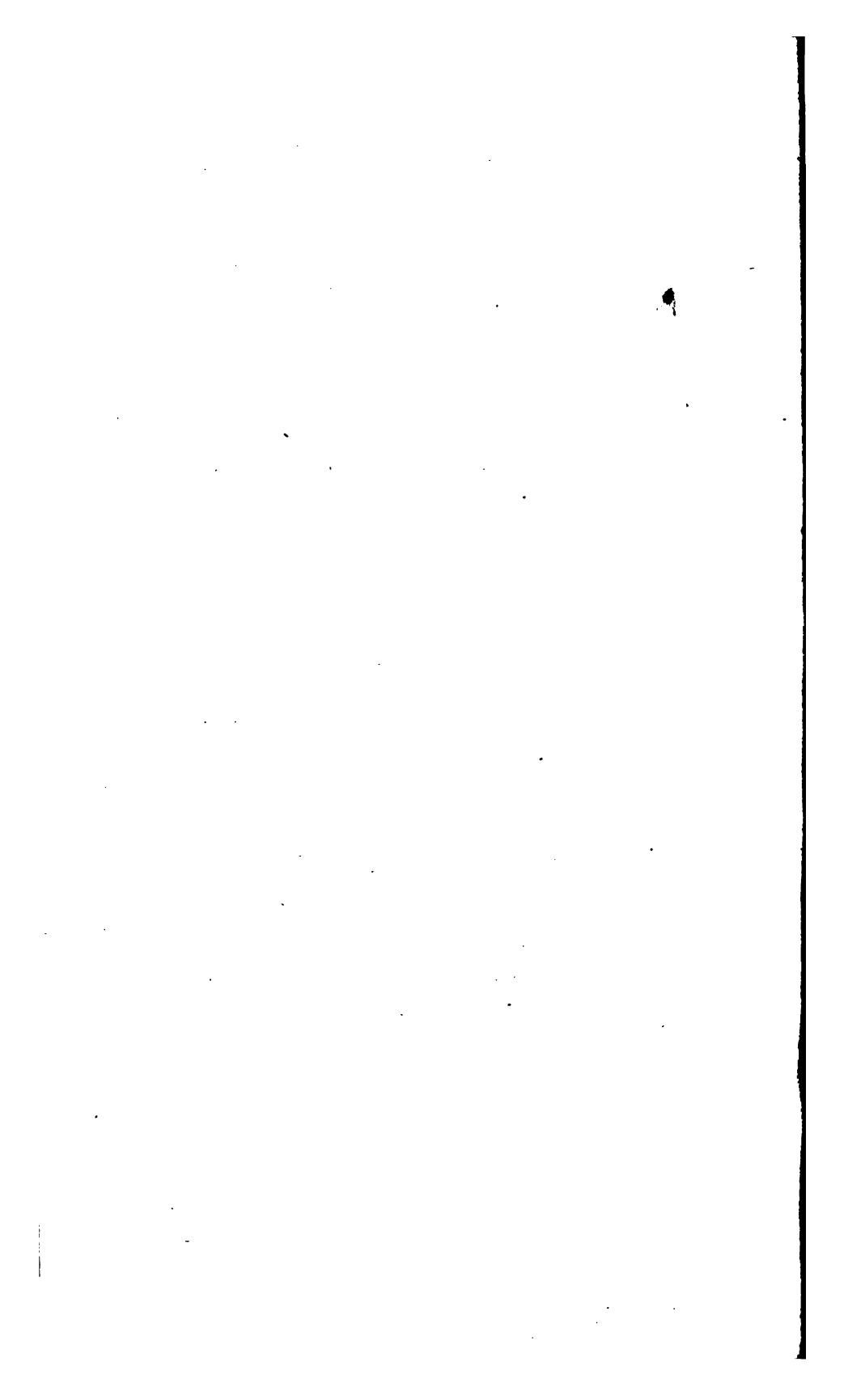
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## CHAPTER V.

*Situation, boundaries, extent, and civil divisions of the county of Antrim.—Description of the town of Lisburn.—Battle fought there in 1641.—Brief account of Doctor Jeremiah Taylor.—Seats in the vicinity of Lisburn described.—Village of Lambeg.—Description of the Hertford estate.—Specimen of seats on that beautiful section of the great northern road, which opens a communication between Lisburn and Belfast.*

**T**HE county of Antrim is a maritime county, which presents a considerable line of coast to the northern ocean and to the Irish channel.—By the former it is bounded to the north, and by the latter to the east.—The lough, or bay of Belfast, and the river Lagan, form its limits to the southeast, dividing it from the county of Down, as far to the south as Spencer's bridge.—To the southwest it has the same county, which, running to a point, meets Lough Neagh at Shanport.—To the west it has the winding shores of Lough Neagh and

Lough Beg, until it meets the river Bann, issuing from the latter; from thence this river (taking a northerly course, inclining to the west) separates Antrim from Londonderry, and, with the liberties of Coleraine, completes its circuit.

*Extent.*

The county of Antrim lies between  $54^{\circ} 26'$  and  $55^{\circ} 12' 16''$  north latitude: its greatest length is from Bengore head north, to Spencer's bridge south, and is, according to Mr. Lendrick's map,  $41\frac{1}{2}$  Irish miles. Its greatest breadth, from the Gobbins, east, to Island Reagh Toome, west, is about 24 miles.—The superficial contents, from the same authority, are 420,999 Irish acres.

*Civil divisions.*

This county contains eight baronies: their contents, in Irish acres, are as follow:—

	Irish acres.
Barony of Dunluce - - -	56,320
Carey - - - -	45,360
Kilconway - - -	38,569
Glenarm - - - -	50,240
Toome - - - -	48,160
Antrim - - - -	67,520
Belfast - - - -	65,920
Masserene - - -	48,910
Total - -	420,999

According to these divisions, all taxes upon the county at large are apportioned.

In the ancient divisions of Ireland, that part of the county of Antrim towards the south and south-west, was denominated Dalaradia; the western and north-western parts were named Dalrieda; and the name of the whole is said to have been Andrium, or Endruim; that is, "The habitation upon the waters."—From that word, without much etymological violence, the name of Antrim might have been derived.

The minor civil divisions are, half baronies, constablewicks, and townlands.—This last division must have been of a very early date; for the names are nearly all Irish, and expressive of the qualities of the land, or descriptive of some circumstance that relates to them.—Many of the names still remain, and give a kind of vague denomination to parts of the country; but they have no exact definition as to any county regulations.—Plough-lands were instituted in the reign of Philip and Mary: according to them, certain taxes were paid.—They were rated at 100 acres; but this division has no longer an existence in our civil records.

*Tour and survey of the county of Antrim.*

From Hillsborough (by the great coast-road still) we pursued our course to Belfast, the principal commercial town of Ulster, (and as eminent for beauty as for commerce) through Lisburn, (a town that possesses many attractions for the stranger) and which we beg to have the honour of introducing to his notice, as a place where he

will spend a few days with great pleasure, in his progress from Dublin to Belfast.

*Lisburn (on the Marquis of Hertford's estate).*

This town is situated in the barony of Massarene, on the river Lagan, (which separates it from the county of Down) and is probably the handsomest inland town in Ulster.—It exceeds Antrim, the shire-town of this county, in its trade; it contains an immensely larger population, a people more wealthy, and, in the beauty of its aspect, there is no competition between them.—Lisburn returns one member to parliament, since the legislative union.—It is a market, fair, and post-town; is very considerable in the fine lawn and linen trade, and has been long distinguished as the seat of one of the most eminent diaper and damask manufactories in the world.—Goods are here finished for several of the crowned heads and most eminent men of Europe, with all those devices drawn in the loom, which are emblematic of their rank and achievements.—This is a new kind of type for the celebration of events; and the manufacturers, being also printers and publishers of these works, give additional celebrity to their name.—Indeed, as printers and publishers in damask folio, the Messrs. Coulson rank among the first artists in the world; but, to their customers, we presume, must be attributed the merit of the composition of those histories, which they publish in such *neat editions*.

But Lisburn is not dependent, for its celebrity,

upon mere works of art: it is distinguished as having been for some time the *theatre* of a genius that has since raised its beam in all the refulgence of *wild Irish talent* upon the republic of letters.—Conformable to the usual intelligence of country towns, and that sickening pride by which their paltry distinctions are maintained, this star of the emerald isle is said to have been unnoticed and unknown at Lisburn, (from whence we infer, that our brother drapers of that town, in their devotion to the loom, have forgotten the science of astrology.)—To use the expression of a facetious inhabitant of Lisburn, (who spoke without a *figure*, concerning the visit of this fair genius to Ulster, and her opinion of its inhabitants)—“She came a stranger amongst us,” said the wit, “and we thought to have parted with her as such, but she would not let us.”—It seems not, since she used the privilege of an old acquaintance, to tell you her opinion of your character.—“The people of the north,” said this talented lady (as the story proceeded), “by the country of their residence are Irish; by their religion, and the country of their forefathers, they are Scotch; but, by their character and actions, they are neither one nor the other.—They are destitute of the generous hospitality of the *native* Irish, and appear to be wholly swallowed up in the vortex of their trade.—They are destitute of the literary taste and acquirements of the Scotch nation, having that kind of information only which can be rendered useful in the pursuit of gain.”—Such, we have heard, was the opinion of this lady, whose tour

in the north of Ireland, was not attended with all that *éclat*, with which FORTUNE, in a fit of JUSTICE, has since thought proper to crown her talents—talents (in defiance of the English reviews) that are now acknowledged to confer a distinguished honour upon the country which produced them.—A tour in *humble* life would, however, so far as country towns are concerned, have been attended with similar marks of distinction in any other nation, (for mankind have not yet learned to place *naked* merit in its true *niche*)—Could the lady in question have exchanged her *talents* for a title and a suite in livery, *her personal attendants in a more fortunate tour through the republic of letters*, it is probable her reception (even in enlightened Lisburn) would have been more *flattering*; but, as the world is now constituted, those days of patriarchal simplicity, when man was regarded for his own sake; or those of Roman or Spartan virtue, when talent and the love of country were the only passports to distinction, are not likely soon to return—no, not even in this brave and generous land!

We understand that much attention has been paid, by the ladies of this town, to the interests of education, but chiefly by those of the Hancock family, whose unremitting attention to this important instrument of civilisation, and we have no doubt, to other public charities, is deserving the imitation of their country.—We wish the Irish ladies, *generally*, would take up a peasantry improvement society, embracing within its circle *all the wants* of their parish.—We fear, without them, it will never become *fashionable*; and we

are sure that, separate from them, its duties will never be faithfully and universally performed.

Being desirous to render this work an accurate portrait of the country, and consequently, in our history of each district, to preserve a record of its public men, it becomes our duty to notice the name of John Hancock, a native of this town, who has long distinguished himself as one of its active and useful citizens, and who, some years since, addressed himself to the Irish public, in a course of essays, explanatory of his views of religious and moral truth.

*Vitriol Island, Lisburn.*

This is a small patch of ground, comprehending nearly three acres, in the immediate vicinity of the town, on which an extensive vitriol manufactory has been erected by Messrs. Conyngham and Gregg, and which was the property of Dr. Crawford, when we visited that place in 1817.—It furnishes employment to about twenty hands; and notwithstanding the depression under which most branches of trade then laboured, this establishment was advancing in the quantity of its manufacture; a pretty conclusive argument of the satisfaction derived by the bleachers of this district from the quality of its *acid*.

Lisburn stands on a position considerably elevated above the Dublin road, from which you ascend to it by a most steep and fatiguing hill.—The country around it is highly improved; but, in the direction of Belfast, it is one continued chain of plantation beauty.—We think it is

scarcely possible to bring any country to a state of higher perfection than this district of Antrim. A minute description of all the works of art and nature, which combine to produce this perfection, would be incompatible with the limits of a sheet; but, when the reader presents to his imagination a magnificent landscape; bounded in front by the Belfast mountains, watered by the river Lagan, besprinkled with beautiful villas, bleach-yards upon the mountain side, glistening in the dancing ray; cottages, white as snow, with cropped hedges, inclosing gardens bending under the weight of their productions; vallies teeming with the gifts of Ceres, and all in full view of the traveller, over a charming road, which passes through demesnes and villas of incomparable beauty; forming one continued chain of rich plantation from Lisburn to Belfast, he will have formed some idea of the country, to whose natural and artificial history we are now introducing him.

The road we have just noticed is the last and most beautiful section of the grand coast road, to which we alluded in our survey of Downshire, as opening a communication between the ports of Dublin and Belfast, and on which Lisburn stands, 73 miles north of Dublin, and seven south of Belfast.

This town, which for size and population is now the second town in the county of Antrim, was, in the reign of Elizabeth, only a small village, and, at that time, called Lisnegarvey. The original proprietor of the territory of Kilultagh,



in which it stands, was an O'Neil of the Tyrone family.—In the reign of James I. Sir Fulk Conway obtained a grant of it.—He induced a number of English and Welsh families to settle there. From a plan of the town taken, it is thought, some time in that reign, and preserved in the Marquis of Hertford's office, it appears, that there were then 53 tenements in the place, besides the castle. From this plan it is evident, that the centre of the town (all that was then in existence) has undergone but little alteration in shape, except what has been occasioned by the buildings near the market-house; nor, for many years after, does it seem to have made any great progress; for, in 1635, it is thus described by an English traveller:—“Linsley Garvin, about seven miles from Belfast, is well seated, but neither the town, nor country thereabouts, were planted (inhabited), being almost all woods and moorish, until you come to Dromore.—The town belongs to Lord Conway, who hath a good handsome house there.”

Lisburn is remarkable for a victory gained over the Irish rebels, commanded by Sir Phelim O'Neil, Sir Con Magenis, and General Plunket, on the 28th of November, 1641, a little more than a month after the breaking out of the rebellion; Sir George Rawdon, who commanded the King's forces, having arrived at Lisburn on the evening before the battle.\*

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\* A detailed account of this engagement, extracted from the vestry-book by Mr. Dubourdieu, and published in his “Survey,” will be found at the close of this description.

In 1662, the inhabitants of the town of Lisburn, on account of their loyalty to Charles the First and Second, were, (by the same patent which erected the church of Lisburn into a cathedral for the united dioceses of Down and Connor, dated October 27th of that year,) empowered to return two burgesses to parliament for ever; the sheriff of the county of Antrim, upon all summonses to elect a parliament, was obliged to send his precept to the seneschal of the manor of Kilultagh, who was made the returning officer, notwithstanding the inhabitants were not a corporate body.\*

In 1707, this town was burned to the ground.—The castle, a fine building, shared the same fate as the other houses, and was never rebuilt.—Part of the garden walls are still remaining, and the great terrace affords a most agreeable promenade, being well sheltered from the north by young plantations, and kept in the best order.

But that which more particularly contributed to the rise of the town of Lisburn, was the settlement of many French refugees there (after the repeal of the edict of Nantz) who had been bred to the linen manufacture.† Mr. Lewis Cromelin obtained a patent in 1699, which was afterwards renewed in the reign of Queen Anne, for establishing a manufacture of linen; and also, among other grants, one for £60 per annum for a French

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\* Harris's Manuscripts, Dublin Society.

† It is curious that the names of only three of these refugees are now in existence; viz. De Lecherois, Cromelin, and Gayer.

minister. In consequence of this he settled in Lisburn, and many of his countrymen also.—The virtuous conduct and civilized manners of these good people, were of great advantage to this place; and their skill and industry set an example to those who were concerned in the same business, which soon had the effect of raising the quality of their manufacture to a degree of excellence unknown till then; and the linens and cambrics made in this neighbourhood, and sold in Lisburn market, have, until this day, kept up their superior character.

Between 30 and 40 years ago, many new houses were built in Lisburn, and some have been built since, but at present it seems stationary in that particular; and though its vicinity to Belfast, and its circumstances as an inland town, render it unsuitable for a great foreign trade, yet there is a vast deal of business done in it in various ways.—On market days it is much frequented, from the quantity of linen and other things brought to it, and it is well known as the first place to meet with oats of the best quality for seed; there is also a cattle market every Tuesday, besides its two fairs. A few years ago a fine spire of cut stone was added to the church; and lately, a steeple and cupola to the market-house, the rooms of which the Marquis of Hertford fitted up anew, with some additions, as the place of assembly for the town. The houses of worship are, a spacious church, a Presbyterian meeting-house, a Quaker meeting-house, a handsome Catholic chapel, and

a Methodist chapel.—To the north of the town, there is a school for children of the Society of Friends or Quakers, built, we believe, and endowed with certain lands, by the late John Hancock; and about the year 1810, a fine school was established on the Lancasterian plan, of which two young gentlemen of the town, Messrs. Cupples and Crossley, undertook the management; and the latter (who died of a consumption in a few years after) is said to have fallen a victim to close confinement, and to an intense application of his faculties to the improvement of this infant establishment.

Another very laudable institution is, the Humane Society, for the restoration of suspended animation, in persons who have either been immersed in water, (as frequent accidents in this way occur from the nearness of the river and canal) or from any other cause.

The county infirmary contains twenty beds, and gives relief to a number of externs. It is situated in an airy part of the town, where the duties of the surgeon were skilfully and conscientiously discharged, some years since, by Dr. Stewart.—Each governor can recommend 40 externs per year, and as many for advice as they think fit.—They also recommend for interns whenever there is a vacancy.

Lisburn contains about 800 houses, and perhaps, at a moderate computation, a population of 6,000 souls.

*Ancient record of the Battle of Lisburn.*

“ Lisnegarvey, the 28th of November, 1641.

“ A brief relation of the miraculous victory gained there that day over the first formed army of the Irish, soon after their rebellion, which broke out the 23rd of October, 1641.

“ Sir Phelemy O’Neil, Sir Connor Maginnis, their general then in Ulster, and major-general Plunket (who had been a soldier in foreign kingdoms) having enlisted and drawn together out of the counties of Armagh, Tyrone, Antrim and Down, and other counties in Ulster, eight or nine thousand men, which were formed into eight regiments, and a troop of horse, with two field-pieces; they did rendezvous on the 27th of November, at and about a house belonging to Sir John Rawdon, at Brook-hill, three miles distant from Lisnegarvey, in which they knew there was a garrison of five companies, newly raised, and the Lord Conway’s troop of horse. And their principal design being to march unto and besiege Carrickfergus, they judged it unsafe to pass by Lisnegarvey, and therefore resolved to attack it next morning, making little account of the opposition that could be given them by so small a number, not half armed, and so slenderly provided of ammunition, (which they had perfect intelligence of by several Irish that left our party and stole away to them) for that they were so numerous, and well provided of ammunition by the 50 barrels of powder they found in his Majesty’s store, in the

castle of Newry, which they surprised the very first night of the rebellion; also, they had got into their hands the arms of all the soldiers they had murdered in Ulster, and such other arms as they found in the castles and houses, which they had plundered and burnt in the whole province. Yet it so pleased God to disappoint their confidence; and the small garrison they so much slighted, was much encouraged by the seasonable arrival of Sir George Rawdon, who being in London on the 23rd of October, hastened over by the way of Scotland, and, being landed at Bangor, got to Lisnegarvey, though late, on the 27th of November, where those new raised men, and the Lord Conway's troop, were drawn up in the market place, expecting hourly to be assaulted by the rebels, and they stood in that posture all the night; and before sunrise, sent out some horse to discover their numerous enemy, who were at mass, (it being Sunday) but immediately upon sight of our scouts, they quitted their devotion, and beat drums, and marched directly to Lisnegarvey, and before ten of the clock appeared drawn up in batallia, in the warren, not above a musket-shot from the town, and sent out two divisions, of about six or seven hundred a piece, to compass the town, and plant their field-pieces on the high way to it, before their body, and with them and their long fowling-pieces killed and wounded some of our men, as they stood in their ranks in the market place; and some of our musketeers were placed in endeavouring to make the like returns

of shot to the enemy.—And Sir Arthur Yerringham, (governor of Newry) who commanded the garrison, and Sir George Rawdon, and the officers, foreseeing if their two divisions on both sides of the town should fall in together, that they would overpower our small number.—For prevention thereof, a squadron of horse with some musketeers, was commanded to face one of them, that was marching on the north side, and to keep them at a distance as long as they could; which was so well performed, that the other division, which marched by the river on the south side, came in before the other, time enough to be well beaten back by the horse, and more than two hundred slain of them in Bridge-street, and in their retreat as they fled back to the main body.

After which expedition, the horse returning to the market place, found the enemy had forced in our small party on the north side, and had entered the town, and was marching down Castle-street, which our horse so charged there, that at least 300 were slain of the rebels in the street, and in the meadows behind the houses, through which they did run away to their main body; whereby they were so much discouraged, that almost in two hours after, their officers could not get any more parties to adventure upon us; but in the main space they entertained us with continued shot from their main body and their field-pieces, till about one of the clock that fresh parties were issued out and beaten back as before, with the loss of many of their men, which they supplied

with others till night; and in the dark they fired all the town, which was in a few hours turned into ashes; and in that confusion and heat of the fire, the enemy made a fierce assault. But it so pleased God, that we were better provided for them than they expected, by a relief that came to us at night-fall from Belfast, of the Earl of Donegall's troop, and a company of foot commanded by Captain Boyd, who was unhappily slain presently after his first entrance into the town. And, after the houses were on fire, about six of the clock till about ten or eleven, it is not easy to give any certain account or relation of the several encounters in divers places in the town, between small parties of our horse and those of the enemy, whom they charged as they advanced, and hewed them down, so that every corner was filled with carcasses, and the slain were found to be more than thrice the number of those that fought against them, as appeared next day when the constables and inhabitants, employed to bury them, gave up their accounts. About ten or eleven o'clock their two generals quitted their stations and marched away in the dark, and had not above 200 of their men with them, as we were informed next morning, by several English prisoners that escaped from them, who told us that the rest of their men had either run away before them or were slain; and that their field-pieces were thrown into the river, or into some moss-pit, which we never could find after; and in this their retreat, or rather flight, they fired Brook-hill house, and



the Lord Conway's library in it, and other goods, to the value of five or six thousand pounds, their fear and haste not at all allowing them to carry any thing away, except some plate and some linen; and this they did in revenge to the owner, whom they heard was landed the day before, and had been active in the service against them, and was shot that day, and also had his horse shot under him but mounted presently upon another; and Captain St. John and Captain Burley were also wounded, and about thirty men more of our party, most of whom recovered, and not above twenty-five or twenty-six were slain. And if it be well considered, how meanly our men were armed, and all our ammunition spent before night, and that if we had not been supplied with men, by the timely care and providence of the Earl of Donegal and other commanders, from his Majesty's store of Carrickfergus, (who sent us powder, post, in mails on horseback, one after another) and that most of our new-raised companies, were of poor stript men that had made their escape from the rebels, of whom they had such a dread, that they thought them not easily to be beaten, and that all our horse, (that did the most execution) were not above 120, viz. the Lord Conway's troop, and a squadron of the Lord Grandison's troop, (the rest of them having been murdered in their quarters in Tanragee) and about 40 of a country troop, and a company from Belfast that came to us at night. It must be confessed that the Lord of Hosts did signally appear for us, who can save

with or without any means, and did by very small means give us the victory over his and our enemies, and enough of their arms to supply the defects of our new companies, and about 50 of their colours and drums. But it is to be remembered with regret, that this loss and overthrow did so enrage the rebels, that for several days and weeks after, they murdered many hundreds of the Protestants whom they had kept prisoners in the counties of Armagh and Tyrone, and other parts of Ulster, and tormented them by several manners of death. And it is a circumstance very observable, that much snow had fallen in the week before this action, and on the day before it was a little thaw, and a frost thereupon it, in the night, so that the streets were covered with ice, which proved greatly to our advantage; for that all the smiths had been employed that whole night to frost our horses, so that they stood firm, while the brogues slipt and fell down to our feet. For which, and our miraculous deliverance from a cruel and bloody army, how great cause have we to rejoice, and praise the name of our God, and say with that kingly prophet, "if it had not been the Lord himself who was on our side, when men rose up against us, they had swallowed us up quick, when they were so wrathfully displeased at us. Yea, the waters of the deep had drowned us, and the stream had gone over our soul; but praised be the Lord, who has not given us over a prey unto their teeth, our soul is escaped, even as a bird out of the snare of the

fowler, the snare is broken and we are safe. Our hope standeth in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth,"—Amen!

*Eminent Men.*

Among the eminent men of which this section of the county makes its boast, we must not omit to mention the name of Dr. Jeremiah Taylor, who by his religious writings and attachment to the cause of royalty, has transmitted to posterity a name of high eminence on the page of history.—He was chaplain to Charles I.; and in 1660, in recompence of his attachment to the house of Stuart, or to the cause of monarchy, we know not which, he was promoted to the sees of Down and Connor, to which was annexed the administration of the bishopric of Dromore.—Previous to this he had been honoured with a seat in the privy-council of Ireland, and the university of Dublin conferred on him the office of their vice-chancellor. This good bishop did not long enjoy his elevation: he died in August 1667, at Lisnegarvey (now Lisburn).

This prelate is said to have written some of his deepest works in a sort of summer-house, in a small island in Lough-beg (the property, we presume, of Lord Conway).—A situation like this, in the centre of a fine land and water scene, secured almost from the possibility of interruption, and where nature herself was pregnant with tranquillity, was very much in unison with the meditations of this good bishop, when composing

those spiritual works, which have given celebrity to his name on the page of history.

In the parish of Ballinderry, where this island is situated, it is said that his name is held in veneration to this day.\*

The principal work which he finished at Portmore was the *Ductor Dubitantium*, or Rule of Conscience, as it is dated from thence.

His *Holy Living and Dying* was written during his retirement in Caermarthenshire, in the time of the Protectorate.—He left that situation, where he had experienced great domestic misfortunes, (a circumstance well calculated to improve his own character, and to give his virtuous mind a deeper relish for the spiritual subjects on which he wrote,) and went to reside in London, where he officiated to a congregation of loyalists.—At this time he formed an acquaintance with Edward, lord Conway, who appears to have been so much pleased with his manners and conversation, that he solicited him to accompany him to his seat at Portmore, in the county of Antrim, where he continued until the Restoration.

We have been anxious to collect the names of other inhabitants of this county, who have distinguished themselves in the state, or in the world of letters, and have so far succeeded, as to be able to present the public with the names of a few of the greatest men of this and the last age; nor

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\* Lough-beg is in the neighbourhood of Lough Neagh, it was called by some Portmore-lough, its description will be found in a subsequent part of this work.

have we been inattentive to the services which some individuals in private life have rendered to their country, by the exercise of superior virtue.

*Seats.*

Of the various seats which grace the Hertford property, the following are deserving specimens.

*Springfield.*

Among the numerous fine features by which the Hertford property is distinguished, that of Springfield, the seat of Major Haughton, particularly attracted our attention, as a model of English neatness and beauty. — The vermilion roof of Springfield-lodge, being happily combined with the snowy whiteness of its walls, and with the verdure of its lawns and plantations; to the traveller near Hillsborough, this unusual combination of colours renders it very distinguishable from the other seats on the Hertford property.

It comprehends 80 English acres of soil, in good heart, including a very handsome and spacious lawn in front of the house, which, with the lodge and plantations that inclose it, are the most attractive features of this seat.

Springfield is situated on a plain, and consequently does not command a very extensive prospect of the neighbouring country; but, the limited tract which it does command, being richly improved, and the Mourne mountains presenting a grand outline to the southern view, in some measure remunerate the eye and imagination for the

absence of that fine tract of country, on which they had previously feasted at Brookhill, a seat beautifully elevated above Springfield, which shall be next noticed in these memoirs.

Springfield stands on a road which opens a communication between Lisburn and Lough Neagh, 74 miles north of Dublin, and three and a half north-west of Lisburn, which is the post town to it.

### *Brookhill.*

This finely elevated position, for the enjoyment of a rich and extensive scene, may be considered as the pride of the Hertford villas.—It comprehends a neat whitewashed lodge, and about 300 English acres of an highly improved farm, of which, that part in the immediate vicinity of the house, has been richly wooded, by the grandfather of the present proprietor, to whose family this residence (so truly in the English style) is indebted for its best improvements.—But the woods, however valuable and graceful to this property, have not presumed to place themselves in competition with the beauties of the distant prospect.—Over their waving foliage, is distinctly seen, the wide landscape, spreading its dew-bespangled carpet up to the very summit of the Mourne mountains. Not a gem nor a dew-drop—no, nor even the slightest tint of verdure in Nature's pencil escapes the eye. Satiated with the enjoyment of a scene so widely extended, and teeming with the rich simplicity of nature, the wandering instrument of vision rests its powers on the modest wood beneath, in silent

admiration of that conscious dignity, that proudly turned on its own axis; and needed not, by an envious interposition of its shade, to rob the lowly violet in the valley of its legitimate claim to praise, in the grand festive scene that nature has here provided for the eye, that pants for the enjoyment of her simple treasures.

Besides the Mourne mountain scene, which we have just noticed, as tinged with the deepest verdure of nature, and as eminently pregnant with the gems and dew-drops of her art, this grandly elevated seat also presents you with an incomparable view, in the opposite direction, over the crystal bosom of Lough Neagh to the Derry and Tyrone mountains, which form the magnificent boundaries of a plain sparkling with beautiful villas, and with farm-houses and cottages, that evidence the advancement of civilisation, and the existence of a happy and prosperous population.

Brookhill (and several other parts of Lord Hertford's estate) is reported to be a sound limestone soil; a class, always constituting a good sheep-walk and corn-soil; and, in this property, equal in the quantity as well as quality of its produce to most soils in Ulster.—The lands, however, of this province, are usually light; and, in the production of beef, wheat, and potatoes, those great articles of the human stamina, cannot be placed in competition with the marrowy feeding soils of Limerick, Tipperary, and Meath.

Brookhill stands on the road adverted to in our description of Springfield; as opening a commu-

nication between Lisburn and Lough Neagh, 74 miles north of Dublin, and four miles from Lisburn, which is the post-town to it.

*Red-hill.*

This villa, the residence of Mr. Robert Garratt, is another of those valuable improvements, which give to the Hertford estate so distinguished and respectable a position on the map of Antrim.—It comprises a neat dwelling-house, and about 60 acres of an improved farm, commanding a pleasing prospect to the towns of Hillsborough, Lisburn, and Moira, to Eglantine, the seat of Hugh Moore, Esq. and to the lofty mountains of Sleibgh-crube and Sleibgh-donard, in the county of Down, which bound the landscape in front of this concern.—In this capacious landscape, the neat cottage and plantations of Mrs. Young (in the plain beneath Red-hill) present themselves to the eye of the benevolent stranger, as no mean specimen of the system of improvement which pervades this estate, in common with the surrounding country; and by which the province of Ulster is raised high in the scale of civilized and social life, above the general level of the other provinces.

Red-hill stands on the road last noticed, 72 miles north of Dublin, and two from Lisburn, which is the post-town to it.

*Carleton-house.*

This seat of Mr. Cornelius Carlton is also a feature of improvement on the Hertford estate.—



It comprehends a good new-built house, and 140 acres of a light sandy soil, of which 30 acres are very profitably occupied under a warren or rabbit-borough.—The soil, though light and sandy, as we have noticed, in wet seasons will produce tolerably good crops of potatoes, oats, and rye.

This farm stands on a road which opens a communication with the road from Lisburn to the maze (a celebrated race-course) 73 miles north of Dublin, and three miles from Lisburn, which is the post-town to it.

#### *Brook-Mount.*

This also stands on Lord Hertford's estate.—It comprises a neat mansion-house, in the villa style, and 173 English acres of demesne, enriched with eleven acres of wood, and some young plantations of an ornamental character.—The upper soil, which stands on a substratum of limestone gravel, though light, produces wheat of good quality, and tolerable crops of every other species of grain.—In point of prospect, Moira wood and the parish-church of Aghalee, are the best objects in its view.—This seat stands on a county road, which opens a communication between Lurgan in the county of Armagh, and Lisburn in that of Antrim, 70 miles north of Dublin, 14 south of Belfast, and two miles from Moira, which is the post-town to it.—Whether the Hertford estate is indebted for this improvement to the present resident, Mr. Gorman, or to his

predecessors, our information does not enable us to decide; but, as improvement is a gradual work, each party has, in all probability, contributed his quota of assistance to its present aspect.

### *Lambeg.*

Lambeg is the name of a small, but interesting village on the Hertford estate, situated, between Lisburn and Belfast, on the great northern road.—It has been distinguished by a woollen-manufactory, whose history we have given in a subsequent part of this work (under the head, “Trade of the county”) and a handsome seat and bleach-yard in its immediate vicinity, founded, we believe, by a branch of the Hancock family.—This village is also the seat of a cotton factory, the property of Mr. Robert Gemmill, a native of Scotland, in which the raw cotton is spun and manufactured into muslin and calico, and afterwards bleached and finished for the public market; so that the whole process of the cotton-trade is carried on here in high perfection.—Several thousand pounds have been expended by Mr. Gemmill, on this property, on a very short, but we shall not say *uncertain*, tenure, since the confidence reposed by Lord Hertford’s tenantry, in the justice and honour of his family, has so far been fully justified by his lordship’s conduct.—Lambeg cotton factory and farm is situated on the banks of the river Logan, in a section of the country emphatically distinguished for its pre-eminence of beauty

and improvement.—Five hundred of the labouring population are said to derive employment and support from this establishment, the products of which, composed of brown and white muslins and calicoes, are occasionally shipped for the markets of America and the West Indies, but are chiefly disposed of in the home market. Water-twist, (the strongest class of spun cotton) the produce of this house, has also been disposed of by one of its agents in Glasgow, for the Russian market, where, we learn, that large quantities of English spun cotton are regularly consumed.

Lambeg is situated two miles N. of Lisburn, which is the post town to it, five S. of Belfast, 75 N. of Dublin.

#### *Plantation.*

This is the seat of a thread manufactory, established by Mr. Barber, a native of Scotland, who has the merit of founding this branch of trade, on the Hertford estate, where he continues to conduct it with success. Hitherto, to the great discredit of our country, Ireland has been a depot for Scotch thread; but, if Mr. Barber's example shall be followed up with spirit, in the north of Ireland, we shall not be long dependent on a foreign market for a supply of this useful article. Here, about 200,000 hanks of native yarn are spun, annually, into threads of all classes; in the manufacturing and bleaching of which, 122 of the population of this neighbourhood find daily employment.

Whether, therefore, we regard this factory, in its relation to the trade of Ireland, or as an establishment conducing to the improvement and prosperity of the Hertford property (through which we are now passing) in either of these relations it has a just claim to public notice; and should our brief exhibition of its history, remind other great landed proprietors, of the interest which they have in encouraging useful manufactures on their estates, and diminishing the dependence of their country on foreign markets, we shall not lament the insignificance of the auxiliary instrument, by which so useful an object is kept afloat in the public mind.

The demesne of Plantation, including the bleach yard, which is its most useful and picturesque feature, comprehends 78 English acres of a light gravel soil, situated on a country road, which communicates between the villages of Ballynahinch and Saintfield, at the distance of one mile from Lisburn, which is its post town, and 74 miles N. of Dublin.

Having now given our readers some valuable specimens of improvement on the Hertford property, we shall conclude our visit to this rural kingdom, with the following brief review.

#### *The Hertford Estate.*

This property (which includes the town of Lisburn in its dominion) is bounded on the west and south by the river Lagan, and by lands of the Belfast estate, in the opposite direction. It is

said to contain 75,000 English acres, and to be let for the short tenure of one life or 21 years. In this estimate are probably included 8 or 900 acres of bog, which the proprietor has reclaimed, at an expense of £2546, producing, in the first letting, an annual increase to the value of this property of between 3 and 400 pounds sterling, (upwards of 12 per cent. for the money expended) and was expected to advance considerably in value, 10 or 12 years since, when this improvement was completed. What a valuable work was this, taking it in every point of view. A large sum expended in the employment of the poor. A large tract of land reclaimed from a barren waste for their accommodation. The face of the country beautified; and the proprietor amply repaid for his improvement by the gratitude of his people, the increased value of his estate, and a liberal addition to his present income.

The Hertford estate with the exception of gentlemen's seats, is let in farms of various extents, say from 5 to 60 English acres, at an acreable rent of from 20 shillings to two guineas. The first of these prices (considering the highly improved district in which this property is situated, and its proximity to the best markets in Ulster) is low. The last, as produce now sells, would be considered a very high rent, by the mere farmer; but, as our information was collected several years since, when land and its produce rated high in this country, two guineas for an English acre of land in such a district, and with such a market

as Belfast for the sale of its produce, was then in a ratio with the value of its productions, and with the comfort and convenience of the occupier. At the prices which farming produce brought at that period, we are certain, not only that the farmer could pay his rent with ease, but, that on a well managed farm of 50 or 60 acres, he could lay something handsome by, as a provision for future contingencies. The scene, however, has since taken an awful shift, for the farmer's interest; but still, in a period when the agricultural interest is labouring under the pressure of a national calamity, we do not think that Lord Hertford's tenantry will be the worst off. This conclusion we think ourselves justified in drawing, from the premises with which the Hertford estate furnished us. There, Lord Hertford's name was mentioned with universal respect, as that of a good landlord:—there, the aspect of his lordship's rural territory, precluded the suspicion of oppression:—there contentment appeared to reign, and there both the plough and the loom flourished. We could not hear that Lord Hertford, when renewing a lease, had, *in any instance*, taxed his tenant's farm, with the value which it derived from his own industry, or that of his progenitor. If, therefore, our information of two guineas for an English acre of land has been correct, we may safely presume, that the native soil of that acre, abstracted from all the artificial improvements of the tenant, was, during the recent prices of produce, a good bargain at that rent; and, we con-

clude without information, that, in such a time of depression as the present, when agriculture and manufactures deeply languish, that reductions to those who are *exclusively dependent on the soil and on the loom*, will be made, in a manner quadrating with the circumstances of the times, on a property governed by those just and equitable principles, which appear to us to form, not *the accidental and occasional accompaniments*, but the essential principle and basis of the Hertford social code.

It is possible that some may object to this eulogy, on the principle, that a tenant presuming to assert his political independence, by an opposition to his landlord's parliamentary interest, would be made to feel the rectitude of that policy by which the Hertford property is governed, when he came to renew his lease. That Lord Hertford would not be likely to renew for such a tenant, we have no doubt, and, we have as little, that very few will try his lordship's temper in that way, (for we only heard of one solitary example) but as this objection is equally applicable to almost every landlord in the British empire; and, as that state of dependence which it censures, is inseparable from the present order of things, we do not feel that *social* policy of the Hertford estate, which we have noticed with approbation, in the least affected by this objection. Against that absentee system, however, which the Marquis of Hertford sanctions by his example, we do protest, as being of material injury to Ireland; although the truth of his

tory obliges us to confess, that, we have not seen the prosperity of any Irish estate, less affected by the absence of its proprietor, than in this instance. To Lord Hertford's official situation in the King's household, his perpetual absence from Ireland, may perhaps be attributed; but whatever may have been the cause, his character, as a landlord, stands unimpeached; and although we know his lordship only by report, and have seen no other portrait of his character, than that which sparkles in the living features of his estate; yet, in this we have seen enough to command our unpurchased admiration, and, in the same disinterested spirit in which we do it justice, we recommend it to the notice and imitation of those absentees, (or presentees, no matter which) that have the honour to govern an ignorant and starving population.

From the Hertford property we proceeded to Belfast, through that beautiful section of the Belfast estate, which is situated between Lisburn and this rising sea-port. Of this section, Willmont and Malone-house being striking features, we shall select them, as the first objects that commanded our particular notice and admiration, on entering this principality of the Donegal dominion.

#### *Willmont.*

This is the seat of John Stewart, Esq. and is a most prominent and graceful feature of the country, on that last grand section of the coast road



from Dublin to Belfast, which extends from Lisburn to this latter town.

This seat stands adequately in view, is richly embellished with plantations, and the river Lagan, which winds its serpentine silver flood on the south side of the demesne, reflects the beauty of its crystal wave upon the whole landscape. The utility of this river to the trade of Antrim, is equally deserving of attention: the most eminent bleach mills in the country are kept in motion by its rapid falls; and the patriot who traverses its banks, cannot but be charmed with those happy displays of scenographic beauty and commercial wealth, which characterise its progress through the landscapes of this fine district to its final junction with the sea.

Willmont presents the traveller on this road with a grand specimen of the wealth and population of the Belfast estate, of which Malone-house, the subject of our next description, is also a feature of distinguished beauty.

The demesne and other lands held by Mr. Stewart, on this property, comprehend, according to our information, 400 acres of a diversified character; some being a light sandy loam, and others a heavy argillaceous soil; all bearing the marks of a prosperous industry, and of due attention to the best modes of culture.

This seat stands about 76 miles N. of Dublin, on the road just noticed, four S. of Belfast, and from Lisburn, which is its post town, about four miles.

*Malone-house.*

Malone-house, in 1817, was the seat of William Legg, Esq., (a magistrate of Antrim, since deceased) and is also situated on the road just noticed, as the last and most beautiful section of the great coast road from Dublin to Belfast. It presents to the view of the traveller, in his progress to this latter town, an edifice of most respectable aspect, with an extensive lawn separated from the road by a low painted paling, over which the house, the lawn, and part of the plantations; which grace a demesne of 125 Irish acres, are regarded with great interest. These lands are part of a highly improved tract of about 600 acres, held by the Legg family on the Belfast estate, the property of the Marquis of Donegall; and to say that few properties in Ireland can boast of such a town and tenantry as this, is not saying more than will be borne out by the most accurate review of Irish estates, a development of whose social history would be of more service to Ireland, than all those histories of Bryan Boru and the O'Nials, with which its ancient historians have enriched the republic of letters.

The superior civilisation of this district to many others in Ireland, may be gleaned, not only from the obvious manners of the people, and its public monuments of taste and commerce, but also from incidents of a very minor character. The traveller will not see goats injuring the

growth of trees, by cropping the young plantations; nor pigs traversing the roads here, and rooting up potatoe fields and the best meadow lands; as in some other parts of Ireland. The comfortable circumstances of the peasantry, and the moral, more than the legal, policy of the country, preclude these abuses; for the poor of this district, deriving from their provincial manufacture, the means of feeding their own cattle, and of building suitable houses for their accommodation, are not compelled by that grinding poverty, which is the source of disorder in other provinces; thus to trespass upon their neighbour's properties. A noble spirit of independence, also characterises the province, and combines with other causes to prevent it.

On seeing the demesne of Mr. Legg, and expressing our surprise that it was so badly protected from the intrusion of pigs and goats, (which constitute, but particularly the former, the provincial stock of the peasantry of Ireland) he smiled, and assured us that the low paling which we saw, was a sufficient enclosure; that trees and plants had nothing to apprehend from the intrusion of these illegal visitors, and that every gentleman in his neighbourhood was perfectly secure. This part of the Ulster history, would, however, (with the exception of very powerful and well protected demesnes) be regarded as an anomaly in the history of the other provinces; but that perfection of domestic police, which pervades every part of this rich and populous

district of Ulster, gives it more the aspect of an English than of an Irish colony. Nor do we deem it a useless digression, to observe, that many inhabitants of the other provinces, and particularly those of country towns, cannot protect their lands from being shamefully mangled and defaced by the swine of their poorer neighbours, who not being enabled by their landlords, or by the aids of a peasantry improvement society, to erect suitable enclosures for those animals, are FORCED, by the poverty of their circumstances, to let them traverse the public roads and neighbouring lands, in pursuit of forage. To the English reader this may appear surprising; but he may rest assured, that pigs are not only seen traversing the roads in many parts of Ireland, but frequently tearing up meadows and potatoe fields; and after the depredations of the day, returning deliberately home to take possession of the warmest corner in their owner's cabin; an indulgence usually granted to them by the poor Irish peasant, who is frequently dependent upon the sale of this most useful member of his family, for the rent of that potatoe crop, upon which his wife and children are absolutely dependent for existence.

When we visited this seat, we understood that there were two schools on the lands of Malone-house, maintained by the proprietor at his own sole expense. Here 160 children received instruction, in reading, writing, and arithmetic; and the females, in those works that are suited to their sex and station.

Education, however, will never reach its proper destination in Ireland, until each parish is furnished with a suitable library, (comprehending, *in particular*, a good abridgement of church history) an object well worthy the attention of the government of the country.

Malone-house is situated about four miles south of Belfast, seventy-six north of Dublin, and from Lisburn, which is the post town to it, three miles north.

## CHAPTER VI.

*Belfast, the great maritime town of Ulster, introduced.—Soil and surface of the neighbouring country.—Political, moral, and commercial character of Belfast.—Humorous description of the hospitality of towns.—Rapid progress of Belfast in commerce and the useful arts.—Description of its infant college, literary societies, and benevolent institutions.—Names of the newspapers published in that town.—Religious intolerance exposed.—Natural history of the bay of Belfast.—Seats in its vicinity described.*

*Belfast.*

WE have at length conducted our readers, through a great variety of scenes, to this grand mart of the commerce of the north of Ireland, which is situated in the latitude of  $54^{\circ} 35' 43''$  north, and longitude  $5^{\circ} 58' 14''$ , west of London; and, whether we regard this town, in relation to its trade, its shipping, its public buildings and institutions, the magnificence of the bay, on whose shore it stands, or the symmetry and beauty of its streets, and its open and elegant communication with the inland country, we are equally compelled by all those features of its history, to acknowledge, that it approaches nearer to perfection than any other town in that province; and, in point of commer-

cial eminence, may justly be denominated "the Liverpool of Ulster."\*

### *Climate of Belfast.*

The air of this region is reputed colder and more moist than in the more southern districts. The difference of temperature in the atmosphere, even at the distance of a degree, is said to be sensible to every observer. The vicinity of the county of Antrim mountains, which are ranged on the opposite shore of the Belfast lough, with Lough Neagh upon the one side, and Strangford lough, which lies at the distance of about five miles, in the opposite direction, may cause the district of Belfast to be more moist and inclement, than its latitude would otherwise indicate. The summers are tempered by cool

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\* Although the bay, on whose shore the towns of Belfast and Carrickfergus are situated, has been hitherto denominated "the bay of Carrickfergus," from the ancient importance of this latter town, as a garrison and place of trade, yet, as the sun of commerce appears for a long time to have been setting upon Carrickfergus, and rising high upon Belfast, in some modern charts and surveys, this water is denominated "Belfast lough." To this transition, so fully justified by the circumstances of the case, we have conformed; and conceiving that this latter town, as a grand centre to the shipping of the whole district, should give its name exclusively to this commercial water, we have, in contemplation of that event, styled it, in our subsequent allusions, "the lough, or bay, of Belfast." This explanation, if attended to by strangers, will prevent any confusion which might arise in their minds from this slight transition.

refreshing breezes, which render the air peculiarly salubrious at that season; but the whole line of country on one side of the lough, lying exposed to the N. W. winds, so prevalent here in winter and spring, the temperature at these seasons is more strikingly severe, and is hurtful to vegetation. The inhabitants, nevertheless, do not give any proofs of its insalubrity, being generally healthy and robust.

*Soil and surface.*

The surface of the country, from Belfast to Hollywood and Cultra, between hill, valley, and plain, is greatly diversified, and consequently the soil is of various descriptions. In the hilly country, the bottom, or sub-soil, is cold and gravelly; in the south-western end of the parish of Hollywood, it is a dead ruddy sand, and, in the remainder it is a heavy red clay. The two latter, under proper cultivation, form a fruitful soil, especially the argillaceous. The hills are occupied by tillage, nearly to the top, and in most parts of Ireland, cultivation is rapidly advancing: up the sides of its lofty elevations. The high price of provisions during the late war, may be considered as the origin of this advance upon the mountains, but it is the rapidly increasing population of the country that maintains it.

To that pleasing variety in the geography of the soil, which we have just noticed, as characteristic of that section of the Belfast dominion, which extends along the shore to Hollywood



and Cultra, the country towards Downpatrick, and elsewhere, in the southern dominion of that port, furnishes, by the general uniformity of its aspect, a striking contrast. These different sections, however, being all highly improved, and all included within the commercial dominion of the Port; as likewise those great waters, the bay of Belfast and Strangford lough, the entire territory of Belfast presents a variety of hill and dale, wood and water, and consequently of land and sea views, which places it on as proud an eminence in the Irish picturesque, as most other rural territories which this land can boast of.

This town, within the last ten years, has been reputed to contain nearly 4,000 houses (inclusive of the suburbs), and a population of 30,000 souls, which, with the exception of a few private families and professional individuals, is composed of persons in the numerous walks of trade; all of whom, from the brogue maker to the banker, stand, like the men of England, on a level with their business, attend assiduously to it, and seem to think of nothing else, until the sabbath-day (which they hold in great veneration) arrives, when they drop, like a hot potatoe, all the small concerns of this lower world, and assemble, *shaved and white-washed*, some to chaunt a Latin hymn to the music of the holy Pope; others, a psalm in English, to the more modern notes of the English bishops; others to the most barbarous broad Scotch slang that ever disgraced a

conventicle in the mountains; a few to our dear brother Smith's "sacred harmony," which flows back upon him, from the tuneful sisters, in melting responses; and lastly, a select number of wise men assemble, who say nothing, and, therefore, do not leave it in your power to offer a criticism upon their compositions; or, if they speak, it is in the rough cough of uneasy silence, or in humiliation's soft still sigh, which borne upon echo's gentle wing, may reach the heart, but in that impenetrable fortress, cannot be assailed by the shafts of criticism.—The men of Belfast, with all this character of trade, are, however, very attentive to the public institutions of their town, and are said to be very liberal in making provision for them. In former periods of their history, they were also eminently distinguished by a spirit of political independence, which, subsequently to our union with England, appears to have taken a long *repose*; but the agitation of the Queen's question in that country; with others of great constitutional importance, revived it, and we find the men of Belfast (the only men in Ireland, who thought proper to try the experiment) assembling to offer their opinion upon the conduct of his Majesty's ministers, on this public question; a proceeding, in which they appear to have been materially assisted (as on all others of a public nature) by the talents of Mr. Lawless, a gentleman whose name stands high in the political annals of that town.

Thus much for the political character of Bel-

fast.—But farther: nothing can exceed the religious liberality of the inhabitants of this place, a great majority of whom, the reader will naturally conclude, are members of the different protestant churches.—In the new college, among the masters and professors, were men of the churches of England, Scotland, and Rome, when we visited that institution in 1817.—We are *sure* this would not be the case in a literary institution, groaning under the yoke of a religious despotism; and we are equally sure, that no such liberality can be reconciled to the genius of a system, whose throne, in poverty, is founded on the ruins of reason; and in power, on the ruins of human liberty or human life.

Whether the talented lady alluded to in our description of Lisburn, had Belfast in her eye, when deciphering the Ulster character, it is impossible for us to determine.—In point of literary information, we should suppose this town approaches nearer to the character of Scotland than any other town in Ulster; but, as to its participation of the Ulster *hospitality*, we must leave that to be determined by some more deserving historian.—Should Mr. Thelwall and Mr. Kean, gentlemen whose eminent talents we had the pleasure of seeing displayed on the boards of its theatre, in 1817, condescend to honour us with their opinion, we shall then be able to speak with confidence upon this point of the Belfast history; but, on our own slender authority, we shall not presume to speak largely of this proud virtue of our country,

as it applies to Belfast, having only seen it shine in the features of a family in Anne-street (near the old *narrow* bridge that crosses the Lagan river, and opens a communication between the counties of Antrim and Down) with steady light, in the branches of an ASH tree (the tree of the knowledge of *infant* good and evil) under whose protecting shade we saw the rose and the lily flourish, "the young idea shoot," and the stranger's ewe-lamb "*walk in and out, and find pasture.*" And once we recollect to have caught a slight glimpse of this goddess of our country, as she floated by, in her progress to Orangefield; but, from all which we could learn of her history, she courts the shades of pastoral life, and sickens at the approach of the genius of commerce, whose care-worn brow and contracted visage cover her gay and convivial features with gloom, and at whose embrace (though laden with the wealth of many nations) the succulent properties of her nature wither; like those fruits and flowers on the plains of Vesuvius, which perish at the approach of that fiery lava; by which the soil is *encumbered with wealth*, at the moment that it is robbed of its life-sustaining productions, and its verdant beauties buried in the Stygian dust!

If, however, the people of Belfast be not indebted to the genius of commerce, for the undistinguishing hospitality of the golden age, they are indebted to her for the abolition of national prejudices: they derive from her bounty several of the necessaries, and most or all the luxuries of

life.—She has also lent her assistance to the propagation of the gospel in foreign climes, and to the establishment of such a system of morality as is necessary to render industry successful.—And to that extensive intercourse with mankind, which commerce secures to them, may be attributed, in no inconsiderable degree, that liberality of character, and that love of letters, by which this commercial town has been so long and so eminently distinguished in the annals of our country.—It is true, commerce, with very few exceptions, is laden with perpetual cares, and her pillow planted with many a heart-corroding thorn; and, in the multitude of her own concerns, it is equally true, that she has but little leisure to enjoy or to inquire after those objects which have not a direct influence upon her interests.—However, in connection with her other benefits, she has opened to the view of mankind, sources of human depravity, that were but little known in the patriarchal ages, when hospitality was exercised towards all strangers, without distinction of age or nation.—She has multiplied our wants; and with the love of gain, which has its origin in those wants, she has called into exercise a passion, that was but little known to those shepherds of antiquity, who have been celebrated for their hospitality to strangers. Those simple pastoral men knew no distinction but those of the Deity above all, the angels between us and him, and the brutes beneath us; and they regarded all men then living as their brethren.—But if one of those worthies were now

placed upon his legs in the Christian towns of Manchester or Liverpool, and should call for water to wash his feet, after a long journey, (as was the fashion of his age and country) his feet, indeed, would be very well *watched* until they had carried him outside the building; but the d—l a drop of warm water would he get, or a waiter to attend him, if he had forgotten to provide himself with a little of the circulating medium of the country, before he came to get the washing job done for him at Liverpool.—The same, also, may be said of Belfast.—But why should we wonder? since the honest patriarch would not find the case a *whit* better in the large trading towns of the *new world*, with all its boasted freedom and simplicity of nature.

The same causes produce the same effects, and will continue to produce them, in every age and country.—Invariable hospitality is not, therefore, nor can it be, a characteristic feature in the portrait of commercial towns, in an age of crime and contending interests.—The paramount duty of self-defence precludes it—the cares and duties of a heavily-encumbered commerce preclude it—the numerous distinctions of human invention preclude it—the impositions and frauds, inseparable from a corrupt state of society, preclude it—and lastly, it is precluded by that narrow and selfish feeling, which necessarily forms the habits of a commercial man at his entrance into life; and, in most cases, maintains its empire, not only long after the necessity that gave it birth has expired, but even

to the very close of his temporal existence.—The old patriarchal traveller may therefore look somewhere else for personal attention, than in the trading towns of the world (old or new) that is now going.—Indeed for the entrance to these towns a very consistent, though mortifying notice, might be selected from one of the satires of Juvenal, that would open the eyes of the honest pennyless patriarch to the folly of his early simplicity, and to the superior wisdom of the *close boroughs* upon which he is entering.

“*Spes bene comandi vos decipit;*”

Thus freely translated—

The vision of hospitality deceives you.

If, however, upon acquiring an accurate statistical knowledge of the divisions and subdivisions of our population, he should enrol his name among the active and useful followers of Wesley or Whitfield, and give the brethren a word of exhortation as he journeyed in the way; in that case, the *close boroughs* would assume a new aspect in the eye of the astonished patriarch—his welcome would be as *warm* as it was *cold* before—and the flattering language of Virro to Trebius would be substituted for the *supperless* motto of his *pagan* state!

“*Da Trebio, pone ad Trebium—Vis, frater, ab ipsis illibus?*”

Thus freely translated—

Give a chair to Trebius, set a *plate* before Trebius—Trebius, my dear brother, will you *touch this tit bit?*\*

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\* In this work we offer our respects briefly to the Methodist preachers—a new race of men. In a former tour we paid our

We have now said sufficient on hospitality, to place its existence and mode of operation in commercial towns with some degree of accuracy, and with a due degree of caution, before the eye of the patriarchal traveller; and shall bid the venerable Antediluvian farewell, while we proceed to notice the other distinguishing features of that eminent commercial town, which forms the direct and distinguished subject of our present memoir.

We do not recollect to have seen, in the cantons of this country, any such town as Belfast, the exclusive property of an individual.—It is on the Marquis of Donegall's estate, and he owns and receives rent for every house in it.—The occupier holds it from him under a ninety-one years lease, which is nearly long enough for the interest of the tenant, whatever may have been the money expended by him or by his predecessor in improvements—and, as we know no such town in Ireland, the exclusive property of an individual, so, in point of all which constitutes rank, respectability, property, population, and high perfection of improvement, we have not seen any estate of the same extent, that can fling out such a proud and finished portrait to the view of nations, as that of which this town forms the grand centre.—Next to this, in point of beauty and perfection, stands the Hertford property, in the rural history of this part of Ulster. The system

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compliments to the most ancient order of the Irish clergy. Both these classes of gentlemen may probably recollect a saying common in Ireland—“*Ends meet.*”



of tenure, however, which prevails on the Belfast estate, meets our views more perfectly than that of the Hertford property.—The latter, we have already mentioned, is held under twenty-one years and one life leases, at rents of from twenty shillings to two guineas an English acre.

The former is held under leases of three lives and forty-one or sixty-one years, which are frequently renewed, to the occupying families, at the old rents of from five to fifteen or twenty shillings per Irish acre, on the payment of a certain fine; and the average of these fines, on the Belfast estate, is said to amount to ten or £12,000 per annum.—Thus the tenant, by presenting to his landlord a certain proportion of the produce of the soil, is reinstated in his ancient title, and placed in very good circumstances to acquire a competent fortune for his family, even by the produce of his land; and hence he is always able, when the time comes round, to pay a liberal fine, if necessary, and to reinstate himself in possession of his original interest.—We gave the reader specimens of the topography of this estate, in our description of Malone-house and Willmont; but to enter into all its *minute* improvements is not necessary to our main design, and would be an unjustifiable trespass on the reader's patience.—However, at the close of our description of Belfast, some farther specimens of this fine property shall be noticed, together with other beautiful seats on the surface of Antrim; after which, we shall wind up our description of this county,

with an ample detail of its statistical history, from authentic sources.

*Government and police of Belfast.*

The government of Belfast is vested, by charter, in the lord of the castle, (the Marquis of Donegall) a sovereign, and twelve burgesses, who formerly returned two representatives to the Irish parliament, and, since the union of this country with England, one to the Imperial.—The sovereign, we presume, is indebted for his appointment chiefly, if not solely, to the favour of the Donegall family; and, when the election happens to be determined, rather by the virtue and independence of the candidate, than by the measure of his private services to the reigning interest, the best possible guarantee is given to the public, not only for an honest, but for a liberal and gentlemanly discharge of its public functions. It sometimes however happens, that the qualifications which pave the way to authority, in these little local governments, are rather of a private than of a public nature; and the consequences are such as may be expected to follow—a frequent subservience of justice to party purposes, or perhaps to low and malignant feelings, which prove a source of vexation to the subject, and cover the altar of justice with disgrace.—This, however, is not a new subject to us.—We have handled it before in other publications, and not only so, but we have procured some *very pointed enemies* to ourselves by the

inflexibility of our principles; but be this as it may, we shall never cease to protest against the appointment of all mere mercenary dependents upon *private favour* to posts of authority in town or country.—We have too frequently witnessed the acts of which such men are capable; and to whatever lengths they may or can go, we shall assert their *moral* ineligibility to power, and that none should possess it but men of independent minds, who could not be moved by private motives of an *impure* character, to deviate from that just, liberal, and gentlemanly deportment, which never fails to characterise the pure and virtuous officer, in the discharge of his public duties.

There is a police establishment here for the maintenance of the laws; and commissioners and a committee of police have been appointed by act of parliament for carrying into execution all regulations therein specified, in relation to the paving and cleansing of the streets, as well as many other circumstances affecting the health, safety, and comfort of the inhabitants.

Street beggars are seldom or never seen here, and the cleanliness and order of the town can scarcely be paralleled.

Although Belfast is mentioned by Spencer as having been wasted by Edward Bruce, at the beginning of the 14th century, it is not taken notice of by the old English writers, who enumerate the haven-towns of the north of Ireland at an early period; nor yet by Marlborough nor Clarkson.—

Of the building of the castle there is no date known, though it was twice taken by the Earl of Kildare, first in 1503, again in 1512. However, it appears to have been a place of very little consideration in trade, until a privilege which Carrickfergus possessed, of importing foreign merchandise at one-third of the duties payable in other places, was purchased by Lord Strafford on behalf of the crown.—This event may be considered as the era of the commercial declension of Carrickfergus, which being thus deprived of its unnatural ascendancy in the scale of commerce, Belfast rose rapidly on its ruins, and in little more than half a century posterior to this equalisation of privileges, which took place in 1640, we find this latter town not only well known on the continent as a place of trade, but in high credit at London, Amsterdam, and all the great commercial cities of Europe, (a well merited distinction which it continues to maintain, by the rapid increase of its trade, and by that high character of honour, which the conduct of its leading merchants has procured for it in foreign markets.)—As this event may be truly regarded as the origin of the commercial prosperity of Belfast, so its erection into a corporate town, with the privilege of sending two members to parliament, by James I., was the dawn of its political glory. By this act, Arthur Lord Chichester and his heirs were constituted lords of the castle.—Thomas Vesey, the first sovereign, was chosen in 1613; and in the same year, Sir John Blennerhasset, baron of the Exche-

quer, and George Trevillian, Esq. were the first members sent by this town to parliament. At that time Belfast could not have been considerable; for, in the patent, it is styled town or *village*.—In the year 1635, mention is made of Lord Chichester's house there, by an English traveller, who styles it “the glory and beauty of the town;” but nothing of the town is said, except that “many Cheshire and Lancashire men were planted in the neighbourhood, by Mr. Arthur Hill, son of Sir Moyses Hill.” Belfast, previous to this event, had been peopled with Devonshire men, and a number of the Scots who came in the former reign.

In connection with those acts of government, which raised this town in the scale of commerce and political importance, this valuable population may be regarded as the seed of its future grandeur and prosperity. Those privileges would have been lost on a stupid or barbarous race; (for free citizens alone can taste the sweets of commerce and of law) and separate from those encouragements, which give wing to industry and enterprise, the unassisted efforts of a brave and virtuous people to raise themselves in the scale of national prosperity, would have proved fruitless.—To this happy coalition may then be attributed that beautiful social fabric, which this town and its dependencies now present to the eye of the statesman and political economist.

*Trade of Belfast.*

Rapid as the progress of population has been in Belfast, commerce has fully kept pace with it —From Mr. Arthur Young's account, whose information was obtained from the most authentic sources, and which was written in the year 1776, it appears that the gross customs, *including excise*, in 1763, amounted only to £32,900; in 1770, which, *at that period*, was reckoned its best year, they amounted to £63,600, nearly double in seven years; from that date they fell until 1775, when they were somewhat more than in 1770, being £64,800.—But great was the increase after the American war; for in 1784, the gross customs, exclusive of the excise, amounted to £101,376.—From that time, with some fluctuations for bad years, there has been a gradual rise: much of this rise has certainly been owing, not only to the additional quantities imported, but also to the additional duties: to how great an amount they are now arrived, the following corrected return of the customs, for nine recent years, will show:—

Year ending Jan. 5, 1802	—	£182,314	5	11½
1803	—	270,434	7	1
1804	—	201,180	4	9½
1805	—	207,402	6	2½
1806	—	228,645	5	11½
1807	—	207,382	17	5½
1808	—	320,981	8	9½
1809	—	318,121	12	5½
1810	—	425,174	18	2½

If, to the above list of customs, the excise of the district shall be added, what an enormous advance in the trade of this place will the reader contemplate since 1770, that prosperous year of its trade in the last century, when its gross customs, *including excise*, amounted to £63,600!

The total value of its exports in 1809 was £2,367,271 3s. 8d.; and in 1810, it amounted to £2,904,520 19s., an increase, in one year, of £537,249 15s. 9d.—A list of its numerous imports, in these two years, now lies before us; but, on their total value, (which should be collected from private sources) we shall not risk a conjecture in this place.—However, the concise view which we have given of the rapid progress of this town in commerce, from 1770 to 1810, (the short space of 40 years) places this grand feature of its portrait in such a broad light before the reader's eye, as will enable him, in connection with its other *graceful* features, to form some opinion of the overwhelming magnificence with which the picture of Belfast will make its appearance, in a gallery of Hibernian paintings, when their majesties, the sovereigns of Europe, shall step over to inspect that modern cabinet of arts and letters.

For a view of the progress of manufactures in this town, we must refer the reader to those details under the head, "Trade of this County," with which Belfast is so intimately connected, that it would have been difficult to separate them.—These details will appear in the progress of this work; and will, we trust, afford pride and pleasure to

the friends of Irish commercial prosperity.—The aspect of this town will at once impress the stranger with an idea of the perfection of its police, the liberal character of its proprietor, the improved taste of its population, and the unparalleled prosperity of its commerce; but the inventory of articles imported by it, (which is here annexed) in connection with the amount of its exports, described for a similar period, do not leave the reader dependent on *conjecture* for his knowledge of the trade of this place: and if to this inventory of the imports of Belfast, for two successive years, we could have added their gross value, the sanguine colour of its commercial portrait would have blazed upon the stranger's eye in the richest *claret* of its importation; a favour which the wisdom and liberality of trade have wisely conceded to *that organ, and confined to it.*

*Foreign goods imported at Belfast, direct and indirect, for the year 1809.*

14166 bales cotton wool		120 quarter casks Malaga		
881 barrels rosin		16 pipes	} Madeira	
186 casks madder		2 hogsheads		
2349 hogsheads	} sugar	370 pipes	} Spanish	
634 tierces		2 hogsheads		} red wine
596 bags		} Alicant barilla	5857 bales	}
86 cases			90 casks	
665 casks	} coffee	600 tons Sicily ditto		
351 bags		95 ditto Teneriffe ditto		
139 pipes Teneriffe		330 ditto Sardinia ditto		
5 ditto Lisbon		4290 barrels potash		
115 pipes	} Port wine	485 ditto Dantzic ashes		
20 hogsheads		326 ditto pearl-ashes		



63 bags ginger	14082 bushels bay salt
257 bags } pimento	582 casks rice
49 casks } pimento	8529 casks } flax-seed
90 hogsheads } Geneva	3995 bags } flax-seed
220 pipes } Geneva	952 cases liquorice-ball
484 casks smalts	198 pipes brandy
6515 chests of tea	2097 bundles flax
978½ hogsheads leaf tobacco	439 ditto hemp
311 bales, miserable	440 casks tallow
40 chests cocoa	46 ditto spirits turpentine
2950 puncheons } rum	849 barrels tar
456 hogsheads } rum	838 ditto turpentine
2620 bundles cane reeds	

*Imports for 1810.*

12481 bales cotton wool	3862 bales Alicant barilla
1132 barrels tar	145 tons Sicily ditto
820 ditto rosin	2153 bales liquorice root
598506 staves	93 ditto cocoa shells
1485 hogsheads tobacco	2917 bundles cane reeds
598506 deals and deal ends	1742 bales } tallow
981 puncheons } rum	298 casks } tallow
240 hogsheads } rum	3895 barrels potash
4091 pieces Americ. timber	729 ditto pearl-ashes
3111 ditto Norway ditto	2066 barrels weed-ashes
798 ditto Swedish ditto	4368 hogsheads } flax-seed
1010 boxes Sicily soap	6574 barrels } flax-seed
159 tons brimstone	1024 bags } flax-seed

Among the manufactories of this town, which we had heard and read of, there was one that we visited in person, namely, the metal foundry of Mr. Coates, which, with a cotton and starch manufactory, the property of the same gentleman, are situated on the south side of the town.—The cotton spinning establishment is worked by steam, and is said to manufacture annually, 36,000lbs.

weight, or 986,000 hanks of cotton yarn.—The foundry melts, on an average, as we heard, from 300 to 400 tons weight of metal.

This latter establishment comprehends a boring machine for finishing cylinders for steam-engines ; an instrument, according to our information, that is only to be found in one more foundry in this country.

The starch manufactory stands close to the foundry, and is estimated to manufacture, annually, 150 tons of wheat into starch.—These establishments in the hand of *one person*, may give the reader some idea of the manner in which business is conducted in this rapidly rising Salentum of the Ulster Hesperian coast.

The residence of Mr. Coates, the proprietor of these factories, is on the road from thence to Newtown, *Breda*. It is situated on an estate of Lord Chichester Spencer, and is distant from Belfast, which is the post town to it, about three miles.

#### *Linen-hall.*

The linen-hall is an extremely beautiful building, and one of the handsomest walks in the vicinity of the town is in view of it, and of the new college.—This building was opened for the sale of white linen cloth in 1785, since which there has been a regular and constant market. We have not, however, acquired that accurate knowledge of the trade of this establishment that would enable us to offer to the public a view of its annual sales ; nor do we know any thing of the men who

act as factors there, although we know a little of the factorage history of another city, and shall say to all young and inexperienced traders, who send their property to that market for sale, Make out a *positive*, instead of a *conditional*, invoice of prices, for your factor's government.—Do not draw upon him for linens deposited, *if you can possibly avoid it*, until they are sold.—Know well, before hand, the man in whose hands you place your interests; neither depend upon public appearances for the acquisition of this knowledge; nor give public reputation credit for more than it is worth.—And lastly, if being anxious to effect a sale, you price rather *lower* than the market, do not mend the matter by telling a factor, who is new to you, that you rely on his *honour* to make the most of circumstances; but, remembering that there is luck in leisure, lay aside your invoice, until you have taken a peep at your factor's heart through a hole in his ventriculum; and, if you find, upon an attentive observation of the motion of his blood, that his heart moves *upright*, you may then *ship* your invoice and *honorary* epistle; but, without some such knowledge as the *peep* will give you, do not rely, implicitly, on any of those credentials which we have marked as doubtful; for if you do, we give you timely notice, that we shall not open an insurance office for the finest *SHAW* on change; no, nor for the gravest face that ever squatted under a brim of many inches; for, even though its possessor might be five feet high, and sit among the *ELDERS* of his people in a

silent gallery, yet, the facts of history declare, (alas! poor human nature) that nothing less than a resurrection from the *dead*, will teach some men to despise that gain, which comes into competition with their duty to their *client*!

*The college.*

The college, or academical institution of Belfast (a pure and exclusive emanation from the people) exhibits, in a stronger point of view than any single feature of its history, the rapid progress of the public mind in that place. A school, on a more limited foundation, called the Belfast academy, may be considered as the precursor of this more extensive literary establishment. That school was placed, by certain trustees, under the direction of Doctor Bruce, a minister (we believe of the Unitarian church) of most exemplary morals and sound literary reputation; but, this establishment being on a foundation vastly too limited for the growing population and rapid advances of the public mind in Ulster, the plan of a collegiate institution was devised by some public spirited men, and, under the aspiring wing of the genius of the province, had arrived at a considerable measure of maturity, in (1817) the short space of three years from its commencement. The college (if we were rightly informed) could then boast of more than 300 students, in a course of instruction in the living and dead languages, in several branches of mathematics, and in the *belles-lettres*. This was a beginning, quadrating, in its

prospects, with the rank and property of the province. Students had also the opportunity of being accommodated with board and lodging in the college, as two wings of the building were set apart for boarding-schools; one, for instruction in the dead languages, under the direction of a principal; who enjoyed all the profits of his own school; and the other, for instruction in English classic literature, under the same regulations. Thus were the springs of public instruction set open to the stranger and the native; and, nothing was wanting to give effect to this liberal design of the people, but the fostering wing of parliamentary munificence. This, however, from whatever cause, appears to have just touched a wing of the college of Belfast, and to have then disappeared, as if the imperial bird did not acknowledge this institution for her offspring, and had dropped from her bill; a grant or two of £1500, to stop the clamours of a distant and despised subject; for, it is a thing somewhat remarkable in the history of this bird, that the rules by which its actions are regulated, rise, like the bird itself, into an element far above the ken of ordinary men, who would not be able to discover, why the claims of an institution approximating more closely than that of Maynooth, with the liberal and tolerant spirit of the British constitution, should be slightly acknowledged, or alternately received and rejected, while those of a system of restrictive education, in direct opposition to the religion of the state, should be

acknowledged to their utmost extent. That a liberal system of treatment is the best that was ever extended to any body of men, we are ready to concede. But, while we acknowledge the wisdom of a liberal course, we cannot see the reason why this wisdom should be partial. If it has operated well on one branch of the body politic, why not give it equal trial with another of equal claims? and, if the Catholic college of Maynooth has been left to its own laws and discipline, in the use which it makes of parliamentary bounty, why not give the institution of Belfast a like latitude? We speak, on this subject, from reports which reached us in our passage through Ulster in 1817; and if these reports are authentic, the remarks which we now make are not wholly inapplicable to the circumstances in which that liberal and enlightened district then stood, in relation to its provincial college. Our humble opinion, we grant, is of small moment, but facts are stubborn things; and if superior civilisation, property, and liberality of sentiment, render the province which they characterise worthy of the beams of science, then Ulster is that province, if it is to be found in Ireland; and by what rule of political economy, its claims to parliamentary aid in pursuit of an object so worthy of its character, and so well calculated to raise the country in the scale of nations, have been rejected, we have yet to learn.

We shall bid farewell to the college of Belfast, after recommending to the serious consideration

of our governors, the old and well known fable of the belly and the members. We profess ourselves to be the friends of social harmony, and therefore strongly recommend the hands and feet, to be active in providing the belly of the state (which has ample room for all their surplus produce) with A PLENTIFUL PROVISION. This being done, we beg to turn the attention of the worthy reservoir, to the sound policy, as well as sound equity, of diffusing its nourishment with an *equal hand* through all the members; giving to each "its portion of meat *in due season*." It is impossible, by any other mode, to preserve the whole body in health and vigour; for, if the belly lets out its nourishment at *one end* only, the other will become paralytic, and cannot work, or restive, and will not: and, therefore, that the body may be preserved in health and vigour, let the belly operate by *equal* and wholesome laws, so shall it not stand upon *one leg* in the hour of trial; but when squeezing its protuberant trunk through the pinching labyrinths of *ways and means*; when moving its unwieldy cargo over the quagmires of disaffection and conspiracy; or, when standing on the boundary-line of justice, in a glorious struggle for its country's rights, it shall not stand alone—legs of British oak shall support it—arms of British courage shall defend it—the lion's heart shall teach it to despise danger—and, taking for its motto, "Sis justus et ne time," it will not return from the field of conflict, covered

with laurel, without remembering our fable of the belly and the members.

There are many public buildings in Belfast, (beside those of the linen-hall and college, which we have just noticed) that contribute largely to the beauty of the town; and several societies that quadruple with the rank, and exhibit, in a striking point of view, its taste for literature and the fine arts.

Among these latter, we heard of one called "The Literary Society"—another, "A Society for promoting Knowledge"—a third, "A Philosophical Society"—a fourth, "A Medical Society"—and lastly, "A Society for the Practice and Improvement of Irish Music."—In the departments of medicine, mineralogy, and natural philosophy, we presume, Dr. Macdonnell, an eminent physician of Belfast, takes a leading part. We have heard much of this gentleman's researches; more particularly in the department of mineralogy; and, in addition to the advantages which the town derives from his assistance as a physician, Belfast can also boast of other able guardians of public health; as Doctor Tennent, and a few more, who stand in the first rank of medical character in that town. A fever-hospital and dispensary have been established here, under the patronage, we presume, of the medical gentlemen just noticed, whose services in 1817, when the whole country laboured under a severe typhus visitation, have strong claims on the gratitude of



that town and neighbourhood. A lying-in hospital, which ranks among the charitable institutions of the place, is also, no doubt, largely indebted to their philanthropy for its existence, and for its *ample contributions* to the population of the town and country.—There is also a chamber of commerce here, a handsome custom-house, a ballast-office, a public exchange, (built, as we heard, at an expense of £4000, by the late Marquis of Donegall) and two or three banks, that to the honour of old Ulster, kept OPEN HOUSE when the other provinces were dropping into the shy and inhospitable practice of closing their doors, not only against their friends and neighbours, but even against *their brothers-in-law*.

Among the charitable institutions of Belfast, there is one incorporated by act of parliament, that deserves particular attention.—It affords an asylum to 60 or 70 aged men, to a still larger number of aged women; and nearly 200 destitute children of both sexes are clothed, fed, and educated here, and, at a proper age, apprenticed out to suitable employments.

The house, which is large and commodious, was built in 1771, on a healthy site, and well provided with spring water, at the north end of Donegall-street.—It is said to have cost £7000 or £8000, and to have rendered incalculable service to the interests of humanity in this place.—A mendicity institution has also been established here, and has produced the happiest effects.—For this benefit, we understand, the town was originally indebted

to the philanthropic labours of the Rev. Mr. Holmes, when curate of this parish; a gentleman whose name will be long connected with its history. His seat at Hollywood is noticed in this work.

Among the societies for promoting knowledge in Belfast, we heard of one, which holds its meetings in the linen-hall, and is said to possess a large and valuable library and philosophical apparatus.

Three newspapers are published in this town.—The **COMMERCIAL CHRONICLE**, (a paper that is well edited, and has a good circulation among the better classes of society in Ulster) three times a week.

The **NEWS LETTER**, (long established and long patronised by the mercantile interest of that province) twice a week; and the **IRISHMAN**, (a paper remarkable for its talent and tone of independence) once a week.

The houses of worship (considering that there is but one God) are numerous.—We cannot charge our memory with the precise number, but we believe there are ten or twelve; and if the town were large enough to require ten or 1200, we should hail them all as the evidences of that glorious liberty, by which the Briton mounts upon the ridge-pole of his house, and, with his hat raised above his head in rapid evolutions, shouts **BRITISH MAGNA CHARTA**, in a voice of thunder, to the nations that surround him.

Ye enemies of reform, who would laugh at the

man that would think of falling out with those good people about their English or Scotch music, or even with father Gregory himself, if he should come over to give us a new song in Latin, look back, ye worthy men, to your worthier predecessors—When?—Oh, not long since; for indeed we have no occasion to turn your attention to the crimson history of the Inquisition, nor yet to the ensanguined plains of Piedmont, painted by the Pope in *Italian colours*.—Ah! no, we wish the picture could be kept even so far off; but, alas! it lies nearer home.—It was drawn to the life, and was in good fashion so recently as the days of Oliver Cromwell and Charles the Second.—Oh, but the men of those days were fools, and lived in a dark age.—It may be so, worthy Sirs, but they did not think so: they, no doubt, thought their policy of religious persecution, an extremely *good thing*, and absolutely INDISPENSABLE to the safety of the state!—But they are gone, and we, the *wise men*, have succeeded them; and think, of course, as all wise men do, that they were fools, and some will even say, egregious fools, to whip and imprison, and starve and mangle the poor Quakers, because they would not pray in their fashion, and because they should say *thee* and *thou* to the justices!—And it is ten to one if posterity, in some future age, will not think us as great fools and barbarians for keeping the Quakers out of the constitution, because they will not curse and swear in our fashion! Nor will it be easy, by all the arts of sophistry, to

convince the still wiser generations that shall succeed us, that it was a good LAW of England, and absolutely indispensable to her political existence, to hang every famished rascal that might happen to steal a loaf or a sheep from his next neighbour; no, nor necessary to her political existence, or to the existence of her trade, to hang every rogue that might choose to forge a bill in his neighbour's name; since a thousand other modes of punishment would have equally determined the thief to look sharp before he put his pen to paper. But our modern politicians, like those of Oliver, though great sticklers for religion, think that nothing will do but hanging; and although equally zealous for the Bible, when taken in the *bulk*, they do not seem to be very fond of Bible politics, when brought home to their own doors. They think the book contains rules only for private men, and that it is totally silent on the duty of lawgivers! Hence, although they make it their rule of faith as Christians, and their rule of practice in private life, yet, as legislators, *being only accountable to their country*, they cannot take the Bible for their rule of politics!—This brings to our recollection a story of some credit in the ancient history of the church. It is told of an honest peasant, who felt considerable concern for the safety of a bishop's soul, who was a sovereign prince, and lived in great pomp and splendour. The worthy countryman was a true Christian, and believed, as all true Christians do, that the Scriptures of the New Testament contain but *one* rule

of faith and *one* rule of practice. He could not, therefore, get down the regal pomp and magnificence, by which he believed the soul of the bishop was endangered; and being fortunate enough to obtain an audience of the great man, (a thing somewhat easier, even in those days of popish corruption, than in these of protestant reformation) he unbosomed his anxiety to the princely ecclesiastic. — “Be not alarmed, my pious friend, (said the bishop) for the safety of my soul. The magnificence which you see does not attach to my character as a Christian bishop, but only to my rank and office as an earthly prince.” — “Ah!” said the poor pious man, shaking his head, “it may be so; but when the prince goes to hell, what will become of the bishop?”

*Geography and natural history of the bay of  
Belfast.*

The Belfast lough, or bay, runs north-east from the town of Belfast, in the Northern Channel, over against Wigton in Scotland. It has mooring for ships of war, of from thirty to forty guns. Over against the village of Hollywood are situated the Carmayle, or Germayle, roads, where ships, drawing seventeen feet of water, find anchorage. Here the larger vessels lighten their burden before they proceed up to Belfast. On this side of the lough, extending four miles and upwards from Belfast, there is a bank of heavy slate-coloured sand and mud, beyond which the

shore is composed of continued strata of stone of different descriptions, interspersed with abrupt and shelving rocks, whence several places adjacent have their names, as Rockport, Craig-avad, &c. On the shore there are several places near the village of Hollywood, where ships from 40 to 100 tons burden can float at high water; but lower down, at Cultra, Rockport, and Effy's port, vessels from 200 to 300 tons find anchorage. The first of these is the largest: it was built by Mr. Kennedy, of Cultra, and may be regarded as an improvement of importance to that neighbourhood, as the inhabitants, in failure of a home market, can export their produce, and obtain coals, from the other side of the water in return.

In the natural history of this bay it is worthy of notice, that the barnacles, as they are generally called, though they answer best to the description of the brent-goose, come up the lough in September, in immense numbers, and leave it in May, and are esteemed a great delicacy. Amongst the various tribes of fish which are taken on the coast, that which most deserves notice is the muscle, rather, however, on account of its great numbers than any distinguishing properties. They cover the Hollywood bank; and, from the month of March to that of July, they afford food and employment to the poor of the village, a muscle gatherer being enabled to earn, from fifteen pence to two shillings a day. The bed is inexhaustible, for though almost stripped at one time, it is quite as well covered after the succeeding tide. Beside

these, oysters, remarkably large and well-flavoured, are found on the bank and along the shore; as also various kinds of flat fish, turbot, sole, and plaice, &c. It appears, however, from the information to be gathered, both from the inhabitants and the fishermen, that the quantity of these last, as well as of the gurnet formerly in abundance, is greatly diminished of late years; and, on inquiry into the cause, it is generally attributed to the practice of dredging for oysters, by which the spawn at the bottom is disturbed, before the process of incubation has been perfected.

*Seats.—Ormeau.*

This is the seat of the Marquis of Donegall, and it reminds us of the plain dress of those great men, who feeling that they sit on a bottom both *broad* and *deep*, despise all those little *surface dressings*, by which the minor beauties of their neighbourhoods are kept in *trim*. Indeed, Ormeau is a very plain object; and if we had not known, by the indubitable proof of Lord Donegall's presence, (who despised the littleness of being *not at home*, when a *poet* of his country called on him) we should never have suspected that Ormeau was the Marquis's own residence. Nevertheless, this seat possesses all the accommodations necessary for his lordship's splendid establishment; and its proximity to Belfast, where he is *at home* at every corner, and on an estate, almost unparalleled for wealth and beauty, renders it a matter of very little moment to Lord Donegall, whether

the body clothes of Ormeau be embroidered in the Spanish fashion, or as plain as those of a late celebrated barrister, whose diamond was not robbed of its water, his eye of its piercing radiance, nor his tongue of its magic powers, by a beard of four days' growth, or a costume that would have suited a poor farmer in the Wicklow mountains.

Ormeau stands on a county road, which opens a communication between Belfast, the metropolis of Ulster, and Downpatrick, that of Downshire, at the distance of one mile from the former, which is the post town to it.

#### *Fox-lodge.*

This is the name of a neat lodge, and planted demesne of thirty Irish acres, the seat, and a creation of William Fox, Esq. (the first and only town-major of Belfast, an office instituted in 1797.) It stands on the road, just noticed in our directory to Ormeau, and, although a very small feature of the Belfast estate, is regarded by the traveller, in his approach to that town from Downpatrick, as a neat and interesting improvement. Fox-lodge is distant from Belfast, which is the post town to it, about two Irish miles.

N. B. The general aspect of the country in this neighbourhood, and for several miles south of Belfast, is that of one uniform level surface.



*Newland-glebe.*

Newland-glebe, the seat of the Rev. Meroyne Pratt, (rector of the union of Knock and Breda, in the diocese of Down) is also situated on the Downpatrick road. It comprehends a good glebe-house, erected, and fifteen acres of glebe-land; planted and improved, by the present incumbent, and stands two miles from Belfast, which is the post town to it.

N. B. The villages of Newtown, Breda, and Castlereagh, are included in this union.

*Orangefield.*

Orangefield, the seat of Hugh Crawford, Esq. one of the proprietors of the Belfast bank, is not only a more extensive feature of the Belfast neighbourhood, than any one of those on the Downpatrick road, which we have just noticed; but, from the excellence of its mansion-house, the goodness of its soil, and the value and variety of its timber, it claims high distinction in the topographic history of this district.

The house, which is a handsome square edifice, stands on a richly planted demesne of 200 acres; a soil that has not only been highly enriched by cultivation and manure, but is said to be good in its *native* character.

The timber consists chiefly of oak, ash, and deal, either full grown, or far advanced towards maturity. The lands present, for the most part, one uniform level surface; but this defect of

variety in the geography of the soil, is in some degree supplied by interesting views of the Belfast mountains, the hills of Castlereagh, and the church and plantations of the union of Knock and Breda; and every body knows, who knows any thing of landscape gardening, the inconceivable advantages which a level soil may be made to derive, from a grand mountain boundary, from the preclusion of an offensive tract by massy woods, and, from the admission of a spire, a seat, a ruin, or any other object of rural beauty, through vistas opening *to an inch*, for the reception of these corresponding objects.

Orangefield stands between two county roads, which open a communication between Belfast and the Irish channel, eighty-two miles N. of Dublin, and two from Belfast, which is the post town to it.

N. B. There are a corn and flour mill on the lands of Orangefield, which form a valuable appendage to that property.

#### *Westbrook.*

This is the seat of the Rev. Edward May, brother-in-law to the Marquis of Donegall. It stands on the eastern shore of the bay of Belfast, in the centre of a fine land and water scene, and comprehends an elegant new built edifice, and twenty-six acres of demesne, ornamentally planted. The bay rolling its silver fluid through a valley to which the Belfast mountains form a lofty outline; the picturesque village of Hollywood, (now

a post town) in the immediate neighbourhood of Westbrook; and a landscape besprinkled with villas, and filled with life and vegetation, are the features which give distinction to this district of the bay.

The castle and church spire of Carrickfergus, with a part of this ancient town, on the distant shore, form a magnificent group of architecture in the Westbrook view; and had the Belfast mountains (which are seen rather *too intimately* here) been covered with forests of oak, bending, with their lofty plumage, over the waters of the bay, the scene of Westbrook would have been much richer, and so would the estate of Lord Donagall, of whose property, these mountains are a bold but bald feature. This latter offensive aspect of the mountains disappears, however, in the distant view, and reserves itself for an intimate approach, as an unwelcome foil to the beauties of an estate, which wants only the equally *ornamental* and *profitable* finger of the mountain planter, to render it one of the most beautiful, as well as most valuable, properties in this branch of the united kingdom.

Westbrook is situated nearly four miles N. E. of Belfast, which is its post town, and eighty-four N. of Dublin.

#### *Knocknagoney.*

This is the name of a neat cottage and sixty acres of a light sandy soil. It was occupied, in 1817, by Mr. Taggart, a gentleman of the medi-

cal profession, who holds it in perpetuity, from the proprietor of a large property here, who is resident in India.

It is situated on the same shore as Westbrook, the subject of our last description, and is a comfortable, though certainly not a very splendid, feature of that fine district of the Belfast lough or bay. Knocknagoney may be regarded as a farm, and, in that character, it has the advantage of a marl-pit, and a plentiful supply of sea-weed; which latter, the farmers of this coast blend with their stable dung, and, after giving it a process of turning, apply this rich compost to their light sandy soil, with which it sooner amalgamates, than with the stiff argillaceous soil on the distant margin of the bay.

In the articles of wheat and potatoes, the lands of Knocknagoney are said to be amply productive; a feature of their history, which, from the aspect of these lands, we certainly should not have been forward to credit, had we not previously observed, that some of the best wheat crops we had seen in Ireland, were those on the light lands of Mr. Kilby, in the immediate neighbourhood of the Wicklow mountains! The mode, we understand, which the farmers pursue here, is to take one crop of potatoes, one of wheat, and one of oats, from a layer of their compost, (which previous to being spread, passes, as we have noticed, through a process of turning, and remains for some time in the heap) and then lay their lands down with grass or clover, *before they have been exhausted*.

*by frequent crops*; and, in a few seasons, break up those lands again. We think this a good method, and that the lower class of Irish farmers do much injury to their soil, by almost exhausting it with a repetition of crops, before it is laid down for feeding. Experience however, we believe, will prove, that a pound of manure diffused *through* a soil, is better than two pounds weight of surface dressing; or, as old farmers express it, “a pound *in* the land, is worth two pounds *on* it.”

Knocknagoney stands on a road which opens a communication between Belfast and the village of Hollywood, three miles from the former place, and one from the latter, which is the post town to it.

#### *Hollywood.*

The village of Hollywood is situated on the Bangor road about four miles from Belfast. It consists of between 100 and 200 houses, besides places of worship, and contains a population of 600 persons. This village is remarkable for being much superior, in neatness, to the generality of Irish villages; and its situation is extremely beautiful. It is much frequented, as a bathing place, in summer, being situated close to the sea shore, and accommodated with a number of small lodges, which are filled with strangers at that season, but which, of course, are unoccupied in winter.

*Woods.*

Although there are many plantations of forest trees in this rural district, there are but two which deserve the name of woods, those of Hollywood and Cultra. The former stands on an elevation, denominated Barbadoes-hill, and is principally composed of fir and beech, overhanging Hollywood-house and demesne, and covering an hundred acres and upwards. The latter is on the hill which overhangs Cultra, and covers about half that space of ground. The former, though a more extensive wood, being laid out in straight lines, is a much less picturesque object than the latter.

*Rivers.*

A few streams from the adjacent hills, empty themselves into the bay of Belfast, on whose shore the village stands; but that which approaches nearest to the character of a river, is Conn's brook, which takes its name from the celebrated Conn O'Neill, to whom all the surrounding tract of country once belonged.

*Chalybeate springs.*

A few chalybeate springs have been discovered in the vicinity of Hollywood, Cultra, and Ballymahon. They are all nearly of the same description. The water contains iron in a large proportion, fixed air, and marine acid.

*Coal-mine.*

There are no mines of any description in the parish of Hollywood. The old inhabitants report, that there was once a coal mine in the hills above the village; but as certain mineralogists who inspected those hills, could not perceive any indication of the existence of this mineral, it is possible that the mine alluded to by these old men, was of another description. According to the traditional account, this mine was destroyed in the rebellion of 1641, and they shew the place where the framework of the shaft was remembered to have been seen. This is not mentioned as entitled to much credit; but in any search or survey which may be made hereafter, with a view to discover such valuable productions of nature, that circumstance ought not to be overlooked.

*Seats.*

The gentlemen's seats in the parish of Hollywood are, Conn's-brook, the residence of Mr. Martin, merchant of Belfast, one mile and a half distant from that town, on the north-western side of the Bangor road. Ballymechan, lately built, a villa of Alexander Gordon, Esq., two miles and a quarter distant from Belfast, south-east of the same road.—Richmond-lodge, the seat of Francis Turnly, Esq. The grounds of this place are well planted, and very tastefully laid out: it is three miles distant from Belfast, on the south side of the above road.—Clifton, the seat of

Dr. Haliday, three miles and a quarter distant from Belfast, on the south side also.—Westbrook, already noticed in these memoirs.—Hollywood-house, built by the late Simon Isaac, Esq. then proprietor of the Hollywood estate; a gentleman whose memory is much revered by the inhabitants. The external appearance of this mansion is formal and old fashioned; but great attention and expense have been bestowed on it. It is at present the property of William Kennedy, Esq. now resident in the East Indies, who has a considerable property on this district of the shore. This seat is about four miles distant from Belfast.—Ballymena, the residence of Cunningham Gregg, Esq. a large and modern structure. The offices of this seat are remarkably extensive, and the shrubbery is said to excel any thing of the kind in the north of Ireland. It is four miles and a half distant from Belfast.—Cultra, a beautiful seat, described in another part of this work.—Craigavad, the seat of Arthur Forbes, Esq. six miles distant from Belfast.—Rockport, the seat of John Turnly, Esq. The house was built by its present proprietor, and has a modern aspect. Its situation is close to the lough, and near a small harbour, from which it derives its name.—Rockport is nearly seven miles distant from Belfast. All these are on the Bangor-road.—Castle-hill, the seat of Joseph Garner, Esq. is three miles and a half distant from Belfast, and is situated on the northern side of the Newtown-Ards road.—Belmont, the seat of James Orr, Esq. is immediately



adjacent to the former.—Grenville, the seat of John H. Houston, Esq. situated on the south side of the Beer's-bridge-road, is one mile and a quarter distant from Belfast.—Bloomfield, the seat of Arthur Crawford, Esq. on the south side of the road leading to Orangefield, is nearly two miles from Belfast.—The Rev. Mr. Holmes, the incumbent of the parish, has erected a glebe-house on an eminence near the church and village, which commands a very beautiful prospect of the bay and adjacent country; and beside these, there are many neat cottages, which blend with the larger seats, and with the various wood and water views, and give the country an aspect at once picturesque and happy.

### *Scenery.*

The scenery of this district of the shore is beautiful. Towards the inland side, a chain of high hills extends from nearly one extremity of the parish of Hollywood to the other. The sloping country, between these and the bay of Belfast, is beautifully diversified, and being richly cultivated, planted, and decorated with gentlemen's seats, has a most picturesque effect. This effect is greatly heightened by the prospect of the bay, terminated by the town of Belfast at its upper extremity, and bounded on the opposite side by that magnificent chain of mountains usually denominated the Belfast mountains. These extend along the shore from Carrickfergus to Belfast, and fade from the eye in the internal country.

*Ashfield.*

Ashfield, which is the seat of John Kennedy, Esq. stands agreeably elevated on the eastern bank of the bay of Belfast, about three miles north of Belfast, which is its post town. It comprehends a neat new-built brick house, and 22 acres of demesne, (Conyngnam measure) and is part of a fee-farm held by this gentleman's brother, who is resident in India, from Lord Donoughmore, of whose estate it is capable of being rendered an interesting though minute feature of improvement.

*Solitude.*

This is a little retired feature of the Belfast estate, situated within a short distance of the town. Its name very well agrees with its close and sheltered aspect, and with the religious and literary character of its resident, the Rev. Mr. Brown, the protestant curate of that town. It comprehends a neat lodge, and only seven acres of demesne. Belfast is the post town to it.

*Hydepark print works.*

This establishment, the property of Messrs. Batt, Ewing, and Co. of Belfast, is reputed to be the most extensive of its kind in this fine commercial province. It is capable of bleaching and printing, annually, 50,000 pieces of calico; and the large sum of £26,000 is said to have been expended thereon in buildings, machinery, and

utensils, within the last few years. It was not, however, fully employed, when we visited that establishment in 1817, owing to the great depression under which trade had previously laboured; but the cloud, even then, appeared to be passing over our commercial hemisphere; and confidence, that invigorating principle of public credit, was coming round.

There are 45 acres of land attached to this establishment, which is situated near the great coast road from Belfast to Londonderry, about six miles from the former, which is its post town, and 86 miles north of Dublin.

#### *Sea-park.*

The seat of Thomas L. Stewart, Esq. (*an humble beauty of the Belfast estate*) comprises a handsome new-built house, and 80 Irish acres of demesne, ornamented with young plantations. It stands in the direction of Carrickfergus, in a *low position* on the shore, and commands an interesting level view of the town and spire of the church, which form a noble group of architecture in this water view. — In the opposite direction, the Knockagh, a very beautiful and interesting hill connected with the Belfast chain, distinguishes itself in the mountain scene with pre-eminent advantage. The richly diversified landscape which extends to this grand and lofty outline, on the land side, and the beautiful and extensive surface of the bay, over which you contemplate Carrickfergus on the other, are the glory of this scene;

and had this villa been sufficiently exalted above *low water mark*, instead of a *legal* claim to the character of *an humble beauty*, its harmony of prospect and position would have raised it to the very *summit* of perfection in the perspective history of this fine district.

Sea-park is situated about two English miles south of Carrickfergus, 86 Irish miles north of Dublin, and six of Belfast, which is the post town to it.

#### *Cultra.*

Cultra, the seat of Hugh Kennedy, Esq., though, so far as the house is concerned, not sufficiently exalted above the fine land and water scenery that surrounds it, to look down with proud and commanding distinction upon its territorial dominion, is, nevertheless, a very grand and picturesque feature of the southern shore, on which this gentleman is lord of a tract of no less than 4000 Conyngham acres.\*

The mansion-house of Cultra, a large and commodious edifice, though not a gothic pile, has a somewhat ancient and castellated appearance.—It

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\* In 1741, a farm on this property, of medium value, was let by lease at 2s. 6d. per acre, and in 1809 at £2. 10s.—In 1705 the rent-roll of this property was only £297. 16s. 5d.; in 1802 it had risen to £1,850; and, in 1814, the annual income of this estate was £5,300.—This will give the reader some idea of the progressive value of land in this country; but, if we were to judge of its present value by the price of farming produce, most modern farms in Ireland are let too high.

stands on a demesne of 280 acres, decorated with plantations, which to the eye of the spectator, on the elevated lands of that region of country, arrange their verdant and variegated foliage on the plain, as one of the most rich and picturesque ornaments of that portion of the shore: and to this imposing effect of the lawns of Cultra, a wood which overhangs this seat, and is a valuable feature of this property, largely contributes. These lands are also distinguished by a very striking and original feature in their natural history; namely, a magnesian lime-stone quarry. Of this species of stone, (which, although very poor naturalists ourselves, we presume is not a common feature of the country) the celebrated Dr. Henry, of Manchester, obtained a specimen, for the purpose, we presume, of analyzing it, in order to ascertain its medical properties.—As chemistry, however, is not our profession, we venture to say, on the credit of public report, that those gentlemen who have a medical concern with the mineral productions of this soil, will find, in the scientific knowledge and well known courtesy of Dr. Macdonnell, of Donegall-place, Belfast, some valuable information for the government of their researches. As this gentleman is well known to have devoted his attention to the geological history of this county, we trust our obvious motive for making this public use of his name will apologise for the liberty we have here taken.

The Cultra property is said to be composed, for the most part, of a strong argillaceous soil,

well adapted to the growth of wheat and potatoes; two products of the soil that are more generally cultivated, and are said to be better suited to this district of the coast, than any other in the usual routine of our productions.

Cultra house and demesne are situate on the southern coast of the bay of Carrickfergus, six miles west of Belfast, nine east of Donaghadee, 86 north of Dublin, and within about two English miles of the village of Hollywood, which is the post town to it.

#### *Rockport.*

This seat of John Turnly, Esq. is another feature of this shore which deserves attention.—It comprehends a good modern edifice, and 78 acres of demesne (Conyngnam measure.) It is embellished with plantations, and very neatly laid out. The lands appear in high heart; and in point of prospect, nothing can be more beautiful than that view of the town of Carrickfergus over the crystal surface of the bay, which this seat commands.

Rockport, which owes its existence and beauty to the present resident, stands seven miles west of Belfast, which is its post town, and 87 north of Dublin.

#### *Lodge.*

This seat of William Magee, Esq. stands on a private road, which communicates with the public road (usually denominated the shore road) be-

tween Belfast and Carrickfergus, and is composed of a good modern edifice, and 32 Irish acres of demesne, ornamentally planted. With regard to prospect, the seats on this private road are not so advantageously circumstanced as some others; the lands being rather too remote from the best scenery of the country, and not sufficiently elevated, to command a rich and extensive view of the neighbouring bay, and of a highly improved country beyond it; but, in reference to the pleasures of *solitude*, the seats in the vicinity of this private road are well circumstanced.

Lodge stands 81 Irish miles north of Dublin, and one mile north of Belfast, which is the post town to it.

#### *Fortfield.*

This neat villa, (with many others of similar aspect) on the northern shore of the bay of Belfast, stands on the Belfast estate, which can boast of a more numerous progeny of such improvements in the neighbourhood of a great commercial town, than perhaps any other town in the United Kingdom.—Fortfield, which is the seat of William Johnson, Esq. comprehends an ornamentally-planted lawn, and a neat lodge, standing, like a snow-drop, on a pleasing elevation above the water; and therefore, for a bird's-eye view of Belfast, and that portion of the bay which approaches to the town, Fortfield is better circumstanced than most other seats on that private road, which we have just noticed in our descrip-

tion of Lodge, as opening a communication with the shore road to Carrickfergus.

From the taste and judgment displayed in the arrangement of this little seat, the spectator would suppose the demesne to be much more extensive than it is (it containing, in reality, but 16 Irish acres;) but the value of land, and that high cultivation of the public mind which characterises Belfast, very naturally call forth, in the execution of villas, that perfection of taste and science, by which the landscape gardener traces the geography of his soil, and adapts the site of his edifice, and the sportive course of his plantations, to the surrounding views, and to the proud exhibition of his beauties to the neighbouring country.

Fortfield stands on the road last noticed, about one English mile from Belfast, which is its post town, and at a very short distance from the shore road; which opens a communication between that town and Carrickfergus.

#### *Mount Collier.*

This is another of those snug villas which characterise the Belfast estate, and embellish the shore road from that town to Carrickfergus.—It is the seat of Mr. Hudson, and comprehends a large dwelling-house and 15 Irish acres of demesne. The house is, indeed, suited to a much more extensive demesne than this; and, if taken in connection with the full-grown appearance of



the timber which enrich its acres, would pass very well for the head-quarters of a stock-farm of 200 acres, instead of the villa of a citizen who had retired from the noise and bustle of Belfast, *to make his soul* in peace, on a sweet little planted bank, near the shores of his native water.

The scenery of this portion of the shore having been previously noticed, a particular description of the view from Mount Collier would not introduce any new object to the reader's attention.

Mount Collier stands one mile nearly north of Belfast, which is its post town, and 82 north of Dublin.

#### *Fort William.*

This, considering its position, (within one mile and a half of Belfast, on the shore road) is an unusually *extensive* feature of this fine district of the Belfast property. It is the seat of George Langtry, Esq. and is called Fort William, from a fort on the demesne, in which King William is said to have lodged on his landing at Carrickfergus.—Fort William comprehends a commodious dwelling-house and nearly 100 Irish acres of demesne; a quantity of land in the hand of a private individual, that is by no means frequent in the vicinity of a town so wealthy and populous as Belfast.—The lands of Fort William are composed of a heavy argillaceous soil, well adapted to wheat, potatoes, and meadow. It is enriched by some well-grown plantations; and, in point of prospect, it commands a view to Carrickfergus,

over the bay, and of that finely improved country on the distant shore, of which we have given specimens in the course of our perambulations *beyond the water*.

Fort William stands nearly 82 miles north of Dublin, and Belfast is the post town to it.

*Belfast mills.*

These mills are the property of Messrs. John Alexander and Co. They are extensive in the flour manufactory department. The perfection of the machinery of this establishment may be estimated from the main wheel, which measures about 32 feet in diameter, and (with the exception of the arms) is composed of metal and iron. They were erected by Mr. Alexander, sen. at his own sole expense, and may be considered as a feature of some consequence, if not in the trade, at least in the useful accommodations, of Belfast. To these mills, a handsome modern dwelling-house is attached, together with 28 acres of an highly improved demesne. The house is ornamented with a neat Grecian portico, and commands a pleasing view of the Devis mountain, and of the spire of Belfast church, in its immediate neighbourhood; and although this place does not, either in its interior features or distant prospect, rank in the class of the *magnificent*, yet, for utility and decency of aspect, it is an improvement of consideration in the modern history of Belfast.

*Cabin-hill.*

This well elevated and well circumstanced cottage beauty, comprehends a very neat cottage and a prettily planted demesne of 18 Conyngham acres, on the mail-coach road, between Belfast and Donaghadee, at the distance of two miles and a half from the former, which is its post town; and eighty-two and a half miles north of Dublin.

In the year 1817, Cabin-hill was the seat of Dr. Drennan, (since deceased) whose name stood conspicuous in the literary annals of Belfast.— We are not in possession of those documents, which would enable us to give the public a syllabus of his life and writings, and therefore we introduce his name merely from public report. We believe he practised for some time as a physician in Belfast, was one of the managers of the new college there, and a member of some literary societies in that town. In politics he is said to have ranked among the *libertales*; and, as a writer, he is known to have been a principal support of the Belfast magazine; (a work now extinct) but beyond this, public report does not authorise us to proceed; nor, as our business is only to perpetuate his memory as a literary inhabitant of Belfast, shall we become the organ of those condemnatory or approbatory opinions of his religious and political creed, which are held by the gentlemen of that country. We shall however take occasion, from this incident, to say, that a biographical sketch of the public men of Ire-

land, in connection with a brief review of its political history since the revolution, would be a work at once useful and honourable to the country; and, although incompatible with the limits of a survey or a tour, and with the payment of a debt which this only can discharge, yet, in contemplation of that object, we respectfully solicit the communications of the gentlemen of Ireland, (to the care of our agent in Dublin) in addition to those which have been already communicated to the world by history or other authentic public documents. We contemplate the publication of these biographical memoirs as being calculated, more than any other department of our history, to introduce Ireland to the view of nations, and to that niche in the talented history of Europe, to which its character entitles it; and in justification of this design, we beg to mention, that if either an Irish or a Scottish Plutarch has found its way into the world since the revolution of 1688, we have not seen it, although we believe the British Plutarch includes within its pale some eminent men of both countries. It is true, we approve of an identity of interests, and deprecate the approach of any thing that would tend to disturb its *political* harmony; but although, thank God, our eyes are open to that object, yet, as the national distinctions that we wish to preserve are of another character, and instead of disturbing our political harmony, will tend to promote the glory of the empire, by exciting among its members a salutary competition for fame, so we shall feel ourselves

extremely honoured by being appointed to fill the office of an herald, in proclaiming to the world, that however Ireland may languish under religious or political disabilities, she still possesses that *mind*, which once raised her to the highest pinnacle of eminence in the literary rank of nations.

Nor is it presumptuous to assert, that a literary and political history of Ireland since the revolution, would be a fit medium for such a biographical review, and would, in all probability, prepare the way for an extension of this interesting department of its history to other nations.—We shall however leave our fitness for this office, as well as the subject itself, to be decided by the nation; and should the work be undertaken by heads better qualified for its execution than our own, they shall have our cordial co-operation; and, with hearty affection, we shall sit down to admire a painting of the HIBERNIAN PLUTARCH, to which our pencil could not aspire; and shall only claim from our country the merit of having given those heads the hint, and of having admonished them, in their SUPERIOR WISDOM, not to forget the *minute tints and lesser graces* of the nation, without which their portrait of Ireland will neither be a beautiful nor a perfect picture of the talents of the country.

We shall also, before we proceed farther in our tour, procure for ourselves the merit of A SECOND NEW HINT; a hint, to the scandal of Ireland, and for aught we know, to that of the whole empire, (O dedecus nationum!) that has been left to a

work of the nineteenth century since the birth of Christ, and the descent of Julius Cæsar upon Britain. We have no doubt but the reader is looking with anxiety to a developement of this *new discovery*, which he will suppose, *very justly*, to be of great importance to the nation, since we have ushered it in with such a dismal exclamation! and it is very possible, if he happen to be a member of that very numerous tribe, which feel nothing to be important that has not a quick and sensible operation upon its own interests, that he will despise the whole!—Oh yes; we are very well aware, that the despicable reptiles of that order will set no value upon our *hint*; that the name of Milton and his neglected family are just of as much importance to them as the names of Jerry Tyler and John Gilpin; and that the labours of all such men, including those of the numerous literary societies, which are the glory of our country, are worth just as much, in their estimation, as their works would sell for in a grocer's shop! To such men (full of themselves and empty of all beside) we would address ourselves in vain on any subject which has the happiness of literary men for its object. They may indeed *attempt*, on a field-day, to deck their heartless figures with a feather stolen from the admirable plumage of their works; but, for the sufferings of literary men, they have no sympathy, and they are generally indifferent to the pre-eminence of Britain in the rank of nations. We shall therefore turn from those heartless wretches, who, being

dead to all that is grand and exalted in our nature, cannot feel for the sufferings of a Dryden, a Milton, or a Marvel; and approaching those, who are the legitimate patrons of merit, the royal family of Great Britain, we shall say to the royal dukes who compose that august house—Has it never entered your thoughts, among the many noble institutions you have patronised, to set a brilliant example to the courts of Europe, by laying the foundation of a retreat in England for literary Britons of broken fortunes? The misfortunes of this amiable, and too frequently *thoughtless*, class of men, cannot have escaped the notice of your royal minds; nor would it be doing justice to your feelings to suppose that you have traced their misfortunes on the page of history without emotion; or, that you have no interest in rescuing Great Britain from the obloquy of having made no provision for those men, and their orphan families, by whose talents the name of Britain has been raised high in the scale of intellect and science, and from whose labours her whole population derive illumination and support!!—Forbid the thought!—It cannot be that the royal family of Great Britain, and the numerous literary societies that grace this mighty empire, will continue for ever to overlook the utility of such an institution, or the honour that it would confer upon our country.—They have not forgotten what contributed so largely to the glory of the French court and nation, when Louis XIV. had collected around him such a blaze of literary talent, as dazzled, by

its refulgence, all the courts of Europe in that day!—The French, however, did not establish a retreat for European talent, and hence the grandeur of Louis XIV. was not transmitted to his heirs.—This work has been left for the royal family of Great Britain: we hope they will perform it.—The glory, however, with which it would cover the house of Brunswick and the British empire, is too apparent to require a train of arguments to produce a conviction of its utility in cultivated minds.

*Seats in the vicinity of the bay.*

Before we enter upon that district of the bay of Belfast, to which Carrickfergus is the post town, and which, by the wisdom of antiquity, (at whose throne and every other throne that has power to support it, the nations bow) has been constituted the assize town of this great county (although certainly the centre and not the shore, should be the spot for such a meeting of the people) we shall notice the natural history of a tract of soil that extends from the Cave-hill, a mountain of the Belfast chain, nearly to Warring's town, an interesting village in the county of Down, that has been particularly noticed in our tour through that county. This tract, or vein, of country, is eminently pregnant with lime-stone, a production which renders it valuable to the neighbouring farmers, who send a distance of nearly twenty miles, from the country towards Castlewellan, to purchase it for manure.



Some of those limestones, on the lands of Springfield, the seat of Messrs. R. and J. Richardson, are rendered remarkable by curious representations of trees, plants, &c., as if they had been marine productions, or soft substances, that had been thrown by some convulsion into a contact with harder bodies, and afterwards petrified.

*Scoutbush.*

This is also a feature of Lord Donegall's estate, and is indebted, for its measure of improvement, to James Craig, Esq. whose seat it is; a gentleman, who in the year 1807, represented the corporation of Carrickfergus in the imperial parliament.

It comprehends a good dwelling-house on the summit of a bank, that rises gracefully above the bay, and nearly seventy Irish acres of demesne; and, in point of prospect, the beautiful hill of Knockagh (already noticed in our description of Sea-park) bounds this landscape on the rear; the bay of Belfast, sustaining numerous flotillas on its heaving bosom, spreads its mighty waters in the front; the south-west view is graced by the Cave-hill and other mountains of the Belfast chain; Carrickfergus is seen projecting its heavy group of architecture into the sea; and lastly, the light-house island, rising like Neptune above his watery dominion, brings into *contact*, and gives the last *transporting touch* to the masculine and feminine beauties of this scene.

The shore road, so often noticed, as opening

a communication, through a scene of incomparable beauty, between the ports of Belfast and Carrickfergus, sweeps by the lawn of Scoutbush, and presents to the spectator on its summit, the gay variety of dresses and painted vehicles which are moving over it in quick succession to these ports; and taken in connection with the grandeur of the mountain scene, and the flotillas pressing for the channel, or returning from the sun to his favourite daughter of the Ulster Hesperian coast,\* render this one of the most gay and lively spectacles, with which the human imagination could wish to feast itself in the summer season.

Scoutbush stands about seven miles from Belfast, nearly two from Carrickfergus, which is its post town, and 87 miles north of Dublin.

#### *Castle Dobbs.*

In justice to this work, which aspires to the character of a faithful portrait of the country; and in justice to an estate of the most respectable and ancient family of Dobbs; we regret that it was not in our power (from circumstances of domestic affliction with which it had been visited) to obtain such information of this property, from the only legitimate source, as would enable us to offer to the public a concise view of its natural and artificial history.

The name of Dobbs was known to us by public report (and we felt an interest in every thing con-

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\* Belfast.

nected with it) before we had ventured to embark our very humble talents in this enterprise; and although a tribute to the memory of departed worth, is foreign to the objects of a survey or a tour, and far distant from the cold calculations of a work of profit, yet we yield to obey the feelings of our heart, although it may be at the expense of our reputation; and while performing our pilgrimage through the wilderness of this world, we trust it shall always afford us a more dear and interesting delight, to lean on our pilgrim's staff over the tomb of virtue, (that our heart may feel, and our eye drop the tear of sympathy upon it) than to cull the fairest flower, or the greenest laurel, that ever decked the Muses brow on the flowery summit of Parnassus.

Castle Dobbs, the seat and part of the estate of Richard Dobbs, Esq. and the ancient residence of the Dobbs family, stands on the coast road from Carrickfergus to Larne, at the distance of three miles from the former, which is the post town to it, and 92 north of Dublin.

*Rosebrook.*

This is the seat of Hill Wilson, Esq. (son to a gentleman of that name, who represented the county of Antrim in the Irish parliament). It comprehends a cottage and a few acres of demesne, being a part of the corporation lands of Carrickfergus, a town of considerable antiquity in the history of Ulster. Previous to the Union it returned two members to the Irish parliament,

and now returns one to the imperial. This ancient town is, however, of too much importance to the Ulster district, to be passed over in an oblique allusion to its parliamentary history; and we therefore propose, on our return from Larne, to enter more at large into this subject, on the authority of some ancient records, but chiefly of an historian, whose long residence in that town must have rendered him familiar with its history. The name of this writer we have forgotten, having lost the title-page of his book; but have heard that he was a man of merit, who, without any other advantage than the diligent improvement of a good natural capacity, had qualified himself to become the historian of his town.

Rosebrook stands in the vicinity of Carrickfergus, which is the post town to it.

#### *Ballyhill.*

Ballyhill, the seat of Noah Dalloway, Esq. is a handsome modern residence; and, from its position on a beautiful elevation above the sea and surrounding country, it has, in the article of prospect, the advantage of most other seats in the fine district between Carrickfergus and Larne. This seat stands in the immediate neighbourhood of Castle Dobbs, 92 miles north of Dublin, and about four miles from Carrickfergus, which is the post town to it.

*Carrickfergus cotton factory.*

This factory, which contains about 4,000 spindles, is the property of Mr. James Cowan, who erected and completed it in 1811; since which, it has manufactured, on an average, about 80,000 lbs. weight of cotton wool annually, and employed about 60 individuals of the labouring poor. It is an establishment, therefore, of considerable service to the social economy of Carrickfergus, and one of the most respectable features of its commercial history.

*Woodburn calico print works.*

These works have been erected on the corporation lands of Carrickfergus, by the proprietor, Mr. Stuart Dunn, who bleaches and prints, annually, about 15,000 pieces of plain calicoes, shawls, and muslins, and furnishes 80 or 100 of the labouring poor with employment. This establishment was doing well in 1817, as most of those establishments were, whose possession of solid capital enabled them to weather out the previous hurricane, by which the *straw* houses of Ireland and elsewhere, were blown down about the ears of their poor honest builders, whose industry would appear to deserve a better fate.

Woodburn stands on a country road, which opens a communication between Carrickfergus and the villages of Straid, Ballyclare, and Ballymure, about two English miles west of Carrickfergus, which is the post town to it.

*Red-hall.*

This seat of Richard G. Ker, Esq. may be considered as the most respectable feature of a valuable property, on which this gentleman chiefly, if not solely, resides.

It is also a beautiful and graceful improvement of that portion of the Antrim coast, which extends from Carrickfergus to Larne; but, from its low position on the shore, you do not, in your perambulations through this otherwise interesting demesne, enjoy the pleasures of an open and extensive prospect.

The village of Ballycarry, which has a small weekly market, stands on this estate, and Red-hall, the subject of this memoir, on an interesting and elevated road, that opens a communication between Carrickfergus and Larne, (in full view of the Irish channel) at the distance of about five miles from Carrickfergus, which is its post town, and 98 miles north of Dublin.

We have been compelled to acknowledge, that Red-hall cannot boast of a towering position; and it remains for us to notice those pleasures of solitude for which it is well calculated; containing within itself those charming shades that are suited to meditation, and those beauties of lawn and forest, which combine, with a silent and serene sky, to tranquillize the passions, and raise the thinking soul in gratitude to the great author of this earthly temple, who has taught his creatures to decorate it; that, from a comparison of its

harmony and beauty with the awful splendour of its ruins, his thoughts, by a natural transition, may be raised in devotion to the Lord of that vineyard, in which man is the most fallen, but most glorious temple; who can eradicate its noxious weeds, and replant it with trees of righteousness—who can create it anew, by the agency of that spirit which once moved upon the waters of the deep—who can replenish its *new* productions with the river of life, which proceedeth from the throne of God—who can enrich it with fruits of celestial flavour—and with flowers, under whose melting fragrance the soul shall sicken with delight!—who can inclose this vineyard, and protect it from the foe, by legions of celestial spirits—who can raise the soul to an infinitude of beauty and grandeur above all earthly landscapes; and, render it an impenetrable fortress, against which the dogs may bark and the vultures fly in vain!—And finally—who can give it a moral fitness for the glories of that city, which needeth not the light of a created sun; whose gates are open by day, and over which night never draws her sable curtain—that city of God, whose temple is HOLINESS, whose altar is GRATITUDE, and whose duration is ETERNITY itself!\*

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\* The reader will recollect that the existence of ruins in a landscape does not destroy its harmony and beauty; and he will excuse those blended allusions to the ruins of the earth and of the human soul, and to the restoration of both to their primeval excellence, which are contained in the above reflections.

## CHAPTER VII.

*History of Carrickfergus.—Scenery, agriculture, and natural history of the neighbouring country.—Antiquities.—Town of Larne, on the Antrim coast.—Village of Glynn.—Seats in the vicinity of Larne described.—Reflections on the sublime and beautiful of the shore.—Brief description of the town of Antrim.—Honourable anecdote of the late Lord Massarene.—Humorous remarks on the wisdom of antiquity, and on the free and independent electors of the bogs of Ireland!!!—Seats in the vicinity of Antrim.—Fairies, and so forth.*

*Carrickfergus.*

BY the most ancient and authentic history of this town, its original name was Dunsobarky, which is a compound of two Celtic words—"Dun," signifying an insulated rock, and "Sober, or Soberky," strong or powerful. An Irish writer has very beautifully translated these, "an *impregnable* fortress;" a hint which, if properly improved by some future translator, may elevate Dunsobarky, now Carrickfergus, into an "all powerful rock;" and either of these translations might have been enrolled in our Irish etymological dictionary, if Thurot, the French general, (*an infidel of course*) had not stepped in to disturb the harmony of our translation, by his conquest of this town. As



Carrickfergus is noticed by this name in O'Conor's *Scotia Antiqua*, or a Map of Ireland, agreeable to the times of Ptolemy, the geographer, the opinion of those historians who suppose that it was first inhabited by a Celtic people, seems to have rational foundation; as the language of a people is usually the most certain criterion of their origin. But, although we have taken for granted that a colony of Celts arrived here at a very remote period, yet no town appears to have been erected for *several centuries*. This opinion is in some measure strengthened by its not being noticed as such by Ptolemy, the Egyptian geographer, who has mentioned the bay by the name of Vinderius. As he is pretty correct in noticing maritime towns, this proves at least its early obscurity; which, indeed, is easily accounted for, by referring to the manners of the Celts, who were literally roving barbarians, living in forests without any fixed habitation. It seems, therefore, more than probable, that the ancient name related merely to the insulated rock on which the castle stands; and that no buildings deserving the name of a town were here, prior to the English invasion. After the arrival of the English, this place is first mentioned by the name of Carrig, or Cragfergus, the former part of which seems derived from the Welsh, and signifies a rock or stone. Kairrig, or Carrig, in the Irish language, has also the same signification; but, as many of those employed by Henry II. in the conquest of the country, were Welshmen, who

gave Welsh names to places, it is in all likelihood derived from the former. Besides, it is very improbable that an English colony, settled by the right of conquest, would give a name to any settlement of theirs, in the language of the country.

The first part of this name has often been somewhat changed; yet still retaining the same signification. During the reign of Elizabeth, it was usually called Knockfergus and Cragfergus. In the charter, granted by James I., it was called both Carrickfergus and Knockfergus; and in the succeeding reign, often Rockfergus.—In records of the place, anno 1670, it was called Villa de Cragfergus.

The latter part of the name is said to be derived from the account of a king, called Fergus, who was lost in a storm near this place, about 320 or 330 years before Christ. He is also reputed to have been the first king of Scotland; but as Ireland was, for upwards of 1000 years after Christ, called Scotia, and modern Scotland, Caledonia, the supposition of his being a Scottish king, is perhaps incorrect.

The colonists placed here by De Courcy, to whom Henry II. granted this whole province, appear to have made little progress in building a town. The smallness of their numbers, and the unsettled state of the country from the ravages of the natives, and the dissensions that took place between the De Courcys and De Lacys, were sufficient obstacles to retard the progress of an

infant colony; for, in 1204, Walter De Lacy, Lord of Meath, and Hugh De Lacy, Earl of Ulster, fled into France, being banished by King John, for the murder of John De Courcy, (Lord of Ráthenny and Kilbarrack) natural son of John De Courcy, late Earl of Ulster. They were afterwards pardoned by King John, and restored to their estates, on paying large fines; Walter, 4,000 marks, for Meath, and Hugh, 2,500 for Ulster.

The forementioned broils, doubtless, retarded the progress of the town, which is first mentioned as being founded by Hugh De Lacy the younger, in 1230; from which period, it appears to have become the chief seat and garrison of the English, in this province, and commonly remained in their possession, when the greatest part of the country was overrun by the Irish. Maurice Fitz-Gerald, a Welshman, who came over with Henry II. is also said to have founded this town, when lord deputy, in 1242; but as De Lacy was successor to De Courcy, both in titles and estates, and founded a monastery here in 1232, in which he was afterwards interred, it is probable that previous to his time, this place was only the seat of some despicable huts, and that he had the honour of laying the foundation of a town there.

The clashing of those accounts, perhaps, proceeds from the attention paid to the place by Fitz-Gerald, when chief governor, who appears to have been very vigilant while in office, by strengthening the English settlements, as he

castellated several places within the English pale.

From the founding of the town, history is silent for some time, as to any event of moment; yet feuds and jealousies appear to have been still increasing between the De Lacys, feudal lords of Ulster, and the government, which at length broke forth into open war. But these were not the only enemies that the English had to contend with. The town was hotly disputed by the Scotch, in Robert Bruce's days, and appears to have been the scene of many a conflict; and, in modern times, it was taken by the French under Thurot, after a spirited resistance of the garrison, who were obliged to surrender in consequence of a failure in their ammunition. Paul Jones, the celebrated pirate, with a ship of eighteen six-pounders also had an engagement in the bay of Carrickfergus, with the Drake, a British ship of twenty guns, four-pounders, and they say, (a thing somewhat surprising) beat her hollow, April 20, 1778. So that taking all these things together, the history of this place is by no means common. Carrickfergus must, indeed, have been the theatre of many bloody scenes in former times; particularly when the English colonists, who remained firm to their government, were butchered without mercy by the Scotch invaders under Bruce; and when the garrison was reduced to such distress, as to be obliged to eat up eight Scotchmen, whom they had taken prisoners of war! It also derived *celebrity* from an eminent

monastery which once flourished here, and had many religious edifices attached to it; so that there is hardly any kind of history you would wish to enter into, that Carrickfergus will not furnish you with a sample of!—Indeed the inhabitants of few towns can boast, like the men of Carrickfergus,

Of first fighting Scotchmen, and then eating them;  
 Of pirates fighting them, and then beating them;  
 Of Frenchmen landing there, and then cheating them;  
 Of *monk-ies* building there, and then seating them.

#### *Trade.*

As Carrickfergus was anciently the chief English settlement in the north of Ireland, it soon became a place of considerable trade. Prior to the reign of Elizabeth, it is said to have been the principal mart of commerce in Ulster. The mercantile affairs of the town were formerly governed by a guild of merchants, the privileges of which were confirmed by James I.

These privileges continued to be possessed by the corporation, until 1637; at which time this grant proving prejudicial to the crown, the Earl of Strafford prevailed on the corporation to surrender it back to the government, for a stipulated sum, which was to be laid out in the purchase of lands, for the benefit of the corporation; but it does not appear that any lands were purchased, nor what became of the money!—but why should we be surprised at this—it is an old game, and often played over. The trustees in

this transaction are said to have been, Arthur Chichester, Arthur Hill, and Roger Lyndon.

The town of Carrickfergus extends along the northern shore of the bay (to which it formerly gave its name) nearly a mile. This bay, like all other unstable things, (since Carrickfergus got poor and out of fashion) appears to be throwing off the name of her old friend, and taking that of Belfast, the rising city of her shore. This homage to the rising sun, is, however, in some degree justified, by the immense number of shipping which Neptune has appointed her to bear in triumph to this rising port; and by the improvements of the Belfast ballast-office, to which the trade of this district is indebted for an increase of five feet of water at the landing places. Formerly, at high sea, these could boast of only eight or nine feet of water at most; at present, vessels which draw 13 feet of water can come close to the wharfs: but for a more particular account of this bay, the reader is referred to the "Geographical position and natural history of the bay of Belfast," in a subsequent part of this work.

The streets of Carrickfergus, within the walls, are Broad-street, Castle-street, West-street, North-street, Essex-street, or Crannagh-bann, Dawson-street, or Jail-lane, and Joymount-court. This latter is also the chief public walk of the place. The houses are built either of stone or brick, mostly of the former, the greater part two or three stories high within the walls, and generally slated; many of the best having been built within the last

few years. However, a few of the houses, if not recently demolished, still present an air of antiquity to the stranger; the most antique were those built of bricks in frames of oak. Lamps were erected a few years ago; they are pretty numerous; but in the suburbs they are so very few, that when lighted, as the author of Carrickfergus observed, they only serve to make "darkness visible!"

The east suburb is called the Scotch quarter, and the west, the Irish quarter. They contain a greater number of houses and inhabitants than the town, as may be seen by the following list taken in May, 1811:

	Houses.	Inhabitants.
In the town - -	213 - - -	985
Irish quarter - -	168 - - -	810
Scotch quarter - -	122 - - -	561
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	503	2356

Eighteen houses in the above list were licensed for the sale of spirits, and thirteen for groceries.

In 1797, the number of dwelling-houses in the town and suburbs was 452. The Scotch quarter was so called from a colony of fishermen, who arrived here from Argyle and Galloway shires, chiefly during the persecution in Scotland, about the year 1665; and this profession they appear to have transmitted to their successors, as its present inhabitants are chiefly of the same occupation. The Irish quarter had, in all likelihood, its rise about the same time. In 1677, the Duke

of Ormond (then chief governor of the kingdom) and council, by their proclamation, ordered all Catholics to remove without the walls of forts, cities, and corporate towns.

The chief architectural article in the history of this town, since 1776, is the erection of the court-house and jail of the county of Antrim, on the site of the then Earl of Donegall's castle, at that time a ruin.

On a rising ground, within the walls, stands the parish church, a very ancient building, having been formerly the chapel of the monastery of St. Francis. The subterraneous passage, by which it communicated with the other, is still to be seen. It is built in the form of a cross, with gothic windows, and dedicated to St. Nicholas within, to distinguish it from one of the same name without the walls, the site of which is not now known. The chancel window is of stained glass, which represents John (baptist) baptizing Christ in Jordan, and is well executed; two small windows in the west are also of stained glass. These windows did not originally belong to the church, but were brought from the private chapel of Danganhouse, county Meath, lately the seat of the Marquis Wellesley, and were presented to the parish, as a gift, by George Burleigh, Esq. of Burleigh-hill. There are two entrances into this church; viz. on the north and west; that on the north is by a vestry room, built at the sole expense of the late Reverend Dean Dobbs, who is interred there. In the south wall of the chancel, opposite this



entrance, is a mural monument, erected to his memory, with the following inscription:—

Sacred  
to the Memory of  
the Rev. Richard Dobbs, A. M.  
Dean of Connor ;  
whose life was devoted to a faithful  
and zealous discharge of pastoral duties,  
through a period of near forty years.  
Possessed of a temper calm and deliberate ;  
his calmness was the result of firmness  
of mind ; and his deliberation, wisdom :  
his piety was unaffected and sincere ;  
the affections of his heart strong and  
permanent.

He was called  
to receive the everlasting reward  
of his pious and charitable labours,  
on the IVth day of Feb. M.DCCCII.,  
in the LXI year of his age,  
*Multis ille bonis sebilis occidit.*

Monuments also of the houses of Donegall and Antrim are here, which give an air of history to this place, and contribute largely to its venerable and solemn aspect.

Here is a free school, supported by subscription, by the gentlemen and ladies of the town and neighbourhood. For many years the free school of the diocese of Connor was held here : to its support the bishop of the diocese gave £10 per annum, the beneficed clergy £14. 5s., the Marquis of Donegall £3. 3s. 4d., and the Earl of Masserene £1. 11s. 6d. ; but after some time, so much difficulty was found in collecting this money, that the school was laid aside. In 1728, the Rev.

Owen Lloyd, dean of Connor, and rector of this parish, granted an acre of land to build a house on, for the above school; but this design was never carried into execution.

There is no public hospital here; but the charitable gifts of individuals to the poor are very numerous.

The castle is situated close to the town, and is an interesting specimen of the early Norman architecture; it stands on a high rock that projects into the sea, where it is seen nearly 30 feet high, shelving towards the land. The entrance is between two towers on the northern side, which are joined by a curtain, and mounts several pieces of cannon. Over the gateway is a portcullis, and apertures for throwing down stones, &c. Inside this gate is the guard-house, and a small barrack built a few years ago; likewise vaults called bomb-proof, but they do not deserve that name: here is also the armourer's forge, and a furnace for heating shot. In this yard, the mayor, according to ancient custom, is *sworn* into office.

Within the inner yard are store-houses, and a square tower 90 feet high, called the keep, the walls whereof are nine feet thick. The ascent to the top was formerly by winding stone stairs, within the wall of the western corner, in which there are loop-holes for the admission of air and light, since turned into a barrack, with an ascent by *wooden* stairs, in the interior of the building. On the top are two small houses, one of which covers the mouth of the passage; the other seems

to have been intended for a centinel. The lower part of this tower is bomb-proof, and serves as a magazine: the upper part was, in 1798, made into a foot barrack, but is a very incommensurable one.

The corner stones of this tower, also all other angles of the building, are built of a yellowish lime-stone, none of which is found at this side of the bay. The choice of such, however, displays considerable skill, as it is very durable. A stone of similar colour is found at Cultra, in the county of Down; probably the magnesian lime-stone alluded to in our description of that seat, and which might have been easily boated across the bay.

The fishery here gives employment to a considerable number of people; it is computed that near 300 are employed by it, including those who gather bait and cadgers.—The boats are in two divisions; those which sail from the quay are eight in number, all smack rigged, save one wherry, and are employed, when the weather will permit, either *trawling* or *dredging*.\* They commonly carry four hands each.—The price of one of these boats is from £30 to £60; trawling nets about £6.

Plaice and oyster are the general fish caught by these boats: the plaice arrive in this lough in spring, and continue till near the end of December, when they retire into deeper water; they return

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\* When fishing for plaice, it is called trawling, when for oysters, dredging or drudging.

again in May, and usually continue throughout the summer. Formerly they were more plenty than at present, upwards of two hundred having been taken at a *haul*; now, from two to four hundred is considered to be a tolerable day's fishing.

Oysters are caught throughout the eastern part of this lough, from the beginning of October to the end of April, or in the vulgar phrase, in every month which has an *r* in its name, after which time they go out of season. They are dredged up by a strong bag net, called a *drudge*, the mouth of which is kept open by iron bars. These nets are made from the refuse of tow, commonly called *grounds*.

The corporation are proprietors of nearly all the lands within its boundaries; also of the lands of Straid and Little Ballymena, lately declared to be without the franchise.—They are all let out, except about 1500 acres, which are used for grazing and turbary.

On this tract of commonage ground, none are suffered to graze their cattle but freemen; they, however, enjoy much less benefit from this peculiar privilege than might be expected, it being commonly overstocked; often so much, that many who have this right, prefer paying for them elsewhere, as in dry seasons they are said to be half starved.

The people who live near the meerings of the common reap most advantage, from the facility of rearing young cattle on it: this benefit, however, is also less than one would suppose at first

view, for the landlords who have lands adjoining, let them high, in proportion as they consider the tenants are situated to be benefited by commonage.

Several tracts of this common are also occupied for turbary, which is cut promiscuously by those residing within the franchises, who are entitled to this accommodation as well as the freemen; as appears by the following extract from the charter of James I.

“ And furthermore, of our more plentiful special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, we have given and granted, and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, do give, grant, and confirm to the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and their successors, that the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town aforesaid, and their successors, and all and *other the inhabitants* of the said town of Knockfergus, from time to time, may have, and *every* of them may have and enjoy, common of turbary in all places near Loughmorn, as also common of bog-turbary and heath, and of all other fuels necessary to be burned in the houses, ovens, and kitchens of the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty, of the *said* town of Knockfergus aforesaid, for the space or circuit of four miles adjacent to the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, in and on every side or part of the said town, without rendering any thing unto us, our heirs and successors, for the same, or to any other

person or persons whatsoever."—By the custom of this place, a person occupying a lot of turbary on this ground for three years, is considered to be proprietor of that lot; non-occupation for three years forfeits such property.

A considerable part of this common is bog, or covered with heath. In cutting peat in the former, some years since, a row of wooden stakes was discovered about seven feet below the surface, standing upright, and pointed with a hatchet or some sharp instrument. From a knob that remained on the head of each, it was conjectured they had been intended to fasten cattle to. Be this as it may, it considerably strengthens the opinion that peat has generated, "whilst tillage, and all attention to agriculture gave place to war and rapine."—Nevertheless, some marks of agriculture appear in certain tracts of excellent pasturage. These parts could easily be again reclaimed into arable land; and if let off to proper persons, and the rents applied to some public use within the corporation, it would doubtless be of more service to the community than those lands are in their present unproductive state. Indeed, from the increasing population of the country, and the present value of land and its productions, it is not a little surprising that such a large tract, much of which is highly reclaimable, should, by unaccountable neglect, be thus lost to the people. Let us hope that such culpable indifference to the public good will soon disappear, and that such parts of the corporation lands as are not

occupied by the inhabitants for turbarry, nor fit for that purpose, may be soon seen yielding to the spade and ploughshare.

*Scenery.*

The face of this country has a pleasing inequality of surface. Near the western extremity of a ridge, which runs west north-west by east south-east, through a considerable tract of country, is the highest hill of this district, called *Slieve-trus*, *i. e.* the hill of three, and is supposed to be about 1000 feet above the level of the lough or bay of Belfast.

The view from this hill, on a clear day, is remarkably fine: it includes a distant prospect of some high hills in Gallowayshire, Scotland, and the Isle of Man, also the mountains of Mourne, part of the town of Belfast and adjoining bay, with that fine shelving country, from Ballymacarrat to Donaghadee. A large tract of the county Antrim is also seen from hence; likewise Lough Neagh, and several hills in the counties of Tyrone and Derry.

Near the above hill, and detached from the ridge just noticed, stands Knockagh, *i. e.* the Virgin's hill, anciently called Knockskeiagh, *i. e.* the hill of the whitethorn; a great number of this kind growing beneath its southern brow, which is finely infracted, and here and there covered with natural shrubs, as hazel, &c. which add not a little to the romantic beauty of its appearance.

*Mineral waters.*

The mineral waters of this neighbourhood are not numerous, yet they afford variety.—Adjoining the eastern part of the town, in the bed of a small river, is a well of nitrous water, commonly called Miss Spraight's well, from a lady of that name having caused an arch to be erected over it for its preservation. This arch has now fallen down, and the well nearly lost, by the river flowing over it during floods.

No experiments, that we could learn, have been made upon this water, except by Dr. Rutty, who, in his account of the "Mineral Waters of Ireland," has given an accurate analysis of its qualities.—The lands of this corporation, within the last half century, are said to have risen to double, and even treble their former value.

Town-parks, some years since, let from £4. 10s. to £7 per acre, and ground for potatoes; by the square perch, *without* dung, at the rate of £13 per acre, plantation measure!

Formerly the leases granted by the different land-holders were *generally* for 41 years, or three lives; but, as the leases expire, they are now adopting the plan of short ones. These recently granted, are either 21 years or three lives, or 31 years and one life.

*Agriculture.*

The agriculture of this neighbourhood, though far from being perfect, has been latterly much



improved.—Some parts, formerly commonage have been of late reclaimed into arable land, and some planted with ornamental or forest trees, which improve the appearance of the country; but, in the way of plantation improvement, much remains to be done for the perfection of this district.

The crops cultivated here are wheat, barley, oats, flax, and potatoes. Of the wheat, less is sown than formerly: the chief cause is said to be, that one crop of it was found, by experience, to reduce the land as much as three of oats. Some barley is sown here, usually in April: this crop is generally very productive; but oats is the principal grain cultivated in the district of Carrickfergus.

This town is famous for the manufacture of cheese, whose quality has been much applauded. This celebrated curd sold, in 1778, for 3d. per pound, and has since risen to 8d. per pound.

#### *Dangerous sand bank.*

About a mile south-west of Carrickfergus castle, is a sand bank, nearly a mile in length, on which are about eight feet of water at ebb.—In the reign of William III. the *Speedwell*, a Scotch ship, was wrecked there; and, in the winter of 1799, the *William*, of Maryport, a coal brig, struck upon it and was lost, but the crew were fortunately saved. The above are the only vessels known to have suffered materially upon it, though several others were stranded. Some kelp

is burned along this shore ; but, except when the price is very high, the quantity is inconsiderable. All sea-weed cast on shore within this district is the property of the corporation : it was formerly let off at the annual rent of £5. At present, the corporation appear to have dropped this claim, for it is now gathered promiscuously.

#### *Lake.*

Nearly three miles north of Carrickfergus is a large lake of fresh water, called Loughmorn, literally Loughmor ; *i. e.* the great lough : it is about a mile and a quarter long ; and, on an average, about half a mile broad. It is said to be the largest sheet of water, *of the same altitude*, in Ireland, being 566 feet above the level of the bay of Belfast. Its water is supposed to be formed by a large spring near its centre, as there is no appearance of any spring near its margin. This opinion is somewhat confirmed by the appearance of a spot near the centre, which is seldom frozen in the winter season. The water is pure, and is stored with eels and pike : during winter it is much frequented by wild fowl ; as wild duck, widgeon, teal, and the like. The land near this lough is generally indifferent ; and the beauty of the lough, as an object in the landscape, nearly lost, as its banks are destitute of planting ; a strong reflection upon the taste of the proprietor. Very little runs in, but a stream runs out of this lake, which turns a cotton-mill.

Concerning the origin of this lough there is the

following curious tradition:—That it was once a large town, where, one evening, an old man came into it, seeking for a lodging, and being refused by several people, he said, “Although it was a town then, it would be a lough ere morn.” He instantly left the town, and retired to an adjacent hill. The people were soon alarmed by the ground sinking, and eels rising about their hearthstones; when lo! in an instant, the town sunk, “and like the baseless fabric of a vision, left not a wreck behind!”—The tradition adds, that since this event the place has been called Loughmorn. The rivers and brooks of this country are numerous, but none of considerable magnitude: they are, however, of much importance to society; as all that are fit are rendered instruments to assist human industry, and made, as it were, to toil in the different manufactories of the country.

The most remarkable of those waters, both for size and beauty, is that of Woodburn; its banks, perhaps, possessing as much natural beauty as any stream in Ulster. It rises from several springs in the western part of this county, and consists of two branches, both bearing the same name, and uniting about a mile and a half from the sea. The scenery on the banks of these streams is truly charming; being, in many places, covered with a profusion of natural shrubbery, and each having a fine cascade. That on the northern branch is particularly picturesque; the stream falling down a ledge of infracted rocks, whose summits are clad with shrubs entwined with the clambering ivy.

As the sheet of water which supplies this fall is not very large, it does not send forth that stunning noise which renders some cascades rather disagreeable: it is, to use the words of a certain writer, "a uniform murmur, such as composes the mind to pensive meditation."

Beside those which we have noticed as the principal, there are several lesser falls; so that, of these cascades it may be said—

"And falling fast, from gradual slope to slope,  
With wild infracted course and lessen'd roar,  
They gain a safer bed; and steal, at last,  
Along the mazes of the quiet vale."

This river turns, in its course, a large cotton-mill, and supplies two cotton-print fields with water, then empties itself into the sea a little south-west of the town.

At the southern fall are two caves hewn in a rock; the upper one is called Peter's cave: they can be entered with some difficulty, but are not spacious.—In the bed of this river is found the sea urchin, (*echinus coroxalis*) petrified into flint, which as yet has been only found in a fossil state: it is commonly called the horse elf-stone.

The star stone (*isis asteria*) is also found in this river, near its entrance into the sea.

Being a mountain stream, this river, after heavy rains, rises considerably, and runs with great rapidity.—Sunday, August 5th, 1810, it rose so suddenly, after a water-spout, that it carried off

a number of cows which were grazing on its banks. None of the cattle were, however, drowned, being fortunately cast on shore.

Loughmorn river, anciently called Orland water, takes its rise from the forementioned lough, and taking an easterly course, joins another small stream, and is then called the Copeland water.— It discharges itself into the sea about a mile east of the town.

Sulla-tober river rises about a mile and a half north of the town, from beneath a lime-stone rock, and taking a southern course, turns a corn-mill in its progress to the sea, where, at that part of the town called the Scotch quarter, it empties its tributary stores into this mighty reservoir.

The other streams are so small, as to require no particular notice. No fish are inhabitants of the above rivers, save trout and eels; except during the beginning of winter, when some young salmon, or, as they are generally termed, grawls, ascend the streams for the purpose of brooding. At present, their numbers are inconsiderable.

This neighbourhood still exhibits numerous monuments of the primitive inhabitants, especially in raths, barrows, and cairns. Of the two former, 19 yet remain: they are called promiscuously mounts, *forths*, or moats, and believed by some to be the abode of *fairies*; which opinion has contributed, not a little, to their preservation.

It is the opinion of some, that on these mounts were formerly held courts of judicature: some of their names appear to allude to this custom. Of

these names, several begin with *lis*, corrupted from *lois*, which signifies a court.—Spencer says, “it was common among the Irish to make assemblies upon a rath or hill, there to parley about matches between township and township.”

These mounts, as they are usually called, present very different appearances; some high, and gradually tapering to the top, others rather flat and hollow in the middle, apparently intended for defence; both kinds generally encompassed with a foss. The foss of the flat kind is much broader and deeper than the others. Very little attention appears to have been paid to the situation of the ground on which they stand, the top of several being lower than some of the ground adjoining.

Giraldus Cambrensis ascribes these forts to the Danes, and Spencer mentions their having reared *some* of them; however, the Irish appear to have erected many such forts long before the Danes conquered the country.\* They are said to have been proportioned to the property and power of the *toparch*: round these the clan resided, and within them they retreated from danger. Such of these mounds as are of a conical form appear to have been raised as monuments of distinguished chiefs; probably before the introduction of Christianity, as the custom was originally Scythian.—On opening one of these, adjoining Carrickfergus, a place was discovered on the north-west

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\* See Ware's Antiquities.

resembling a lime-kiln, but without any cement. In the bottom were found ashes, charcoal of wood, and some human bones. A few yards from these, within a circle of large stones, laid on their side, was found a number of urns containing ashes, the same kind of charcoal, and human bones. On the top of each urn was a large stone, bearing evident marks of cremation; and near them the skulls, and some other bones of animals, which had been probably offered in sacrifice.—Part of a deer's horn, the symbol of hunting, (which it was customary anciently to bury in a warrior's grave) was also found at the same place.

As we never read of the Irish burning their dead, this mound or barrow was certainly not of their erection; but the Piets, and other Scandinavian tribes who visited this country, followed this custom. By a law of Odin, the gothic legislator and deity, the body was ordered to be burned, and the ashes collected in an urn and laid in a grave.

Herodotus, who flourished 418 years before Christ, speaking of the tombs the Scythians raised for their kings, says:—"They laboured earnestly to raise as high a mound as possible." Lucan, the Roman poet, who flourished A. D. 65, alludes to the custom when he says—

"Under a mountain raised by hands they keep  
King's sacred ashes, in eternal sleep."

The same custom is also referred to in the Iliad.

"High in the midst they heap the swelling bed  
Of rising earth, memorial of the dead."

Thomas Molyneux, M. D. in his discourse concerning mounts and forts, mentions one opened near Carrickfergus, in which were found several Danish trumpets of brass, such as were formerly used in war.

Several of the flat forts have been levelled within these few years: their appearance confirmed the idea of their being intended merely for defence:—the breast-work or rampart of each was of the common soil of the neighbourhood; within the rampart the earth was deep and blackish, differing materially from the other parts. Some ashes and cinders of charcoal were found among this earth.

These monuments are pretty common in Denmark, Poland, Scotland, and other northern countries.

Of cairns there are three of considerable magnitude here, all on the tops of hills: that on *Shieve-true*, a hill in the west division, is largest, and is 77 yards in circumference at the base, and about 16 feet high. This heap is commonly distinguished by the name of the white cairn, perhaps from the stones being covered with a grey incrustation. This pile has no regular form, the stones being in a confused heap: they are commonly believed to be funeral piles of the dead.

On the summit of this cairn, at the north end, is a large stone six feet in length, and five and a half in breadth, but little more than two feet at the south; it is about two feet thick, and lies north and south. This stone was formerly supported by other large stones, and was doubtless a



Cromleigh, *i. e.* the stone of bowing or adoration. It remained on its supports until about fifty years ago, when a man dreaming of a great treasure being hid under it, he came hither with a number of others, and tumbled the stone to where it now lies; but he did not find the expected treasure. The cairns in this country are supposed by some to have been erected by the Danes or Norwegians, to whom this stone, perhaps, served as a rude altar. The greatest part of the religious rites of those people were performed on hills, where the sepulchres were, from a belief that the souls of the dead resided therein. The Irish also erected cairns. In the northern part of the county of Antrim, is one called M'Quillan's cairn. M'Quillan was a celebrated Irish chief, who fell in a battle with the Mac Donnells, about the beginning of the sixteenth century.

Cairns are found in the interior of North America, Siberia, and other northern countries, and are also common in Scotland and the Western Isles, and are believed to be funeral piles. The Highlanders, a Celtic people, who, from their remote situation, in all likelihood, retain ancient customs and phrases longer than those more highly civilized, still allude to the practice, in a proverb which they sometimes use, as a compliment to the heads of clans, "I will add a stone to your cairn." They might also have been raised as memorials of victory, or other public events: and that by Jacob and Laban, appears to have

been erected as the memorial of a solemn covenant.

### *Coins.*

Several coins of great antiquity have been found here, and among the rest, one of Edward I. The monarch's head is represented within a triangle, which triangle, according to the learned bishop Nicholson, was intended to represent the Irish harp.

### *Larne.*

This town, which stands on the sea-shore, is the usual pass for travellers, proceeding through Carrickfergus to the Giant's Causeway. It is a fair and post town, and is distinguished by an extensive bleach-yard in its immediate neighbourhood, the property of Messrs. J. M. and A. Barkie, where, from 10,000 to 16,000 pieces of yard-wide linens, of various qualities, are annually bleached. There are also very extensive flour and barley mills here, the property of George and Valentine Whitla and Co., where (according to our information) from 1500 to 2000 tons of wheat are annually manufactured into flour, and in the year 1817, 500 tons of barley into meal. The machinery, however, is capable of executing a much larger quantity of business. This establishment is said to have cost the original proprietor £27,000, of which £2,000 was expended on the wheel.

There is also a sail-cloth manufactory carried on here, by Messrs. James Carley and Co., import and export merchants of this town, which is the only one in this place or neighbourhood; beside which, this firm has a pretty extensive rope-walk. In the first branch of trade they manufacture, annually, about 1,000 pieces of sail-cloth, each containing forty yards; and in the rope manufacture, they consume, annually, about forty-five tons of hemp and flax. In the spinning department of the sail-cloth manufacture, those houses which prefer the employment of hands to that of machinery, (a preference of great importance to a poor and thickly inhabited country like Ireland) labour, in one respect, under a material disadvantage; if, as we heard, the Dublin society give a premium of one penny per yard, for all sail-cloth manufactured of *mill-spun* yarn. This premium is no doubt intended to advance the interest of the trade; but, if this manufacture was of any considerable extent in Ireland, a premium of this nature would operate with destructive force upon the immediate interests of the labouring poor. It is true, if this and every other description of Irish manufacture, cannot, in price as well as quality, maintain a competition with foreign goods, the manufacturer will not long be able to serve either the public or himself: but, although it is this broad view of the subject which the political economist must take, yet he cannot but lament, that the immediate and pressing necessities of an immense population,

must be sacrificed to a remote object, even although that object should be, the ultimate interest of the manufactures of the nation.

Larne stands about ninety-eight miles north of Dublin.

*Glynn.*

Glynn, a village of small extent on this portion of the Antrim coast, stands on glebe-lands attached to the see of Down and Connor, and derives a little respectability from a cotton-factory, the property of Mr. Johnson; whose seat, with that of Mr. M'Cleverty, constitute the most interesting appendages to the beauty of this village. There is also a salt manufactory here, the property of Mr. Quin, who resides near Larne, about two miles north of Glynn; and between this latter village and Carrickfergus, there are extensive lime-kilns; the property of James Agnew Farrall, Esq., from whence large quantities of lime are shipped for the opposite coast of Scotland, which is visible to the naked eye from several positions on this portion of the Antrim shore.

Glynn and its neighbouring seats communicate with the coast road between Carrickfergus and Larne, eight miles north of the former town, and two south of the latter, which is the post town to them.

We had almost forgotten to introduce into these memoirs,

*Drumnahoe,*

The seat of Mr. Sinclair, and part of the estate of Edward Jones Agnew, Esq., which is also a pleasing feature of this neighbourhood. It comprehends a plain lodge and fifty acres of demesne or farm lands, and stands within one mile and a quarter of Larne, which is the post town to it.

*Killinaghter house.*

Killinaghter house, the seat and part of the extensive estate of Edward Jones Agnew, Esq., comprehends a fine castellated edifice of the modern architecture, and a beautiful and well planted demesne of between 200 and 300 acres, of a sound lime-stone soil.

This seat commands a fine open view to the south-west coast of Scotland, and to that lofty mountain rock, denominated "the Elsee rock," which rises out of the sea in the form of a cone; or sugar loaf, and by the lover of nature's grand operations, is contemplated with inexpressible delight, as one of the most beautiful and striking figures in this fine land and water scene. Indeed the entire scenery of the coast, from Belfast to Larne, is highly pleasing. It is true, that nature has reserved for the traveller in his approach to Glenarm, and beyond it to the Giant's Causeway, an exhibition of her works, before which, even this portion of the coast, with all its beauties, sinks, by comparison, into a *tame level*. To this pleasing fact of the natural history of our country,

every traveller conversant with that coast will subscribe; and to those that are not, it may prove a pleasing and instructive entertainment to turn over the descriptive pages of intelligent travellers, and the numerous beautiful prints of this coast that have been published; and which, so far as art could imitate nature, have placed its grand and diversified scenery before the eye and the imagination, in all those shapes and colours, which overwhelm with their magnificence, astonish by their symmetry and *appearance* of design, command admiration by their variety, or, by their sublimity and beauty, touch the soul with a sense of his condescension, who drew those figures on a grain of sand; that the insects on this mole-hill of his works might have a transcript of his power placed before them, on a scale commensurate with their FACULTIES, and with that attribute of PRIDE, which forms so very large and *consistent* a portion of the human character.

As our own faculties, however, happen to be some of the least of those little ones, we are not ashamed to confess, that the numerous beautiful seats and fine sea views, between Belfast and Larne, produced nearly as much pleasure as is consistent with that serene enjoyment of the sublime and beautiful, which is best adapted to those narrow faculties that are not well calculated to sustain the shock of overwhelming magnificence,—and who can behold the Giant's Causeway, with the other wonders of that portion of the Antrim coast, without feeling this emotion?—The patronage of the most

respectable inhabitants of the country, did not lessen our enjoyment of the chastened beauties of the Belfast and Larne shore; and had we found ourselves comfortable, on our arrival in the latter town, all, so far, would have gone on well; but, from the insulking roughness of the public spot, on which we first pitched our tent, and the pinching coldness of our apartment, we were much harassed, until happening to see a small house, apparently new, in the character of a secondary inn, (whose sign and owner we have ungratefully forgotten) we took shelter there, and found ourselves, indeed, in a new climate. For a party of two or three, if this snug little new house (composed, we think, of two bed-chambers and one sitting-room on the upper floor) has not altered its character, we know of nothing in Ulster to exceed it; that is, if comfort, cleanliness, and *kind attention*, are the qualities which recommend a public *caravansary* to the notice and benediction of the pilgrim, in his passage through this chequered scene, to a land UNKNOWN.

Killinaghter house is situated about three miles beyond Larne, 101 miles north of Dublin, and Larne is the post town to it.

Among the improvements by which the Killinaghter estate is distinguished, the cotton mills of

### *Millbrook,*

the property of Cunningham, Bell, and Co., deserve to be particularly noticed. Here about 180

of the labouring poor find employment, and about 90,000 lbs. weight of cotton wool is annually spun. This concern is situated on a highly improved farm of twenty acres, on the road communicating between Larne and Ballymena, which bounds it on the north, while that from Carrickfergus to Glenarm sweeps by it on the west.

It is distant from Larne, which is the post town to it, about two miles.

### *Antrim.*

This town, as may be inferred from its name, is the capital of the county of Antrim. It is a market and post town of decent aspect, but is by no means eminent for trade, fashion, or public buildings. Within a mile of the town there is one of those monuments of antiquity, which the cunning old men of former times left to their sapient sons, as a kind of amusing riddle; but though the round towers, to which we here allude, have kept the old men's counsel, and left us to guess at the origin of their history, it is no matter of conjecture, that as venerable monuments of antiquity and lofty piles of architecture, they shed an influence of antique grandeur upon the scenes where they exist, which no modern edifices, however magnificent, could possibly produce. With this effect of the Antrim tower, in common with all others of the same description, a neat cottage and green plantation (which appear to connect themselves with it in the distant view) very hap-



pily combine, in the gratification of the eye, and in recalling the imagination to the scenes of past ages.

The town itself (though it stands in the centre of a highly improved country) has not, however, much to boast of, save the ancient seat of the noble family of Skeffington, (barons of Massarene) which is situated on the margin of Lough Neagh, and is distinguished by the size and beauty of its timber, particularly its silver fir.\*

This town is situated on the northern shore of Lough Neagh, about thirteen miles west of Carrickfergus, and eighty-four north of Dublin, and though but little business is done here, it is well

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\* An anecdote related to us of the late Lord Massarene, by a gentleman in the neighbourhood of Antrim, we think deserving of a note in these memoirs, as an action that reflects honour on the memory of that nobleman, and should be transmitted to all existing landlords, as a relic of private virtue, well worthy of their esteem. One of his lordship's tenants, whose family had lived long under the house of Massarene, was called upon to renew certain lives, which had dropped in his lease of a tract of land, on this estate, of great value. This tenant's predecessor had omitted to register the lease, and by some accident, even the lease itself had been lost. Thus did a property, in which the tenant's interest is said to have been worth £15,000 or £20,000, revert back to Lord Massarene and his family. How his lordship's agent acted on this occasion we do not recollect to have heard; but we have perfect recollection of being told, that he was ordered by his master to prepare new leases, at the old prices, for the tenant! What a character was this Lord Massarene, when £20,000 could not tempt him to take advantage of his neighbour's weakness or misfortune!

circumstanced for the Lough Neagh trade, as the six mile water river passes through it, and forms a harbour in that place.

From the fact of this town giving its name to one of the most highly distinguished cantons of Ulster, the idea of its ancient pre-eminence among the towns of that canton, is very naturally conveyed to the reader's imagination. If such, however, were its pretensions in the origin of its history, it has since fallen very far below the standard of its ancient honours; as it is not now the first, second, or even the third town of respectability in the shire of Antrim; a district, whose wealth, commerce, geographical extent, and magnificent scenery, elevate it to a pitch of splendour in the history of Ulster, with which no other district of that province can enter into competition.

Of this county then (so highly distinguished by art and nature, so eminently raised above a rude and savage state, and so justly honoured in the page of history, for its enjoyment of all that intelligence and social comfort, to which a prosperous industry, in the hand of Christian benevolence, never fails to introduce mankind) the town of Antrim has been deputed, by the wisdom of antiquity, to be the capital; and this nominal distinction of the feudal age it still retains; because the wisdom of antiquity never changes, as appears by the history of the splendid corporation of Old Sarum, in England; by that equally splendid spot in this county, which gives its name to the diocese of Connor; by that of the county of

Leitrim, in Ireland, which derives its name from a group of as paltry old cabins as ever contributed to the picturesque of the bog-of Allen; by all the old rules of hanging, quartering, and drawing, for petty crimes, which were the glory of past ages; and by the *political* grandeur of these bog-hovels, (built with sods, covered in with potatoe-stalks, a hole in the roof for a chimney, a hole in the side wall for a window, with the aid of a wisp of straw to repel frost and rain) which are the seats of many *free and independent electors*, in the southern and western provinces of this most important and HIGHLY DISTINGUISHED branch of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, with the dominions thereunto belonging! So much then for that wisdom of ancient and modern times, which, like the laws of the Medes and Persians, "*altereth not*;" no matter how *absurd* or how *cruel*! "But, in the name of common sense," will some readers exclaim, "what has the description of the town or county of Antrim, in Ulster, to do with the bogs or bog-trotters of Leinster, Munster, or Connaught, to whom you are again introducing us, after having sickened us with their company in your introduction to this work?" We reply to those English objectors, (for no Irishman would make such a speech as this against the bogs of his country, which are pregnant with *votes*, and never fail to furnish him with *game* and *fuel*) that the bog-trotters of Ireland being accustomed to carry baggage, (whether with or without brogues and stockings, we shall not undertake to say) and to

move to the *hustings*, and elsewhere, over all sorts of roads, in a *slinging trot*, are reputed good footmen, and therefore indispensably necessary to the purposes of a traveller, who could not, in a *political* tour at least, get over the DIRTY ROADS of that country, and the numerous *jobs* with which they are interspersed, without the assistance of these men, who are not only the best footmen and burthen bearers in Ireland, but also the most certain *cumms* to an honest and independent political history of that country.—But it is not only in their character of footmen, burthen bearers, and guides, that these good people are useful to the stranger.—Should he happen to be a man of political business, he may speculate in them, as a part of the stock of England; although we shall not assert, that they would bring as high a price in the public market, as the same number of fat bullocks! and we are sure that, in *many* instances, they are not so well fed; by no means half so well attended; nor have they the *fiftieth* part as good houses to live in, as many of these instinctive creatures. And if, in the scale of *intellect*, this part of our public stock stand a little higher than their “joint tenants of the vale,” they are not indebted for this pre-eminence to that rank which they fill in human society, by the appointment of MAN, but to that which they fill in the scale of being, by the appointment of God.—Here then is something to do (not far from home) for those men who are flaming with zeal for the salvation of *distant* countries; but who have not a single

petition to offer to the legislature, for the regeneration of that system by which Ireland is demoralized and laid waste!

*Seats.*

For Shane's castle see a subsequent part of this work.

*Castle Upton.*

Castle Upton, the seat of Francis Whittle, Esq. constitutes the principal feature of respectability, on a small estate of Lord Viscount Templeton, (resident in England) who, beside this property, which comprises a few town lands, is said to hold several thousand acres of the Belfast estate in perpetuity, and to have a much more important interest in it than the Marquis of Donegall himself.

The mansion house of Castle Upton is a large modernised castle with towers, in a range with which stands a very splendid suite of gothic offices; and the demesne, composed of a light gravelly soil, and bearing upon it the marks of high improvement, comprehends a tract of 165 Irish acres, which, from the lightness of the soil, is said to be best calculated for pasturage and meadow. This castle was originally built by Sir Robert Norton, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and, in his day, was denominated Castle Norton.

The lawn of this seat is enriched and beautified by some very fine lime and elm trees; but, in point of landscape beauty, we have nothing par-

ticular to detail; although the position of this seat in the six mile water valley, enclosed by hills on each side, would have given it an air of solitude and seclusion, extremely favourable to its character of antiquity, did not Templepatrick, which approximates too closely with the castle, interrupt our dream of past ages, by an unseasonable exhibition of its village beauties, which are too light and modern to blend with the grave and solemn features of this ancient scene.

Castle Upton stands on the public coach road, between Belfast and Antrim, at the distance of 10 miles from the former, 4 of the latter, which is its post town, and 82 miles north of Dublin.

*Ballycraigy.*

This is the seat of William Chaine, Esq. and comprehends a neat lodge in the villa style, 90 English acres of demesne, and one of the most extensive establishments in the linen bleaching department, that this county can boast of.—Forty thousand pieces of linens are said to be annually prepared here, for the markets of London and Glasgow,

This seat is the offspring of a Mr. Bryson, a clergyman, deceased; but for its trade, plantation improvements, and modernised aspect, it is largely indebted to the present resident, who appears to have spared no expense in embellishing it, and in every respect to have treated this object of his adoption, as if it had been his own offspring.

The lodge stands on a pleasing elevation above

the mills, (which are noticed in another part of this work) on the public coach road between Belfast and Londonderry, 82 miles north of Dublin, (by Moira and Banbridge) and one mile south of Antrim, which is the post town to it.

*Greenmount.*

This handsome seat, the residence of Robert Thompson, Esq., comprises a good mansion house and about 200 acres of demesne, ornamented by a lake, and very tastefully planted. In the style of modern beauty, this is one of the handsomest villas in the neighbourhood of Antrim; an effect, to which the approach, guarded by a gate-house of the first elegance, largely contributes.—The lake, which reflects the beauty of its glassy wave on this retired scene, is surrounded by a thick plantation, through which there is a sanded walk for the accommodation of the family of Greenmount and its visitors. In this group of beauties, a very elegant hermitage offers its consolations to those strangers, who wish to retire from the world and converse only with themselves.

In point of prospect, Greenmount commands a rich level view of Lough Neagh and Shane's castle; and, from the approach just noticed, an intimate view of the town of Antrim.—It stands within one mile of the public coach road, between Belfast and Londonderry, at the distance of one mile from Antrim, which is the post town to it.

*Muckamore abbey.*

This is the seat of Samuel Thompson, Esq.—It comprehends several hundred acres of a finely elevated demesne, lightly and ornamentally planted, and commanding the prospect of a rich and picturesque landscape, composed of the crystal waters of Lough Neagh, the ruins of the once magnificent castle of Lord O'Neill, with various other seats and plantations, which grace the shores of that resplendent lough, together with a lofty mountain beyond it, which overhangs the distant scene, and forms a most magnificent boundary to this view ; and, in addition to these objects, many interesting villas, scattered through the surrounding country, enrich the prospect from the abbey.

The soil of Muckamore is reputed to be a rich mould, particularly favourable to the production of wheat and oats ; and in addition to these valuable articles of agricultural produce, the surrounding country has been long distinguished for the quantity and quality of its cheese, a product of the dairy by which many farmers of the Antrim district pay a large proportion of their rents.

Muckamore abbey, so called from a monastic institution that once flourished here, derives a character of antiquity from the recollection of that object ; but except a very small relic of this once famous edifice, which Mr. Thompson had the politeness to point out, (and which is rendered additionally venerable by the ivy that envelopes it) the building may be considered as now extinct.



A cemetery, not far distant from the ruin, is also a feature in the *ancient* picturesque of this seat; but its general aspect is that of a light modern villa; and the feature which most eminently distinguishes it in the topography of this neighbourhood, is that of its proudly elevated position, which commands the view of a widely extended land and water scene.

Muckamore abbey stands 11 miles north-west of Belfast, 82 north of Dublin, and from Antrim, which is the post town to it, one mile.

*Muckamore mills.*

These mills are the property of Messrs. Whittle and Wallace, and are embarked in the manufacture of three classes of grain, wheat, barley, and oats. They are situated on the six mile water, a river which takes its rise near an elevation in the vicinity of Larne, called Agnew's-hill, and empties itself into Lough Neagh, in the immediate vicinity of Antrim. The progress of this river is consequently short; but its falls appear to be numerous and well occupied, as the reader will perceive by the following list of mills, which it turns in its descent to the lough.

First, a cotton mill at Whitepark, the property of a Mr. Ferguson. 2. The paper mill of Blow, Ward and Co., at Ballyclare. 3. A paper mill of the same firm, at Donetherey. 4. A bleach green, the property of Mr. William Susan. 5. The bleach green of Messrs. Minnis and Beck. 6. A cotton mill, the property of Mr. William

Forsythe. 7. The flour and barley mills, first noticed in this memoir. 8. The extensive bleach mills of Muckamore, the property of Mr. Chaine, noticed in our description of Ballycraigy. 9. A paper mill at Bog-head, (near Greenmount) in the occupation of a Mr. Johnson; and lastly, the Antrim flour and paper mills, the property of the Messrs. Ledley.

Muckamore mills are situated on a pleasing and useful farm of 60 Conyngham acres, about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  mile from Antrim, which is the post town to them.

#### *Dunsilly.*

This snug lodge, situated on a farm of 40 acres of an argillaceous soil, is the seat of Richard Drew, Esq., and, on a small scale, is one of those comfortable productions of the old school, which are distinguished from modern villas by their proximity to turf and water—their neat *straight* avenues and quicksets—and all those other *formalities*, by which our ancestors gave us to understand that they knew the value of straight lines and planes, and the obvious importance of mathematics, in parallelising, angularising, and right angularising, the snug lawns and lodges of the last century.

This comfortable farm lodge, whose soil is said to be good for pasturage and meadow, stands on a county road (known by the name of the low road) which opens a communication between Antrim and Ballymena, 94 miles north of Dublin, and one mile from Antrim, which is the post town to it.

*Greenfield.*

Greenfield, the seat of Mr. William Johnston, a respectable bleacher on the Mount Cashel estate, comprehends a very neat lodge in the villa style, 75 acres of demesne, and machinery in the above department, which finish, on an average, of brown and white linens, about 20,000 pieces annually: the larger proportion of these are forwarded to the London and Dublin markets, in a brown state, and sold there under the denomination of brown Hollands.—Greenfield stands in the immediate vicinity of Kells, (a village on the same estate) on a county road, (denominated the Pedeslane road) which opens a communication between Antrim and Ballymena, at the distance of five miles from the former, and four from the latter, which is the post town to it.

*Thorn-hill.*

This neat and decently elevated farm lodge, is a pleasing feature of the O'Neill estate, a property of great value in this county, but which, we cannot positively assert, stands pre-eminently distinguished in the natural history of Ireland, by the MARROW AND FATNESS of its soil, nor do we know the exact quantity of its *gravy juice*; but this we know, that it is distinguished by a most industrious and respectable tenantry, among whom Mr. Samuel Redmond, the proprietor of this seat, for the quantity of land he farms, the extensiveness of his trade, (as a great feeder and exporter of live stock) and we may add, for the

private virtues of his character, stands justly eminent.—This respectable citizen farms 500 acres of land in this county; (an immense tract in the hand of one individual, in a professedly manufacturing district) beside which, he exports, as we have just noticed, vast quantities of live stock from hence to England. The neat aspect of this place, and of some much less extensive farms on Lord O'Neill's estate, was truly gratifying to behold.—Here are dwelling houses and other improvements on farms of 15 acres, which, in the other provinces, would excite the attention of the stranger, if found on an ordinary farm of 50 or 100 acres. We have more particularly in our view two or three neatly slated habitations, on small farms near the public road that passes by Thorn-hill; but in these highly improved parts of Ulster, the profits of business are rendered subservient to domestic neatness and comfort, which is by no means the order of the day among men of the same class in the other provinces, although vastly more extensive in the business of their profession.

Thorn-hill stands on the public road, which opens a communication between Antrim and Ballymena, (by Dunsilly, the seat last noticed) about 84 miles north of Dublin, and three miles from Antrim, which is the post town to it.

#### *Moilena.*

This snug lodge and tolerably extensive farm, (like most other places in the immediate neigh-

bourhood of Antrim) is held under the Massarene family, by Mr. Joseph Reford, of the firm of Steen and Reford, (proprietors of a bleach yard on the river Clady in this county.)—This farm comprehends 116 English acres of land, highly improved, and enriched with a moderate quantity of well grown plantations.—It has also the advantage of a glen, which if properly planted, would shed a pleasing and picturesque influence upon the neighbouring lands; more particularly as the six mile water river passes through it, and combines in producing that perfection of nature, which is the best groundwork for the improving finger of those landscape *painters*, who lay no other colours on their canvass than those of plants and flowers.

This seat stands on the mail coach road, between Londonderry and Belfast, within one mile of Antrim, which is the post town to it.

#### *Fairies, &c.*

A belief in the existence of fairies (called wee folk, by the people of this province) is not only a distinguishing feature in the popular faith of this county, but of most others in the district of Ulster.—Forts, which are numerous here, are supposed to be their place of rendezvous, and thorn bushes, about which they dance, are held most sacred: often these latter are fenced around with stones, to guard them from the impious spade; and the former are supposed by many to be indebted for their preservation, through many ages, to this

harmless superstition.—Witchcraft is also fully accredited by some of the common people; but this is an opinion by no means peculiar to Ulster, for, in other parts of Ireland, the fruitless labours of the milk-maid are ascribed to preternatural influence; and domestic affliction sometimes attributed to an *evil eye*.—Whether a diminution in the milk of cows, and the vain efforts of the milk-maids to procure from their churns the usual supply of butter, are attributed to the witches or to the fairies, we cannot exactly say; but we are assured that charms are resorted to for the cure of those evils; and in Munster we heard of the mistress of a respectable family having embraced the religion of a priest, who had been sent for at the solicitation of the servants of the house, and had happily succeeded in removing this misfortune! We do not exactly agree with those who think that miracles have ceased; but we should be strongly inclined to suspect the truth of that religion, whose minister would attempt to establish its empire over the mind of a weak woman, by such evidence as this. Miracles of certain kinds may be wrought, in answer to the prayers of pious men, and by their instrumentality; or the injury, and the miracle by which it was removed, may have been the effect of fraud and imposture; and hence the evidences of a religion should rest upon some other foundation than that of the circumstances of a branch of household business, in which the piety of milk-maids, or other servants,

may be rather too deeply concerned with the piety of priests!—We are inclined to believe that these superstitions are losing ground in Ireland; and have no doubt but the light of education, which is making rapid advances in that country, will ultimately dispel them.

## CHAPTER VIII.

*Eccentricities of Ulster.*—Noble ambition of the apothecaries to rise high in the SCALE of their profession.—Character of the peasantry.—Antiquities.—Mail coaches.—Copious strictures on the state of public entertainment, concluding with an interesting anecdote of youthful virtue.—Beautiful scenery of Lough Neagh.—Seats in its vicinity described.—Eminent men.—Suggestions for improvement.—Towns of Ballymena and Grace-hill.—Seats in the neighbouring country described.—The question of linen-seal masters discussed.—Beautiful scenery of the Antrim coast resumed.—Seats deserving of notice.—Village of Red-bay.—Eminent men, including the supposed author of Junius, with a poem to his memory.—Specimens of the villages, seats, and scenery of the coast, between Larne and the Giant's Causeway.—Character and customs of the country.—Singular history of the parish of Ballintoy.—Antiquities.—Education.—Roads.—Canals.

*Eccentricities of Ulster.*

**GATE-HOUSES** are called porter-houses by the common people,—narrow lanes, lonin ends.—“Pray, my good friend, am I on the straight road to Lurgan?” *Ans.* (with great stiffness and independence)—Yes, as straight as an arrow, but when you come to the next three *roads*, turn down at



the *lonin end*.—Married to, is termed, very emphatically, married *upon*.—Jack, did you hear who was married *the day*?—No, who was it?—Bill Siggins, upon my s—l. —Who was he married *upon*?—He was married upon Poll Wadford, of the Moy.—Mary, what is your opinion of our new footman?—I think, Biddy, between you and me, that he is a little *ree*: (this means wild and frolicsome, a thing natural enough in the character of an Irishman.) When a person is removing his furniture from one house to another, they call this *flitting*; and furniture they call *planishing*. We remember to have heard a poor widow, in an eminent town in Ulster, pathetically lamenting that she had been obliged to part with all her little *planishing* to keep the wolf without the door. But this is a small part only of the eccentric phraseology of Ulster, which we suppose to be chiefly of Scotch origin. It is also remarkable in the history of this province, that, in the medical department, the apothecaries bear a very small proportion to the doctors; or rather the apothecaries of Ulster are all doctors! We could not, in our passage through many towns, but be highly entertained with that noble ambition of the apothecaries to rise in their profession, which the language of their sign-boards evidence.—Jameson, Jackson, and Johnson, all SURGEONS, perhaps also *accouchers*, (formerly men-midwives) but not one word about the poor apothecary!—This is carrying the speech in the play rather too far; for the doctor is not only *before* the apothecary, but the

latter is thrust out of the doctor's company altogether, and is neither permitted to move pit-pat behind him, to give him the cue of his new patient, to take the trouble of *thinking* off his hands, nor even to protest, with a grave face, that he is the first man of his profession in the world; and so sensible are the people of this laudable ambition of the apothecaries to *rise high* in the *scale* of medicine, that the middle and lower classes of society in Ulster, to a man, pronounce them doctors, and call them nothing else from the moment they open shop; and if they do not rise to this top-stone in the climax of their profession, it is not for want of being often reminded of their high destination.

*Dress, manners, and morals, of the peasantry.*

The first of these, as might be expected in a district so highly civilized, particularly as it regards the softer sex, is rather above than below their rank. The straw bonnets, white stockings, and cloth pelisses, worn by the younger women at public fairs and places of worship, give them quite a gay and finished appearance; and the light sur-touts and neat corduroy breeches of the men, cut a figure very different from that of the frieze dress, with an immense great coat of the same material, which, by a peasant in some parts of the other provinces, is worn in full dress, even when the dog-star rages!

The manners of the peasantry of Ulster are sufficiently obliging; but their mode of address has

an air of independence that sometimes appears to border upon rudeness. The American republicans are, however, said to beat them hollow in this virtue; for even the servants of that *free country* will not allow themselves to be called by this name; and to establish a proper opinion of their independence, in the mind of a stranger who visits their hotels, it is said they will frequently insult him, even without the shadow of a provocation!—Theft is generally held in abhorrence by the men of Ulster, and its commission a sure forfeiture of character; but for shrewdness in dealing, they are eminent; nor is any advantage which they can obtain by the exercise of this quality prejudicial to their character. With regard to an excessive use of spirituous liquors, although they are sometimes guilty of this fault, yet it is not so much the character of this as of the other provinces; nor is the absurd custom of parochial fights practised here, as in other parts of Ireland. Between the Protestants and Roman Catholics of the county of Armagh some bad blood had existed, and some disgraceful quarrels had disturbed the peace of that county; but we believe these have long since yielded to the law, and to the good sense of the country; and we could not learn, since the unfortunate transactions of 1798, that either Down or Antrim have been involved in any public proceedings that could justly attach discredit to the population of those counties.

*Forts, raths, or moats.*

Of the various opinions which have been formed of the origin and design of these artificial elevations, which cover the whole face of the country, we think that is the most rational which maintains that they are not of Danish *origin*, but long prior to the invasion of the country by that people.— That the Danes made use of these forts as the depositories of their plunder and as places of defence, and built others for the same purposes, we have no doubt; but we are satisfied that the custom is of much greater antiquity; although we acknowledge, that all which we have read and heard concerning them has not yet convinced us whether they were first built for military or for judicial purposes, for the celebration of religious rites, (when homage was paid to the sun by offerings of fire) for the protection of property, or for telegraphic communications by fire; or whether, in the progress of ages, they were not used for all these purposes, as the circumstances of the country required. The use and design of these forts, as well as of those round towers, which form another remarkable feature in the antiquities of Ireland, have furnished the learned with much matter of speculation; but until these shall have framed a creed of antiquity satisfactory to themselves, and directed our attention to those unquestionable records upon which that creed shall be erected, we must only amuse ourselves, as they have amused us, with uncertain speculations.

*Mail coaches, &c.*

As all those circumstances deserve particular notice which mark the progressive improvement of a country, the introduction of numerous public vehicles into Ulster must be mentioned. Previous to the mail coach establishment, there was not any regular carriage for the conveyance of passengers from Belfast to Dublin: it is said many attempts were made for such a purpose, which all failed; nor was there any thing of the kind between Belfast and any of the other northern towns; nor, until within the last ten or twelve years, was there any trial made how such an arrangement might answer. Now, there is not only the mail coach which plies between Belfast and Dublin daily, but there is another, which sets out three days in the week for the same places; as also the Lurgan and Armagh coaches, five days in the week, and the Lurgan diligence three days; all in a southern direction. A coach leaves Belfast every evening for Donaghadee with the mail.

To the north-west are the Belfast and Derry royal mail, which leaves Belfast every evening at half-past four o'clock, and arrives at Derry the next morning at ten, and the Coleraine day coach, which starts from Belfast every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at eight o'clock, and arrives at its destination the same evening. The Larne coach leaves that place on the mornings of Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at six o'clock, arrives at Belfast at half-past nine,

returns from Belfast the same evening at four, and arrives at Larne at nine. The Downpatrick coach leaves that place on the same days as the above, and likewise returns the same evenings. A coach also leaves Lisburn every day in the week, except Sunday and Tuesday, for Belfast, and returns in the evening.—Much of this accommodation was owing to the enterprising spirit of the late Mr. John M'Coy, who first tried the experiment whether any public carriage could exist without the advantage of conveying the mail, and in opposition to it: he plainly shewed it could be done; but, being killed by a fall from his own coach, he left others to reap the advantages of his attempt; and no man, in his station, was ever more deservedly lamented. The above gives a view of the progress of travelling accommodation in this district of Ireland, in a recent period of its history; but this is only an example of the rapid and conspicuous improvement of the whole kingdom in this particular department of its police.—Some variations may have occurred in the Ulster mail coach system since the above was first written, but these are not material to the accuracy of a general view.

#### *Inns.*

The inns of Ulster, so far as we have seen them, with the exception of its principal towns, are on a small scale, or at least on a scale *much smaller* than we should have expected from the population of the province. This may, in part,

be accounted for by the following well known article of its trading history.—The linen merchants, who are the monied men of the district, and who on an average (if we except the hours of sleep and refreshment) spend one half of their time at the public markets, set up, in a very small proportion, at the publicly acknowledged inns. These houses could by no means furnish the purchasers of linen cloth, in their respective markets, with a sufficient number of rooms, in which the merchants could stow their goods, and settle with the weavers in those markets; and being therefore driven, some by necessity, and some by choice, to pay for their linen cloth in private houses, they usually obtain at those houses all the accommodations which they want; and thus the business of entertainment being distributed among several houses, in all the trading towns of Ulster, the inns are not generally so large as might be expected from the population of the province.—This, by the stranger, who may not find it convenient to *dash* through the country with a showy equipage, and to whom comfort and economy are objects of prime importance, may be turned to good account; as, on the event of inattention, incivility, or any gross defect in the conduct of innkeepers or their servants, (which no one will say cannot possibly happen in this country) he may find some house, beside the publicly acknowledged inn, that will give him a lodging room, a stable for his horse, a bit of plain mutton, and a *civil word*, for his money.—The professed inn is, however, usually better prepared to

receive strangers than other houses; and when they do their duty, they have undoubtedly the first claim to public support: but lest at any time they should happen to forget this part of their business; and to give this forgetfulness a zest, should season it with a spice of insolence, (no matter who may be the cook, whether landlord, landlady, or waiter) we think it not amiss to give our fellow travellers the *hint*; although we do not recommend this hint to be made use of, unless the cookery of the inn should be quite too highly seasoned for the stranger's palate, or the climate of the dormitory too moist for his constitution.

We have already said so much upon the character of inns and the rules by which they should be governed, in a former publication, that a repetition of those remarks, were they generally known, would be unnecessary in this place; but as, comparatively with the population of this country, they have come under the eye of a few individuals only, and as an improvement in this department of our social policy is still wanting, we do not think that a few moments of our time will be badly spent in recurring to the subject.—We agree with Rousseau, or some other French writer, who said, that the state of the public roads is a good criterion of the civilisation of a country; and we thank all those Irish grand jurors who have taken the hint from this talented foreigner, who perhaps, for the benefit of other nations, had been well soused in the puddle-holes of his own country.—But although we acknowledge



the accuracy of Jean Jaques's criterion, that is, *so far as it will bear us out*, yet, as we think the worthy philosopher would lose his spirits, if, at the end of his good road, he found a bad dinner at his inn, or a moist climate in his chamber, we do not think it will disturb his criterion to say, that the example of Mr. Napper, of Oldcastle, and a few gentlemen who have made similar provision for the public accommodation in their towns, should be universally followed; and that all the owners of Irish towns should, by making their hotels a kind of *endowment, to be held during good behaviour*, give the holders of inns such an interest in their tenant-right, as (to use a provincial saying) would make them *not to be in a hurry to lose their place*.—To talk of reforming inns until the lords of the soil adopt some such policy as this, would be talking to the winds; as, until then, the safety of beds will always depend upon the number of travellers; few innkeepers having any idea of *spoiling*, with their own families, the feathers that are kept for company.—Ah, no! in the wear and tear of hotel history, that soiling of the rooms with white counterpanes would never *tell*, until ladies and gentlemen *came round*; and then, whether those rooms had been tenanted last week or last year, (as the case may be, on an unfrequented road) is altogether of the same consequence to the worthy innkeeper and his wife, who having snored sound in a dry corner of the hotel themselves, if they dreamt of you at all, only dreamt of *touching* your bank note early in

the morning; and if that be good, will by no means tease you with inquiries as to the climate of No. 1; where the landlady, in the plenitude of her kindness, had instructed Mary to establish you on the night preceding.

The inns of Ireland, however, notwithstanding the *favours* of consumption and accidental death, which they sometimes confer upon the country by damp beds and sheets; and the *civil things* which they permit their old followers (in the shape of hostlers, waiters, and postilions) to say to you; are nevertheless making gradual advances towards the standard of English hotel police. In the metropolis of this island, these establishments are perhaps equal to any thing that Paris or London can boast of; (with the exception of the first as to *terms*) for though mere Irishmen ourselves, we have conversed with travellers, and have not been able to learn that there is better entertainment in any city of Europe than at Morrison's hotel, of Dublin; and perhaps the Hibernian hotel of Dawson-street, the Waterford of Sackville-street, and other houses in that city, might compare with most houses in Europe, in the articles of good rooms and good attendance. It is not, however, with the great houses of the metropolis that our business lies. These and other hotels, on an extensive and expensive scale, are sufficiently instructed, by their own interests, to take care of strangers; and strangers of large fortune will usually find themselves quite safe on all the great roads of Ireland; because the stake

of hotels, in the good opinion of this class, is too considerable to be put in jeopardy by injurious treatment. The middle classes of society are those, therefore, on whose behalf we write; and as the lords of the soil are not ignorant of their importance to the community, in the several relations of subjects, landholders, and men of business, an appeal to them on behalf of a reform of the inns of Ireland ought not to be made in vain, since this reform cannot be expected to take place in those country towns which are dependent on a single inn, and where there is not a sufficient measure of trade to excite competition; unless the owners of those towns shall furnish innkeepers with a motive to vigilance and good conduct, separate from their ordinary trade. When this trade is confined to a single house, in any country town, the public have no security that they shall be well treated. The house may be well conducted, or it may not; but the public have no rational security for the good conduct of that house.—The case is otherwise in such a country as England, where an immense trade keeps an immense population in movement, and draws to it a confluence of wealthy strangers: there competition is excited; and the holders of inns are compelled to exert every nerve to obtain public favour, or their competitors will carry off their trade. An extraneous impulse, in this case is not necessary, for the trade of the country supplies itself with sufficient force to secure a proper and equal attention on the part

of innkeepers to the public accommodation; a virtue which has become national in England, (if that may be denominated a virtue which has its origin in necessity) and extending itself even to the village ale-house, has procured for that country unrivalled reputation for the civility and attention of its inns. The *entertaining* machine moves there indeed with security and comfort; and only that it is accused of driving off with too much *rapidity* when mail coach companies sit down to dine, would be the first country in the world for a stranger to travel through, who sets no value upon his money, when it is to be placed in competition with his ease.—The circumstances of Ireland are, however, quite different from those of England: her metropolis is not the emporium of the world, but of a small island.—She has not a wealthy population—she has no confluence of wealthy strangers, in perpetual movement through her provinces—she is dependent on England, that mistress of a mighty empire, for both law and commerce, and is herself a very small province of that empire; and therefore, not being in possession of the means to emulate the perfection of English institutions, nor of those motives which can alone operate with trading people, her inns are sometimes badly conducted, and their owners (in towns where poverty precludes competition) knowing that the public have no redress, do sometimes, by gross incivility or culpable negligence, embitter those slender comforts which they have it in their power

to provide; but which, with kind and civil attention, would be rendered tolerable, and even acceptable, to the stranger. For this misfortune, however, we can see no remedy in the present circumstances of Ireland, but that which we have already noticed as resting with the owners of those towns, and they are many, which are dependent upon one solitary inn for the entertainment of strangers. Nor would this provision avail much, if in each town a traveller's book was not placed in the hands of a faithful agent of the lord of the soil, and all travellers invited (by a printed notice in each apartment of the inn) to give their report on the conduct of the house, and to offer such suggestions as might occur to them. Over this book the innholder should have no control, nor should it be placed in the hands of any person that would give him access to it, as these reports should be reserved for the exclusive consideration of the proprietor of the town, under whom the hotel keeper is supposed to hold a valuable situation during good behaviour. It is by a regulation similar to this, that the grand canal company have provided the public with checks upon the conduct of their officers; but as a book of report in a packet-boat, from its peculiar circumstances, is necessarily in the hands of the officer who conducts the vessel, the offence must be very glaring indeed that will be registered there; and although we believe these establishments are, for the most part, tolerably well conducted, and presume the company would not

willingly retain an injurious officer in its service, yet we have known some very offensive conduct to be winked at by passengers in these vessels; some from an aversion to the trouble of reporting, and others from an unwillingness to interfere with persons on whose situation their families are dependent for a livelihood; but, whatever may have been the motive for so doing, the duty of reporting has been frequently neglected; and liberties have been taken with the public in consequence of this neglect, of which one very glaring instance has been just communicated to us by a citizen of Dublin, who came with a part of his family from thence to Tullamore, in one of the night boats, in the month of April 1821; but farther particulars humanity induces us to suppress.

The officer of a night boat, who can so far forget himself as to become intoxicated and unfit to manage his vessel, ought not to be entrusted with such a charge. He is unfaithful to the public, and unfaithful to the interests of his own house; and although the man of humanity cannot but feel for the injury which his dismissal may inflict upon six or eight innocent and unoffending individuals, yet, as the destruction of a much larger number of persons may be the effect of his misconduct, even humanity itself requires that he should be reformed or dismissed. Neither is that officer fit for his situation, whose intercourse with the second cabin passengers is not governed by great prudence; for, as persons of some property and respectability do occasionally travel in

that cabin, (although the generality of its passengers are of the ruder class) care should be taken by the officer presiding, that none of those personal or party prejudices, which may influence his own mind, should influence his conduct to any passenger whatever, as such a liberty is totally unsuitable to his office, is grossly impertinent in itself, and will, in a greater or lesser degree, prove injurious to that establishment, of whose interests he is made the guardian: but it is a fact, although seldom adverted to by public bodies, (in their appointment of officers to serve under them) that a vulgar and inflamed bigot, who only wants *power* to become a persecutor, is the last man to whose hands the public accommodation should be committed. His poisoned mind will betray itself in his intercourse with men. He should therefore be interdicted, and men of liberal minds, however humble their rank or information, appointed to fill such offices; as, next to the drunken crew who abandon their vessel to the mercy of the winds, the vulgar and poisoned bigot, who cannot look at a man of opposite principles with a good countenance, is the most improper to be entrusted with a situation, which gives him frequent opportunities of making an injurious use of his personal or party feeling: but if the abuses of this nature, which we have seen and heard, were to be recorded here, they would leave no room for any other subject.

We shall now offer a few remarks to the consideration of those gentlemen who may have it in

contemplation to build inns on their Irish estates; and if they will impartially weigh those observations, we think they will be found to contain, after all fair deductions, as much *sterling* advice as will amply pay them for the trouble of analyzing the gross mass; and what does not always happen, in transactions of business; we trust they will have to thank us for a *feeling* of the sterling weight that an adoption of our system shall transport into their pockets; or, what amounts to the same thing, for the equally valuable metal that we shall prevent from being injuriously transported out of them.

From the expense connected with the *proper maintenance* of a large hotel, (which, in the present state of Ireland, will seldom be borne by a village innkeeper) we would recommend gentlemen proposing to build inns on their Irish estates, to avoid the error of those who, in an Irish market, have built hotels on an English scale of population and expense; a scale, with the exception of the great leading roads, that, in our opinion, is totally unsuitable to the circumstances of Ireland; and for this opinion we shall give the following reasons:—

First, the commercial interests of Ireland being necessarily subordinate to those of England; and on a scale infinitely more contracted, her resources are and must be totally unsuited to an expensive system of improvement. Secondly, the great mass of travellers are persons in the several departments of business, a considerable majority of



whom being compelled to observe a rigid economy in their expenses, hotels of splendid appearance will be avoided by them; and encouragement being thus held out to the poor and ill-regulated houses of entertainment, *on a cheap scale*, that measure of business which is necessary to support extensive establishments will not be obtained, unless on the great leading roads of the country; and, consequently, large and valuable sums of money will not only be lost to the proprietors of those hotels, but their liberal designs, in relation to the improvement of their estates, by a good system of hotel police, will be defeated. Again, although a house of this description may, for some time, be kept open, yet the design of its founder will not only be rendered abortive, in relation to the trading population of the district, but also in relation to travellers of a higher rank.—The partial measure of its trade being unproductive, the quantity of fuel, necessary to preserve the apartments of the building wholesome and tenable for the stranger, will not be consumed there, neither will those apartments be frequently inhabited. A fire will be immediately introduced, on the approach of company; but the cause of disease being established, this temporary expedient will not expel it. The servants, in a house thus circumstanced, being few, and, in the absence of company, too frequently inattentive to their duty, the admission of air, by throwing up the windows, though attended with little trouble, will oftentimes be omitted, and a

noxious vapour (settling, perhaps, for weeks or months, in the winter season, in the furniture of the apartments) will render the occupation of beds in such a house an experiment of great risk, even to the soundest constitutions, some of which have already fallen victims to this foul injury; a fact deeply registered in the memory of their surviving families, and which is well calculated to fix in the public mind a horror of that *empty system* of polloe, by which family affliction is entailed, and acts of homicide sometimes committed, without a possibility of bringing the perpetrators of those crimes to justice. The true mode, therefore, for Ireland, (the great roads communicating between the principal cities excepted) is to build hotels for the accommodation of the public, on a limited, but healthful scale; indicative of comfort, but not of magnificence or exorbitant expense. The plain man of business will not then be deterred by the appearance of such a house from entering it; and should he find his comfortable accommodation *as cheap* as in a less commodious house, he will never return to the latter while the former stands open; and this inducement the innholder should be enabled to hold out to the public by the encouragements of his landlord; and this object the landlord should have principally in view in the establishment of an hotel for the benefit of his estate and country. When the traveller of fortune and his family alight at such a house as this, they will find, instead of splendid apartments, pregnant with disease or death, rooms of plain

aspect; and although on a smaller scale, of course, than that of the GRAND HOTEL, yet warm and well aired, and with all the wholesome and cheering marks of occupation about them.

Now let us suppose, that a hotel of this description, could be erected on a scale sufficiently extensive for the accommodation of an Irish village or county road, for £1,000, instead of £4,000, (which should be expended in the erection of a *grand hotel*) and taking it for granted that the lord of the soil is willing to devote the latter sum to the comfort and improvement of his population; a surplus of £3,000 would then remain to be applied to the purposes of a peasantry improvement society; an institution of still greater importance to the prosperity of a country than that of a village inn, and which, combined with it, and both properly conducted, would produce all that order and harmony of which society is capable, under certain regulations. To this liberal donation, however, to a parochial institution, for the improvement of an estate or parish, we would recommend an endowment of the village inn with ten acres of land, as an encouragement to the innholder (who should be a tenant at will) to do his duty; and to the objects of the peasantry improvement society, each member of the community should contribute his proportion of assistance; or this liberal donation (the mere interest of which should be applied to the objects of the institution, and the principal withdrawn if the charity were abused) would be rendered useless.—To secure,

however, an impartial application of this donation to its true object, we would strongly recommend the founder or founders of such an institution, in the selection of persons to carry their benevolent purposes into effect, to adopt a course diametrically opposite to that which has been hitherto practised by public bodies, in the application of donations or parliamentary grants to their professed objects. In the selection of agents for this application, private interest, private favour, or public *figure*, have been almost invariably consulted; and all those streams of venality and fraud, by which public and private benevolence have been diverted from their course, have been the offspring of this weak and impure principle. In the selection of objects for the execution of his designs, the founder of an institution for the improvement of his people, should make himself acquainted with the existing virtue and talent of his estate; and surmounting, as far as may be possible, his natural preference of rank and figure; select for the execution of his designs, that VIRTUE which flourishes most frequently in the shade of humble life; a measure of the highest importance to success, and for the happy effects of which, he may see a tolerably fair example in the prosperity of the Quaker institutions, which (notwithstanding the equal fallibility of those people with other men) do not appear to be tarnished by a single fraud!!

In relation to the inns of Ireland, the professed subject of this memoir, we do not think, in the present circumstances of that country, that they

will arrive at all that perfection of which they are capable, while the holders of inns, in the rural districts, are thrown exclusively upon their own capital for rent and stock, and, so long as they can pay that rent, are rendered unaccountable to any other tribunal for their conduct, than that of the opinion of strangers; (who, when once gone, are never thought of) for the laws of this country make no particular provision for the correction of those hotel abuses of which the public have so frequently complained; nor is the opinion of strangers, who may never return, or if they did, who have no alternative or redress, much regarded by men who think only of the present opportunity of profit, and are alike indifferent to the happiness or misery of their guests. A check should therefore be placed upon the conduct of innkeepers, by giving them a small endowment, and rendering them dependent upon the discharge of their duty for the preservation of their place. Respectable strangers would then find all the comforts of a home in a rural inn, and would cheerfully forego the splendour of a spacious edifice for such solid advantages; and not only so, but in passing over that road again, the recollection of their former comforts would accompany them; the house would benefit by this recollection,—its character would spread,—a few miles extraordinary travelling would be incurred to arrive there; in process of time its business would experience a rapid increase; and the edifice and farm being necessarily extended to accommodate

the public, the establishment would ultimately produce, (in itself, and in its influence upon the surrounding lands) not a negative advantage only, not an imaginary saving of interest to its founder, but a positive increase to his rent-roll. To this conclusion, a splendid house, though raising its head in an atmosphere high above the population of the country, would not have conducted us. On the contrary, like many other lofty buildings, its interior would be found *unclean*, and in a short time, having performed its round of moral duty, in such lessons as, "pride goeth before destruction," it would come tumbling about its owner's ears,

"And like the baseless fabric of a vision  
Leave not a wreck behind."

Of these two modes of Irish hotel police, it would be pleasant to select some living examples, as an illustration of that faith to which we acknowledge ourselves ambitious to convert our Irish lords. Of the first GRAND article of our doctrine of hotels, we have a tolerably fair example in some of the splendid houses that have been erected (undoubtedly with the most noble and liberal designs) by the grand canal company. Of the last *little* article of the same doctrine, which we think much better adapted to the circumstances of Ireland, the vague and unsystematic state of this country does not furnish us with any precise example. There are in Ulster, it is true, many comfortable cottage inns, such as no other province

in Ireland can boast of; one of which (in the county of Armagh, where we spent a few pleasant days) now stands before us in gratifying recollection; but as these cottage inns are the exclusive offspring of their respective owners, and are on a scale as much too small as that of the grand hotels is in the opposite extreme, they do not furnish us with data, on which to erect the superstructure of our illustration. Not so, the grand canal hotels of Ireland, which appear to us to have been on a scale too liberal and generous for the country in which they flourished; and perhaps a little too generous also for the financial circumstances of the company which erected them. This every person must know, who knows any thing of Irish affairs; and every one who chooses to visit Robertstown and Shannon harbour, will find, in the history of the hotels in those villages, an illustration of our doctrine amounting to demonstration. It is a little remarkable, in the history of Robertstown, that the person who now rents the GRAND canal hotel there, is the son of a man, who, in a cottage hotel in that village, grew into prosperity under the nose of the GRAND HOUSE, which descended, (or, if you please, tumbled) as the other ascended, until at length it fell upon the head of the cabin hotel keeper; but whether this huge cap has fitted his wise brains as well as did his little cottage hotel, or whether it fits him no better than it did those of the grand canal company, we are neither prepared to say, nor by any means curious to learn. So long as the company presided over

those houses, we believe that much exertion was used to have them well maintained; but whether this exertion was successful, their public history will best shew. And if a grand scale of Irish hotel police, was a *pill*, which the company itself, with 50 or 100 miles of water-gruel at its back, could not get to work, (and surely it was not for want of water) we see no reason to conclude that the same pill will work well (unless working poor be working well) with a private individual, whose gruel must be infinitely more scanty, and his constitutional stamina less firm, than those of a corporate body, which has many minor bodies to support it.

We shall conclude our observations on this subject, (not with an illustration of the doctrine of hotel reform, by a recital of the scandalous conduct of certain hotels in Ulster that we could name) but by an incident that, having given ourselves very considerable interest in our passage through that province, is, we think, calculated to afford pleasure to every mind that has not forfeited, by habitual prostitution, that moral sensibility which is tremblingly alive to all that is amiable and fine in human action. It is true, the plot on which this incident exists is laid in humble life, and in our own very humble country. We have no foreign ornaments to cast around it: neither the Pyrenees, the mountains of Switzerland, the gardens of France, nor the classic grounds of Italy, can be dragged in to make it go down with our rambling romantic gentry, who



can see nothing deserving of attention in their own country, nor even drop a tear upon misfortune, unless it be of foreign growth.—No, our incident is all at home, and it is short and simple.—It is the tale of domestic misfortune, and of domestic virtue.—A father called from his family in the prime of life! a mother, bending with affliction over her husband's tomb! dropping into it soon after, and leaving a large and helpless offspring totally dependent on the eldest child, an interesting young female of eighteen, who undertook the guardianship of her brothers and sisters, and the management of an inn, for their support, and acquits herself in both these departments with such propriety of conduct, and with such amiable and interesting fidelity to her charge, as must move with admiration and sympathy the breast that is not lost to virtue! This is our short and simple tale; and although the plot is laid in Downpatrick, a plain Irish town, we think it has as much interest as if it had been laid in the Pyrenees, or in the gardens of Italy or France.<sup>1</sup>

*Seats resumed.—Glen Oak and Ben Neagh.*

These seats comprehend two respectable edifices, with suitable offices, extensive flour and corn mills, and 240 Conyngham acres of demesne, 140 of which are attached to Glen Oak, the seat of James M'Cawley, Esq., and 80 acres to that of Ben Neagh, the new and handsomely circumstanced villa of his son, Mr. Robert M'Cawley. These seats, together with the village of Crumlin, in

their immediate neighbourhood, may be considered as distinguished features of improvement on the estate of Colonel Pakenham, or Colonel Heyland, we know not which; and the lands composing that section of this property, which is the subject of the present memoir, are reputed to be a stiff argillaceous soil, best adapted to the growth of wheat and oats.

The mills here noticed, manufacture about 2,200 tons of wheat annually, besides large quantities of other grain; and in the department of scenery, there are few seats, on a small scale, better circumstanced for the enjoyment of a fine land and water view than the new edifice of Ben Neagh, which has been erected on a very pleasing elevation above Lough Neagh, and commands a most interesting view of that noble lake over the picturesque seat of Colonel Heyland, whose variegated lawns exhibit their beauties in rich perfection to the inhabitant of Ben Neagh, bounded on one side by the road to Crumlin, at the foot of this elevation, and on the other by the deep and extensive waters of the lough, with whose calm crystal expanse, the beauties of Colonel Heyland's demesne form an admirable combination in that place. Considered as an inland scene, it is probable this view from Ben Neagh may compare with most views in Ulster.—Chaste elegance is its characteristic feature.—The objects which compose the scene, are simple yet striking. There is enough of variety, but the scene is not encumbered. Ram's island arises out of the lake, and presents

you with the view of a tower that has stood the blast of ages, and is yet entire; and in counties beyond the lake, and far distant from the Antrim shore, the Derry mountains, with Sleiv-Dónard of the Mourne chain, lift their lofty summits to grace the scene, and add an influence of magnificence to its chaste beauties. Thus have the objects that compose this fine land and water view been combined, as if by the hand of art, to render the scene perfect. The fine tints of Colonel Heyland's demesne, with the calm and silent beauties of the lough, whose bosom scarcely heaves a sigh, (from their mild and feminine character) demand an intimate approach, and are therefore closely and intimately seen. Ram's island, despising the homage of our *softer* feelings, moves to an awful distance from the shore, and commands the tribute of our *veneration*, while shedding the influence of its feudal grandeur upon its watery dominion; while the mountains of the distant region, where the influence of gigantic grandeur was most wanting, step in to complete the climax of beauty, and to render the scene perfect.

These seats are situated on a county road, which opens a communication between Antrim and Banbridge, at the distance of 10 miles north-west of Belfast, 75 miles north of Dublin, and the village of Crumlin, just noticed, is the post town to them.

N. B. The Crumlin river, on which the above mills are situated, is represented by Mr. M'Cawley, jun. as remarkable for its petrifying qualities.—  
A tree, ten feet in circumference, is said to have

been found in this river in a state of petrification, and examined in that state by an eminent physician and mineralogist from Belfast ; but as the petrifying qualities of the waters of Lough Neagh have, we think, been successfully combated by some modern naturalists, who have studied with attention the properties of this water ; and as similar petrifications have been found in the land, at a considerable distance from the shore, we must leave the difficulties that rest upon this subject to be decided by men of more leisure for those researches, and more deeply acquainted with the natural history of the earth.

*Glen Conway.*

This is the seat of Andrew Dickson, Esq.— Within the limits of its domestic history are comprehended a neat lodge in the villa style, 60 English acres of demesne, and a valuable establishment in the bleaching department, where about 6,000 pieces of diaper are annually finished. The machinery of this trade is kept in motion by the Glenavy, a river not much known in the geography of Ireland ; but which has several valuable falls ; and in a recent period of its history, turned several mills of considerable importance to the trade of Antrim. It is not the least remarkable feature in the history of this river, that it forms a very beautiful cataract on those lands in its progress to Lough Neagh. This cataract descends over strata of basalt upwards of 100 feet ; and being broken and irregular in its descent, and the

water precipitated to the bottom in a cloud of spray, under the shade of plantations which enrich and decorate the banks of the river, this "LEAP" scene is rendered truly picturesque and grand.

The soil of this neighbourhood is similar to that of Ben Neagh, and wheat and oats are its most congenial productions; and although Lough Neagh does not appear to so much advantage from Glen Conway as from Ben Neagh,

Yet a poet might say, in the height of his *fervour*,  
 That the waters of Neagh do materially serve her,  
 That Geneva's great lake's neither fairer nor brighter,  
 Nor can shew to the eye a breast chaster or whiter;  
 That the loftiest mountain, by her shore that's upborne,  
 Would be thrown *flat on her face* by Slievedonard of Mourne;  
 That the island of Ram, with its tall ancient tower,  
 Is much grander than Gin's proudest *chateau* or bower,  
 And lastly--her soil and her villas--and that's something more,  
 Are not fit to compare with the soil and the villas of Erin's  
 green shore.

Glen Conway stands on a county road, which opens a communication between Antrim and Lurgan, 12 miles north-west of Belfast, 72 north of Dublin, and from the village of Crumlin, (on the eastern margin of the lake) which is the post town to it, two miles.

N. B. Crumlin, though a post town; and a pleasing feature of the neighbourhood, is on a scale too small to furnish much material for history. We heard of nothing there deserving of public notice, save a Presbyterian chapel, a school for liberal education, under the direction of Mr. Alexander, a clergyman of the Scot's church,

and a neat comfortable inn, upon our own scale, which appeared to have been newly built.

In the neighbouring country, however, and in that of Glenavy, (a village of inferior size and appearance, and which is also a post town) there are the following seats and comfortable residences.

*Thistleborough.*

Thistleborough, the seat of Stafford Whittle, Esq. is a handsome modern building, 61 feet in length, by 41 in width. It is situated in the townland of Ballyshanoghey, on the left of the road leading from Moira to Crumlin, being about the distance of half a mile from the latter village. The farm, consisting of about 300 acres, in high condition, is laid out with taste, and planted with trees and shrubs of various descriptions.—The house commands a pleasing view of Lough Neagh and Ram's island.

*Cherry valley.*

Cherry valley, the seat of John Armstrong, Esq. is situated in the townland of Ballymacreevan, on the left of the road leading from Lough Neagh to Crumlin; from the latter of which it is distant about a quarter of a mile. It is a good house, having been altered and improved by the proprietor. The grounds are disposed with judgment, and ornamented with young plantations.

*Lakefield.*

Lakefield, the seat of Mr. Hyndman, (a West India merchant) is situated in the townland of Ballyshanoghey. It comprehends an edifice 80 feet long, by 70 wide, with two wings in the rear, and a demesne of 112 acres planted and improved. The situation is on an eminence fronting the lake, and on the right of the road leading from Glenavy to Crumlin; from this latter village, it is distant about two furlongs.

*Goremount.*

Goremount, the seat of William Gore, Esq., is situated in the townland of Ballymacrocket, about a quarter of a mile from Glenavy, on the left side of the road leading from thence to Moira; and, beside these seats, William Gregg, Esq. and Mr. John Fulton, of Knockairn, Messrs. Whitla, of Gobrana, Mr. Walter Oakman, of Ballyminiore, Mr. John Murray, of Ballypitmave, Mr. Ferguson, of Cidercourt, Messrs. Oakman, M'Niece, and Sloan, of Pigeontown, and Mr. David M'Clure, of Budor, have good habitations in this rural district.

*Scenery.*

This section of Antrim presents an agreeable surface of hill and dale, watered with frequent rivulets, and variegated by the hand of industry. The scenery along the banks of Lough Neagh, is particularly pleasing; exhibiting rich and highly

cultivated grounds; gardens, fringed with luxuriant hedge-rows, covered with nice farm houses and cottages, imbosomed in orchards; with elegant mansions and handsome demesnes of country gentlemen, occasionally appearing; these objects being reflected in the glassy surface of the lake, and enriched by its surrounding beauties, the eye of taste and the heart of humanity are at once gratified. The prospect from the high grounds is interesting and extensive: that from the Crew-hill commands a view of Lough Neagh, Loughbeg, Ram's island, Shane's castle, (the seat of Earl O'Neil) Langford lodge, (the seat of the Countess of Langford) part of the counties of Derry, Tyrone, Armagh, Monaghan, Louth, Antrim and Down; also the towns of Moira, Dungannon, Charlemont, Stewartstown, Lurgan, and Hillsboro.

*Ancient buildings.*

The old church of Glenavy was a plain stone edifice, plastered with rough cast, without a spire or tower, and stood immediately in front of the south wall of the present building. It was 58 feet long, by  $19\frac{1}{2}$  feet wide; the entrance being on the south, through a porch, on the door of which was formerly inscribed the date, 1664. The north and south walls were each supported by two buttresses. There were two rows of seats in it, with a small gallery, containing in the whole 31 pews, and affording convenient accommodation to about 300 persons. The time when this building was erected, is unknown; but an addition to



the west end was made in the year 1717. Being too small for the congregation, it was taken down in the year 1812. Some old people relate, on the authority of persons who were then living, that when the army of James II. was extending its ravages in Ireland, this church escaped their notice by its low situation, being concealed in a deep forest, which then covered most of the country. Previous to this time, the curate, whose name was Arthur Moore, conformed to the Roman Catholic religion, and occasioned the secession of many of the congregation, and his own expulsion in the succeeding reign.

The church of Camlin is a venerable ruin, overgrown with ivy, and is situated at the verge of the parish, on a precipitous bank overhanging the river of Crumlin, being distant about a quarter of a mile from that town. It is 77 feet long, and 23 wide, and although the present floor is on a level with the adjacent ground, the original one appears to have been much beneath it; for there are arches and niches running along the walls, and the present floor rises to the top of them, at a short distance from the roof; the windows are immediately above these arches; that on the east is a long narrow aperture. A few families still continue to bury their dead in this ancient repository of the wisdom and folly of the neighbourhood.

There are no remarkable monuments belonging to these churches. The chalice of the communion-table of Glenavy church, which is of silver, has the following inscription:—"This plate was given to

the church of Glenavy by the officers of the Queen's regiment of horse, commanded by the Hon. Major General Sir John Lanier, in the year 1690.—*In honorem ecclesie Anglicanæ.*—When Duke Schomberg was stationed at Lisburn, a detachment of his army was quartered at Glenavy, and being well treated by the inhabitants, this chalice appears to have been given in acknowledgment.

The raths and forts, so long held in veneration by the Irish, are beginning to give way here.

Being found to contain excellent soil, they are now applied by the farmers to the purposes of agriculture, in defiance of the displeasure of the fairies, the apprehension of whom had long contributed to preserve them. The image of superstition being at length made free with by those men, they have discovered its imbecility: an effect which will always follow from the same cause, in a country where the march of reason is not violently intercepted by intolerant ecclesiastical institutions, or other instruments of despotic ruin.

#### *Giant's grave.*

At Pitmave is to be seen an ancient cemetery called the Giant's grave, at the spot whence that townland derives its name. It is an enclosed vault, composed of large square stones; being about thirty-five feet long, four and a half feet wide, and two feet deep. About forty years ago, a person of the name of Skelton, at that time land-surveyor to the Earl of Hertford, had the curiosity to open it, and found in it human bones of a

gigantic size, as the people of the country report. These bones, when touched, crumbled into dust. At the head of this ancient cemetery stands a venerable thorn, of a remarkable size. Two other vaults of smaller dimensions are on each side.

#### *Yeomanry.*

There is a fine corps of yeomanry in this district, called the Glenavy infantry, consisting of 148 rank and file, of which Stafford Whittle, Esq. is captain, and Messrs. John Ridgeway and Daniel Allen are lieutenants.

#### *Eminent men.*

This rural district boasts of having produced three members of one family, (sons of the Rev. Thomas Crawford) who distinguished themselves in the world of letters:—Miss Hamilton, who wrote “The Modern Philosophers,” was the near relative of those gentlemen; so that *talent* appears to have been an ingredient in the blood of this family. The eldest son, Dr. William Crawford, published remarks on Chesterfield’s Letters, which are said to have been put into the hands of the students in some English colleges, as an antidote to the poison of Lord Chesterfield’s *mode of education*. He also published a translation of “Turretine’s Dissertation on Natural Theology,” in two volumes; and a short History of Ireland, in letters. This gentleman died minister of the Presbyterian congregation in Hollywood, in 1801. John Crawford, the second son, was a surgeon in the service of the East India Company. In an

essay, dedicated to Sir George Colebrook, he details the success with which he had used mercury in the cure of liver complaints in that country, and this practice appears to have been since generally adopted. This gentleman died at Baltimore, in America, in 1813. The third son, Adair Crawford, was bred a physician, and practised in London. He published an experimental essay on animal heat, which has been translated into several languages, and is said to have attracted the attention of all the professors of natural philosophy in Europe.—In the transactions of the Royal Society, of which he was a member, he published an explanation of the power in animals to resist very high degrees of heat: he also published an essay on the matter of cancer; another on the medical effects of muriate of barytes; and his last legacy to the world of science is said to have comprehended an experimental inquiry into the nature of the cohesion of the animal fibre; which remained in the hands of this gentleman's only surviving brother, an eminent physician at Lisburn: but whether this work has since seen the light, we have not heard; but know, from an authentic source, that Dr. Crawford, of Lisburn, intended to publish it. This learned and laborious man died of a consumption, at Lympington, in Hampshire, in 1795.

*Suggestions for improvement.*

We would recommend the landed interest, or peasantry improvement societies (should such be

established) to encourage the peasantry to raise the sites on which they shall build their cottages (in future) above the general level of the surrounding soil; that, in times of heavy rain, the water may have a regular descent from the place of habitation; to hang the windows of their cottages on hinges, that so they may, with ease and safety, be opened to admit the air; and to build their houses somewhat loftier, which will produce only a very small additional expense in stonework. This system of building would conduce to the preservation of health and the prevention of fever, a valuable end, to which an annual lime-wash of these habitations, would also be found eminently tributary. A more general adoption of the new system of education is also wanted, even in this highly cultivated province: but we have already expressed our apprehension, that the end of education will not be answered, until peasantry improvement societies are formed, and a library, with a good selection of *church history*, made the gift of the legislature to every parish in the kingdom.\* A law to enable the magistrates to abolish the inhuman sport of cock-fighting, (bull-baiting being now, for the most part, given up) would tend much to the promotion of industry and public

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\* The present or late bishop of Man, is said to have endowed every parish in his diocese with a library, and to have supported, or at least largely contributed to the maintenance of the parish schools. Query: How many such bishops as this have we got in Ireland?

morals. This practice, as Mr. Cupples well observes, in the printed description of his parish, gives the people dissolute habits, detaches them from their business, brutalizes their minds, and involves them in all the consequences of intemperance and debauchery: and if, to these various improvements, landlords would distribute quicks and forest-trees, (as some to their honour have done) among their tenants, and encourage them to enrich and beautify their farms, we know of nothing that would be wanting to render this province as perfect as any other district of the British empire.

*Ballymena and Grace hill.*

Ballymena comes next in the order of our tour. It stands about 92 miles north of Dublin, and 20 north of Belfast.

From its appearance, we should suppose that it covers a larger area than that of Antrim; and, from its central situation, it would be the most proper town for the assizes of this great county: but it is by no means a handsome town; and the person who visits Lisburn and Belfast, *a priori*, and carries with him the impression of beauty and prosperity, which these towns are calculated to produce, will not think much of Antrim and Ballymena; although the post town districts, to which these towns form centres, possess materials that would do honour to the historic page, and that would furnish the canvass of the landscape painter with some good subjects.

With the measure of the trade of this town we

are not exactly acquainted, but have heard that there is a considerable market of brown linen cloth here; and, as is usual in the north of Ireland, (where religious despotism dare not trample upon the people) there are several sects here, and they appear to live on good terms with each other; as the sects will always do in those districts of a free government, in which the liberal and enlightened doctrines of the Protestant religion are received and acted upon by a *majority* of the people.

Within a short distance of this town, at a place called Grace hill, there is a colony of Moravians, who appear to live very much up to the *letter* of Christianity; conformable to the institutions of that sect, in every country where it has obtained footing. They provide for their own poor, and have schools for education in this village, where they live separated from the mass of their fellow citizens, with whom, however, they maintain a friendly correspondence, and whose children they will educate, if sent to them.

We had heard too much of the beauty of this village, to be gratified with its appearance. It is on a much smaller scale than we had expected; nor is its position so highly elevated as its name would seem to import. Its aspect also would, in our view, be much more light and graceful, if its slender area had not been planted with a single tree. With this description of ornament, (which is truly graceful as an *envelope*) the interior of the village is however most heavily and ungracefully crowded;

while the lands around it are by no means well planted, nor do they exhibit that bold and beautiful variety of surface, or those richly-watered vallies, which are at once the groundwork and grand accompaniments of plantation beauty.

In addition to these defects, we saw some shabby cabins, whose proximity to the village did not appear to shed much *light* or *grace* either upon the beauty of that object. The air, however, of this place is salubrious, the houses of the village are all decent, and in their internal economy neatness and regularity are the order of the day. We think it a good place for the education of youth, but particularly for that of females, in the middle classes of society; and to these classes, which are numerous in Ulster, we have no doubt but the schools of this place are a public benefit; for we are as fully convinced as we can be, of any thing to which we are not perpetual eye-witnesses, that the strictest order and regularity prevail in the schools and families of Grace hill. This, we must confess, is one very important *effect* of religion; but when it becomes the spring instead of the stream, then the order of religious scenery is inverted; and however beautiful the plants may look, they seldom strike *deep*, and NEVER propagate. Of this truth, some vineyards in the religious world are remarkable examples, and should be viewed by the thinking traveller, and more particularly by the dressers of vineyards, with deep and solid attention.

We beg our readers to understand, that when



we have a truth to illustrate, that may be rendered useful to our country, we shall move in any direction, however zig-zag, that may serve this object; and therefore, let them not censure us for this apparent digression, which we shall conclude by a recommendation to one—let us see—yes, to two or three sects in England, to introduce a larger quantity of the rich compost of LOVE and LIBERALITY into their *cold* moral soils; and we pledge ourselves, (a pledge which we can redeem by a reference to the successful practice of the most able and active horticulturists in the Christian church) that their vineyards will not only look *décent* to the eye, but that their plants shall strike deep, and rapidly propagate; and that some vines, which they have cast out as incapable of cultivation, others that have withered for want of moisture, and some that have been nipped by untimely frosts, shall be replanted and restored. But these lazy husbandmen must lay aside both their sloth and their pride: they must know all men, and surmount all prejudices—they must labour, not only in their fine painted pulpits, in studied speeches, but descend from thence into every part of the universal vineyard, where there is a plant to cultivate. Thus enlarging the boundaries of their respective demesnes for the reception of the lost sheep of the house of Israel, their pastures will be enriched, their plants numerous and thriving, and their final harvest glorious.

*Seats.—Tullymore lodge.*

This is the seat of Col. O'Neill, one of the representatives of the shire of Antrim in the Imperial Parliament, brother to the present Earl O'Neill of Shane's castle, and, together with the other members of that noble family, a descendant, we believe, of the great house of O'Niall, that so long and so obstinately resisted the establishment of English power in this province.

Tullymore lodge comprises a good plain edifice, built by the late Earl O'Neill for a hunting-lodge, and 160 Irish acres of demesne, enriched by a considerable quantity of timber, which, from its maturity and compact form, assumes, from the elevated lands in that region of country, the aspect and importance of a wood. The position of this seat being low, the influence of its improvements, with the exception of its wood, is confined to its own domestic territory; a district not quite so extensive as the ancient territory of the O'Nialls; and even of the present rural dominion of the house of O'Neill, it is a very small subject; its whole history being comprehended within the durable pages of a pocket volume, which painted *green*, and surmounted by a *shamrock*, would pass very well, in an age of *figures*, as the representative of an Irish demesne of 160 acres; most respectably printed, we acknowledge, and furnishing ample food for Colonel O'Neill and his friends; the former of whom is a hospitable Irish gentleman, that enjoys life like one who knows its

value, and probably can see no more advantage in the name of acres, which are not necessary to the food or amusement of the body, than in the name of books in a library, which are not necessary to the food or amusement of the mind.

Tullymore lodge, imbosomed in its own plantations, retires from the gaze of the high road passenger. It is situated in a sweet and sequestered vale, and is selfish only in this particular, that it conceals its interior beauties from the distant stranger; and for the enjoyment of its pleasures demands an intimate approach. Thus *entered* and closely embraced, it will be found to contain not only wood, but water; not only pasturage, but meadow; and with abundance of green crops, and every species of agricultural produce, a dome, which is itself the seat of hospitality and pleasure, and which has every appendage that is necessary to the rank and fortune of its lord.

This seat is situated on a county road, (which opens a communication between Ballymena and Cushindall) about 21 miles north of Belfast, 100 miles north of Dublin, and four miles south of Ballymena, which is the post town to it.

#### *Oaklands.*

This is a feature of the O'Neill estate, of considerable extent. It is the seat of Adam Duffy, Esq. and comprehends a neat new lodge, and a farm of 210 Irish acres, a few of which have been planted and improved by the present resident.

Mr. Duffy is also in the linen trade, and possesses a bleaching establishment on that part of the Artoque river, which passes through the Mount Cashel estate, on whose banks he holds 22 Irish acres in the service of his trade. Here about 5,000 pieces of 7-8ths and 4-4ths wide linens are annually bleached; and, with an equal quantity of brown goods, are forwarded from thence to the English and Irish markets.

Oaklands stands on a new road, intended to open a communication between Ballymena and Glenarm, on the coast of Antrim. It is distant from Belfast 21 miles; from Dublin, by Belfast, 102, and from Ballymena, which is its post town, four miles.

#### *Ross lodge.*

This is the seat (and part of a respectable property) of Messrs. John and William Millar, extensive traders in the linen department. It comprehends 150 acres of demesne, about one-seventh of the whole estate, and a considerable establishment in the linen-bleaching department, in which staple trade of the province they prepare, for the English, Irish, and Scotch markets, about 4,000 pieces of linen, the greater part whereof are disposed of in a brown state in Scotland and England.—Ross lodge stands about 16 miles north-west of Belfast, 87 north of Dublin, and Ballymena is the post town to it.

*Nowhead.*

This is the seat of Mr. James Logan, who is in the linen trade. It comprehends a comfortable cottage, corn mills, and beetling engine, on a farm of 50 acres, and is a useful improvement on the Mount Cashel estate. It stands on one of the banks of the Braid, a river which turns several mills of importance, in its progress from Sleimish (a lofty and beautiful hill on this estate, where that water originates) to its junction with the river Maine, near Ballymena, in this county.

The soil of this neighbourhood, and along the river just noticed, is represented to be a light mould on a substratum of hard gravel, grassy by nature, but, for purposes of agriculture, requiring high improvement in order to render it productive. Nowhead is situated in a country by no means comparable, in its general aspect, to the southern district of this county. The hill Sleimish forms, however, a bold and beautiful object in the landscape of this neighbourhood; and the river Bráid, passing under a bridge of four arches, in front of this little seat, combines, with the parish church of Rathcavan, and the village of Broughshane, enveloped in plantation, to give the view, from the cottage of Nowhead, a rural and interesting appearance.

This seat of industry stands near a county road, which opens a communication between Belfast and Ballymena, (by the villages of Bushane and Ballyclare) at the distance of 20 miles from Bel-

fast, and three from Ballymena, which is the post town to it.

*Fenaghy.*

This also is a feature of the Mount Cashel estate. It is the seat of Mr. Samuel Cunningham, and comprehends a small dwelling-house recently built, a farm of 40 Irish acres, and an establishment in the linen-dying department, the produce of which (amounting, annually, to 5,000 pieces, according to our information) are usually disposed of, by order, in the English market. In the brown linen department, 15,000 or 20,000 pieces are said to be transmitted from hence to the markets of England, Scotland, and America.

Fenaghy stands on the river Maine, (which turns several bleach mills of importance in its progress to Lough Neagh) on a county road that opens a communication between Randalstown and Ballymoney, by the village of Cullybecky. It is distant from Belfast 25 miles, and three from Ballymena, which is the post town to it.

*Dromona and Sole-seal masters.*

Dromona is also on the Mount Cashel estate, and, as a theatre of considerable trade, may be regarded as a respectable feature of improvement on that property. It comprehends a cottage for family residence, 40 acres of land, and a valuable establishment in the linen-bleaching department, where about 10,000 pieces of linens of different

classes are annually bleached, and an equal quantity of brown linens finished, and transmitted from hence, by orders from the English and Scotch merchants. These goods are lapped and finished, by direction of the purchaser, in a manner suited to the *foreign* market for which he designs them; an arrangement by which the finish of the goods is preserved, and the English merchant saved much time and annoyance. This mode of communication between the English and Irish merchants is very frequent in Ulster; and from the rectitude by which the higher walks of the linen trade is characterised, in this province, we dare venture to say, is usually satisfactory to the English merchant.—In respect to the measurement of bleached goods, in which the Ulster linen *merchant* is exclusively concerned, we are assured that this rectitude is a true feature in the commercial portrait of the province; but in the brown department (where seal-masters of low rank and character are concerned) frauds are sometimes committed. However, the English merchant is not ignorant that this is an offence more hostile to the interest and feelings of the Ulster merchant than to his own, and that the latter is still more deeply interested than himself in bringing offenders of this class to justice. It is an offence that has produced much agitation in this province, and has even occupied the pen of some of its best writers. We are, however, of opinion with Mr. Enzor, an Ulster gentleman of eminent abilities, that one sole-seal master in each

market is not the remedy. The distance which many weavers have to travel with their pieces to the market—the hurry and confusion inseparable from the measurement of an immense mass of brown linens, on the morning of the day of sale—the early hour at which all this hurry and confusion of preparation for the public market must be over—(say ten o'clock on a winter morning, when the sale commences) forbid the idea of resorting to such a great public evil for the correction of a partial injury, for which numerous wiser corrections may be found in the wisdom and information of the province. That of making the manufacturer with five looms his own seal master, we think a good one; and appointing for the residue of the business of each parish, one seal master of some property and responsibility of character. This regulation, with suitable penalties for short or imperfect seals, would soon cure an evil of which the trade has justly complained, and for which it may thank the absurd custom of putting brown seals into almost every man's hand who asked for them: for, among such an immense and motley group, it would be ridiculous to expect uniform accuracy of conduct, or superiority to corruption; and therefore, to appoint men of some property and responsibility of character to do the duty of seal masters in their respective parishes, is the easy and obvious mode of giving satisfaction to the merchant.

Dromona is the property of Messrs. David and William Cunningham: it stands on the road and



river, which we noticed in our description of Fenaghy, 28 miles north of Belfast, and five miles west of Ballymena, which is the post town to it. The best and shortest road from this neighbourhood to Dublin, is that by Antrim, Crumlin, Moira, and Banbridge, and by this road, Dro-mona is reputed to be 100 miles distant from the metropolis.

*Dunminning.*

Dunminning stands on the river Maine, which issues from a bog on the Countess of Antrim's estate, of which this residence is a respectable and useful feature.—It is the seat of Thomas M. Birnie, Esq., and comprehends a handsome modern edifice, on a lawn pleasingly elevated and imbosomed in hills; 100 acres of demesne and farm lands, and a valuable establishment in the bleaching department, in which 15,000 pieces of linens are annually finished, besides double that number in a brown state, under the firm of Birnie and Conyng-ham. These goods are, for the most part, transmitted from hence to England, for the Spanish and other markets on the continent.

Dunminning stands 100 miles north of Dublin, (by the road noticed in our description of Dro-mona) 27 miles from Belfast, and six miles from Ballymena, which is the post town to it.

*Kildrum.*

This is a trading establishment of considerable extent, (on the Mount Cashel estate) the property of

Jesse Millar, Esq., and combines with its trade a farm of 100 Irish acres of a stiff clayey soil, in high heart. It is situated on the river Kells, which originates near Larne; and, in its progress to the river Maine, with which it unites at Ballindraid, turns the following mills, of importance to the trade of this district:—viz. The machinery of the extensive bleaching establishment of Ross lodge, the property of Mr. Millar's brother. 2. The woollen cloth mill of Mr. Francis Dunsmore. 3. The corn and extensive bleach mills of Mr. Johnson, of Greenfield. 4. The bleach mills of Messrs. Curl and Boyd: and lastly, the mills of Kildrum, which are the subject of this memoir. Here, from 15,000 to 20,000 pieces of linens are said to be annually bleached, and from 20,000 to 25,000 prepared and transmitted in a brown state to the English and Irish markets; and besides these principal branches of the trade of this establishment, the black linen dying is also carried on here.

Kildrum stands near a new line of county road, which opens a communication between Ballymena and Belfast, by Antrim; at the distance of 17 miles from Belfast, 89 north of Dublin, and from Ballymena, which is the post town to it, about three miles.

#### *Fort Blaney.*

This is a feature of Lord Blaney's estate, and comprehends a dwelling-house and farm of 32 acres, apparently unplanted, and of a light but grassy soil, together with a brown linen establish-

ment, where 6,000 or 7,000 pieces were finished and disposed of in the markets of Dublin and London in the season of 1817.

It is the seat of Mr. James Swan, and stands on a private road, which opens a communication between Grace-hill and a county road, which passes from Ballymena to the village of Cullybecky, 92 miles north of Dublin, 24 from Belfast, and two from Ballymena, which is the post town to it.

*Farther specimens of the aspect and natural history of the Antrim coast.*

That part of the coast which extends from the village of Carnalough into Red bay, and on one side of the beautiful glen of Glenariff,\* consists of a long stripe of arable land, enclosed on the land side by a steep and high mountain, which supplies the inhabitants with fuel of turf, and which they convey from thence in creels on slide cars, which having no wheels, move gently down those narrow paths that traverse the mountain side, without violently propelling the little animals that draw them; and, from their light construction, are easily drawn up when empty. The extent of this profitable tract (comprehended in the parish of Ardclinis) is nearly ten Irish miles along the coast. The arable ground, from the sea to the mountain, does not exceed one quarter of a mile

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\* Dr. Drummond, in the notes affixed to his poem on the Giant's Causeway, makes the vale of Glenariff to have been the country of Ossian.

in breadth, except across the Red bay to a little village, called "the waterfoot of the acre." Here it is about a mile broad, and at the village of Carnalough it is of similar extent. This tract is situated in the barony of Lower Glenarm.

The river Acre rises in the neighbouring mountains, and affords some good trout. There is also a salmon fishery, where the river empties itself into the sea, and where the mother fish usually spawn. The fry leave the river in April, scarcely two ounces weight, (the large salmon waiting for them) and in the month of June they begin to return, always from the southward, in shoals, weighing from four to eight pounds each. The other fish of this bay consist of cod, lythe, turbot, flat fish, mullet, mackerel, glashen, and herrings. They are caught both by draft and drift nets; the only shell-fish are lobsters and crabs, which are taken in great numbers. Sand eels abound here, and are used for bait, for which they answer extremely well; they are a bait that *take*.

The mountains, on this district of the coast, are mostly covered with heath, and supply moor game in the season. The black game have been brought here from Scotland, but will not live in Ireland. There are some partridges here, and in winter, woodcocks and snipes. Oak and fir trees are found lying in different directions, some feet deep in the turf bogs on the mountains; and it is in memory when Glenariff was covered with trees, so that it was a saying that a man could cross the

glen upon them ; at present, however, there is nothing but underwood, and even that is disappearing fast. Ash, larch, fir, sycamore, and alder do best here, and apple and small fruit trees thrive well when planted in sheltered gardens.

There are seven great glens in this district of the coast, of which Glenariff is one. This glen is flat in the centre, and a river which sweeps in a serpentine form through its whole extent, contributes largely to its beauty. The glen comes to a point, where the roads to Ballymena, from each side, meet, about three miles from the sea. The aspect of Laid (which is the parish next to Ardclinis) is that of hill and dale of large dimensions ; the cultivation has advanced high up the hills, and consists of potatoes, oats, barley, and flax. In the pasturable parts of the mountains, the stock is sheep and small black cattle. This parish extends about six miles along the coast, and in connection with that of Ardclinis, and the mountain and sea views which they command, present the stranger with a liberal specimen of the natural history of this coast, which is here covered with white limestone, that makes excellent manure for most lands when burned ; besides which, in Laid, there are quarries of coarse free stone, that are used for flooring and building, and some are of opinion that coals exist in this district, but that they would not defray the expense of mining.—Turf is the general fuel, but coals are easily procured at Ballycastle, or from the opposite coast of Scotland ; and sea weed, as

is usual on other parts of the Irish coast, is made use of by the farmers here, for a manure.

The road from the village of Carnalough (which is but a poor feature of the coast) to Red bay is very hilly. The road, from a certain *point*, lies through limestone rocks that have fallen from the hills upwards of 800 feet high; so that in a winter storm, the traveller is exposed to the fury of the hills above him, the fury of the sea beneath him, the risk of losing his position in some critical spots of the road, where, not 40 years since, the south entrance to the low glens was impassable for any thing but a single horse, and even that with difficulty. The road, however, has been since improved; numbers of travellers now pass over it to the Giant's Causeway in safety; and the gentlemen of the country are making still greater improvements, particularly at the point of Garron, where travellers had to cross an almost perpendicular hill of short ascent; but this, Mr. Turnly, a gentleman of property in that neighbourhood, intended to remove at his own expense; and there can be no doubt, from the importance of a good line of communication to the Giant's Causeway and other northern extremities of the coast, from the rapid progress of civilisation in Ulster, and from the confluence of highly respectable strangers which throng this road in the summer season, but the gentlemen of that district, will encounter every difficulty in opening a communication that shall command the admiration of the stranger, by the consistency of its liberal ac-

commodation and well-timed ornaments with that wild magnificence of nature, with which its great Author has been pleased to decorate this portion of their coast.

On the summit of one of the mountains of this district, called Slievenahorra, (which is 1,870 feet above the level of the sea) two graves, whose marks are still visible, are reputed to contain the ashes of Hugh M'Phelim O'Neill, and a servant of Hugh O'Neill; one on the Dunluce side of the meering, and the other on the Glenarm side.— The tradition is, that a great battle was fought on this mountain, between the M'Quillans and the M'Donnells, from which the Antrim family is descended.

The low grounds in that section of the coast which we last noticed, bear the character of fertility, and are distinguished by some excellent meadows; and the bay, which is distinguished by the title of "Red bay," with the exception of easterly winds, is safe for shipping, and has good anchorage.

Some years ago the late Mr. M'Auley, of Glenville, built kilns, and gave lime gratis to such of his tenants as would be at the trouble of drawing it; but such was their ignorance, at that time, of the value of this mineral as a manure, that few of these men availed themselves of this gentleman's knowledge and inclination to serve them. The present race of tenants are, however, better informed, and will lay out from £6 to £8 per acre of their own proper money on this valuable instru-

ment of improvement.—So much for the progress of reason and science in this neighbourhood.

In tracing the road from Glenarm, the traveller may remark, immediately after passing the village of Carnalough, on the right hand, a quay, made by the late Mr. Philip Gibbons at his own expense. This quay, as there is no trade there, is nearly useless to the country; but it was an eminent exercise of public spirit in a private individual, to expend, in an uncertain speculation, £1,200 of his private property, for the purpose of attracting a portion of the trade of Antrim to that little spot, around which the affections of his heart fluttered. If the guardians of our spiritual welfare felt a little of that zeal for the peace of their flocks, which this gentleman felt for the commercial interests of his parish, the tithelaws and the misapplication of ecclesiastical estates, would not long be complained of as a grievance—nor would the miserable sons of men, whether as sufferers in private life, or as the victims of sanguinary law, be tempted to become infidels by the example of their superiors, if those who have the power of softening inevitable affliction, possessed a moiety of that zeal for the happiness of mankind, which burned in the breast of Mr. Philip Gibbons; for the comfort and prosperity of his next neighbours.

*Seats.*

A little farther on, in this direction of the country, stands Limnalary house, the residence of Peter Mathewson, Esq. captain of the Glenarm



yeomanry. About a mile farther, on the left, is an elegant school house, built by Francis Turnly, Esq. on the foundation of Erasmus Smith, for the education of 40 boys and 40 girls : and under the influence of some venerable trees, at a small distance from the school house, Mr. Turnly was building an elegant and spacious edifice for his own private accommodation, but too much retired from the public view, to correspond with that conspicuous scale of embellishment which we conceive would be best suited to the circumstances of this coast ; and hence (by the future traveller on this road) the architectural beauty of Mr. Turnly's seat must be estimated by the dawning beauty of his plantations, and by the elegant aspect of his school house, which we presume to be the only edifice of good figure on this property, that is obvious to the traveller in his passage through that country. These lands, however, are said to be indebted to Mr. Turnly's improving finger for a host of young plantations, that in due time will contribute largely to the beauty of this seat and neighbourhood.

*Nappen.*

At a short distance to the right of Mr. Turnly's seat stands Nappen, the residence of Major Higginson, of the Antrim militia. The ground rising to the mountains is beautifully covered with hazel and other trees to the very top ; and in the immediate neighbourhood of the house, a plantation of ash and fir trees contribute their proportion of effect to the picturesque of this pleasing landscape.

*Bay lodge.*

Bay lodge, the seat of the Rev. Richard Stewart Dobbs, is situated four miles beyond Nappen, at the corner of Red bay. It stands in a pleasant situation on the coast, and when the planting grows up it will be well sheltered. It has also a good garden, orchard, &c. and is said to be indebted for its best improvements to the present resident. From the advantages which this seat possesses, by its proximity to the beach, for sea bathing; to the river and the sea, for fishing; and to a mountain tract, for shooting; (to say nothing of the scenery of the coast) it is no doubt a very advantageous residence for a country gentleman.

*Caves.—Village of Red bay.—Eminent men.*

In this district of the coast there are caves that will be found deserving the attention of the curious; and from a hill which stands nearly over the sea, the remains of Red bay castle are visible in the prospect. After leaving this hill behind you, the small village of Red bay presents itself distinctly to the view of the traveller. It is the property of Hugh Stewart Boyd, Esq., son of the late Hugh M'Auley Boyd, Esq. who, according to Lawrence Dundas Campbell, was the author of Junius. If such be the fact, we may then presume that the author of Junius had his birth here, and that the name of Boyd should be added to the list of those patriots, of which Hibernia makes not her boast in vain. Doctor James Macdonnell, of

Belfast, an eminent physioian and mineralogist, already noticed in these memoirs, (and who has improved his native soil by planting it) was also born here. This district of the coast of Antrim, is not therefore dependent upon its own native grandeur for its distinction in history, but derives celebrity also from the circumstance of its having given birth to eminent men. Mr. Boyd, the supposed author of Junius, was descended from the Caples, a family of good rank in Scotland, and himself died in a high official situation in India. However, if Junius may be considered as breathing the genuine language of his PRINCIPLES, (for we neither allude to nor justify the existence or operation of any bad *personal feeling*, if such existed) a rude Irish poet on the Antrim shore, where RELIGION and LIBERTY go hand in hand, might be supposed to celebrate his name in strains something similar to the following:—

Stranger, see the green spot of proud Britain's domain  
 Where the author of Junius felt liberty's flame—  
 ——— Hugh M'Auley Boyd was the patriot's name.— }  
 'Twas on Antrim's wild coast that a citizen's pride  
 Was borne to his breast by the high swelling tide;  
 For the tritons of Neptune had brought from afar,  
 Rome's freedom to Erin in their surge-foaming car.—  
 Here he learn'd, while roving thro' his dear native hills,  
 While sipping the sweets of his wild mountain rills,  
 For to water the plant, that from Rome was convey'd;  
 Teach its tendrils to creep, and its branches to shade.—  
 Tho' he fill'd a high office in India's land,  
 And obey'd, with precision, his prince's command,  
 Yet he cherish'd the plant that had grown in his wild,  
 The gift of old Rome, to green Erin her child;

This plant, with the rose and the thistle was plac'd,  
And the lion of Britain the trio embrac'd.—

While living, he honour'd dear liberty's laws,  
And so far as he could he promoted her cause;  
When dying, the balance in Junius he paid,  
And left us her image, when low he was laid;  
So, if wanting, in life, to his country's just claims,  
He paid up that debt by his dying remains.—  
His fathers, of liberty's sons were the seed,  
His mothers, true women of Scotland's high breed;  
No taint in their blood, from North Britain's high pale,  
Approach'd to be fann'd by the western gale,  
But pure, as it came from old Scotia's high hills,  
It breath'd freedom on Hugh, near his wild mountain rills.—

While the zephyr-wing'd seraph his spirit inspires,  
While Boreas the mountain with liberty fires,  
While the trees dance with joy to the quick bubbling spring,  
While the waters break forth, and the feather'd tribes sing,  
While the bland voice of freedom's mellifluous song,  
From the hills to the vallies went rolling along;  
Even then, in the moment of nature's delight,  
While the goddess of liberty danc'd in his sight,  
The vision of slavery broke on his view—  
He awoke; and he found that the vision was true.—  
The hero was struck with fell slavery's chain,  
He beheld it approach, and it pierc'd him with pain,  
While slow it advanc'd from the opposite goal,  
Its *deep dungeon* clank fill'd with horror his soul;  
And to deepen this horror, the victim appear'd  
With a grief-worn visage that with blood was besmear'd,  
While its eyes in their sockets were sickly and pale,  
And its deep hollow groan utter'd death in the gale!—  
'Twas enough—lovely freedom her image imprest,  
She entwin'd round his heart and dilated his breast,  
She converted his soul to true liberty's cause;  
Deep she fix'd an abhorrence of slavery's laws—  
Nor in India's land left her son uninspir'd,  
When to fill a high office he thither retired.

Even there British liberty clave to his soul,  
 Nor could place, nor could pension its image control,  
 For the doctrines of Knox and of Hampden had grown  
 With the life of his blood, and were "*bone of his bone*;"  
 From his pen they burst forth in free Junius' page,  
 A war with the foes of Great Britain to wage,—  
 For the foes of Great Britain were Junius's foes,  
 Her charter of freedom was Junius's cause ;  
 The man who would sell her for place or for power,  
 For the triumph of ages or that of an hour,  
 Stood a Cromwell display'd on his luminous page,  
 For the horror of truth and the terror of age.  
 And tho' the portrait is that of what Europe should be,  
 (And what Britain may boast when she's wealthy and free)  
 Let us yield to the laws and the powers that stand,  
 Since heaven, when it pleases, can JUSTICE command :  
 Her cause is the cause of a Power above,  
 FOR THE GOOD OF THE WHOLE is the doctrine of LOVE ;  
 And though sin, self, and Satan, this doctrine may HUMBLE,  
 Yet neither sin, self, nor Satan, this doctrine shall tumble.  
 The tyrant may plunge it in masses of slaughter,  
 Yet still it will rise like a crumb upon water ;  
 The statesman may sink it in places and pensions,  
 But the good of the whole will outlive his dimensions.  
 The traitor may seek for to rise on its ruin ;  
 'Tis himself, not the good of the whole, he's pursuing :  
 His passion is good in blind nature's dark school,  
 But the light of pure reason proclaims it a fool.—  
 The good of the whole is, by *virtuous* means,  
 To procure for poor suffering nature her claims ;  
 And those claims, in the end, sterling virtue will gain,  
 Though for ages she suffer privation and pain ;  
 And the cause, which to wild lawless passion's denied,  
 Virtue's merits will gain, when those merits are *tried*.—  
 The good of the whole is an even poised scale,  
 'Tis the rights of each rank in the great common weal ;  
 'Tis the triumph of law o'er the passions of men,  
 O'er corruption of law, 'tis the triumph of Penn !

'Tis vices reacting, to punish each other,  
 When man lives for himself, and not for his brother.—  
 But however opposed, the men and their measures,  
 Their virtues and vices, their pains and their pleasures,  
 In despite of themselves they'll advance the great cause,  
 Which the gospel of reason designs by its laws.  
 For the gospel is nothing but reason reveal'd,  
 'Tis the love of a God, from blind nature conceal'd ;  
 'Tis a sun that was plac'd to give light to the world,  
 When reason, by sin, into darkness was hurl'd ;  
 And the sum of its moral instruction is this,  
 That LOVE is the source and the essence of bliss ;  
 That reason's true rule and the fitness of things,  
 From a spirit renew'd, and from charity springs ;  
 Then the order of God, which is reason's true rule,  
 Will be known and explain'd in philosophy's school :  
 The rights of each class will be clearly defin'd,  
 THE RIGHTS OF A GOD, and the rights of mankind ;  
 And those rights being felt and acknowledg'd by grace,  
 Submission will spring and oppression will cease.—  
 THE GOOD OF THE WHOLE is reveal'd on that page,  
 That's the guide of our youth, and the staff of our age ;  
 'Tis the doctrine of heaven, and reason its nurse ;  
 'Tis the blessing of life, and its absence the curse ;  
 'Tis the guide of good statesmen, the Christian's true rule ;  
 'Tis the alpha of reason, in Christendom's school ;  
 'Tis SELF-INT'REST defin'd, by experience of ages,  
 And confirm'd by God, on his own holy pages ;  
 'Tis the truth hunted down, and appearing again,  
 In the lives of its martyrs, when banish'd and slain ;  
 And THE GOOD OF THE WHOLE will in heaven remain,  
 When evil is banish'd and Satan is slain !

*Towns and Villages.—Doagh.*

This village lies to the north-east of Antrim,  
 near the six mile water, and comprehends about  
 30 houses. It has the honour of a book club,

furnished with many valuable works, globes, &c.; and since its establishment, it is said that the barbarous practice of cock-fighting has been entirely given up in that neighbourhood. Close to it is Fisherwick lodge, a hunting seat, belonging to the Marquis of Donegall; the building itself is very handsome, and the plantations have much improved and enlivened the look of this well placed hamlet, which has, in addition to its other advantages, the accommodation of a good inn.

#### *Randalstown.*

This village is situated in the barony of Toomé, on the Main water, about two miles to the north of Lough Neagh. The situation is good, and the view from the bridge remarkably fine, whether up the river towards Mr. Dickey's seat, or downwards to the woods that hang over the river, and form part of the scenery of Shane's castle park. In 1800, this town contained 51 houses, and was a borough before the Union. It has a good market for linens on the first Wednesday in each month, and is *graced* by a church and meeting-house.

Not far from thence, on the Main water, were formerly iron works, which of late years have lain dormant, but whether from want of ore or fuel we have not learned.

#### *Toome and Portglenone.*

These are villages on the Bann water.—Near the former, on the Derry side, was a castle built to defend the pass on that river. It was taken in 1650

by the Roman Catholic bishop of Clogher, and retaken by Colonel Venables. Its situation between the two lakes must have made it a station of considerable consequence, in maintaining a correspondence between the counties of Antrim and Derry, which was formerly done by a ferry, now by a noble bridge. A large inn was built in this place some years ago.

*Ballymoney.*

This town is situated in the barony of Dunluce, and is the principal town in that barony. It is scattered over an extent of about three quarters of a mile from Milltown, on the Rathsharkin road, to the Bawdon foot: it contains 309 houses, including a population of about 1,800 persons. Here is a good monthly market, and butter is sold there to be carried to Belfast for exportation. The monthly market for linens, held in this town, is on the first Thursday. Quarter-sessions are also, in their turns, held here.

*Newtown Glens and Glenarm, &c.*

Cushindall, in the barony of Glenarm, which has recently received the more characteristic nomen of Newtown glens, is beautifully situated on the river Dall, which falls into the bay of Cushindall. This place is well adapted to please those who wish to make excursions to the romantic country which lies about it; and its situation, between rising grounds, at the bottom of Ballymena glen, within two furlongs of the sea, with a



most comfortable, though small house of entertainment to retire to, furnish the traveller with additional inducements to halt here in his progress along the coast; and as the arrangement of the coast thereabouts, and a considerable portion of the materials of which the mountains and vallies are formed are well worthy the attention of the naturalist, we shall enter a little particularly into their history; but shall first notice, for the information of the stranger, the obvious aspect of the country.

After passing the curious and conspicuous point of Garron; at some distance from thence to the south, is the fishing village of Carnallock, on a fine strand, where the traveller may halt with pleasure, to dwell upon the different views that nature offers to his contemplation, before he proceeds to Glenarm, still a few miles farther to the south. This latter town stands well on the bay to which it gives its name, and consists of about 200 houses; but except the residence of the Antrim family, which is close to it, and its position on the bay, it does not appear to possess much attraction for the stranger. Around this seat of the Antrim family are numerous plantations; and amongst many foreign trees, which were cultivated there by the grandfather of the present Countess of Antrim, myrtles, and other tender shrubs, grow freely in the open air, and attain a large size. At some short distance to the south is the great deer park, in the openings of the mountains, and watered by the fine torrent

that runs into the bay. Formerly, the timber was very fine, and in considerable quantity: the venison it produces is accounted the best in this part of Ireland. On the shore, to the left hand of the road to Larne, is the little park, formed into the shape of a bow, by a succession of precipices, which rise from the seashore like terraces. Many of the numerous beauties of this interesting spot are indestructible; though the timber, which fringed the faces of the rocks, is now gone, and many charms of the scene with it; but still (like every other feature of the coast) this spot will attract the attention of the traveller, whose mind, whatever stamp it may happen to have received from nature, will find, in the rich and beautiful scenes that are here exhibited, in the valuable minerals that impregnate the soil, in the shoals of fish which court his approach by their fantastic movements in the mighty deep, in the still more enriching labours of the rural scene; and lastly, as most important of all, in the integrity and rustic simplicity of these good coasters, a fund of innocent and rational delight, which, if the inlets of his mind have not been closed by the hand of affliction against scenes of pleasure, will not fail to render Newtown glens a most interesting residence to him for a short season.

Proceeding from Red bay to Newtown glens, on the left hand, the traveller will have a view of Mount Edwards, the seat of Samuel Boyd, Esq. It was one of those old snug farm houses, that were built by gentlemen who got grants of tracts

of land, in former days, from the Antrim family, and which now may be regarded as estates of some value. Mr. Boyd's ancestor was the holder of one of these. Since he has occupied it, great improvements have been made in gardening, planting, fencing, and liming the farm; convenient out-houses have been erected, and an intention expressed to rebuild the dwelling-house. — The bold front of the Lurg Gethan mountain lies just behind this seat, 1,100 feet above the level of the sea, and 984 from its base to its summit; and on the right of this object is the Roman Catholic chapel, near which are those plantations of Dr. M'Donnell, alluded to in a former notice of Red bay.

Newtown glens is a post town: it contains some tolerably respectable shops, several public houses, a considerable number of houses that are not public, one of which serves as a barrack for part of a company of foot; a newly erected mill for spinning flax, which, although not occupied, is well circumstanced for that trade, to which a small dwelling-house, for the accommodation of a resident family, has been annexed by Captain Lowry, of the Antrim militia, who owns the mill; and besides all these, it has a corn mill, which Mr. Turnly, on whose property the village stands, intends to replace by a market house, he having erected a new mill for the accommodation of the village in a more convenient situation. He has also completed a large convenient house for an hotel, with suitable offices, in a situation con-

venient to the sea, (whose water is plenty, at all times of the tide, for bathing) and where families, who may wish to make Newtown glens their residence in the summer season, may find ample accommodation.

On the left of Newtown glens, a road has been conducted over the mountains, by the north side of Lurg Gethan, to Ballymena, and at the junction of this road with that of Glenariff to the same town, the hospitality of a poor mountain herd, who relieves the poor winter frozen traveller to Ballymena market with a glass of his native whiskey, has been rewarded by the inhabitants of this parish by a liberal and important grant of £2 sterling! to enable this worthy citizen to give continued operation to the virtuous feelings of his heart. We honour these honest coasters for even this evidence of their capability of proving grateful; (for we do not suppose that the *gentlemen* of the parish are included in this *mighty subscription*) but had Peter the Great passed over those mountains to Ballymena, on a cold frosty morning, he would have given two pounds to this honest mountain herd for a glass of his Irish whiskey, and £200 for a taste of the feelings of his heart.

Mr. Turnly, who appears very much interested in the improvement of this neighbourhood, is busily employed in cutting a road round Red bay castle, by the shore, so as to avoid the steep hill which at present inconveniences travellers: it cannot be done without considerable expense;

but will make the road completely level to Cushendall, when finished.—The face of Lurg Gethan, the mountain just noticed, is covered with white limestone.

On leaving Cushendall, on the old direct road, and proceeding up the hill, the traveller meets with a small fort, on which Mr. Turnly purposes to build a school house. This will be in a very conspicuous situation; and, with the other buildings about the town, will give the scene a striking appearance. From the centre of Newtown glens, on the right, is the road to the shore, which runs over high ground, commanding the sea, till it comes to the village of Knocknacarny. Near this village is a tan-yard and a good house, belonging to Archibald and Charles M'Ilhereen, called Clony, about three miles from Newtown glens.—On this road there is nothing remarkable but the site of the old church, in a small glen near the sea, which is the chief burying-ground of the parish. On approaching this object, a neat place, with a new built house, called Moneyvert, presents itself, the residence of Mr. Michael Black, whose brother was building a house equally good on the shore, in a situation very eligible for bathing, but not for planting, of which there is a good deal about Moneyvert. From the centre of Newtown glens, on the left, is a new line of road, through part of Glenarm and Glencorp, which, when finished, will form a perfect level to the village of Knocknacarny, equally distant as the road leading to the right.

This line of road will pass Tromra, the residence of the late Rev. Daniel M'Arthur, who, with his father and grandfather, were curates in this parish for 100 years prior to 1796. In this line of road there are a great number of trees and respectable farm houses.

On the right side from the church, on very high ground, is the seat of Alexander M'Auley, of Glenville, Esq. eldest brother of the supposed author of Junius. The house is well built, and is further remarkable for this singular motto, engraved over the hall door, "Dulce periculum, Boot and spurs."—If the surrounding grounds had been planted, it would have been a very beautiful situation, at present it is rather exposed and bare: some planting, however, is in forwardness.

This centre road (passing mostly through an undulating country) leads to the church. It was built by the Rev. Richard Stewart Dobbs, in the year 1800, by subscription and parish cess. The late Colonel M'Arthur, brother of the Rev. Daniel M'Arthur, contributed very handsomely to it in his will. It is to be observed, that this church or chapel received no assistance in aid of its erection from the Board of First Fruits, who declined giving money unless the old church was in ruins for 20 years! It is at present rather small for the congregation. If money can at any time be got for a larger church, the present chapel would answer for a parish school. There is no glebe-house in the parishes of Laid and Ardclinis, on

this coast, nor is there any church in the former! But although the spiritual wants of the members of the established church do not appear to be well provided for there, we have no doubt but the tithes are carefully collected.

On advancing to the right, a little round hill, called Tievinrah, presents itself, which, if planted, would have a very picturesque effect. On the left opens the view of Tieve Bowilue, or side of a town, 842 feet above the level of the sea, (at Newtown glens) with plenty of white limestone in front; and at the back of the rising ground is the mountain Trostram, 1,800 feet above the level of the sea. In describing these mountains, there is little worthy of notice; but that, with the exception of some grazing here and there, they are all covered with heath, and afford good shooting in the summer season. Glenanne has little to recommend it. From the mountains to the river is one continued slope on both sides. The soil of the mountains is entirely a turf-bog under the heath. Before arriving at Knocknacarny, on turning to the left, the traveller comes to a new bridge over the Dun river, leading to Ballycastle, which conducts him up Glendun, a very handsome glen, extending some miles in length: it is wider in some parts than in others, and there are certain spots in it truly romantic.

On the right, from Knocknacarny, is a descent to the sea and to the little port of Cushenden, (or foot of the river Dun) where a number of small

vessels harbour all the winter; but vessels of 50 tons can cross the bar. From this town there is a constant passage of travellers to the opposite coast of Cantyre, in Scotland, who carry with them black cattle and pigs, and return with Highland ponies. The passage is about 16 miles, and may be made in three hours. At this place, close to the sea, are some caves deserving the notice of the curious traveller.

From this point there is a view of Cushendun house, on the other side of the river, the residence of Edmund M'Neill, Esq. The shore from Cushendall bay to Cushendun is not accessible to boats, being bold and rocky, except where an old church or monastery was formerly built, and at a little port called Port Vinegar, behind a large rock, where, in calm weather, a vessel of 20 tons can discharge a cargo.

From the high grounds is a view of the Scotch coast, from the mull of Galloway to the island of Mull, including the islands of Isla, Jura with its three hills, called the paps of Jura, the mull of Cantyre, Arran, Bute, rock of Ailsa, near the Ayrshire coast, &c. in which numerous vessels entering the channel for the different ports in the Clydé and the Irish channel, serve to enliven the scene and cheer the imagination.

The general conduct of the inhabitants of this district of the coast is peaceable: they are amenable to the orders of their superiors. During a long residence of 21 years amongst them, the



Protestant clergyman of Ardclinis asserts, that he did not think it indispensably necessary to lock his door or bar his windows. They are generally free from vices, have a great deal of natural shrewdness and address, and are remarkable for their hospitality to strangers. They speak Irish fluently among themselves, and most of them very good English, perhaps better, and in a purer dialect, than many natives of England. Irish, in the hills and tops of glens, is the most prevalent language; and there are some old people, in remote places, who can speak no other language, though they know the meaning of most English phrases: there are also some who cannot speak Irish, though they know it in part. The proximity of this coast to Scotland occasions the language to partake more of the Scotch Erse than of the southern Irish.

Near Newtown glens is a small well, called Tobordmoney, or Sunday well, which has its origin from being visited on that day, for the cure of complaints, chiefly of children. A little pebble is thrown into the well, and a pin stuck in a bit of cloth left beside it. Thousands of these shreds may be seen there; but the practice is in part given over, and the well is now tributary to a race which turns a corn mill. There are very few families of Protestants and Catholics in this place, which are not intermarried with each other; of consequence little or no bigotry prevails; and it must excite very pleasing reflections, that some of the Catholic clergy unite with their Protestant

brethren in preserving peace, and promoting a good understanding among the people.

Since the rebellion of 1798, a company of yeomanry attached to the Ballycastle corps, raised by Mr. Dobbs, was composed of both Protestants and Catholics.

Whenever a person dies in a townland, no work is done till the body is interred, which was of little consequence when there was but one or two families resident, and little work to do; now, when they are more numerous, it becomes, at particular seasons, rather inconvenient. The people are not all as strict in keeping the holydays as formerly: in general, their observance is a nuisance; as the day is spent in the public-house, and little work is done the next day. When two or three holydays happen in a week, it is a fine open week for idleness. In those districts of the country which are purely Catholic, the repetition of these holydays, and their immoral tendency, can scarcely be conceived by an Englishman who is a stranger to our customs.

### *Ballintoy.*

In the detached records of this county, which have been communicated to the public, we do not know of any single parish more calculated to command attention, by the peculiarity of its history, than that of the parish of Ballintoy, on the northern extremity of this county. It extends five miles along the Antrim shore, and nearly four

into the interior of the country; and yet we cannot perceive, by the report of the parish minister, that it has any other priest than himself, nor any other physician—neither is there a single attorney to regulate the law affairs of the parish; and yet those good people, with only one priest, live happily together; and without any other physician than this priest, they have contrived to spin out their lives to the age of 80, 100, and even 110 years; and without a single lawyer, as we have just noticed, they have managed to settle all their own affairs, and to do all the business of the courts, without a shilling of its costs!!!—How it is that they have lived so long without priests, lawyers, and physicians, we beg them to explain, for the good of their wretched country; for undoubtedly it is an anomaly in the history of Europe—indeed the record of this parish ought to be placed in the museums of that quarter of the world, as a philosophical curiosity. The antiquities of this parish are no less remarkable: among them are hatchets of stone, flint, and brass, bracelets, fibulæ, brass vases, and other articles of remote antiquity, as also urns filled with burned bones; but the most interesting to us, of all those antiquities, is that of a gold coin of Valentinian, which was brought to the minister, in perfect preservation, and was in his custody a few years since. It is about the size of a half-guinea piece, and on the head side has the following inscription:—“D. N. Valentinianus. P. F. Aug.” On the reverse, “Restitutor Reipublicæ.”—As Va-

lentinian succeeded Jovian in the year of our Lord 364, and died in 375, this coin must have been struck during that period; but how, or by what means, it should have been brought to the county of Antrim, it is not so easy to conceive.

### *Ballycastle.*

Ballycastle stands on the northern coast of this county. It is a village distinguished by the beauty of its position, its advantages of sea bathing, and its communication with the great shore road from Coleraine to Belfast, which commands a view of the grand scenery of the coast of Antrim, including the sea and the shores of Scotland. This road is considered to be the most grand and interesting drive, of the same extent, in the whole island. It sweeps by Dunluce castle, passes through Bush mills, near the Giant's Causeway, and taking several villages, with Glenarm, Larne, and Carrickfergus, in its progress to Belfast, opens a communication with the great coast road from thence to Dublin. Ballycastle is supposed to contain nearly 1,500 inhabitants. Three gentlemen of fortune, who are magistrates for this county, reside here: Mr. Boyd, uncle to the proprietor of the town, Mr. M'Gildowney, and Mr. M'Neill. Six other families of respectability, attracted by the beauty of its situation, and its advantage for sea bathing, have also made it their permanent abode.

Ballycastle consists of an upper and lower town: the latter, which is called the quay, is

separated from the main body of the village by a handsome road, shaded with trees, and presents the spectator with a scene, which, for the elegance and variety of its tints, can scarcely be exceeded by any town view in this country. North-east lies the island of Rathlin, above which, on a clear day, the dome-like mountains of Jura seem to rise,

“As if some viewless hand had traced  
An airy palace on the sky.”

To the east, the sea view is terminated by the lofty mountains of Argyleshire, above whose summits the steep crags of Arran are faintly seen, softened by distance into a delicate and almost ethereal tinge of blue. South-east, the basaltic promontory of Fair-head projects its grave and impressive outline to the sea. Culfeightrin, dotted with white houses, and interspersed with the monastic ruins of Bonamarga, Churchfield, &c. extends its beauties to the south. South-west, Knocklead rises in a graceful waving line on the horizon; while Danish raths, distant cottages, and the spire of Ballycastle church, glittering above the trees, give an admirable finish to the picture.

Knocklead, the mountain just noticed, is one of the most magnificent objects in this county. It rises nearly 1,900 feet above the level of the ocean, and is clothed with verdure to its very summit. It abounds with petrifications, particularly of bivalves and volutes, the species of

which are now considered extinct. Cultivation has, within these few years, considerably ascended above its former limits. On the side of this mountain, near the top, there is a bog, where turf is cut, and drawn down the steep winding path on little vehicles called slide cars, which have been already noticed in this work.

This village derives its name from a castle built there by the Antrim family, in 1630, of which there are still some remains.

#### *Seats.*

About three miles south-east of this town is Glen bank, the seat of John Cuppage, Esq. and half a mile south-west from hence, is Clare house, the residence of John M<sup>c</sup>Gildowney, Esq. All other resident gentlemen of this parish, live in Ballycastle, except the vicar, whose glebe-house stands on the opposite side of the road which communicates with the church of the parish of Ramoan, in which the village of Ballycastle is situated.

Independent of the parish church, just noticed, there is a chapel of ease in the village for the accommodation of Protestants of the establishment, resident in its immediate neighbourhood. There are also, a Roman Catholic chapel and Methodist chapel, in the town; and about two miles from thence, at a place called Coul Kinney, a meeting-house for Protestant dissenters.

In Ballycastle and its neighbourhood, there are some ancient castles deserving of notice. That

from which the village may be supposed to derive its name, was erected in the beginning of the seventeenth century, by Randolph, Earl of Antrim, by order of James I. (with a view to the civilisation of the country.) The others are Kinbane, Duninneeny, and Gobbin's Heir.

Kinbane castle is distant from Ballycastle two miles; it is situated on a cliff of limestone, which projects with a lofty perpendicular front into the ocean; it belonged to a chieftain of the sept of M'Allister. One massive tower is all the remaining record of its former importance; but from the romantic beauty of its situation, it is much frequented by parties in the summer season. Little more than the outward wall of a tower remains of Duninneeny castle, which is distant from Kinbane one mile and a half; and from Ballycastle, half a mile; it is situated on the verge of a rock, rising nearly 300 feet above the ocean: all history and tradition concerning it are lost.

Gobbin's Heir, which is situated on the banks of Glen Shek river, about a mile south-east of Ballycastle, appears to have been the most ancient edifice in this country. In the massive ruin which remains, no sculpture is visible as in the other neighbouring castles; no cornice, no dawning of taste to relieve this ponderous load of human toil, which seems intended more for imposing terror than for exciting admiration: the situation, however, is pleasing. All history of this castle is also involved in obscurity; but imagination has

supplied the deficiency of authentic accounts, by inventing many a wondrous tale of fairies and spectres, who are said to frequent it.

*Round tower of the Yellow hill.*

Within four miles of Ballycastle, in a place called Ard Moy, (yellow hill) stands the ruin of one of those round towers, which, although so numerous in Ireland, are not to be found in any other part of Europe. Their period of construction and purpose has baffled the research of every antiquarian, from the days of Giraldus Cambrensis, in 1180, to the present time. They are supposed, by some celebrated antiquarians, to be of great antiquity, but their origin is enveloped in thick darkness; and the deep foundations of a church discovered under the tower of Downpatrick, when it was laid low, cannot but render the conjectures of the learned, as to their extreme antiquity, somewhat doubtful. Churches of wicker work are said to have been constructed near them by the early teachers of Christianity, and bells placed in those towers; from whence they were called "clog-tea," (bell-houses) and hence were supposed, by some, to have been belfries, founded by the primitive Christians of Ireland; but it is grossly inconsistent to believe that those persons would construct their churches with such frail materials as wood and wicker work, while the belfries (buildings of inferior consideration) were finished with such durability as to survive the lapse of many ages. The use of bells in religious houses so early



as the 6th or 7th century, is also disputed, and it is insinuated that the term "clog-tea," seems rather to be a surreptitious epithet, invented for the purpose of conferring a high degree of antiquity on the establishment of Christianity in Ireland, than the original name of those buildings. Ninety-seven of these circular towers are still standing in various parts of Ireland, some of which rise to the height of 130 feet. The doors of all are at a considerable distance from the ground, some 24 feet, so that they must have been entered by ladders: the walls are extremely massive, and the workmanship is excellent. Light is admitted through small square apertures, placed near the top, and facing the cardinal points. The peasantry, in some places, believe that they are haunted, and strengthen their assertions by many a curious legend.

On the very summit of Knocklead, is a large heap of stones piled together, which, in the Gaelic, is called, "Cairn an Truagh," (the hillock of the three.) The tradition concerning this cairn is, that three Danish princesses, sisters, after various misfortunes and wanderings, were buried here.

#### *Druidical altar.*

In the parish of Finvoy, in this county, there is an altar of this character (usually called the broad stone) deserving the notice of the curious. It is composed of a slab of black, hard, and heavy stone, ten feet long, above eight broad, and one thick,

raised originally on five other stones, set edgewise as pillars. The foremost supporters are still standing in their first position, but one of the back ones has been taken away, and the stone, by that means, has sunk from its horizontal level. The front pillars are more than four feet high, and one foot thick, and by being a foot asunder, give an entrance to a chamber which is below. This chamber, though now filled with small stones, was deep enough to allow a middle sized man to stand upright in it; it communicates by spaces, left as doors, with two other chambers, which run out northward behind it. These are more than seven and a half feet broad, and seven long, and were evidently arched over. The great stone projects southwards, in front, three feet and a half, and to the front are annexed, at the distance of a foot, two other narrow slabs of five feet and a half long, and about two feet high, which thus formed with the foremost supporters, present a semihexagonal front. One of these side stones has been taken away, in the memory of the occupying tenant: the fore-edge, as well as the eastern and western ones of the broad stone, are nearly right lines; but the northern one slopes off until it becomes only three feet. The whole stands within a circle of 45 feet in diameter, which appears to have been excavated, to form, in the middle, the chambers under ground, and a cavern which seems to have ran round the whole enclosure. The view is bounded by rising grounds to the south, and by the adjoining crags on each side, but extends so

far northward as to command a view of the sea, Knocklead; and Coldaghhead.

As to the design of this cromleche, the people of the country say that a giant was buried under it, and think that some of his most distinguished followers were interred beside the three upright stones in the same neighbourhood. From black earth and bones found in such places, and the solitariness of their situations, it would seem they were altars, where religious rites and sacrifices were performed. The parish minister, from whose intelligent pen we now copy, has been told, but will not avouch it as true, that the upper stone in some of these cromleches, was so placed upon its supporters, (like log-stones) as that the Druid or Pagan priest could move it at his pleasure: he has met with an account of a large black stone at Durham, which by twining on a private pivot, enabled the priest of the place to try the penitence of his votaries, by their moving it, when he chose, as a token of the forgiveness of their sins.

Something like this, or at least like Latinus consulting the oracle of Faunus, in Virgil, may have been practised here in times of old. The arched chambers under ground induced the writer to think that such places had been formed for purposes of pretended divination. This application of stones and altars to purposes of superstition, as well as of memorial and solemn covenant, seems to have been universal before the time of Christianity. Lucian says, "But now every stone and every altar utters oracles, which has been

sprinkled with oil, and has been crowned, and has got an impostor:" and the elegant, though much decried author or translator of Ossian, mentions such places as were believed to be haunted by the spirits of the dead,—“ The horrid circle of Brumo, where often, they said, the ghosts of the dead howled round the stone of fear.”

In the chamber below, the Druid might have had his familiar, (*i. e.* his crafty confederate) who, by hollow and awful sounds, coming as it were out of the bowels of the earth, might confirm his words of prophecy or forgiveness. In such solitary places and dark rooms, those who came to consult the oracle and dive into futurity, might lie alone all the night, until terror would set their imaginations to work, and dreams be taken for divine inspiration.

This cromleche or altar is situated in the middle of a large sweep, which the Bann here takes, in the form of a slackly stretched bow, between the falls of Moore lodge and Movanagher: the neighbouring hills, which are very picturesque and beautiful, greatly confine the horizon, and form an amphitheatre, which has two openings nearly north and south. From the situation of this, and similarly small circular enclosures, they seem to have been places of Pagan worship; and certainly the scenery of the opposite mountains, and particularly the grandeur and beauty of King's hill, when joined to the majestic appearance of the Bann, and the noise of its adjacent falls, was well suited to inspire devotion. From the black mould and ashes

commonly found in such places, the minister in his report of this parish, conjectures that they were "Pyratheia," where the natives, in old times, lighted up fires to the sun, (the great object of worship to unenlightened man) to whom the first day of the week was dedicated, and of whose worship, the pagan name of that day retained by Christians, and the bonfires at midsummer, are vestiges yet remaining among us.

We cannot quit these rocks, called the Craggs, (said this clergyman, in the survey of his parish) without remarking, that they must have been the scene of great events in former times; they possess at present, more remains of antiquity than the writer has any where else seen in the same space of ground. Here you meet a large cromleche in the hollow of a high and craggy ridge, and about a furlong's distance, a square fort of 9,000 feet, in area, with a very deep trench, and within a few hundred yards, three erect and tapering pillars, supposed to be memorials of chiefs slain and buried there.

The place where the altar is erected is lonely and awful; it induces thought, and brings back the memory of former days, over which the mind broods with pensive pleasure. Here Fingal and his clans of Mourne and Boiskene, may have displayed their valour, Torgis, and his Scandinavians, committed their ravages, Sourlebuoy (*i. e.* Yellow Charley) and his Scotch, played off their stratagems, or De Courcy and his English, showed their heroism. All are now gone; a total change of

laws, manners, religion, and war has taken place; —a rational religion and mild government have blessed us with peace and knowledge.

While thus engaged in thought, the mind is called off by the singularity of the scene. These crags are high, and command a view of the Bann side of Lough Neagh, and the Derry mountains: towards the west they are much higher and more precipitous than towards the east; they have three rows of perpendicular rock westward, and but one to the eastward; and most of the space between is covered with bog. This would tempt the reader to believe that Kirwan's account of the Deluge is real, and that the eminences of our higher mountains have been carried away by its mighty force. "The great southern ocean," according to him, "overwhelmed the northern part of the globe, swept away the soil of Arabia and the desert of Cobi, and dashed to pieces the mountains of eastern Siberia and America." In its return, it probably severed Great Britain from the continent, and Ireland from Great Britain, and so denuded the northern shore of Antrim, which first met its violence. The western side of the Uralian chain is, in the opinion of some travellers, more precipitous than the eastern; and owing to the subsidence of the waters after the Deluge, these hills appear to be much more precipitous towards the same quarter. However this may be, the Christian cannot but rejoice to find the greatest chemist these nations ever produced, confirming the Mosaic account of the Deluge.

*Education.*

With regard to the education of the poor, in this, or any other county, it cannot be expected to make regular and steady advances, so long as it is dependent upon the discretionary bounty of individuals.

Until parochial schools shall be established, under the fostering wing of the legislature, with a provision for qualified teachers, and a **SUITABLE LIBRARY** in each parish, it is in vain to expect that reason shall make a steady and vigorous march towards perfection, in a country where its progress is impeded by strong obstacles.

But it is not in the minister's paltry salary of 40 annual shillings to each parish master; no, nor in Mr. Edgeworth's bill, (which went, as we learn, to give £7 per annum) that these obstacles will find a principle of sufficient force to surmount them.

In Scotland, where education is much more generally diffused among the lower classes, (although they have no bishops, with large revenues, to supply the defects of hospitality and education in that country) every parish schoolmaster has a salary, for his services, of from £12 to £24 per annum. In laying this foundation for the education of the people, there was something more displayed than *good words*, or a mockery of zeal for the prosperity of the nation. The policy was sound; but the Christian source from whence that policy emanated, establishes the character of that nation;

for its religion did not consist in such good words as, "be thou warmed, and be thou clothed," but in a cheerful application of private property to the public welfare.

The immediate revenues of the church, were, no doubt, originally conferred for such virtuous purposes as this; but their lordships, the bishops, know better than to be humbugged out of their possessions by any virtuous purposes of the lady Religion, with whom, having formed a treaty of *ceremony*, for convenient reasons, she is not to require from them any sacrifices of *property*; as this might compel their lordships to withdraw from her ladyship those marks of public respect, which the policy of nations pays her, and even to raise against her rank and nominal authority, a battery, which all the other orders of society put together would not be able to silence.

This, we have no doubt, would be the menacing language of many bishops to her ladyship, should she dream of resuming that authority over ecclesiastical property, which she exercised in the early ages of the church, BY THE APPOINTMENT OF THE KING HER FATHER. But although complimented in these latter days with the title of PRINCESS, and by none more than by *infidels* themselves; yet no man is ignorant of the private contempt which accompanies this public homage: and it is certainly a pity that modern infidels should be permitted to prevail so far in a Christian land, as to force even the prelates of our church into an apparent imitation of their example, which from



the weighty arguments of those infidels, and the infinitely weightier arguments of princely revenue, ON THE SAME SIDE, it is no doubt difficult to resist; and perhaps upon reflection, instead of wondering that our bishops should be carried down the stream of *fashion*, the wonder should rather be, that any bishop of modern times should have resisted this fashion, by the sacrifice of a single shilling, either to the civil or to the religious wants of mankind. However, this phenomenon, strange as it may appear, (in an age when the finest words that were ever heard are bestowed upon Christ by his enemies while stabbing him to the heart) has stood over the prelatical world and reflected the glory of its light upon the name of Bishop Wilson, who, besides a school house, is said to have founded A LIBRARY at every church of the seventeen parishes in the Isle of Man; a practical proof of his faith in the religion of Christ, which we look for in vain in the history of some pious divines, who have argued learnedly from the pulpit and the press, in defence of the divinity of Jesus Christ, and of the truths which he has bequeathed to mankind.

#### *Roads.*

Amongst the many improvements which have taken place in this country within the last half century, none (in the topographical department) have added more to the comforts of the great body of the people, nor have contributed more to give them an increased degree of civilisation, than the attention paid to the making of new roads,

and rendering the old roads more passable. If some generations were supine upon this subject, the present is making ample atonement for it. This subject is now so well understood, as to preclude the necessity of saying much upon it; but some objects seem to require notice. When roads are made to slant along the sides of steep mountains, they are liable to much injury from the torrents, which rush down at particular times--- a precaution against this mischief has been found effectual, on the mountain between Ballycastle and the Glynnns. A large drain has been cut above the road, at some distance from it; this intercepts the waters in their course, which are conveyed, by means of this cut, to a bridge, or large pipe, which carries them off without any injury to the road; whilst, in other such situations, where this precaution has not been attended to, the roads have either been in part carried away, or such chasms have been formed in the sides as to threaten their total overthrow, and, whilst they stand, render them extremely dangerous.

The roads which run through the numerous turf-bogs, offer another object for consideration. In most parts where they have been made for any length of time, they are grown very dangerous; for having first been laid out too narrow, they are made more so by the depredations committed on their sides. From drawing turf out of the bog on each hand, these roads become contracted, and are at length sunk many feet below their original surface, so that nothing is left but a narrow strip

with a double precipice. To spread these roads, and gravel them afresh has, in some instances, been done; but the most effectual method seems to be, the making a new road along the side of the old: probably this would be as cheap an expedient as the other, and would have the advantage of not interrupting the communication. In making roads through bogs, a sufficient breadth should be left to admit of a bank being thrown up towards the road; this would be as complete a security as the filling up the trenches on other roads, which undoubtedly is among the greatest modern improvements in our highways, whether considered in point of safety to the traveller, or as a preservative to the roads, which every year being in part trodden into the ditches, the water is at length dammed up, and the road either overflowed, or so much softened by the moisture, as to be soon worked into a slough. Springs, breaking out on the hilly parts of roads, require attention: these generally shew themselves in frosty weather, and, when the thaw comes, deep holes are the certain consequence. For this evil, the only sure remedy is a covered drain, made above the spring, and sunk sufficiently to prevent it from rising to a level with the covering of the road; where the subsoil is a stiff clay, an occurrence of this kind will often render a road in the region of that spring, in the course of a single winter, nearly impassable.

The materials for making or repairing roads, are whynstone, (basalt) in all its various stages of

hardness, and gravel, drawn from the gentle swells that abound in several districts. The harder sorts of the whynstone are excellently adapted to those roads which are greatly frequented, as, from their composition, they are neither so convertible to mud in winter, nor in summer to dust. On the great road between Belfast and Lisburn, the advantage of repairing with this substance is most evident, when compared with the slaty substance brought from the county of Down. Near Lisburn, where the whynstone is used, the road is always in a good state for the passenger; but it is said, and with truth, that from Drum bridge to Belfast, there would be great difficulty and expense in procuring this material; but, when once procured, and properly applied, its duration is so much greater than the slate, (schist) which was formerly used, that in the end it would make up for the additional cost, which might not so much exceed the other as it is supposed to do; for a much smaller quantity will suffice than of any other material, as it has, when broken small, and reduced to an equal size, an extraordinary quality of resisting the attrition of the wheel. For where materials not equal in size are employed, they never can make a good surface for any length of time, owing to that agitation which is caused by the passing of the wheel over hard substances of different magnitudes.

Since the establishment of mail coaches, and so many other public vehicles, a degree of attention, unknown till lately, has been paid to the great

roads, which are now carrying on in Ireland with much magnificence. Hitherto, from its situation, the county of Antrim has had little share in it, only part of the distance between Belfast and Lisburn to repair, and that done by the turnpike receipts. Of late, however, plans have been proposed for shortening the distance between these towns, and for avoiding the hills which occur. One of the proposed plans is, to shorten the road by keeping on towards Dunmurry, in going south, instead of turning towards Drum bridge: this, on reviewing it, certainly appears the shortest line, and the hills at Drum bridge and Lambeg would be avoided by it. The other plan is, still to pass over Drum bridge, but, a little way from it, to strike to the left through Lambeg bog: in this way the remaining hills would be avoided, but two new bridges would be required, of considerable dimensions, one over the canal, and another over the river Lagan, near George's wear; but in point of new road there would be a saving. It is also proposed to enter the town of Lisburn to the southward, in coming from Dublin, to avoid several hills; this would require another bridge over the Lagan between the Union locks and Lisburn; by it the hill in Bridge-street would also be avoided, which is a most tremendous steep.

From observing the disadvantages which the occupiers of districts bordering on the mountains experience during the winter, and much of the other seasons, in gaining access to the public

roads, it must appear evident that nothing could be more advantageous to those who are thus situated, than roads made to run parallel to the bases of the mountains, and as high as circumstances would admit of: these roads, by cutting the wretched ways on which they are now forced to travel, often very far, would relieve these people from the distress they must experience whenever their necessary business calls them from home. The advantages of a road made upon this principle, are fully shewn by that which is made along part of the base of the black mountain to the west of Belfast, laid out by Mr. Smyth, and which it is hoped will become an object of imitation to other districts.

#### *Canals.*

Under this head very considerable improvements have been suggested in the inland navigation department of this and other counties of the Ulster district; and some errors which have taken place in the navigation of the Lagan pointed out. To the interests, however, of the linen trade in this province, (which are intimately connected with the rivers and their falls) every other interest should bow. They have a paramount claim upon the protection of government, and no regulation for advancing the interests of agriculture and general commerce, should be made the pretence for diverting those waters from their course, upon which the bleaching interests of Ulster, and consequently those of the staple manufacture of the

province, are necessarily dependent. Hence, in any scheme for opening a communication between Lough Neagh and Lough Erne, or in the formation of any inferior canal, subordinate to this or any other great communication by water, the paramount claims of the linen trade should be laid down as a cardinal point; and every plan of improvement, however flattering to the landed interest, that cannot be executed in harmony with those claims, abandoned without a struggle.

That the interests of commerce and agriculture in Ireland would be materially promoted by an effective system of inland navigation, is most certain; and that an overflowing population would derive employment from such works, is equally obvious. If the resources of the country be equal to these undertakings, (for that is the plain English of a parliamentary grant) why then the work of improvement should go on; for improvement of every description is the glory of a Christian country. Separate from the claims of our friends, the linen bleachers, to the exclusive use of their own rivers, we wish all possible success to the system of inland navigation; and whenever this system can promote the linen trade, or prove harmless to its interests, our humble pages shall stand open to its claims; a pledge which we shall begin to redeem, by republishing the following papers, to which we beg to direct the attention of our friends, the bleachers, who, we hope, will not be found sleeping at their posts, when the inland navigation company shall wait upon them

to ascertain the *level* of their claims, and to take off their hands the surplus produce of their waters.

*Proposal for making a line of navigation from Dublin to Lough Neagh.*

It is proposed by several noblemen and gentlemen of the county of Meath, and of the manufacturing counties of the North of Ireland, the river Boyne company, with several merchants of the city of Dublin and of the commercial towns of the north, to complete, by private subscription, together with such aid as parliament may be pleased to grant, a navigable canal, from the royal canal at Blanchardstown, near Castleknock, in the county of Dublin, to Navan, Kells, Balieborough, Monaghan, Armagh, and Lough Neagh.

The object of this undertaking is to open a direct intercourse between the metropolis and the manufacturing towns of the north; and it is conceived, by the proposers for this undertaking, that a canal, large enough to navigate twenty-five ton boats on, would answer the trade; and in consequence of many locks being already made, rising from the city of Dublin to Castleknock, they think such a canal could be carried on very cheaply from thence to Navan, where another ascent takes place, through the locks of the Boyne navigation to the level of the town of Kells, and the river Blackwater, at Glevin's bridge, three miles north of that town. The country northward appears so fit for inland navigation, that no doubt



can be entertained of being able to cut cheap canals through it. It is therefore most humbly hoped, if a line for a canal in this direction should be found to answer the expectation, that parliament will be pleased to allow the undertaking to become a part of the intended system of inland navigation of Ireland, and to a share of whatever bounty parliament may grant to accomplish the same.

The advantages that would arise to the nation from this undertaking, are too obvious to take up the time of this honourable house with any comment upon them.

*Papers respecting a Survey, &c.*

TO THEIR EXCELLENCIES THE LORDS JUSTICES.

Navigation Office, April 8, 1815.

May it please your Excellencies,

We humbly beg leave to represent to your Excellencies, that in furtherance of the measure recommended in the representation from this Board to His Grace the Lord Lieutenant, dated the 22d of May, 1810, and which was honoured with His Grace's approbation; viz. the making general surveys in various parts of Ireland, to ascertain by what lines, canals of navigation; with ample supplies of water, may be carried; with a view of assisting the noblemen and gentlemen in their objects for the improvement of the country, by shewing them the course in which such a navigation may be practicable.

We directed Mr. Killaly, our engineer, to

ascertain whether a navigable communication could be formed from any part of the deep water of the river Erne, near Belturbet, or from the southern extremity of Lough Erne, through the counties of Cavan, Monaghan, Armagh, and Tyrone, so as to fall into the river Blackwater, in the neighbourhood of the city of Armagh, or of Blackwater town, which now communicates with Lough Neagh by that river; and, with reference to the necessary supply of water, we instructed Mr. Killaly, if the rise of the ground between Lough Erne and Lough Neagh should prevent either the river Erne or Lough Erne from becoming a summit, to ascertain whether the streams which fall into the lakes would, or would not, afford a sufficient supply for this connecting navigation.

In pursuance of our orders, Mr. Killaly has, with much diligence, ascertained the practicability of carrying a line of navigation from the river Finn, which falls into Lough Erne near Wattle bridge, and passing near the town of Clones and Monaghan, and the villages of Smithsboro, Caledon, and Benburb, joins the river Blackwater, half a mile above Blackwater town. The whole extent of this line is  $35\frac{1}{2}$  miles; having six ascending and sixteen descending locks, exclusive of an off-branch, which Mr. Killaly has laid out to the neighbourhood of the city of Armagh.

Mr. Killaly has estimated the probable cost of the execution of the line, upon three several scales—one being for a canal of similar dimen-

sluices with the Royal Canal Extension, viz. to be 22 feet wide at the bottom, 40 feet wide at water surface, with six feet depth of water in the canal, and five feet three inches depth on lock cills, amounting to £222,968. A second, upon a scale of 15 feet wide at bottom, 30 feet at water surface, four feet three inches depth of water on cills, and five feet in the canal with locks and bridges, similar to those on the Royal Canal Extension, amounting to £195,000; and the third amounting to £175,000, being for a canal, upon a scale 18 feet wide at bottom, 25 feet at water surface, four feet depth of water in the canal, and three feet six inches on the cills, with locks 80 feet long and ten feet wide, and bridges, &c. in proportion.

Your Excellencies will perceive, that the height of the summit precludes the possibility of taking up the waters of Lough Erne, or of the river Erne, as a supply for the proposed navigation, and Mr. Killaley having taken his survey at a wet season, is unable to speak with positive certainty of the abundance of the supply; but he expresses strong hopes that the streams which he proposes to take in for that purpose will be sufficient, even in the summer season.

We beg leave to observe, that this line of navigation appears to be by much the most favourable of any as yet ascertained in this country; and that its execution would be productive of incalculable benefits to a large portion of the north of Ireland, by affording to the counties of

Cavan, Fermanagh, Monaghan, Tyrone, and Armagh, a ready and cheap mode of transporting the redundant produce of their lands (which are, in general, very fertile in wheat, barley, and oats) to the markets of Belfast, Newry, and Armagh, which will derive great advantage thereby; as well as from the opportunity afforded those towns of supplying the foregoing counties with coals, timber, iron, salt, groceries, and flax-seed. The advantage also resulting to the kingdom at large, by uniting, by means of this canal, the Newry, Tyrone, and Lagan navigations, with that of Lough Erne, communicating with the north-west coast at Ballyshannon, and thereby opening a communication by Stillwater, between the north-eastern and north-western coasts of this country, are too evident to require any further comment.

As the completion of this navigation would be peculiarly beneficial to the landed interest of that part of Ireland, it at present not enjoying the advantage of inland navigation, we trust that the landed proprietors are so far alive to their own interests, and possess such a spirit of national improvement, as will induce them to come forward with subscriptions towards defraying the expense of the execution of so desirable a work; when they are apprized that so favourable a line for a canal has been ascertained to be practicable. We therefore propose to have the papers printed and circulated, for the information of the noblemen and gentlemen resident in the vicinity of the

intended line; and we humbly pray your Excellencies' approbation thereof.

We have the honour to be,

&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

DANIEL CORNEILLE.

G. A. BOUVERIE.

JAMES SAURIN.

Tullamore, February 2, 1815.

SIR,

In obedience to the Board's order of the 1st of November last, I have laid out a line of navigation between Lough Erne and Blackwater town; a map, section, and estimate of which, I have the honour to lay before them.

On this line, which is  $35\frac{1}{2}$  miles in length, six ascending and 16 descending locks will be required; the summit being 70 feet above Lough Erne, and 162 feet above the Blackwater.

The line departs from near Wattle bridge; it passes one mile to the southward of Clones, runs close to Monaghan, near to the villages of Smithsboro, Middletown, Tynan, Glasslough, Caledon, and Benburb, and joins the Blackwater, half a mile above Blackwater town. As the river can be made navigable to this point, at a moderate expense, I recommend entering here, rather than encounter the cost and difficulty of extending the canal to the town.

Having ascertained the impracticability of conveying the waters of the river Erne, or of Lough

Erno, into the summit level, I then tried whether that level might not be fed by an off-branch from the proposed northern extension of the royal canal, or from the Ballyhays river, but found I could not derive a supply from either. The only waters, therefore, that can be had for the summit level, are the heads of the river Finn, which river runs through Wattle bridge, and the streams that flow from Drumaconner, Scotstown, and Tedavnet, which I have strong hopes would be found a sufficient supply, particularly as I propose sinking deep through the summit level, preparing it for eight feet depth of water, and giving but small falls to the locks at their extremities. The weather being very wet, and the rivers much swelled when I made the survey, prevented my ascertaining this matter with more certainty.

The line is free from any material difficulty until it reaches the falls of Benburb, where the Blackwater runs with great rapidity for about 120 perches, through a deep and rocky ravine; for this distance the line must unavoidably keep close to the river, and the breadth of canal be contracted, so as merely to admit the passage of one boat; but as five locks will be required near this, I do not much regret the excavation through rock. On most other parts of the line the soil is of so soft a nature, as to render the earthwork very easy of execution.

The country through which the proposed navigation would pass, is in general very fertile in grain, particularly barley and oats; it also affords

excellent pasturage. Much butter, and large quantities of live cattle and pork, are sent from hence to Belfast and Newry. Limestone is abundant; but the bogs being small, and mostly cut out, occasions a great scarcity of fuel on many parts of the line.

Great benefits would result to the province of Ulster from the execution of this canal, by its affording a cheap mode of transporting the redundant produce of the counties of Cavan, Fermanagh, Monaghan, Tyrone, &c. to the markets of Belfast, Newry, and Armagh; which towns, besides participating in those benefits, would thereby find a ready vent for timber, iron, salt, flax-seed, groceries, &c.

The canal would also be peculiarly inviting for the establishment of passage-boats, and highly advantageous in the conveyance of fuel from Lough Neagh, and the towns I have mentioned, to many parts of Monaghan, Armagh, and Tyrone, not only for house use, but also for the burning of lime, the farmers being at present, in a great degree, precluded from liming their lands for want of turf or coal.

During my survey, I had the pleasure to learn that there has been lately discovered, an excellent and extensive vein of bituminous coal, nine feet in thickness, convenient to the northern shore of Lough Neagh, which is now working to great advantage.\* I consider this a matter of vital

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\* We give this account as we find it in the report, upon the authority of that document.

importance to the country, and a further incentive to the execution of this canal.

The locks, though more numerous than could be wished, would afford several excellent sites for flour mills, the want of which is so great in many parts of the counties of Cavan, Fermanagh, and Monaghan, that flour is now brought by land carriage to those places, from Slane, Navan, and Kells, a distance of thirty or forty miles.

The line between Lough Erne and Lough Neagh would, in many other respects, be extremely desirable, particularly if a canal from Belleek to Ballyshannon were executed, as by those means a safe internal navigation would be opened between the northern ports on the eastern and western sides of the kingdom, thereby avoiding the delay and danger attendant on a sea voyage between those places, which I understand is at times as tedious as one to the West Indies, and the freight and insurance nearly as great.

By the execution of those canals, a door would be opened to the English market from the north-western part of Ireland, agriculture would be encouraged, the comforts of the poor increased, and a check put to the spirit for emigration, at present so prevalent in that part of the kingdom.

The main trunk of the proposed line being four miles distant from Armagh, I have laid out an off-branch to within a mile and a half of that city: the high ground on which it stands, and the difficulty of obtaining water for lockage, prevents a nearer approach.

Although a junction between the royal canal



and that which is now proposed, would be highly desirable, I feel inclined to view it rather as a distinct measure; satisfied that the line I have prescribed would be found of vast advantage to the nation, independent of any communication with the metropolis; particularly when the projected improvements on the Lagan navigation are completed, and some that *I conceive* might also be found advisable, between Newry and Lough Neagh; namely, a canal of about one mile and a quarter in length, from the river Bann, near Slan-try, into Derryad bay, by which eight or ten miles of circuitry would be saved in the communication with Belfast and the eastern coast of Lough Neagh, besides avoiding the most tedious part of the Newry navigation.

Not being limited by the Board's order to any particular size for the proposed canal, I have calculated on one of similar dimensions to the Royal Canal Extension; as being suited to the passage of boats capable of navigating the lakes. My *detailed estimate* for this amounts to £222,968.

A canal of 15 feet width at bottom, 30 feet at water surface, four feet three inches depth of water on cills, and five feet in canal, with locks and bridges similar to those on the Royal Canal Extension, would cost about £195,000; and one of 18 feet width at bottom, 25 feet at water surface, four feet depth of water in canal, and three feet six inches on cills, with locks 80 feet long

and 10 feet wide, bridges, &c. in proportion, would cost about £175,000.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c.

(Signed)

JOHN KILLALY.

Francis French, Esq. &c. &c.

*A proposal for making a canal from the city of Armagh to the river Blackwater, near the town of Moy.*

In order to shew, that carrying into effect the annexed sketch of a line, for opening a navigable communication from Armagh to the river Blackwater, would be a work of public utility, the following reasons are most respectfully submitted to the Right Honourable and Honourable the Committee of the House of Commons.

From Armagh, being the most considerable market in the kingdom for the sale of brown linens, the manufacture of that staple article is carried on to a very great extent in its neighbourhood; but this manufacture is in danger of being most materially injured, from the great scarcity of fuel, which is such as to oblige the opulent inhabitants to use English coal, at a great expense of land carriage; and they have latterly, at inclement seasons, been under the necessity of subscribing large sums, to procure that article at a low price for the poor, to prevent them from perishing.

Should a navigation be opened to Lough Neagh

it would give the means of a supply of turf from the extensive bogs in the neighbourhood of the lake, would open a communication with the collieries at Coal island, in the county of Tyrone, and bring English or Scotch coal considerably under the prices at which they can now be procured.

An extensive trade in general articles of merchandise being carried on from Armagh, not only to its own neighbourhood, but to a considerable part of the counties of Monaghan and Tyrone, by opening a navigation through Lough Neagh to the ports of Belfast and Newry, this trade would be very considerably extended, to the great advantage of Armagh, and all those places to which its trade extends, and would tend much to improve the public revenue.

To the great number of bleach-greens and flour mills in the neighbourhood of Armagh, water carriage would be of the highest importance, as well for the conveyance of bleaching stuffs, coals, grain, and flour, as of timber, slates, and other heavy articles, used in erecting and repairing the necessary buildings, machinery, &c.

In a large tract of country, from Blackwater town to Lough Neagh, and from thence up the river Bann, and along the canal to Newry, (an extent of nearly 30 miles) there is no limestone whatever; so that lime can only be procured by land carriage from a distance of several miles, which prevents its being at all used in that important national object—*agriculture*.

Was a canal opened from Armagh, it must necessarily go through the lands in that vicinity, containing inexhaustible quantities of limestone, which could be conveyed by boats returning from Armagh, at a very inconsiderable expense, to all that part of the county above mentioned.

The cut, as laid down in the plan, would extend about five and a half miles; and according to the estimate, would, when completed, cost from £18,000 to £20,000, about one-third of which could be raised by subscription.

To keep the works in repair, and pay interest to the subscribers, would require a toll of about sixpence per ton on all boats carrying coals, or any other species of merchandise; but boats laden merely with turf or limestone might be charged only twopence per ton.

The number of horses constantly employed in bringing coals, turf, and other necessaries, to Armagh, amount to some hundreds: two-thirds of these would, from a canal, become unnecessary, and consequently make a saving to the country of their keeping, attendance, &c. to a very large amount.

Should the Armagh navigation be carried into execution, it would be necessary to give the commissioners of it a power of laying on a very small toll on vessels coming into the Blackwater from Lough Neagh, to enable them to clear, and keep in order, a cut which was made many years ago, (as marked in the plan) to avoid a sand bank in the mouth of the river Blackwater.

## CHAPTER IX.

*Natural history of Lough Neagh.—Forests.—Poem to the memory of the royal oak.—The broad oak.—Poem to its memory.—Rivers and small lakes.—Lough Guile, the retreat, from public life, of Earl M<sup>c</sup>Cartney.—Buildings, fences, and other rural improvements.—Description of the farm stock of Antrim.*

*Lough Neagh.*

THE situation, extent, and natural productions, of Lough Neagh are such as to claim particular attention in the report of Antrim. It lies not far from the centre of the province of Ulster, surrounded by five of its most populous and trading counties; Antrim to the north and east, and a small portion of Downshire in the same direction; Armagh to the south, Tyrone to the west, and Londonderry to the west and north. Between these counties it forms a ready communication; and by means of the Belfast and Newry canals, foreign importations are distributed over the adjacent country; and the produce of the Tyrone collieries is also accessible, by its means, through the canal which has been made into the Blackwater from Coal island.

The greatest depth of this lake (near the centre) is computed to average at from 45 to 50 feet, from whence it has, for the most part, a gradual ascent to the shore. Nature, however, has secured to the trade of Ulster some unlading places, where vessels can come in.

The waters of the lough rise considerably after rainy winters and springs; a circumstance not only unfavourable to evaporation, but materially detrimental to lands on the margin of the lough, and more particularly to those on the banks of the river Bann, which forms the only outlet to this great water. This defect in our inland navigation police, if we may so speak, drew from the pen of Dr. Hutchison, when bishop of Down and Connor, a publication, in which he says: "The overflowing of the lake is owing to the influx of the many rivers which discharge themselves into Lough Neagh, besides innumerable streams; for all the chief rivers of the five counties which border upon it have descending courses from the opposite seas, mountains, and marshes, until they meet in this centre, from which they have no visible outlet, but one narrow and obstructed passage of the lower Bann, which, besides all the increasing obstructions of its own channel, from its sands, rocks, and other accumulations, has others, raised by art, for the purpose of the eel-fisheries." His Lordship continues: "That the waters which flow from so many courses could not be discharged by the single outlet of the Bann, but must, unless steps be taken to assist the discharge of the

waters, by clearing the obstructions of the river, be annually accumulated, to the great detriment of the lands around."—The bishop mentions one church, that of Ballyscullen, not only encompassed by it, but that a great part of the parish had been drowned; that great tracts of rich land, once adorned with trees, were covered; and that a fisherman, having twice removed his habitation, was about to do so again, complaining, that he knew not where to set it, for the Bann followed him.—Though the encroachments of Lough Neagh do not seem to have kept pace with the apprehensions of the bishop, nor with the fears of the fisherman, yet it is very certain that inconvenience, and often serious losses, are sustained from its overflowing, sometimes early in autumn, and always in the winter season, though in summer it usually returns to its level; for most of the streams which flow into it are at that period nearly dry, and all of them discharging a lesser quantity of water into the lake; whilst the lower Bann, its outlet, must carry off an equal quantity, when the water is above a certain height, and continue so to do until it subsides to a level with the rock, which forms the main obstacle. This discharge must then, in a few months of dry weather, reduce the lake to its summer standard.

Though it seems evident, from these considerations, that the waters accumulated during the winter are discharged in the course of the summer, unless a very wet one, still it would be a most desirable circumstance if they could be

lowered, so as to prevent them, in winter, from lying too long on the overflowed parts, as they destroy all vegetation, except of the coarser aquatic vegetables; for the destructive effect of its waters, rather proceeds from the time they continue on the land, and their depth when on, than from any deleterious quality they possess.

Therefore, even to reduce the body of the water during the summer season, so that the bason of the lake would have capacity to hold a great part of the winter floods without rising above the present summer level, and by that means to prevent the usual overflow in winter, would be a great object to landholders, whose properties border upon it, if their mutual claims could be ascertained and adjusted. And this project, which, if once carried into execution, would be so very beneficial, does not seem unfeasible; since, according to a survey made some years ago, by order of the late Lord O'Neil, Mr. Owens (who completed the Belfast canal from Lisburn to Lough Neagh) found, that from Toome to Lough Beg there is a fall of 15 inches; that to make a wide cut on the Antrim side of the Bann, to commence or be taken from Brockish bay, into Lough Beg, (with the necessary bridges) would probably cost not more than £10,000. Now, when it is taken into consideration, that Lough Neagh contains more than 60,000 Irish acres, and that its shores are very shallow, and that the thirteen rivers which run into it, besides the rivulets, are all dammed up by the height of the rock at Toome; (over the



extensive flats, which surround it) and when it is further considered, what an immense body of water fifteen inches, taken from its surface, is equal to, or rather how much ground that water now covers; it seems really to be an object every way worthy, not only of private, but even of national interference.

In any arrangement, however, which may be made for the lowering of this water, it would be necessary to pay due attention to the interest of the Belfast, Newry and Coal island canals, which would, in all probability, be seriously affected by any *very considerable* diminution in the waters of this lake.—But should such an undertaking as this be seriously entertained, no doubt every attention will be paid, not only to the advantages, but to the disadvantages, that are likely to follow; and the balance struck accordingly. The total draining of this lake, however, if that has ever been contemplated, would be found impracticable, as the fall from thence to the sea is only forty-two feet, and a great part of the lake is forty-five feet deep, in the driest season.

This vast body of fresh and salt water is reputed to measure about twenty English miles, from Shanes castle north-east to Blackwater, in the opposite direction.—Its circumference is more than eighty English miles; and the immense area it covers, has been already noticed in Irish measure, amounting, in English, to between 90,000 and 100,000 acres of land.—Irish historians inform

us that it burst out in the reign of Lugaidh Rhiabderg, and was called Lion Mhuine; a name, apparently originating in a supposed healing quality possessed by the lake, for lion (according to Mr. Cupples, in the survey of his parish) signifies a lough, and mhuine, and neasg, a sore or ulcer.—The names of Lough Sidney and Lough Chichester, in honour of the Lords Deputies, Sir Henry Sydney and Sir Arthur Chichester, were successively given to it; but they have been unable to supplant the more ancient, though less refined appellation.

Two remarkable properties have been ascribed to Lough Neagh; a power of healing diseases, already mentioned, and a power of petrifying wood and other substances.—As to the first, an analysis of this water discovers nothing to warrant such an opinion; and no difference has been found to exist between it and the waters of other lakes in the kingdom.—The influx probably of some mineral waters from the neighbouring land, may have imparted a medicinal quality to particular parts, and hence a general quality ascribed to the whole.

With regard to the property of converting wood and other substances into stone, this appears to rest on no better foundation.—The absence of any peculiarity in the water of this lough, is irreconcilable with the existence of such a power; and the circumstances of similar petrifications being found in the land, and at considerable distances

from the lake, renders the supposition altogether untenable.\*

Lough Neagh abounds in fresh water fish of different kinds, as salmon, trout, eel, roach, bream, pike, pollan or fresh water herring, called in England, shad, and a fish perhaps peculiar to this lake, called the fresh water whiting.—There are two species of trout, distinguished by their size; the dolochan, being in length from fourteen to eighteen inches, said to be peculiar to Lough Neagh; and the buddagh, a large trout, weighing, in many instances, thirty pounds. But the most singular fish to be met with in this lake, is that caught in Sandy bay, on the shores of Glenavy, known by

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\* The situation of a bed of petrification at Aghaness, near the mouth of Glenavy river, will shew by its depth, that the water could not have been the agent in this operation. A bed of blue clay, four feet deep, is next the wood; above that a bed of red clay, three feet deep. These two strata have evidently been covered by a bank of twelve feet, that has been washed away by the encroachments of the lake; so that in the whole, this collection of petrification had been covered to a depth of nineteen feet. Another fact will shew that the water, when the substance was within its reach, did not cause petrification. In the year 1796, a canoe, composed of an entire block of oak, about twenty-five feet long, by four wide, was discovered immediately under the surface, on the shore of Lough Neagh, at Crumlin water foot.—This vessel was of a rude construction, the bottom not being formed into a keel, and must have existed from a remote period. It was decayed in many places, but no where exhibited the smallest appearance of petrification. The truth therefore seems to be, that it is the soil beneath and around Lough Neagh that possesses petrifying qualities, and not the water.

the name of the gillaroo trout, which possesses the curious property of having a stomach like the gizzard of a fowl: it is called by the fishers, the shell trout, from its subsisting on shell-fish of a very minute size. Mr. Cupples examined the stomach of this creature, and found in it every appearance of a gizzard. The flesh, when boiled, is of a pale yellow colour. Mr. Barrington has given an account of this strange fish, in the *Philosophical Transactions of 1774*, p. 116; for which he and the Royal Society have fallen under the severe lash of the author of the *Pursuits of Literature*, by whom the account is improperly ridiculed and discredited.

While detailing the properties of Lough Neagh, we must not omit to notice those pebbles, which contribute so largely to the distinction which this lough has obtained in the natural history of Europe.—These pebbles are of various sizes and colours, weighing from an ounce to a pound and upwards. Their colours are red, yellow, white, and variegated; but of these the first, which is the most beautiful, is also the most rare. And besides these there is a pebble, called the brilliant, from its great lustre; but this is so extremely rare, that few visitors of the lough can boast of having seen it; its existence, however, is maintained by a gentleman resident on the shore, whose authority is most respectable. It is a little remarkable that although the larger quantity of those pebbles are found loose upon the beach, yet those which are most highly valued, are usually found in the lands

around the lough, and frequently at the distance of a mile, and even two miles from the shore.— Whether the mineral waters with which, it is highly probable, those lands, in various parts, are pregnant, should have been agents in the production of that variety of colours, by which the pebbles of this lough are distinguished, we presume not to determine; but the subject is curious, and may deserve the notice of those who have knowledge and inclination to follow up those researches.

The Lough Neagh pebble is of an extreme hardness, and next to the diamond, most difficult to be cut and polished; hence it possesses this advantage over other stones, that when it is engraved, the impressions produced by it never lose their sharpness. Mineralogists consider it as a calcedony; as such, its specific gravity is two-sevenths heavier than water; and its component parts are eighty-four of pure silicious earth, and sixteen of the earth of alum or clay. The great labour and art requisite to cut and polish this pebble, make it of equal value with the cornelian, when applied to the purposes of use or ornament. There is so great a resemblance between those pebbles and certain kinds of opal, cornelian, cat's-eye, and mocho stones, that it is not easy to be certain on the subject. What adds to the difficulty is, that they are found loose upon the beach, and none of them attached to any rock or stone. It is supposed that the rocks around the lake, from Lurgan to Coagh (going northward) being all basaltic, and some of them being washed by the lake, the cal-

cedony (which is found in other rocks of that kind along the sea coast, and the quarries of the interior of the country often containing calcedony in nodules and veins) was detached from them, mixed with sand and gravel, and rolled into their present form upon the beach.

Singular petrifications of wood, called Hone-stone, are found in Lough Neagh, and in the land: they are composed, for the most part, of the roots of trees, and generally have the appearance of oak. A remarkable specimen, being an entire root, a cube of five feet, is to be seen in the river of Crumlin, near Cider-court. Although these differ radically from the Lough Neagh pebbles, they are both composed of silicious earth; but the former, notwithstanding they strike fire with steel, are yet inflammable. They are always black at the heart, which is owing to the matter of the wood not being quite wasted, while its interstices have been filled, and most of its substance replaced by the flinty matter being filtered into it.—Dr. Hulton thinks that the flint has been melted, and injected through the wood with violence: but the beautiful, loosely adhering and shining crystals, that are often spread through the cracks, and among the fibres of the wood, have greatly the appearance of the infiltration of some liquid from which the crystals have been gradually deposited.\* To a person

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\* Mr. Wm. Molyneux quotes the physician Anselm Boetius, as asserting in his "Historia Lapidum et Gemmarum," that, "the part of the wood that is buried in Lough Neagh will become iron, that part touched by the water becomes stone, and that

interested in forming a cabinet of the productions of a basaltic and limestone country, there is probably not a tract on the globe, of similar extent, that could afford a more interesting or varied collection of the fossils contained in such a district, than the basalts and limestone area of the counties of Antrim and Derry.—Mr. Dubourdieu mentions some very fine agates that were found at Megaberry, four miles south of Lisburn, also specimens of the purest zeolite, among the basaltic rocks, and of a great size, beautifully striated and white as snow; and among the crystals, which are of superior hardness and transparency, there is one of thirty pounds weight, noticed by him, which was procured from a countryman for a trifle, and afterwards sold for a high price in London.

Lough Neagh has been frozen three times in the memory of man: once in the memorable frost of 1739; again in January, 1784; and again in January of 1814; when such was the intensity of the frost, that Lieut. Colonel Heyland undertook and accomplished the hazardous expedition of riding his horse from Crumlin water foot to Ram's

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above the water remains wood."—This opinion of the *waters* of the lough, as we have already noticed, is controverted by good judges, resident on the spot, who assert, that no authentic instances of it have been produced.

Mr. Nevill, an engineer, who drew a plan for making the Glen bog navigable, from the lough through part of the Upper Bann to Newry, denies that the *water* of the lake has a petrifying quality, but asserts that the *soil* has it, for miles around the lake.—See Boate's Natural History, from p. 116 to p. 122.

island; and the same gentleman, for a considerable wager, rode round the lough, a circuit of eighty English miles, in less than five hours, in 1814. The singular novelty of a drag chase, round Ram's island, was exhibited on the ice of Lough Neagh, with Mr. Stafford Whittle's pack of harriers, in 1814.

Near this lough, and separated from it by a narrow neck of land (known by the name of the Deer Park) is a beautiful sheet of water of an oval form, called Lough Beg, or The Little Lake. This body of water (which in a dry district, would be denominated a large lake) covers a tract of 600 or 700 acres.—It is ornamented with several small islands, on one of which a splendid and beautiful spire (erected on the ruin of a church by the late Lord Bristol, bishop of Derry) sheds an inexpressible influence of beauty upon the surrounding views. This lough is also enriched with stores of fish and wild fowl.

#### *Forests.*

Few strangers now passing through this island, would suppose that a considerable part of it had been covered with wood so recently as the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries; and in some parts of Ireland, vestiges of these forests were to be seen in the middle of the last century. A park of the Lords Conway (in the vicinity of those lakes, of which we have been just treating) contained 1400 acres of this wood.—It was stored with deer, pheasants, jays, turkeys, hares, rabbits,



and a variety of game. A neat lodge was erected in it by Lord Conway, for the purpose of enjoying the pleasures of the field with greater convenience. Nearly forty years ago, a considerable portion of this park was leased to tenants, by whom it has been altogether cleared of wood, and is now well cultivated. The remaining part, forming a peninsula with Lough Neagh, was enclosed by a wall constructed at the entrance, and continued for some time a receptacle for deer, under the name of the hogg, or little deer park. This park was also given up to cultivation, twelve or fourteen years ago, and leased to tenants, since which time it has been entirely divested of timber, and reduced under the dominion of the plough. Here grew an oak tree, called from its extraordinary size and dimensions, the royal oak. This noble tree was forty-two feet in circumference; the principal arm was sold for an axis of a mill, and the other branches built a vessel of fifty tons, which was distinguished by the same appellation as the parent tree. The bark of this tree sold for forty guineas; the trunk was sold at one shilling and sixpence per foot; and the whole tree produced a total sum of from £100 to £150! The ground in which it grew was a very stiff clay. This great tree being decayed at the roots, sunk under the pressure of time, about forty years ago, on a calm day.

## THE ROYAL OAK.

1.

With mountain weight the valley groan'd  
 When thou the debt of nature paid,  
 The naiad sigh'd, the dryad moan'd,  
 The foxes languish'd in the shade.

2.

But we alone thy virtues see  
 For whom thou liv'd ; for whom thou died,  
 In life, thou shelter'd us, O tree,  
 In death, didst for our wants provide.

3.

Hail, honour'd subject of our rhyme,  
 Descending to thy parent ground ;  
 Hail, yielding to the stroke of time,  
 With hoary age and honour crown'd.

4.

Thou, like a sovereign great and good,  
 Thy arms extended far and wide,  
 Thou screen'd us from the tempest rude,  
 Nor basely robb'd us, when thou died.

5.

Ah, no ; great tree, thy heart declares,  
 That man was deeply graven there.  
 The moral lesson read, ye kings,  
 " Do good, and thus for heaven prepare."

6.

Oak of the forest take the hint,  
 Short is thy day, tho' high thy head,  
 The watchman soon will cut thee down,  
 And lay thee with the silent dead.

*The Broad oak.*

Next to that sovereign of the forest, with whose  
 useful and exalted character we closed our last  
 description, grew another oak tree, which, in this  
 kingdom of the hamadryades, might be regarded

as the prime minister of the royal oak, as it stood next to him in rank, in place, and in power. Their forms, however, were somewhat different—their interior character still more so—and their final close most different of all.

This tree was called the BROAD OAK, from the expansion of its branches, which extended to the distance of four English perches (22 yards) in diameter. The trunk of this tree having been chipped with a turf spade, absorbed moisture, was rotted at the heart, and entirely hollow when it fell, and, of course, was of little value to the owner : but from these examples it is evident, that oaks planted in the strong argillaceous soils in the region of Lough Neagh, require only a sufficient age to render them applicable to naval uses.

### THE BROAD OAK.

1.

And thou who next in princely rank,  
With almost royal splendour shone ;  
How was it, e'er thy time was come,  
The forest heard thy hollow moan ?

2.

It seems corruption seiz'd thy heart,  
Infus'd itself thro' all thy pow'rs—  
No more thou shadest weary man,  
Or guards him from descending show'rs.

3.

Slow was the process, yet 'twas sure !  
By which thy pride was prostrate laid ;  
Thy coat of mail was pierced thro',  
And poison issued from the spade.

4.

The poison'd spade was not content  
 To rob thee of thy days and hours,  
 Thro' ev'ry pore the poison went,  
 And deeply tainted all thy pow'rs.

5.

Prostrate thou lay—thy crown was fall'n!  
*Inglorious*—on thy *sov'reign's* ground;  
 All nature trembled with the stroke,  
 And a deep silence reign'd around.

6.

The trees assembled to behold  
 Thy open'd heart in awful plight,  
 How deeply *rotten* all was there,  
 The forest trembled at the sight!

7.

And oh! can honour's lofty pride,  
 And virtue's more endearing name,  
 Be poison'd by a Stygian smoke,  
 Deep issuing from a secret flame?

8.

Alas! 'tis true—the loftiest tree,  
 The purest in the forest's range,  
 May sink beneath corruption's pow'r,  
 And feel a sad and awful change.

9.

The demon's tool may touch its bark,  
 The poison may diffuse its pow'r;  
 The fire commencing with a spark,  
 May lay it prostrate in an hour.

10.

And art thou, tree, to us a sad  
 And awful moral in the shade?  
 If so, how deep thy warning voice  
 To loftier trees above the glade.

## 11.

If fell corruption taint our pow'rs,  
 If we betray our sacred trust,  
 The forest must corrupted fall,  
 Or lay us prostrate in the dust.

## 12.

"One sickly sheep infects a flock,"  
 One tainted tree corrupts the glade;  
 The axe must do its office then,  
 'Tis better than the poison'd spade.

## 13.

CORRUPTION'S FALL IS VIRTUE'S LIFE,  
 No virtue with its power can dwell,  
 'Tis better that one tree lie low,  
 Than that a forest burn in h—l.

## 14.

Emblem of congregated men,  
 As thou, O tree, of ruthless pow'r;  
 Convey your moral to the fools,  
 Who barb the dart of life's short hour!

## 15.

On *gentle gales* your warning voice  
 Convey to Britain's loftiest soil;  
 And teach her ministers to spread  
 Their shadow o'er a nation's toil.

## 16.

So shall their roots strike deep in peace;  
 So shall their top towards heav'n ascend—  
 Then may the watchman cut them down,  
 Ripe for a calm and glorious end.

Although this county, in relation to its natural wood, has been almost depopulated, yet Shane's castle can still boast of being clothed in its native woods. On the steep banks of a few rivers, these ancient subjects of the hamadryades have also

escaped the unrelenting fury of the axe ; and a little portion of small wood still left on the mountain between the Garron-point and Glenarm, contributes to the beauty of the scene. About Nappen this wood grows out of the perpendicular face of the rocks ; and, though not very valuable, as an object of purchase or of sale, is highly so to the traveller ; who in journeying to the southward, must be charmed with the contrast which its rich level plains form to the wild scenes that he has just passed through in the north.

Among the spontaneous productions in the region of Lough Neagh, and a certain district of the coast of Antrim, we must not omit to mention the crab tree, which shoots up to an enormous size. Many beautiful specimens of this tree are to be seen in the demesne of Shane's castle. The timber resembles that of the apple tree, but the stem of the crab is both larger and straighter. This tree makes an admirably strong fence, though irregular, and when extensively planted, gives the country a wooded aspect. The largest tree of that kind that we have heard or read of, grew at Portmore ; it is said to have rivalled an oak in its height and in the spreading of its branches, and when covered with blossoms, to have had a most magnificent appearance.

The resident gentlemen of this county, and many of the farmers also, are now busily employed in erecting upon the ruins of that venerable empire of the hamadryades, which once flourished here, a new kingdom. Forest trees of all descriptions

have found their way into those parts of the baronies of Massarene, Antrim and Toome, which have a wooded aspect; and in this general effect may be included, the local influence of the planted vallies of the Six Mile water and the Braid, the whole extent of country from Lisburn to Carrickfergus, Lord M'Cartney's plantations at Lissanour, which derive eminent distinction from being contrasted with the bogs that surround them; the fine trees in the scene of Glenarm castle, the plantations of Castle Dobbs, Ballyhill, Red hall and Leslie hill, which are extensive; and these uniting with the lesser plantations of respectable seats and farm houses, place the wooded kingdom of this county in a scale of mediocrity; although much remains to be done for the promotion of its interests in some rural districts, and in none more than in the lofty mountains of its pride and power; some of which (as for instance certain of the Belfast chain) lift their bald and ulcerated figures over rich sea views, and vallies pregnant with the finest tints of feminine improvement; so that we should not be surprised if the carnation would diffuse itself o'er a lady's cheek, on perceiving the intrusion of those venerable objects into a rich promenade, before their sores had been dressed, their bald heads placed in order by the mountain planter, and even in a state of nudity, for which nothing could apologize, but those infirmities of old age which excite pity, and over which charity, that "covers a multitude of sins," draws a curtain of discretion.

*Rivers and small lakes.*

Most of the rivers which belong to this county, take their rise in the mountains on the sea coast, and following the general inclination of the land, discharge themselves into Lough Neagh: those which flow into the sea are merely torrents, except the river Bush, which, in part, follows the general rule laid down, until finding a valley at Dervock, it keeps that as its course, until it meets the sea at Port Ballintree, to the west of the Giant's Causeway. The Ravel water rises in the barony of Carey, the Braid river in lower Glenarm, Glenwherry river in upper Glenarm: all these rise in the mountains not far distant from the sea coast, and are branches of the river Main, which after flowing through Randelstown, discharges itself into Lough Neagh, having in the latter part of its course traversed the park and demesne of Shane's castle, which for extent, situation, wood, water, and all those capabilities which can render a nobleman's seat interesting and magnificent, is scarcely to be equalled.

The Six Mile water takes its course in the mountains of lower Belfast, and falls into Lough Neagh, at Antrim. Crumlin and Glenavy rivers rise in the mountains, which lie to the west of the road between Belfast and Lisburn, and reach the same lough at Sandy bay.

None of the rivers are navigable; the rapid descent of the country precludes that advantage, but at the same time gives birth to another; they



are peculiarly adapted to the construction of mills; in consequence their banks are much occupied with bleach-greens, cotton, flour, and corn mills. The Carey and Glenshesh, with another stream, unite and discharge themselves into the sea at Ballycastle. The rapid falls of the mountains of Carey, with the great quantity of water collected by them in heavy rains, make horrid ravages on the banks of those rivers, and form one of the most difficult obstacles to making a harbour at that place. Besides these, numberless torrents pour from the mountains by every opening into the sea, adding greatly to the beauty of the different scenes; and a number of streams which are tributary to the Lagan and the lower Bann, discharge their respective stores into these rivers.

Of the vallies, through which these rivers flow, some are strikingly beautiful, as that of the Main water from Cullyecky to Lough Neagh, the valley of the Braid, from above Broughshane until it falls into the Main, and the Six Mile water from Doagh to Antrim; and as to the valley of the Lagan, we have already given a brief but sufficient specimen of its beauty, (in our progress to Belfast) to render any farther allusion to its history unnecessary in this place.

The smaller loughs in the county of Antrim are few in number, and not large; Lough Lynch lies in lower Dunluce, Lough Hill in the upper half barony; and Lough Morne, three miles to the north of Carrickfergus, has been noticed in our history of that place. To the south of Fairhead

is another; and in the barony of Massereene is Portmore lough, whose banks have been sanctified by the life and writings of the pious and learned Bishop Taylor, already noticed in these memoirs. But Lough Guile, in the barony of Dunluc, deserves particular notice, from its having been the chosen place of retirement of that great political negociator and traveller, Earl Macartney. Here, amidst a wood of his own raising, he spent many of his latter days; his manners and conversation a constant source of pleasure and of information to those who were so fortunate as to enjoy his society. The following inscription placed over his hall door, and composed by himself, as expressive of some of the principal events of his life, was given by his lordship to Mr. Dubourdieu.

Sub libertate

Quieti

Hos avitos agros, has ædes restitutas et ornatas

D. D. D.

Georgius Comes de Macartney, Vice-comes Macartney de Dervock, Dominus Macartney Baro de Lissanoure, in regno Hiberniæ, Baro Macartney de Parkhurst et de Auchinleck, in regno Magnæ Britanniæ, ordinis regii et perantiqui, Aquilæ Albæ, necnon ordinis præhonorabilis de Balneo Eques, et Regi a sanctoribus consiliis utriusque regni, in patriam redux, anno 1796.

Erin nos genuit, vidit nos Africa, Gangem  
Housimus, Europeæque plagas fere visimus omnes,

**Nec latuit regio priam patefacta Colombo ;  
 Sinarum licuit dextram tetigiase tyranni ;  
 Tartaricas montes, magnum et transcendere murum,  
 Turbidaque impavidi tentavimus alta Pe-che-li  
 Hactenus Europæ nullis sulcata carinis.  
 Casibus et variis acti terraque marique  
 Sistimus hic tandem, atque lares veneramur avorum.**

*Thus translated :*

Under the protection of liberty, these paternal fields, together with this house, renovated and adorned, were dedicated to peace, by

George Earl of Macartney, Vice-earl Macartney, of Dervock, Lord Macartney, Baron of Lissanore, in the kingdom of Ireland. Baron Macartney, of Parkhurst and Auchinleck, in the kingdom of Great Britain, of the royal and very ancient order of the White Eagle, also of the very honourable order, Knight of the Bath, Member of the Privy Council of both kingdoms, and retired into his own country in the year 1796.

Erin begot us, Africa saw us, we drank of the Ganges, we have visited most of all the countries of Europe, nor was the region first discovered by Columbus unnoticed by us. We were allowed to touch the hand of the king of China,—to pass over the mountains of the Tartars, and the great wall of China,—and we have attempted the deep-rolling seas of the Pe-tche-li, never until then furrowed by European vessels.

At length we settle here, after having been

driven through seas and lands by various misfortunes, and venerate the lares of our ancestors.

### *Buildings.*

Nothing tends more to improve a country than the residence of enlightened proprietors; nothing embellishes it more than their habitations. Though there are not many *extremely* splendid houses of this character in Antrim, there are many characterised by convenience and elegance, belonging to this rank in society. In addition to these, must be mentioned that most respectable class, who are diffused over the great estates, but whose property in them is only leasehold; it is a striking and a pleasing sight to see what is done by them, whenever they have had encouragement to settle and improve, for these are synonymous terms. Yet the pleasure that results from contemplating this subject, is fully equalled by the view of that comfort in which the inferior occupiers of the land live, which is daily increasing; and within these last thirty or forty years more has been done in this way, in the province of Ulster, than in the century which preceded it.

We have frequently alluded to the houses of the farmers and manufacturers of this district, which although, in many instances, not more than one story, nor very spacious, are neat and warm, usually roughcast and whitened; the windows sashed, the doors painted, covered with a good coat of thatch; and in many instances the houses are slated, and one or two of the apartments

floored. When the circumstances of the farmer enable him, and the size of his farm justifies him in doing it, he usually erects a dwelling-house of two stories high, and finishes and furnishes it in a manner that does honour to his country. The offices of a farm house consist of a stable, according with the number of horses required, a cow house of the same capacity, and a barn sufficient to contain a stack of grain, such as the owner thinks fit; to these may always be added, a house for one or more pigs, a shed for his calves, and in many instances, an open house to contain turf, cars, and other farming implements, to protect them when not in use from the inclemency of the weather; and although there are particular parts that form exceptions to this general rule, yet these exceptions are not numerous, and the work of improvement is every where advancing.

*Building on bogs.*

It would tend very much to the improvement of Ireland, if on the roads, which pass through our numerous tracts of bogs, small farms (including, where upland is to be had, one acre of this class for the dwelling-house, &c.) were let on very easy terms to honest labourers, or to the poorer tenantry, resident on the several estates to which those bogs are attached.

The great accommodation of fuel, and the comparative degree of independence which such situations bring, would certainly induce numbers to resort to them; and we cannot conceive any

measure attended with so little trouble and loss to the landed interest, that is equally calculated to combine the improvement of a property and country with the interests of the deserving poor.

It may be objected here, that by thus occupying the bogs, the future source of fuel would be cut off; but cultivating a bog, though it dries and compresses it, does not diminish the quantity of its fuel. This effect only follows from burning the soil, or from removing its contents; and the first could be prevented by a clause in the tenant's lease, and the last by prohibiting him from cutting turf *for sale*. A permanent settlement, however small, carries with it an idea of property, that does more toward securing obedience to the laws, and promoting civilisation, than a hundred hungry soup shops, or a thousand meagre lectures in the society pamphlets, instructing *famished women and children*, how to *cook* (*cook what?*) and how to live!! On this subject the following quotation from the *Monthly Review*, which does equal honour to the writer's judgment and humanity, is in point.

“ We perfectly coincide with Mr. B. in the statement of the effects of a little property on the poor. It communicates, as Dr. Paley remarks, a charm to whatsoever is the object of it; and the cottage, the garden, the cow, or the pig, are more essential in promoting industry, prudence, and stability of conduct, than many persons are inclined to believe. All those plans, institutions, and charities, which foster habits of neatness and regularity among the poor, and which assist them,

without taking the care of *themselves* off their *own hands*, are most likely to produce good."

#### *Fences.*

The soil of the county of Antrim is particularly favourable to the growth of the white thorn, and the good farmers take advantage of this circumstance, by planting all the new made ditches with thorn quicks; a strong proof of the extensive demand for them is, their being exposed for sale during the planting season in many of the markets. The cultivated appearance these fences give to the country, with the shelter they afford to cattle, and the security imparted to the growing crops by them, are considerations of great consequence; and in some districts their effect is peculiarly striking. The growth of the white thorn hedges, through the barony of Masserene, is so vigorous, and they are so numerous, as of themselves to give the country a wooded aspect.

#### *Gates.*

Where fences are good, there some attention may be expected to be paid to render them useful, by a proper method of opening and of shutting the enclosures they form. Accordingly gates, though not of any very particularly good construction, are frequent, and contribute their share to impart an air of neatness and comfort to the whole. The adoption, however, of iron gates, with stone piers, we would strongly recommend to the good people of this county, as in the end they would undoubtedly be found the cheapest.

The entrances to gentlemen's places are ornamented by modern approaches, in various fashions ; and their fields well divided, and shut by gates upon the best construction. These objects are productive of pleasure without doubt ; but, as a matter tending to impress an idea of the prosperity of a country, the farmer's attention to neatness, and in this way to embellishment, is much more conclusive, and must in a high degree contribute to the gratification of every resident gentleman ; for how limited must be his rural pleasures, when confined to his own demesne, and how shocking the contrast, when, on his issuing from it, he sees nothing around him that can in any degree be an accompaniment to what he has left behind!—and still more shocking, if, in driving through his own estate, he is surrounded by human beings in the lowest stage of mental degradation, and of physical wretchedness and woe!!!

#### *Gardens.*

The art of gardening, as an appendage to the establishment of the country gentleman, or to the villa of the opulent merchant, is now well understood, and is carried to a great degree of perfection in this county : all the vegetables, that are either of the first necessity, or that are mere articles of luxury, are to be found in these gardens. Green-houses, for rearing those plants, which will not bear our climate without cover, are numerous ; and in many instances, stoves for ripening the fruits of the tropics are to be seen.



Among the great body of the people here, this most pleasing and profitable pursuit is daily gaining ground. That part of the county inhabited by the descendants of the English settlers was always embellished with gardens and orchards; the others, as their circumstances improve and their ideas enlarge, follow their example. The market of Belfast is well supplied with vegetables, either by those who follow gardening as an occupation, or by the surplus of gentlemen's produce.

In the neighbourhood of that town, land is rented at a very high rate for that purpose, and the produce exposed to sale by the owners, or retailed by others. For all these articles, the consumption of a town containing 30,000 inhabitants, must secure a sale, and prove a great encouragement to rural industry. Small fruits are in great abundance, and are brought not only from the neighbouring gardens to this market, but from places at a considerable distance from Belfast.

The gardens of the cottagers are becoming objects of increasing attention to their owners, and are not only cultivated with profit, but in many instances with taste. This forms a good relief to the laborious and exhausting labours of the loom, and with the culture of a small farm, (say from three to six acres) is precisely the system of living, which, in our view, is best calculated to combine, with the prosperity

of a manufacturing country, the health of its population.

### *Orchards.*

In this district, the failure in the crops of apples, for many years, was attributed to a change in our climate for the worse ; but it rather appears to have proceeded from the natural decay of the species of apples, which, for a number of years, had been propagated in succession. In consequence of the former idea, many orchards were rooted up, and more planted in their stead ; but, in a few cases, new ground and new trees being tried, and having been found to succeed, the planting was recommended, and success has attended the attempt, where proper preparation was given, and where soil and situation answered.

The soil of this county, particularly in the southern parts, being strong and deep, and when drained and manured, rich and mellow, is well calculated for the growth of fruit trees, consequently they have been, under right management, a profitable object of cultivation. In the old way of planting, it was usual to raise the ground on which the trees were to stand ; but the mode now is, to keep the ground from being too moist by draining, and to enrich it, both before and after planting, by setting potatoes in it. The manuring and tillage given to this root is the best preparation for the young trees ; and some persons put a quantity of rich compost about them. Our opi-

nion is, that the soil for this tree cannot be too rich, and that it should be made fine by frequent tillage. Mr. Owens thinks, the best thing that can be put to the roots, at the time of planting, is the chaff of grain completely rotted; its richness encourages the growth of the young fibres, whilst its mellowness gives them an easy passage. Mr. Owens being very attentive to fruit trees, and also, from that circumstance, very fortunate in raising them good, his opinion deserves weight. On replanting ground with fruit trees, he finds it necessary to bring new earth; he also stakes his trees, not only to prevent them from being shaken by the wind, but even to give their branches the proper set, and by pruning them, to keep the middle open. The produce of the orchards here, and in other parts of Ireland, is frequently sold on the trees to men who retail them, or who make them into cider: of the latter, however, little is made in this county, as the demand for apples is great at home, and there is a considerable exportation of them to Scotland, when that demand is supplied.\* New kinds of apples are every year making their appearance here, to supply the place of those that are worn out; and the numerous nurseries are furnished with them, and

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\* What a contrast does the practice of this county form to that of Limerick, in the Munster district, where, in the autumn of 1819, the writer of this note visited several gentlemen, who had manufactured from 20 to 50 hogsheads of cider, solely for their own consumption, a thing quite common in that part of Ireland.

with the best kinds of the older fruits that have not as yet shewn signs of decay. Amongst those, which it now seems impossible to bring to any kind of health and vigour, though they will live and vegetate for a few years, are counted the white and golden russets, and the golden pippin. Amongst the new kinds, the strawberry, peach, and plumb apples, are much esteemed for their beauty and flavour, and the honey-ball likewise: these are summer apples. Of the keeping kinds, the Kerry and Ribston pippins, the red tankard, and Ross *nonpareil* are reckoned very nice; but the Crofton apple, when pulled in proper time and well kept, preserves its freshness and flavour longer than any other, and (together with the pearmain and *nonpareil*) usually brings the highest prices in the public market. There is an apple tree now very much cultivated, not only from its being a good bearer of large and well-flavoured fruit, but from the circumstance of its growing from cuttings, and from its having fruit the second or third year: it is known by a variety of names, but is usually called the Saul apple, from a parish of that name near Downpatrick, where it first made its appearance. In taking cuttings of this tree, it is necessary to observe those branches which have rings and small knobs around them, that rise a little above the general surface, somewhat like a knot, and these are the most certain growers. Large pieces will also take root, and they bear sooner than the smaller ones. This apple, from the quality it possesses of growing with such facility, and from

the size and beauty of its fruit, and the goodness of its flavour for several months, is a great acquisition to the gardens of this district, where it is observed to grow well on *espaliers*; and when grafted, in orchards, it grows well as a large standard. The best situation for orchards are those which have *shelter* from the north and west; the *exposure* to the south-east, that the first rays of the sun may not strike upon them in case of frosts; for those plants are often injured by late frosts in spring, that are open to the morning sun, while others]equally tender escape, to which it has not access for some hours after.

The pear tree, in this part of Ireland, possesses a greater degree of longevity than the apple, and grows to a much larger size. The celebrated Portmore pear is supposed to have been planted in the garden of that place, when the offices were built by Lord Conway, in 1664. They were wall trees at first, and still retain the shape at their bases, one of which measured nine feet in circumference, with great branches spreading parallel to the wall; and Mr. Dubourdieu, who saw this tree, asserts that it could not have been less than from 40 to 50 feet in height. These trees, in the autumn of 1810, were healthy, clean in the bark, and full of fruit. The Portmore pear is yellow, with a reddish tinge on one side, before it is quite ripe: this it loses, and afterwards becomes mellow, and in the early part of the season it is accounted good. Other instances of the size and

longevity of the pear tree might be quoted, but the above may suffice.

### *Stock.*

The first attempt at improving the breed of cattle, by the importation of a superior kind from England, was made by Lord Massarene in 1735. They were of the long-horned kind; and though not exactly of the same appearance and shape as the new Leicester breed, they were very fine beasts, and grew to a very large size: their descendants are still in existence in many parts of the country and around Antrim, but much mixed with other breeds; yet still to be distinguished (by those who were many years ago acquainted with the original stock) from the cattle of other parts. An idea of the value set upon them, after their first introduction, may be formed from the price at which year-old bulls were sold, about £5 sterling; a price which, in those days, was not much inferior to the fancied value set upon the present fashionable breeds; for, at the same period, the value of an ox is known to have been from £2 to £2. 5s.—There was likewise a fine breed at Castle Upton, which it is probable are now dispersed; some of these, which were at Red hall, were beautiful, and came to a great size. About the year 1776, Mr. Lesly, of Lesly hall, imported a bull of Mr. Bakewell's breed; the stock reared from him were very fine; but none of these now exist, (as a distinct breed) being blended with the

cattle of the country. However, they had their day; and in that day did, no doubt, a full day's work in *the business of improvement* that was then carrying forward in those parts. Some years ago, Sir Henry Vane brought a bull and some cows from Durham to Glenarm. They were of the short-horned breed, from Collins. They were large and well shaped, of a fine deep red colour mixed with white, but were reckoned too heavy for the Ulster soil, nor did the climate appear to agree with them: so these English visiters, after having been right well treated on the lands of Glenarm castle, were sent home, as they ought, with a good account of the hospitality of the country. The Marquis of Donegall has imported cattle of a superior species from Astley, successor to Bakewell. It is almost unnecessary to say, they are of the long-horned breed, and of the very best kind, which is implied by mentioning the breeder's name. A cow from this stock was killed in Belfast, some years since, which weighed nearly eight cwt., of six score pounds to the hundred, and its flesh was reputed of the best quality. This cow was fattened on turnips, at one of his lordship's farms in the county of Antrim. Mr. Watson, of Brookhill, breeds from a bull of the Leicester blood, with the ordinary cows of the country, extremely fine stock. Bullocks of this generation, that he has worked, have been fattened to 10 cwt. and upwards. Mr. M'Neil, of Larne, prefers the Dutch to any other sort for milking: they are black, with some white, and have very

small heads, necks, and horns. This species are rather high boned, but square behind, and when in good condition, have smooth and shining coats; but their skins are very thin, which does not seem to be adapted to this moist climate. Some time ago the same gentleman imported a Highland bull, but he did not much approve of his progeny. As this is not a district where many cattle are bred, except what are necessary to keep up each person's stock, so much attention is not paid to the quality as there is in other parts of Ireland, where breeding forms part of a more extensive and more regular system of business; yet still, as cattle constitute so large a portion (in every country) of the farmer's profit, it is an object of consequence to obtain the best kinds that are adapted to soils and situations. To the mountains and high grounds, their own native breeds seem well suited; but even they might gain something by a proper cross with other breeds, provided they are of hardy kinds, and those descended from the long-horned are probably the best. Many heifers of this kind are bought every year in the western counties, at two or three years' old, and sold out the following spring in calf. This is a very profitable business on coarse lands: it however requires great skill and attention, as well in the laying in of the stock as in the time of selling out. If the heifers be disposed of before winter, they are generally warranted in calf, which, it is said, experienced dealers can ascertain with great certainty.



We know nothing farther, on the subject of breeding, necessary to be mentioned in this place, nor on that of rearing, except that the farmers, in the latter case, are often too frugal of their new milk; putting the calves to skim-milk very soon, and often to butter-milk, which, if they survive, renders them big-bellied, and in other particulars weakly. This false principle of economy is not, however, confined to this district, but is too much the practice of small farmers and feeders in every part of Ireland. In truth, there are few instances of the young of any animal that recover the effects of scanty or of improper diet. It is a miserable kind of economy, and in the end defeats itself.

#### *Horses.*

There is a very hardy, strong, though small race of horses, in this district of Ulster, some bred in the county, and others introduced from Scotland, much in use on the northern and north-eastern coast and in the mountains. They are very active and sure-footed, but few of them exceed 14 hands high, and many are much lower. They are employed for every purpose, as far as their abilities will go, and sometimes farther than they ought to be. A little food will support them in a working state, and they turn out very well for small weights on the road; though, from want of early attention in breaking, their mouths are often bad, and their tempers not so pliable as might be wished for. In shape, their defects are, want of height and length before, and behind,

their hams approach too close ; but their backs and limbs are excellent, and their paces far above what would naturally be expected from their apparent strength, being equal to support a journey of equal length with a horse double their bulk, when not unmercifully loaded. A breed of horses similar to these, but smaller, is found in the island of Raghery, off the northern coast of Ireland : they are very sure-footed, and, for their powers, very serviceable. Of horses larger in size, and higher in price, there was not by any means a sufficient number bred in the county of Antrim (some years since) to supply its consumption, though every year a great number are sold, at the various fairs, to dealers from Dublin, England, and Scotland. The farming work is mostly performed by young horses, that are bought in with a double view ; first, to go through the necessary operations of labour, and secondly, when that is over, to be made up for sale at the noted horse fairs, of which Ballyclare seems to be most frequented by purchasers ; the farmers in that neighbourhood being accounted very good judges of horses, and well skilled in the art of making up for sale. There are also many other places where horses of a good description may be procured, as Mount hill, Park gate, Old stone, &c. In these latter years there is a great change in the kind of horse brought to market in the north of Ireland : the species seems to be improved, both in figure and in movement ; and the black horse, with legs overgrown with long hair,

has given place to a kind, whose limbs are much finer, and less encumbered with flesh. In colour, also, a manifest alteration has appeared; bays of different shades, and chesnuts, being at least in equal numbers with blacks, and most of the stallions being of these colours, the proportion in their favour is likely to increase. A great deal of this is to be attributed to the introduction of blood horses, as sires, and likewise the other improvements that have been observed; for although, in the first instance, the cross between heavy mares and high bred horses may produce an awkward animal; in the course of breeding, improvement will be obtained, and its advantages, under judicious corrections, will remain.

#### *Mules.*

Mr. Dubourdieu mentions a very fine ass imported from Malaga, by Mr. M'Neil, of Larne, from which this gentleman has bred a number of mules: the ass, in his form and movement, a superior animal, his height about fourteen hands. At the time Mr. Dubourdieu saw him, his coat was smooth, and his whole appearance handsome; his head not of that heavy dull cast, so common in our unfortunate creatures of the same species, (truly unfortunate, from the ill-treatment which they generally receive in Ireland.) When he was mounted by his keeper, he shewed spirit, but no bad temper, and his paces were strikingly light and agile. The mares, from which Mr. M'Neil bred his mules, being of a good description, the progeny have turned out valuable,

both in performance and in looks. Mr. Dabourdieu saw many of them at work, and there was no appearance of stubbornness in any of them. This gentleman speaks highly of their powers, and of the facility with which they are trained and supported. In this commercial country, where, of necessity, there must be so much land carriage, this useful, hardy, and frugal quadruped, would certainly pay well for both its rearing and keeping; for, though its longevity is almost proverbial, it is at an early age fit for work, and is sold at a high price.

#### *Sheep.*

The county of Antrim sheep are, at least, as nearly allied to the Scotch breed with mottled faces, as the other cattle of the mountains are to those of Scotland, both having evident marks of the same origin; a thing by no means surprising, considering the constant intercourse between the two countries. Many gentlemen, in this part of the kingdom, buy in those sheep for their own tables, to which, from their size, they are well adapted, and also from their being allowed to arrive at a proper age; a circumstance, in the opinion of connoisseurs, so essential to the constituting of good mutton.

Those sheep are mostly bred on the mountains, and are to be met with at the fairs in those towns and villages which border on them. They are not a fine wooled sheep, many of them resembling those that are brought immediately from Scotland, with long pendant fleeces; others have them of a

better quality ; and it is observed that they improve much when brought to a better soil and climate. Their weight seldom exceeds fifteen or sixteen pounds per quarter ; but when they are suffered to survive a second year, they often approach to twenty pounds. The mutton produced by them is fine-grained and well-flavoured. Many, both of these, and those immediately imported from Scotland, are bought up by jobbers, who drive them even to the county of Down, which formerly reared nearly a sufficient number of small sheep, for the same kind of consumption, on and near the mountains of Mourne.

The introduction of the new Leicester sheep has been confined to a few. The Marquis of Donegall and Sir Henry Vane have imported them ; Mr. Watson of Brook hill also has this breed, which he was crossing with a tup of the Scotch, when Mr. Dubourdieu wrote his survey of this county. Of this cross he could not then speak with certainty, as it was but shortly on trial. If it has proved as favourable as that between the Leicester tup and the common mountain sheep of the county of Derry, (of which some feeders here speak largely) he will have reason to be satisfied.

Except in the mountain districts, flocks of sheep are rarely seen in this county ; the markets are supplied with mutton by the farmers, who keep a small number ; or by dealers who bring them from the sheep-feeding counties, especially from Louth. In consequence of the small number of sheep, no particular attention is paid to having very early

lambs, which in the beginning of the season are dear, and not remarkably good: the prices of Belfast might act as a stimulus to farmers in the neighbourhood of that town, as breeding ewes kept for this purpose, under proper management, pay well.

*Rural economy.*

In the management of farms, by those who make it their profession, all the principal operations are either performed by the owner himself, as far as he can do it, or directed by him in person; for there are not many holdings of such magnitude, as to enable the occupier to pay for superintendence. If the farmer have sons they contribute their share, and, when the farm is small, they are often adequate to the whole work, and employ themselves, in the intervals of the farming occupations, in weaving or some other trade. When the farm is large, hired servants generally are kept, who live in the house, to assist in the performance of those works that require daily attention; extra works being usually shared with cottiers or occasional labourers, who, from some circumstance, are bound to contribute their assistance.

Most of the farming servants are capable of putting their hands to every business. In spring they are ploughmen; in a more advanced period of the same season, they can assist in setting potatoes, if done with the spade; and in summer and autumn they are turf-cutters, hay-makers, and reapers. The reason of this is, there are few farms

so large as to afford work in any one branch so entirely, that a servant can be devoted during the year to it alone. In reality, a man of this description must have considerable versatility of talents to be adapted to his situation, sometimes comfortable, sometimes otherwise, according to the master he serves, and to his own disposition. From this order of men the cottier arises, and sometimes, when they are industrious, the little farmer; and, when well conducted, they are a valuable and a necessary denomination of persons in the department of rural economy. These labourers are generally hired by the half year, the winter half commencing at November, the summer at May; as the labour of the latter is greater, there is a proportional difference in the wages; the first is about four guineas or five pounds, the second from five guineas to five and a half, with diet and lodging. Boys are often hired for the same periods; their wages also vary according to the season and their ability. Cottagers are paid partly in money and their diet, and partly by their holdings, which are rated according to the attendant advantages,—such as the quantity of ground allotted for the garden, the quantity of potatoes allowed to be set. The rent of a cottage and garden is from two to three guineas per annum, of a cottage alone from a guinea to a guinea and a half; or often of so much money and so many days work as are agreed upon,—the work to be performed at such times as agreed upon. In these cases the cottager gene-

rally gets his diet the day he works for his landlord. Sometimes a cow is grazed; in this case there is a separate bargain for her. A house, garden, &c. and cow's grass, are valued from four to six guineas, the owner of the cow keeping her in winter food. The labourer who is engaged in this mode, often works up his rent first, the difference his employer pays in money.

The larger farmers also engage, where they are in the neighbourhood of small farmers, some of their work in exchange for ploughing; so many days work for a day of his horses and men; this, where constant employment is not for him at home, is a very beneficial barter for the small farmer. Women are also engaged to reap, by having flax-seed sown for them; the seed their own; the price of the ground paid by their work. All the young women in the country can reap, and at harvest they turn out, which in this populous country goes on rapidly, and most of the weavers give their assistance at this time. The females also assist in steeping and raising their flax, and we have even seen a woman assisting her husband in the saw-pit. But in a word, there is scarcely any enterprise within their sphere of action, however laborious, that those people will not achieve for the improvement of their circumstances; and the contrast which these present, to those of the other provinces, may be estimated even from the occasional observations upon Munster, with which this work is interspersed.



*Dairying.*

Considerable profit is made by keeping milch and beef cows in Belfast and its neighbourhood. The grains from the numerous breweries are applied to feeding the former; the latter, in summer, are at least assisted with clover, in winter with kail, turnips, boiled oats, &c.

In addition to the profits arising from the sale of butter, must be added the assistance the milk affords in maintaining the farmer's family and swine, the rearing of a calf to every two cows, and the making of skimmed milk cheese.

The reputation of Ulster for making cheese, is certainly not equal to its reputation for making butter; wherever it is made, it is, as with butter, an appendage to the farm, not the chief object; for this object in Ulster appears to be the comfort and plenty of the people, rather than the acquisition of a fortune in the way of trade. Carrickfergus and Antrim have, however, been long celebrated for their cheese,—the farmers of this district depend for the payment of their rent chiefly upon the sale of corn and the produce of the loom,—butter and cheese may be auxiliaries to this, but they are at the same time auxiliaries to the comfort and plenty of the house. The soil around the towns just noticed, is of an excellent quality, which, without doubt, must contribute largely to the goodness of their cheese; but the mode of obtaining the milk must be the cause of its superiority more than the soil, which, in some other

parts of this county, is equal to that at Antrim and Carrickfergus. To procure a sufficient quantity of milk for making a cheese (25 or 30 pounds weight) at once, a number of people join; all the milk of one day is taken to the house fixed upon, and the cheese is made nearly in the same manner as the best English. This mode is called *neighbouring*, and goes regularly round the club or set: by many people these cheeses are thought to be nearly equal to the Cheshire. At Dunluce, Mrs. Moore keeps a regular dairy for cheese, one of which is made every day during the season, except Sunday. She uses whole curd, pressed till it is dry; salts, rubs, and turns frequently; makes one hundred and a half weight per cow, besides rearing every calf. Something is likewise made by churning the whey. This cheese being kept until it is at a proper age, is much esteemed, and consequently much sought after; it was sold at £3. 10s. per cwt. many years since. A considerable quantity of skimmed milk cheese is exposed for sale in Belfast and other markets; the price of this, some years since, was from 3*d.* to 4*d.* per lb. New milk cheeses are also made by many farmers, and sold from 6*d.* to 8*d.* per lb.; and, where the number of cows is sufficient to allow of one cheese being made at three milkings, they are often good. The great deficiency in our cheese-making, seems to arise from the too long time that is allowed to elapse before the whey is got completely off; for whenever it settles on the hardened curd, mouldiness is the consequence.

In Cheshire the cheese is finished, as to pressing, in twenty-four hours. Whilst this operation is going on, the makers are all the time employed in running sharp sticks through the holes of the vat to the centre of the cheese, which gives a free passage to the moisture, and renders longer pressing unnecessary; which, when continued beyond a certain time, brings off the rich parts of the curd along with the whey.

## CHAPTER X.

*Trade of this county, commencing with a history of the staple manufacture of the province.—Introduction and progress of the cotton trade.—The woollen, paper, and other inferior branches of manufacture.—View of the population of Antrim.—Island of Raghery.*

*Linen manufacture.*

THE importance of this manufacture to the commercial interests of Ireland, is such, that no work professing to give a view of the existing history of that country, and more particularly of the Ulster district, through which we are now passing, would have any claim to public attention, if some sketch of the origin and progress of this trade did not form a prominent feature in the artist's portrait.

As an instrument of civilisation, liberality, and plenty, to a most respectable proportion of the population of Ireland, the linen trade stands in the first rank of public benefits; nor is there, perhaps, in the living history of this country, a single fact that casts broader light upon the immense advantage which our present political system (and we say this without intending any compliment to existing abuses) has over that of past ages,

than the astonishing progress which this trade has made in Ulster since the revolution.

Next to the importance of this trade, as an instrument of wealth, civilisation, and refinement, the antiquity of its character casts a shade of splendour over it, that lifts it above all competition.

It is generally allowed, that the manufacture of linen originated in the east, as well as most other arts and sciences; that the Phœnicians, who carried it on at an early period, (and who might have learned it in their trading intercourse with India) first planted colonies at Carthage and in Spain; and, as it is asserted by Irish historians, passing from thence into Ireland, they brought with them the knowledge of this art, and with it those useful inventions, the spindle and the loom. As a farther presumption of this eastern origin, the word *Indic*, which (according to Cormac's glossary) signifies linen, in the Irish language, is adduced to shew (from its similarity to the appellation India) *that* part of the world from which it was derived; and, among the many arguments brought forward to support the claims of the Irish to an eastern descent, the early knowledge they possessed of the cultivation of flax and the making of linen, are, by the advocates of that descent, thought not to be the least strong. But, not to intrude farther upon so difficult a subject, it is most evident, from *the very first English writers upon Ireland*, that linen, made in this country, formed an essential part of the dress of the ancient Irish, at the time of their writing; and

consequently must at that time have been a general manufacture, which could only be effected by a long lapse of time.

In all authentic descriptions of the ancient Irish dress, mention is made of the long cota, universally worn by them; this was a kind of shirt dyed yellow, open before, and falling below the waist, so as to admit of being occasionally folded about the body, and made fast by a girdle round the middle; of some the sleeves were short, of others long, descending to the wrist; and the custom of dyeing yellow, Spencer thinks, was of eastern origin. Lord Bacon will have it that saffron was the ingredient used for this purpose; but the late Countess of Moira thought that the Irish rather dyed their linen with a species of moss (lichen) than with saffron, which indeed is very probable, as they would have found a difficulty in obtaining this latter plant in the early ages, while navigation was in its infancy; and it does not appear that the saffron plant grew here. The saffron coloured linen, in which Camden mentions that O'Neil and his followers were clad when they visited queen Elizabeth, was dyed with that kind of lichen that grew upon rocks; it is prepared by the Irish in archil, and it resembles, in the mass, that shade of yellow which borders on brown.

To these authorities, which are cited to prove a very ancient establishment of a linen fabric in Ireland, we shall add others even of greater weight: for, in an act of Henry VIII. to prevent forestalling, linen and yarn are particularly

specified, and the Irish mentioned as exporters of them for an hundred years;\* and, in the reign of Elizabeth, another act was passed against laying flax and hemp in rivers to steep: † this alone shows the great quantity of those materials, which must have been raised even at a time when Ireland was in the midst of civil war, and torn by all those convulsions that follow such a state. Morryson also, who was secretary to Lord Mountjoy, observes, that Ireland yields much flax, which the inhabitants work into yarn, and export; and there is still extant another act, restricting the higher orders from wearing an extravagant quantity of linen in their shirts. What has been noticed, may suffice to shew the high antiquity of the linen manufacture in Ireland; for, of its introduction, there are no farther traces than those which we have now mentioned; we shall therefore proceed to give a concise view of its progress since it became a great national object.

In the reign of Charles I. it attracted the attention of Lord Strafford, who adopted the most

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\* In Madox's History of the Exchequer, the first notice is found of Irish linen in England, in 1272, in the reign of Henry III., upon occasion of a quarrel between two thieves, who stole some of it at Winchester, among other goods.—*Macpherson's Annals of Commerce.*

† The offensive smell of this plant, when it has lain some time in standing water, can scarcely be conceived by a stranger to Ulster. In the steeping season it very wholesomely infects the whole country, and addresses itself to the *sense* of the traveller, in most offensive arguments, at every step; this blunt mode of reasoning, however, suits the character of the country, and is no mean evidence of its wealth and independence.

effectual measures for the encouragement of it; and, in 1673, Sir William Temple asserts, that if the spinning of flax was encouraged, we should soon beat the French and Dutch out of the market, although in that year England imported from France to the amount of £507,000, including 2,820 pair of old sheets. In 1678, by an act for the advancement of the linen trade of Ireland, this foreign traffic was prohibited; but, in 1685, James II. *was so much in the French interest*, that he obtained a repeal of the prohibitory act. At the revolution, however, the importation of French linen was declared a nuisance by the parliaments of the three kingdoms, and finally suppressed.\* In the year 1698, the jealousy of the English was excited, to such a degree, by the prosperity of the woollen manufacture in Ireland, that both houses of parliament addressed the king to discourage it, promising at the same time every encouragement to the linen trade. This stipulation was announced to the parliament of Ireland by the lords justices, in which both houses readily acquiesced; and the transaction has ever since been considered, by the Irish, as a solemn compact between the two countries. But the circumstance, which operated more than any other to give that high degree of perfection to our fabrics, which they have attained since the commencement of the

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\* Mark this proof of the patriotism and sound policy, as well as the striking unanimity of sentiment, which influenced the proceedings of the three parliaments on this public occasion, and compare them with the conduct of the prince just noticed. Was he not an excellent guardian of the interests of this realm!!!



eighteenth century, arose from the repeal of the edict of Nantz, which drove so many Protestants of all denominations from France, and amongst them many of the most industrious manufacturers in every branch of the linen trade, from the northern provinces of that kingdom. Many of these people, from their attachment to William III. were attracted to these kingdoms, as well as to avoid the evils that awaited them at home, and were encouraged to settle in Ireland, by the measures that had been taken in favour of the linen trade. The principal of these was Mr. Lewis Cromelin, who obtained a patent for carrying on and improving the linen manufacture, accompanied with a grant of £800 per annum, as interest of £10,000, to be advanced by him as a capital for carrying on the same; £200 per annum for his trouble; £120 per annum for three assistants; and £60 a year for the support of a French minister in the town of Lisburn, where many of them settled. Mr. Cromelin was a native of St. Quintin, where his ancestors had carried on this business with great success for many generations. In 1705 this gentleman, in a work written on this subject, successfully combated the prejudices which prevailed against the culture of flax and the making of linen. It consisted of six chapters, on the following subjects:—1st, Preparing ground, sowing, weeding, pulling, watering and grassing flax; 2d, dressing the same; 3d, on hemp; 4th, spinning and spinning-wheels; 5th, preparing the yarn, and on looms; 6th, on bleaching.

Previous to Mr. Cromelin's time, no web finer than a fourteen-hundred had been made in Ireland; but he imported a thousand looms from Holland, and spinning-wheels on an improved construction; and had the happiness, before he died, of seeing his exertions for the improvement of this trade crowned with success. Though extraordinary as it may seem, linen was not exported free of duty, until the fourth of Anne; but in the ninth of that reign an event took place, which is justly considered as of great importance in the history of this business. In that year was established a board of trustees of the linen and hempen manufactures; and, on the sixth of October in the same year, the Duke of Ormond nominated an equal number of trustees for each province. In the eighth year of George I. £1500 was granted to them to build a linen hall in Dublin, for the more regular sale of white linen; and, in the tenth of the same reign, £2,000 was also granted for the encouragement of the growth of flax and hemp. It would be too minute for this report to enter into a detailed account of all the laws passed, and regulations entered into for the government of this important branch of our national industry, which since that period has rapidly increased, and is now become not only the staple of all the counties of Ulster, but has spread, in one or other of its branches, far to the west.

Previous to the year 1728, bleached linen was sold in fairs; the same person, who manufactured it, bleached it also. Public lappers had been ap-

pointed in 1719, to examine and measure all webs brought to them; for it was found inconvenient, when the manufacture extended, and brought buyers from Dublin and distant parts, to measure each piece on the afternoon of the fair day.— These lappers were furnished with a statutable yard, and being rendered accountable for the quantity and quality of the cloth thus measured, were obliged to stamp their name and place of abode on the end of each piece.

Since the separation of manufacturing and bleaching, brown linen alone is sold in the markets and fairs. Every web, that is exposed for sale, must be marked by a brown seal master, who gives security for the faithful discharge of his duty, and is entitled by law to a small premium, for having measured and examined it. Inspectors are also appointed as well as seal masters, by the linen board; the duty of these inspectors is, to see that there is no fraudulent collusion between the seal master and the weaver, and to prevent forestalling, &c.\*

When the manufacture had thus far extended itself, bleaching became a separate business. The bleacher bought; or caused to be bought for him, the brown linen in the markets, as it came from

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\* The reader will see some abuses of the seal master's office, adverted to in another part of this work. Among them, however, we did not mention the indistinct impression of the seals, of which some English purchasers of brown cloth, who happened to meet with a *little of the short measurement of their own country*, loudly complained.

the loom; bleaching as much as he could buy on his own account, and, if his machinery was capable of it, performing this operation for others, who did not possess that conveniency themselves. The old utensils were found totally inadequate to the rising trade; and extensive machinery, which of late years has undergone considerable improvement, now supplies their place.

In this age of chemistry, when the nature of bodies, so far as they affect other bodies, is so well understood, the art of using the materials employed for whitening linen, must also be much improved; consequently a less portion of time is now taken up in obtaining that pure white, which it is the pride and profit of each bleacher to bring to market; and, upon the whole, this is now accomplished with fewer accidents, and more general safety, than in the infancy of the art.\*

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\* Some mistakes in the application of the oxygenated muriatic acid, in the process of bleaching, when the use of this article was not well understood, threw a temporary cloud over the interests of this trade, in some of the foreign markets. But these mistakes occurred in the very first experiments, which are in our own memory, and, with the cloud which they produced, have long since disappeared. The use of chemistry, in the process of bleaching, is now, we presume, as well understood as in that of distillation; and those articles (which, injudiciously used, would prove destructive in both cases) have conferred upon us a refinement in the colour of the one, without prejudice to its stability, and in the flavour of the other, without prejudice to our constitutions, for which we are indebted to the march of science, under the fostering wing of a liberal and enlightened policy.

Since the establishment of the white linen hall in Dublin, most of the linen, that is finished, is sent there, where drapers or factors are accommodated with rooms for exposing their goods to sale; or they are consigned to correspondents in different parts of England. The Dublin markets are regulated, in point of time, by the Bristol and Chester fairs; and a general assortment of linen is presented three times every year to buyers, who resort to Dublin from all parts of Great Britain.

About the year 1785, an attempt was made to remove the sale of white linen from Dublin to the manufacturing country; two halls were built by subscription, one at Belfast, the other at Newry. The latter has been diverted to other purposes; the former, although it does not rival Dublin, and has ceased to hold regular markets, possesses considerable trade, and is very serviceable in enabling merchants to assort cargoes for exportation.

Having given this general sketch of the history of the linen trade of Ireland, we shall now lay before the reader the most authentic documents of its progress, for more than a century to the present time, observing, that what is here said respects the whole trade, and not that of any particular district. To treat of it locally would have been most difficult, and could not have answered the end in view, that of impressing the vast consequence of this staple manufacture to the general prosperity of Ireland, and of showing that the wealth it has drawn from foreign sources.

and centred in the empire, and the numbers which it has enabled to contribute largely to the expenses of the state, have amply repaid the fostering hand of power for that protection and support, by which it has arrived to its present standard of perfection in the trade of Europe; and such will be the end of a liberal system of policy, in whatsoever point of view you may regard it.

From Macpherson's *Annals of Commerce* it appears, that in the beginning of the reign of William III. the amount of linen exported from hence was only £6,000. From the beginning of the last century it made rapid advances, and appears to have arrived at its zenith in Ulster, before the conclusion of that century. In 1796, the number of yards exported are said to have been 46,705,319, amounting in value to £3,697,503; and, in 1809, the diminished quantity of 43,904,382 yards were exported, at an advance in the average price, (which was 1s. 7d. in 1796) to 2s. 8d. per yard, and amounted to £5,853,917 sterling; but within the last few years it has sunk much below this standard, and in this depressed state it still remains. This appears to be a brief history of the progress of the linen trade through all the fluctuations to which it was exposed by foreign wars, and foreign and domestic competition; and it presents us with an advance in the amount of the quantity exported, from £6000 in the reign of William III., to £5,853,917 in the reign of George III., a period of little more than one century:—and though its intercourse with

America, (which is a great market for this trade) has suffered temporary interruptions, and the cotton trade, to a certain extent, has come into competition with its interests, yet its march, like that of virtue, has been steady and uniform; and like that imperishable thing, no weapon formed against it has finally prospered.—Therefore let the inland navigation company look sharp.

Some pleasing reflections must arise upon the general steadiness of this manufacture, which, though subject to fluctuations, has never at any time been so far reduced, as to be threatened with a total overthrow. This may be attributed to many causes: those which appear most obvious, are the general and necessary demand for the article itself, and the difficulty of transplanting a trade, which, from its nature, requires such a multitude of hands; for every trial yet made in this inventive age, to spin flax into fine yarn by machinery, has proved abortive.

The manufactures of Ulster include coarse linens and fine; lawns up to five shillings per yard, in a brown state; cambricks, from thence to a guinea, in the same state; (the principal or only markets for these two latter articles are Lurgan and Lisburn; Banbridge may be supplied with them, but we are not certain) strong sheetings, diaper, damask diaper, and damask. These latter branches require particular notice. They form a partial, but very profitable part of the linen trade in Ulster; and in the counties of Down, Antrim, and parts of Armagh, we have reason to

believe that their empire was very considerably extended in the course of the last century.

In 1728, Mr. James Bradshaw presented a paper to the linen board, for the advancement of the diaper trade, and the committee of that board sent him to Holland and Hamburg, to inform himself of the mode of making diapers which was practised in those countries. In consequence of this gentleman's report, the trustees appointed him to provide all the materials necessary, and to carry on this business in the Dutch fashion.

In 1730, John Holden was appointed to try experiments relative to his inventions in the manufacture of diapers. A loom and money were provided for him to carry on the work. But the introduction of the manufacture of damask on an extensive scale was reserved for the late Mr. W. Coulson, (father of the present proprietors of the manufactory at Lisburn) who established it in that town in the year 1766, where this beautiful branch of the linen business is now carried on by Messrs. John and William Coulson, in a style of perfection that has been so far unrivalled. As the works published by this house, in DAMASK FOLIO, for the princes and other great men of Europe, have been already noticed in our description of Lisburn, we shall not attempt any farther description of them here; more particularly as it is a fact of public notoriety, in our *trade*, that no work in DAMASK FOLIO, ever *figured* to advantage on an octavo scale; and even if the immense mass of pullies by which the machinery of that house is wrought, could



possibly be reduced to so small a standard, still they would cut but a bad *figure* on our pages, after having *sported* on so large a *groundwork*; and so to get rid of the business, by any other apology than that of our ignorance of their mode of printing by pullies, we shall add, that these gentlemen are too well known to all the great writers *in diamond pattern* in the courts of Europe, to stand in need of our very humble introduction to the TRADE. Nor shall we pretend to determine whether, in works of this nature, "*the diamond style*," as the writers in *damask folio* very properly call it, or that which is denominated, by *printers' devils*, "*the diamond cut diamond*," shines the brightest; since literary men set no value upon any *brilliant*, that does not sparkle in the *imagination*, while the trade of Dublin and London, value those diamonds only, that shine bright in *cut-purse-row*,\* and which, like a *three-edged sword*, cut deep, on *two sides* into the author's *sense*, and deep, on the other, into the reader's *pocket*!!

### *Linen-yarn.*

The spinning of flax being far more extensively diffused than even the weaving of linen, and much more being produced than can be consumed in the country, the surplus yarn has hitherto been exported in large quantities to England and to Scotland. This demand has proved a great resource, not only to the spinners of the north of Ire-

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\* "*Cut-purse-row*"—a street in Dublin, with which we are intimately acquainted, but whether related to Paternoster-row, in London, we have yet to learn.

land, by keeping up the price, but to those in the west, where yarn is made in large quantities, and where, even if there were a sufficiency of hands to weave it, there is no adequate market for the sale of cloth. For some years past, however, this business has been much on the decline, and, of late, has been nearly as low as in the beginning of the last century.—This is attributed to the want of demand (in the first instance) from the west of England, where such quantities were used in the stronger cotton branches, which are now made entirely of cotton. The exportation to Scotland still continues, but is not so great, though much of it is used in making of thread. But what no doubt has given the most vital blow to this branch of the linen manufacture, is the taking off the duties on the importation of foreign yarn to England. With what good policy that has been done, we shall leave others to determine; but certainly it appears, as we have already said, to have given a brain blow to the prosperity of this branch of the linen manufacture; and although we do not now live in the reign of James II. (and cannot accuse any *living* minister of sacrificing the interests of his country to the insidious designs of any rival power) yet we cannot compare this policy to that of the three ancient parliaments of Great Britain, which pronounced the importation of French linen into these countries “a nuisance.” It is true we have got into more liberal times; but do the nations of the continent appear disposed to imitate this

part of our example; or rather to tread in the footsteps of those wise old parliaments that we have just noticed?

*Cotton trade.*

This is a branch of business, on the utility of which to the staple manufacture of Ireland, public opinion seems to be somewhat divided. However, the fact of this trade having made incursions upon the ancient territory of the linen manufacture, is known to all persons conversant with the affairs of Ulster; although the political economists of the country do not seem perfectly agreed, whether those incursions have proved friendly or hostile to the ancient manufacture. Monsieur Carro has, however, had a full trial of his strength in the public market; and although he has been amply supported by the cotton troops of England and elsewhere, and has made many incursions upon the ancient territories of the linen trade in Ulster, yet the cock of the north still crows in his own garrison, and no efforts of Monsieur Carro have been able to displace him, although the latter enemy (or auxiliary, as some will have it) has beat up for recruits in many quarters; and even carried his assaults into the very heart of the country; but the sum total of his victories has been, a submission to the ancient chief of Ulster, who having reduced him to obedience, graciously permits him to manufacture and dispose of such a number of smocks and handkerchiefs in his territory, as may prove useful to the country, and by

no means injurious to the revenue of its ancient sovereign. Being thus reduced to a state of subjection to the ancient authority of the linen trade; and its hostility, by the native *weakness* of its character, rendered serviceable, as a foil to the strength and dignity of the ancient manufacture, we shall now take a view of the origin of this trade in Ulster; and in this we shall endeavour to imitate the gallantry of a British soldier, who presents his hand to an enemy when he is conquered; and is the first to acknowledge that ability by which he carried on the war, and made the best of his resources in an unequal conflict.

*Introduction of spinning-jennys into Ulster.*

This province, so far as it has been benefited by the cotton-spinning trade, is said to have been indebted, for those benefits, to the humanity and enterprise of a Mr. Robert Joy. In the year 1777, this gentleman, in a tour through North Britain, conceived the design of introducing into this then desponding country, the more intricate branches of the cotton manufacture; which had been rendered important instruments of industry and opulence to the sister country, *where no established linen manufacture existed to be injured by the introduction of this trade.* In this proceeding, Mr. Joy has the credit of being influenced by a benevolent desire to render service to the lower orders of the linen manufacturers of Ulster; for whose state of dependence on the uncertain profits of one national manufacture, he is said to have felt a patriotic

concern; and under the influence of this feeling, to have meritoriously devoted his time and talents to the introduction of this new manufacture. Having accomplished his tour in North Britain, he returned to Ulster, and in conjunction with Thomas M'Cabe, suggested to the people of Belfast, that the spinning of cotton-yarn might, as an introductory step, be a fit and profitable employment for children in the poor-house of that town; several of them were accordingly set to work on the common wheel; but, the various machinery in England giving that country so great a superiority, it was found that no benefit could be gained without the introduction of the same system. A spinning machine was therefore made in Belfast, at their instance and expense, under the direction of N. Grimshaw, cotton and linen printer, from England, who had some time before settled in this country; and shortly after, an experienced spinner was brought over by Mr. Joy, from Scotland, to instruct the children in the house. Also, under the same direction, and at the expense of the gentlemen mentioned, a carding machine was erected, to go by water, at Mr. Grimshaw's, which was afterwards removed to the poor-house, and wrought by hand.

After Messrs. Joy and M'Cabe had in vain solicited the co-operation and pecuniary aid of others, in prosecuting a scheme fraught with such prospects of national advantage, they proposed a transfer of their machinery, at first cost, to the managers of the charitable institution just noticed,

promising as strict attention to the success of the measure, as if the emolument was to be their own.

On the refusal of the committee to run the risk of a new undertaking, the original proprietors formed themselves into a company, with additional partners, under the firm of Joy, M'Cabe, and M'Cracken, and contracted with the same charitable institution for a number of its children, as well as for the use of their vacant rooms. They despatched a skilful mechanic to England, who at personal risk and considerable expense, procured a minute knowledge of the most improved British machinery, (which the inventors and proprietors intended to have kept a secret both from this and foreign countries) and on the return of this *skilful mechanic*, they erected a new carding machine, of superior structure to the first imperfect one, and a spinning-jenny of 72 spindles, then reckoned a large one, differing materially in its construction from the other.

In a memorial to the Dublin Society, praying for aid, from which the substance of this statement of facts was originally extracted, they informed the board, that so far from confining their hopes of gain to themselves, they had encouraged the public to avail itself of their discoveries. They had exposed their machinery to public view; permitted numbers, even from distant parts, to be taught in their apartments, without any charge for such indulgence; and promoted the progress of the manufacture of cottons, dimities, and Marseilles quilting, equally by example and instruction.

The magnitude of these improvements at the time, is now to be estimated by comparison. Prior to this, from eight to ten cuts per day were the scanty produce of the most laborious spinner, on the common wheel, while in the same time, not more than a single pound could be carded by hand. On their jenny of 72 spindles, 72 Irish hanks were spun weekly, an increase of fourteen to one. These exertions were in time followed, on an enlarged scale, by Messrs. Nat. Wilson and Nicholas Grimshaw, both since deceased. To the talents, property, and adventurous spirit of the former of these two gentlemen, and to the practical knowledge, genius, and industry of the latter, this trade stands eminently indebted.

The first mill for spinning twist by water, in Ireland, was built by them in the year 1784; from which date the Irish cotton manufactures were considered firmly established.

In the year 1800, only twenty-three years from the origin of the enterprise by Joy and M'Cabe, it appeared in evidence before parliament, that the cotton manufactures, which they had thus introduced, gave employment to 13,500 working people, and, including all manner of persons, occupied in various ways, twenty-seven thousand, within a circuit of only ten miles, but comprehending, within its boundary, the towns of Belfast and Lisburn.

It deserves remark that, as far as machinery is concerned, a poor-house was the cradle of the cotton trade of Ireland; and the detail now given should be a stimulus to the exertions of every

individual, as it demonstrates how much may be effected by a limited capital and ardent zeal.

In the present instance, the early introduction of a manufacture, already of immense and increasing importance, has been traced to the perseverance of two members of society, actuated by a wish to create useful employment for unfortunate infants, to assist the working classes; at a time when the linen manufacture laboured under deep depression, and to render a permanent benefit to the community at large.

It appears by the weekly lists of imports and exports of the port of Belfast; that, for the year ending 1811, there were imported 14,320 bags of cotton wool, of which 3,007 were exported, leaving for home consumption, 11,313 bags; and these, at £20 per bag; amount to £226,260, which raw material, when manufactured, was estimated at one million sterling.

Since the Union, the number of steam-engines erected in a circuit of about ten miles around Belfast, is 15, equal to 212 horse power, driving 99,000 spindles; the cost of these works above £120,000. Besides these there were six factories, the machinery of which was wrought by horses, or by hand, and twelve spinning mills driven by water, containing above 50,000 spindles; so that the total, when this estimate was made, may be stated at 150,000 spindles. Mr. M'Cracken's mill, containing 14,000 spindles, then employed 200 persons within the walls, so that according to this proportion, the whole number of spindles was computed to have employed nearly 22,000 persons in the first instance.



The gross wages of a spinner were £2. 7s. per week; out of this, three children were to be paid from three to six shillings per week; (13s. in the whole) leaving to a good journeyman, £1. 14s. per week, when this trade was in a prosperous condition.\*—Each spindle is capable of spinning one and a half hank per day, which make, for 150,000 spindles, 225,000 hanks; the number of working days being 313 in the year: the total number of hanks spun in that period were 70,425,000.

Calculating, therefore, upon 70 millions of hanks, or skeins of yarn, each skein consisting of 80 threads, and 18 of these taken as a spangle, the average number of weavers necessary in one year, to work up this quantity of yarn, spun in the same time, is found to be nearly eleven thousand; 6,381 skeins being equal to the work of one weaver for that period, as extracted by Mr. Dubourdieu from the books of a considerable muslin manufacturer in the town of Belfast. In addition to this, the quantity of imported yarn must have been taken into consideration, which might have amounted to one half of what was spun at home, making the total number at that time employed in weaving, sixteen thousand five hundred. If to these again be added, the attendants upon the looms, who, taken at a low calculation, are as one to two looms, the numbers were nearly twenty-five thousand; and the total number was, upon the best grounds,

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\* What a contrast to the present times!

asserted to be increased, at least one-fifth more, by those who were occupied, as already mentioned, in the spinning department, in bleaching, embroidering, making of looms, reeds, and a long etcætera of those trades, which depend upon it; besides the artists and persons of different descriptions who were engaged in the calico printing business, which was then extensively carried on at the different greens. Upon these data it is assumed, that no less than 30,000 individuals, in a very limited district, have derived a good support from the muslin and calico branches of this trade, (including its dependencies) when this trade, and its august monarch, (both of whom now mourn in sack-cloth and ashes) were at the zenith of their glory, in this once happy and prosperous province of the sister isle.

The machinery of Mr. M'Cracken's cotton establishment required 600 tons of coals per annum, in which proportion, in the circuit of ten miles around Belfast, 6,000 tons were required for one year's consumption. This employed ten vessels, of 100 tons, in the coal trade, averaging about twenty-five shillings per ton. Before the erection of machinery, all the cotton-yarn used in the different fabrics, was imported; and though there is still an importation, the advantage must be great indeed, when it is less by seventy millions and a half of hanks, which gives employment in this branch alone, (as is seen above) to such a number of persons, merely on this one operation, besides the activity imparted to the many trades that are

connected with it, which, until lately, was lent to this country.

The yarn, thus produced, is made into all the varieties of cotton goods that are now required for the consumption of the country, ALL of which, until the introduction of this branch of industry, were imported. The home consumption is in itself so great, that, to supply it, a most important object is gained, were we never to go farther; and it is the most sure market, though probably not the most extensive. And certainly (without intending to prejudice the sovereign authority of the linen, which cannot be disputed) this business has answered the end of giving to the industrious inhabitants of this and the neighbouring counties, a second source of support, of which they have fortunately availed themselves.

From this general and concise view of the state of the cotton trade at the time mentioned above, compared with its humble beginning, we cannot avoid being struck with the rapid progress it made within little more than thirty years (from the time the idea was first adopted by the benevolent mind of him who was the primary mover in this matter) in a county, where it was hitherto nearly unknown. But from a country used to habits of industry, where the spinning-wheel is in the hand of every female, and the shuttle in those of most of the males, every thing may be expected, when an object is offered of sufficient importance to call out its exertions. Thus it was in the latter end of the seventeenth, and beginning of the

eighteenth centuries, when the ancient manufacture of the country was raised, by legislative enactments, to its just level in the scale of commerce. The great body of the inhabitants of the north of Ireland, furnished with a field of improvement commensurate with their exhaustless powers of industry, soon raised the temple of their provincial trade to a height of prosperity, which enabled it to rival the most magnificent temples of ancient commerce, and to look down, in the grandeur and stability of ages, with *calm* composure upon those mushroom productions of modern times, which were necessary to *chequer* the scene, over which, in the pride of ages, it raised its lofty towers. A measure of pride and of prosperity, which may be regarded as the gift of the SUN to Ulster, since it travelled with that luminary from the east, and laden with the choicest treasures of India, cast its golden beam upon this province, in its descent upon the western world. A prosperity, the offspring of a manufacture, which in point of antiquity, in all probability, approaches nearer to the grandeur of the trade of China, than any other European manufacture. A gift of India, which, for ought we know, may have been one of those national benefits, for which the untutored sons of Erin expressed their gratitude, by offerings of fire to the luminary of day, whom they might suppose to be more immediately the sovereign of the east, and the author of this particular benefit to their own country. But, without intending to detract

from the merits of the cotton trade, as an instrument of employment or improvement to a partial spot of the Ulster district, and still less to detract from the merits of those valuable men to whom the country is indebted for this partial benefit, we must contend that this trade (whatever claims it may have to eminence in England) has but very subordinate claims to the gratitude of Ireland, when placed in competition with the linen manufacture. The cotton trade certainly furnishes employment to a great many hands in the district of Belfast, and to a few in the neighbouring counties; but the linen trade, in one or other of its departments, furnishes employment to the great mass of the population of two entire provinces. The cotton trade of Ulster confers some local benefits upon the country, by furnishing it with a home manufacture; but these benefits must always be circumscribed within narrow limits, by the overwhelming influence of the same manufacture in England. The linen trade of Ulster, on the contrary, instead of being overwhelmed by British supremacy, stands like the castle of a feudal lord, on the firm foundation of its own territory; and instead of paying tribute to Britain, commands even Britain, the terror of nations, to pay her tribute; and, crossing the Atlantic, to the utmost extremities of the west, she receives even the homage of those countries that have cast off the British yoke.

Having now endeavoured to place the linen and cotton manufactures on their respective

foundations, and to shew the relations which they bear to the commercial history of Ulster; we shall take a slight view of the only woollen factory, of any consequence, that we have heard or read of in the shire of Antrim, the subject of our present survey.

*Woollen manufacture.*

The only branch of this business that had been carried on in the county of Antrim to any degree of perfection, was the making of blankets; a trade established at Lambeg by the Wolfenden family, who settled in this country about two hundred years ago, and were well known for the excellency of their manufacture; every article in that line being made with a lightness and warmth equal to the best English goods of the same class. This county not growing much wool, it was purchased at a distance, and wrought up in this establishment into blankets of various sizes and prices, from three-quarters to fourteen-quarters wide, and from eighteen shillings to six guineas per pair. Some coarse woollens are also made by the farmers, for their own use: the wool is spun at home, the weaving done by persons bred to the business, who are paid by the piece or yard. In the Lower Glens, a woollen cloth is made, very strong and thick; which is a most comfortable kind of outside clothing, as, from its thickness and texture, it is capable of resisting wet for a considerable time, and is remarkably well calculated for the Lower Glens district, which is both moun-

tainous and exposed to the penetrating blasts of the sea coast. In addition to the above branches of woollen industry, stockings are wove in the different towns. In Belfast about 200 persons were employed in this department some years since; but the finer kinds of stockings are imported. The earnings in this trade were from nine to sixteen shillings per week; but the vast depression under which trade of every description has laboured since the peace of Europe, has no doubt materially reduced the price of labour, in this, as in every other branch of our national industry; a circumstance which we beg the reader will recollect, when turning to any of those estimates that were made out at a more prosperous period of our history.

#### *Ropemaking.*

This business was established about 60 years ago; before that time all cordage was imported from England. The consumption of Russian hemp in Belfast, some years since, was about 200 tons per annum, and gave employment to 100 people in the different ropewalks. Their earnings were, at that time, from three shillings per week to one guinea.

#### *Paper.*

The manufacture of paper was first introduced in the county of Antrim, at Dunmurry, by a person of the name of M'Manus, who had for some time resided in France. This was the primary establishment in the province of Ulster;

which could afterwards boast of sixteen paper mills; and of these, no less than seven were in full work in the county of Antrim, in which ten paper mills had been erected at different periods. The first attempt to make paper was very imperfect in this county, being only of the most inferior kind, and the rags were reduced to pulp in a very insufficient manner in mortars, by what was called a hammer mill.\* One of the earliest engines that was erected was by a Scotchman, William Bell, who had been brought from Scotland by Messrs. James and Daniel Blow, for the purpose of improving the machinery in their paper mills near Belfast. Papers of different kinds are now made, and, in some of the mills, of the best quality. The number of persons employed varies, according as they are engaged in making brown or white papers; but in that of Blow, Ward, and Co. sixty hands found employment; and we should not be surprised if, from the vast increase of these establishments in Ireland, this country should now be capable of supplying its own demand with papers of the best quality. In this populous country there must always be a great supply of materials, which, though increased in price, must be manufactured much cheaper at home than when the raw material is sent abroad, and returned to it in a foreign manufacture.

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\* In 1749, there was a parliamentary grant to Francis Joy of £200, as a reward for his improvements in the paper manufacture in the north of Ireland.—He introduced the first paper engine into Ulster.



*Salt.*

Common salt is made in large quantities in Belfast, at Larne, and in most of the little ports on the coast of this county. The process is carried on in the usual way of boiling the salt rock, which is imported, in sea water. In some cases, the salt pans have limekilns situated under them, the same fire thus carrying on the operations of boiling salt and burning limestone.

*Vitriol.*

A manufacture of oil of vitriol, the property of Dr. Crawford, has already been noticed in our description of Lisburn. In this bleaching country, there is a great demand for this material, which is found, when managed with judgment, to be the safest acid. Bleaching salts (oxygenated muriatic acid) are made in this laboratory, marine acid, aqua-fortis sometimes, and glauber salts in large quantities. The sulphur for this manufacture is imported from Sicily, the saltpetre, from the sales of the East India Company; of the former about 240 tons are used annually, of the latter, about 25. The metals, lead and iron, that are employed, as well as the glass, in which the operation of making is performed, and that required to contain the vitriol, impose a heavy tax upon the business, which requires from 400 to 500 tons of coals in the year, at an average of perhaps 30s. per ton. There was also a vitriol manufactory near Belfast, some years since, and

another at Moyallon, in the county of Down, (which was unintentionally omitted in our survey of that county) all in full work. These, like every other branch of trade, and indeed like every event of this terraqueous globe, have felt the hand of vicissitude; nevertheless, the march of trade in this province has kept pace with every species of encouragement in the market. Its progress during the last century has been amazing; and we trust our readers will feel pleased with the efforts that we have used, by extensive travels, and a consultation of the best writers, to present them with the most accurate portrait which it was possible for us to delineate, laden as we were with public cares, and with the anxieties inseparable from the solicitude of a father for six children, whose happiness was interwoven with his existence, and whose education and prospects were dependent on his success.

#### *Tanning of leather.*

A great falling off in this business has taken place of late years; there was scarcely a town in this county in which one or more tan-yards were not employed; and the leather of Antrim, but especially that tanned in Belfast, was much esteemed, and a considerable quantity exported. The Baltic trade was the best; but that being now nearly shut against us, has reduced this manufacture, it is said, above one-third. Belfast now makes less than it formerly did, by nearly two thousand hides, and the other places are propor-

tionably diminished. But, when leather is cheaper here than in England, some is sent there. The interruption in this trade is unfortunate; for great attention had been paid to its improvement, and a great progress had been made: calf-skins are well prepared in all ways, both for shoes and boot-legs; and notwithstanding the high price of bark, the business was in a progressive state. If the cultivation of the willow tribe, whose bark contains so much of the principle of tanning, were attended to, a considerable change might be brought about in a few years in this business, to which the dearness of the bark forms so strong an obstacle. The hides here are certainly not inferior to those of any country; all we want, therefore, is the material necessary to convert them into leather; and it is considered by judges that we have not any plant so well suited to that purpose as the sallow; and it is certainly a pity that the trade of Belfast have not obtained the assistance of men of science to prove, by experiment, the capabilities of this plant for the service of that most useful branch of trade. Was this once ascertained, encouragement might then be given for propagating the plant; and as the return of profit in the crop itself would not be very distant, good effects would probably be the result.

#### *Casting of iron.*

This business has for a number of years been established in Belfast. In our description of that town, we noticed a metal foundry that we had

visited; but besides this, there were two or three houses on an extensive scale, some years since, particularly that called "the Lagan foundry," where a great variety of machinery was cast and finished. By the skill and ingenuity exercised in this trade, cast iron is now substituted, in many instances, for wood. As it is curious to observe the progress of improvement, and the changes that occur in one business, from the obstacles which arose in another, we shall mention some of the most material articles that are now formed of iron, which were (whilst wood was cheap, and the iron trade not so far advanced as it is) thought incapable of being made of the latter. In the first place, water wheels, as well as others for mills, are made of this metal in all their parts, which are found as easy to be worked as those made of wood; and though the first cost may be more than when made of this material, their superior duration makes them in the end much more desirable: and in another instance, they have this great advantage, that in case of accidents, the metal may be cast again; whereas a wooden wheel once damaged is useless. Car wheels, made open, are also cast, and found to turn as light upon an iron axle as the old clumsy wooden wheel that it is intended to supersede; wheels for barrows, ridge-tiles, spouts for the eaves of houses, and an innumerable variety of articles applicable to the farm, the manufactory, and the household scene, are now made of cast iron, whose infinite superiority to those of wooden manufacture is so apparent, that a re-

commendation to society to close in with this improvement would be an insult to common sense.

At the Lagan foundry, a steam-engine of its own manufacture was fitted up, the grates, stoves, and chimney-pieces of which are said to have been well and neatly finished. To enumerate all would be unnecessary; it is sufficient to add, that every pattern given can be executed, even of the most complicated kind. The price of manufactured goods is from sixteen shillings per hundred weight to forty, according to the labour bestowed in making them; filing and dressing form separate charges.

The earnings in this trade are, in the beginning, small; but as those engaged increase in skill, their wages are increased, some having forty shillings per week. A very heavy expense in this establishment is the quantity of coals used, the amount of which at the Lagan foundry, is said to have been four hundred tons per annum.

#### *Glass.*

Many years ago a manufacture of window glass and bottles was on foot at Ballymacarret (which may be considered as a part of the trade of Belfast): it has been for some time laid aside; but the making of flint glass was or is carried on in that place by Mr. Edwards, and one has been erected in Belfast on Peter's-hill. Every thing in this line of business is executed in these houses, but not in sufficient quantities to prevent importation. The number of hands employed at the

former, some years since, was about thirty; in all branches; in the latter, about twenty-five. The apprentices earn from five to six shillings per week, finished workmen as much per day.

*Turning and fluting of iron.*

A manufactory was set up near Lisburn, for turning rollers, spindles, bobbins for cotton, and other kinds of machinery; the lathes are moved by water, the work performed in other particulars as in the usual method of turning. All kinds of axletrees can be made, and other heavy work can be performed by the same process, in a more complete manner, and in a much shorter time than by the forge; chains, and other work of that nature, are also manufactured at the same place: the manufacturer, G. Hodson, a native of Yorkshire, is said to have wrought at Birmingham. Soon after his commencement at Lisburn, he had about ten hands engaged in this business, who earned from three to seven shillings per day. This is said to be the first establishment of this sort in Ireland, and appears to be one of the most ingenious inventions of modern times for the abridgment of labour, the forge and hammer being only necessary in the first instance, and the labour of the file being scarcely required, from the accuracy with which the work is done; while the polish given both by the chisel used in turning, and by the instrument applied to making the flutes or grooves, combines with many other modern improvements, to excite our astonishment at the rapid

march which England has made in the useful arts within the last age.

*Potteries.*

There has been a very ancient establishment of this kind at Lambeg, and one near the Maze, but they have never made any great progress towards improvement, being confined to the coarser wares. At Ballycastle, a manufacture has been set on foot which, though in its infancy, promises to do well; and all kinds of common crockery-ware are now procured at that place, at the Liverpool prices. The clay is found equal to any in England. We have heard that clay suited to this purpose is to be found near Carrickfergus, and that the flints used by the Staffordshire houses in glazing their ware, are occasionally brought from Ireland; what then remains but that proper hands should be procured, and a moderate capital enlisted to establish this manufacture in the country; and since George IV. is equally the king of Ireland as of England (and appears to be much more devoutly revered there) why not encourage every species of manufacture in that country?

*Kelp.*

Along the northern coast a considerable quantity of kelp is manufactured: the purest and best is that from the rocky shore of the Giant's Causeway, and on the north side of the island of Rathlin (Raghery.) In those places the wrack is free from sand, with which all other parts of the coast

abound; this, by adhering to the sea-weed, renders the kelp of an inferior quality. In some cases, the manufacturers are suspected of mixing it with the weed to increase the weight. In Rathlin the quantity made is so great, that the rents are paid by it. That of superior quality is formed from weeds cut from the rocks at a considerable depth, which afford a good crop every second year. The sort produced from what is thrown on shore is not so good; May is the best time for making this substance. It is generally cut and carried by women, who with creels, (a kind of basket fastened on the back) bring as much out of the sea in a day, as will make two hundred weight; if a horse can be employed, double that quantity will be obtained. When spread and dried, six or eight days of favourable weather will fit it for burning. It is computed that a ton of kelp can be manufactured, provided the wrack is furnished, and a field to spread it on, for about forty shillings or two guineas. It is frequently made for two-thirds of the quantity manufactured; the proprietor receives the other third. The greatest part of the kelp made on the northern coast is sold at Coleraine; the price varies from six to fifteen shillings per hundred weight of 120lbs. Kelp is also made on different parts of the coast, as well as on that which we have mentioned, but in what quantity we have not learned.



*Population.*

As the inhabitants of the county of Antrim are sprung from different sources, and still preserve the characteristics of those from whom they have derived their origin, (though among themselves few traces of their history now remain) we shall mention, in as few words as possible, the different races to whom this county is indebted for its present population. The ancient Irish, the possessors of the soil, who inhabited the coast, appear to have had a very early intercourse with the Scots, who inhabited the opposite shores, as well as with the islanders that were subject to the Lords of the Isles, (off the Scots' coast) who were nearly independent of the kings of Scotland, until the reign of James I. The distance between the two countries was so small, that only part of a day was necessary for the passage, and, under favourable circumstances, their return was often accomplished in twenty-four hours. The consequence of this intercourse was frequent quarrels, &c., alliances by intermarriages and otherwise, and the settlement of many Scotch on the Irish ground. By one of these intermarriages with the Irish family of M'Quillan,\* a M'Donald,

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\* Camden mentions the M'Willies, (M'Quillans, we presume) and the circumstance of their being pent up in a narrow corner, by the outrage and depredations of the island Scots. A lineal descendant of M'Quillan lives on the road between Belfast and Carrickfergus, near the Silver stream; and probably enjoys more happiness, as a respectable farmer, than his ancestor did as a prince, in those turbulent times.

or M'Donnell, descended from one branch of the Lords of the Isles, gained a footing in the northern parts of the county, and at length established himself, by the powerful aid he received from his country, over a tract of many miles in extent, though not without a considerable struggle, in which the natives suffered severely, and in the end transported themselves, with their chief, to other parts, near Lough Neagh and the Bann, and left the Scots possessors of the soil. In the last resort, however, M'Quillan appealed to England, and James I. then on the throne, confirmed his countrymen, the M'Donalds, in the possession of their new territory, giving M'Quillan Enishowen, in the county of Donegall, as an equivalent. But of that also he was soon deprived by his own improvidence, in a bargain with Lord Chichester, whose family still hold the barony of that name.\*

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\* We have met with historians who have spoken lightly of the character of James I.; and if we except the cruel execution of Sir Walter Raleigh, twelve years after his condemnation, which is certainly a deep historical stain upon his Majesty's memory, most unjustly, in our opinion, to the general character of that prince. In the dispute between the M'Quillans and the M'Donalds, above noticed, he yielded to national partiality it is true; but he did not overlook the just claims of the M'Quillans. He gave them an equivalent for the loss they had sustained; and by this wise measure prevented the effusion of the blood of both parties. The contending families being thus removed to a considerable distance from each other, the peace of the country was preserved, and each family was furnished with the strongest motives to become faithful subjects of the state. Indeed every part of James's conduct to the conquered Irish, evidenced the benignity of his mind. Those who can

A considerable number from the same country also settled about Larne, under the family of the Bessets, one of whom fled from Scotland for the murder of a Duke of Athol; and at different times, under various leaders, the whole coast was occupied by them, and a part of Carrickfergus, which still is called the Scotch quarter, from having been long their place of abode.

A dialect of the Celtic language has been long used among these people; (though all can speak English) it is not pure, and with difficulty can be understood by those Scots who speak that language in its purity. It is probably a compound of the language they brought with them, and a dialect of the same, which they found in the parts where they settled. The descendants of these people are active, frugal, and industrious; those who inhabit the parts of the glens and mountains bordering on the sea, combining the sailor and fisherman with the farmer, &c. Those, who live in the Scotch quarter at Carrickfergus, are all fishermen, as the reader may recollect to have read in our description of that place. Upon the whole, they form a most valuable part of the community, though in their manners they may not be so smooth as some of their neighbours.

The earliest English settlers, of whom any thing is known here, were those who came over to Carrickfergus on the first invasion, in the reign of

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trace the footsteps of glory only in blood, may call this pusillanimity, but we call it the height of magnanimity, and the perfection of *Christian* justice.

Henry II.; but what attended their descendants, if they left any, we are ignorant of; their number was small, and, as they were soldiers, probably few survived. But from that time there were many arrivals in the different reigns, until the numerous colonies which came in the reigns of queen Elizabeth and of James I. Those who settled about Carrickfergus, were in the latter reign, and brought over from Devonshire by Sir Arthur Chichester. Their descendants retained some of the customs of their ancestors, within the memory of persons still alive; amongst these was the Devonshire mode of conveying hay and grain in the straw, in bundles, on the backs of horses, instead of carriages; these loads were supported by crooks of wood, whose natural bendings favoured the operation; two were placed on each side of the horse; they were turned outwards, and fastened to a kind of pack-saddle tightly tied on by ropes, the one just behind the shoulder, the other near the flank; and this custom, originating in Devonshire, where the roads were proverbially bad, was preserved until of late years near Carrickfergus, and the celerity with which hay and grain were conveyed, can only be credited by those who have seen it. The load or bundles of hay were called trusses, and hay is there still computed by that name. The narrow causeways, and immense divisional ditches, are also supposed to have had a Devonshire origin. Another part of this colony settled in the district of Malone, adjoining to Belfast, where their descendants are still to be

distinguished by their looks and manners, but particularly by the air of comfort about their dwellings, and a fondness for gardens and orchards. Near Belfast was likewise a colony of Lancashire and Cheshire men, settled there, as it is said, by Sir Moyes Hill; but from Malone to Lisburn, and thence over the greatest part of the barony of Masserene, and the south part of the barony of Antrim, but especially towards the west, the country is mostly occupied by the descendants of English settlers, and some Welsh, who came over in the reign of Elizabeth, in great numbers, and also in the beginning of James I., with the different great families, that at various times obtained grants here. Upper Masserene was colonised by the Seymours, Lords Conway, and Sir George Rawdon; part of Lower Masserene also; the remainder, and part of the barony of Antrim, by the Skeffingtons, Langfords, and Nortons, which last came in the reign of Elizabeth.\* Great civilisation, and a superior degree of culture, were the consequences which followed the bringing in of these different colonies, which to this day may be traced as far as they extend; their descendants being distinguished by their comfortable habitations, and well planted farms, as also by their manners, which have a great deal of natural civility and attention. They are very industrious, but are much inclined to enjoy part of the effects of

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\* There are also among the names of English origin, those of Becket and Wickliff.

their industry in the society of their acquaintances and friends.

The next era in the colonisation of this county (in which the county of Down must also be comprehended) was the introduction of the lowland Scots. This likewise took place in the reign of James I.

In the 34th of Philip and Mary, a law was passed "against bringing in of Scots, retaining, or intermarrying with them."—But such was the state of this country, it was necessary to repeal that law; from which repeal may be dated the first successful attempt at the introduction of those people into the north of Ireland by king James. Their first minister, Edward Brice, settled at Broad island, near Carrickfergus, in 1611, and the Rev. Robert Cunningham at Hollywood; at the same time the lowland Scots were brought into the county of Down, under the Hamiltons and Montgomeries. This division extended from Donaghadee to Portaferry, penetrating into the country within half a mile of Belfast, and stretching to the very centre of it. Three other ministers from England settled about the same time; the Rev. J. Ridges, at Antrim, brought by the Clotworthy's, who were themselves Presbyterians; and Henry Calvert and Mr. Hothard, at Carrickfergus; which last came over under the auspices of Lord Chichester. With these came a sufficient number of their people to form their congregations. About the time of the rebellion, in 1641, Josias Walsh was settled at Templepatrick. He

was grandson to the famous John Knox, the Scotch reformer.

At different times the population of Ulster was much forwarded by the severities exercised against the Presbyterians, both in England and Scotland; and their conduct in Ireland, in 1633, had been such as to induce the parliament of Ireland to pass an act for the naturalization of all the Scotch natives born before the accession of James I. And at the breaking out of the rebellion, in 1641; the government of Ireland proposed, as also the governments of England and Scotland, that 10,000 Scots should be sent over. Numbers accordingly arrived, and took possession of the castle of Carrickfergus, and brought over their ministers with them. The presbytery, first established in 1642, discovered their predilection for the principles of the constitution, by framing a protest against the murder of Charles I. by the English republicans, which protest drew upon them the indignant pen of Milton;\* and, in 1648, the sword of General Monk surprised them at Carrickfergus, took their general, Munroe, prisoner, and sent him into England. After this period, peace being shortly established, the industry, attention, and numbers of this body, were so great, that by their exertions they possessed themselves, almost exclusively, of the linen and other branches of trade, after the woollen manufacture was lost to Ireland; by that compact between the two countries, which

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\* This tract is preserved in Milton's prose works.

established the linen as the staple of one, and the woollen trade as that of the other.

This settlement of a great body of men, such as the Scots were, took place at a most critical time; and their exertions, joined to those of the English colonists, whose principles and habits, as well as theirs, were in total opposition to that of the natives, proved such a counterpoise to the designs of the latter, as must ever be considered as an event of the greatest consequence in the political history of Ireland; and if it were brought about with that view, must be looked upon as one of the wisest strokes of state policy that was ever used by England in her management of this country. It is that which has secured the peace of Ulster; which has promoted her civilisation and commerce; which has given her such an infinite ascendancy in the *provincial* scale of Ireland; and which, we firmly believe, has proved the instrument of preserving the connection between the two countries. We are aware that our assertion of this fact, and our confession of the joy which it affords us, is a bad recommendation, either of our book or person, to certain of our countrymen; but we abhor that slavery of mind, that unmanly disguise, which their influence would impose upon us, and we break the chain—our politics are English, and we avow it. Mr. Dubourdieu, to whose intelligent pen we are so largely indebted, is of the same opinion; but, in this particular, we can truly say that we are no copiers. It is an opinion resulting from a



long and attentive observation of the deep-rooted religious hostility (the true source of the political) of the native Irish to the religion of the reformation, whether as the religion of the reformation or that of their conquerors, we shall not examine in this place, but we are assured of its existence; and are as fully assured that, if not provided with a counterpoise, it would have furnished the native Irish with an almost perpetual temptation to renew their exertions to cast off the English yoke, as an evil that was by no means of that deep and atrocious nature, that would place them beyond the reach of the Pope's pardon; and thus would the consolidation of these kingdoms under one peaceful crown, have been still longer retarded, and perhaps only arrived at by wading through seas of blood. It is true, there are many Catholics (witness the conduct of Lord Fingall in the rebellion of 1798) who would risk their lives and fortunes to support the English constitution against its foreign and domestic foes, and who unite with the most virtuous of their Protestant fellow subjects in ardent wishes for the perfection of our laws; but that an anti-British feeling exists in Ireland, we have reason to believe; and although we do not censure any man for the existence of a feeling; which in similar circumstances might happen to be our own; yet as its operation would, in our view, have a very bad influence upon public happiness, and upon the grandeur and prosperity of the British empire, (objects that are not likely to be promoted by domestic

feuds) we rejoice in the restraints which have been placed upon that feeling, as being equally beneficial to Irish Catholics and Protestants. Nor are we ashamed to acknowledge, that we regard this early colonisation of Ulster, from England and other Protestant countries, as a merciful interposition of Divine Providence, to save Ireland from the dominion of a system, which places its yoke upon liberty of conscience, from a frequent repetition of civil war, and to pave the way, by a more perfect enjoyment of civil liberty, for a communication of the Gospel to this people, in its native simplicity and truth.

But although we cordially agree with those who regard the English and Scotch colonists as the instrumental saviours of our country, yet we cannot agree with those writers, who, while they acknowledge the wisdom of this measure, would rob King James I. (in whose reign it was chiefly accomplished): of the merit of having devised it; and under the influence of what we conceive to be an historical prejudice, trace it to the genius of some able statesman living at that time. We beg leave to decline subscribing to this reflection upon the judgment and abilities of that prince, whom (making due allowance for his peculiar circumstances and the age in which he lived) we think to have been one of the wisest and most virtuous men that ever sat upon the throne of England. To him the reformed religion owes a debt which it can never pay. To him the liberal and tolerant church which is established by law

in England, (and which, whatever may be its imperfections, is a great blessing to these nations) owes much of its stability. To him Ireland is indebted for measures of policy, by which the foundations of her illumination have been laid, her civilisation promoted, and her subjection to England secured; and to him, some of the native Irish, who were opposed to, and others who had revolted against his government, were indebted for measures of justice and clemency, (although some of these measures were rendered abortive by the perfidy of his servants) that should give immortality to his name on the page of history.— For our own part, we reverence his name, and the virtues of his character, although we cannot attempt to justify all his actions; nor could we justify those of any other man. We think that his reign was glorious; that his clemency was generally unimpeachable; and that his preference of the arts of peace to those of destruction, instead of evidencing pusillanimity of character, was the most lively feature of that sound Christiana wisdom, by which the measures of his government were regulated, in an age of turbulence, and of incalculable difficulties to the British throne.

Had not the plan of colonising so large a proportion of Ulster with English and Scotch Protestants been carried into effect at that early period, and strengthened by the establishment of respectable Protestants in other districts, it is melancholy to reflect on what the consequences might have been

to both nations. Exhausted by perpetual warfare, these lovely islands might have fallen a prey to some foreign power, and that beautiful fabric of the British constitution, which, with all its imperfections, is still the pride of Europe, would never have been the nurse of liberty, would never have boasted of free citizens, would never have founded colonies, nor have transmitted arts, sciences, and languages to distant lands; would not have been the parent of liberty and plenty to the new world;—and, in a word, would neither have hoisted the flag of triumph or of commerce on the seas, nor have arrived at that proud pre-eminence on the atlas of the world, which it has since acquired in the political geography of nations.

The descendants of these Scotch settlers, who now occupy nearly three-fourths of the counties of Antrim and Down, are in their manners decent, in their conversation cheerful, and for their stations well informed, though they do not seem to possess much constitutional vivacity. From their constant intercourse in so populous a district, and from the habits of dealing they have acquired by a frequent attendance at the public markets, they are acute in making bargains of all kinds; and in their mode of living they are frugal, but not too parsimonious.

They still retain the ideas of religious independence which they derive from their forefathers, and with it their dialect, which, in some degree, prevails in all that tract of country inhabited by them. They are neither so fond of planting nor

of gardening as the descendants of the English, though of late years they have made a considerable progress in both; and in all the necessary steps towards improvement, which their various means can enable them to arrive at, they exhibit the evidences of that passion for bettering their condition, which so eminently characterises the Scotch nation.

As the times have become more enlightened, and individuals, consequently, better informed and more enterprising, there are numerous instances, where the descendants of the several colonists have turned their attention to professions; and by their exertions have now raised themselves or their children to stations, which, half a century ago, would not have been thought attainable by persons of this class. But, with such opportunities as this country affords, there is nothing reasonable to which well-directed enterprise, persevering industry, and proper attention to economy, may not aspire.

In speaking of the total number of the population of the county of Antrim, the most authentic general account to go upon is that published about 1790, and taken about two years before by Mr. Bushe, from the return of the hearth-money collectors. Though it may have errors, this report has as fair a chance of being correct as any other; by it the population was made at that period to be 160,000 souls, inhabiting 29,122 houses, thirteen acres and three roods to a house, and 260 persons to a square mile.

Mr. Newenham, a late writer, speaking of the

population of Ireland, says, that it doubles in 46 years; that being the case, the present population of this county must be upwards of 280,000 souls; and to say that these, in a moral point of view, are as respectable a people as any similar district of the earth can boast of, is, in our opinion, by no means above the truth of history.

*Island of Raghery.*

To the population of the county of Antrim, must be added that of the island of Rathlin or Raghery. It is about five miles in length, and three-fourths of a mile in breadth, being bent in an angle towards the middle. It lies opposite to Ballycastle, and forms a tolerable bay; but in a westerly wind, though the anchorage is good, few vessels can ride it out, from the swell along the coast. By a return given to parliament by Mr. Gage, (the owner, in 1758) it appeared to contain 130 families, which, at  $5\frac{1}{2}$  to each house, would produce a population of 715. In an account probably taken some time previous to 1790, by the priest of the island, the inhabitants were reckoned at 1100, which, for 140 houses, (the number at that time) would be near eight to a house. Doctor Hamilton thinks they are about 1200, but does not mention the houses.

The cultivated land is kindly enough, and produces excellent barley. In a good year, this has been exported to the value of £600. But kelp is the great source of wealth to this island, one hundred tons of which have been exported from it in one year. At the time of Dr. Hamilton's writing,

the price was £5. 6s. per ton; since that it has been more than double.

The horses, as well as the sheep, are small, but serviceable; and the black cattle are not large, though they do well when brought to the main land and better soil. This island contains no native quadruped except rats, and the little straw mouse which is sometimes found here, so that, in this article of its history, it appears to have the honour of being related to St. Helena, the rock upon which England chained Buonaparte, and where this great soldier and statesman terminated his temporal career. The inhabitants of Raghery are a simple, laborious, and honest race of people, and possess a great deal of affection for their own country, always speaking of Ireland as of a foreign land! A common and heavy curse among them is, "May Ireland be your latter end;" with which they have not much intercourse, from the difficulty of the passage, except in the way of their trade. In this line the town of Ballycastle is much frequented by them on the fair days, where, from their small boats, they are seen landing their cattle, and other productions of their island, for sale. Dr. Hamilton professes to observe traces of different characters among the inhabitants, the effect of their situations. On the western end they are remarkable for activity and bodily strength. A single native is here known to fix his rope to a stake, driven into the summit of the precipice, and from thence, alone and unassisted, to swing down the face of the rock in

quest of the nests of sea-fowl ; and, from the want of intercourse with others, these Kenramer men have many particularities, and the use of the Irish language is universal among them. On the Ushet end, which is well supplied with harbours, they are fishermen, accustomed to little voyages and to barter. Many of their particularities are lost, and at present they all speak the English language.

Their monuments of antiquity are small tumuli : when opened, a stone coffin was found in one of them ; and beside him who was interred there, an earthen vessel stood, and the residuum, still visible, seemed to contain blood. Within the tumuli lay a considerable number of human bones, which might have been the remains of more ignoble men than the person whose remains the coffin covered. Brazen swords and spear-heads were found in the little plain where these tumuli are placed, and a large fibula, of no mean workmanship, which is deposited in the museum of Trinity college, Dublin.

The remains of a fortress are yet visible on the northern angle of the island, celebrated for the defence made in it by Robert Bruce, and still known by the name of that hero. The antiquity of this building is therefore not much less than five hundred years : it may be older, as the time Bruce spent in Raghery was scarcely sufficient for building it.\*

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\* In Hery's History of England it is said, Bruce took refuge in the small island of Ruerin, one of the western isles. Ruerin is an ancient name for Raghery.



## CHAPTER XI.

*Natural history of the soil of Antrim.—Surface.—Description of the Giant's Causeway and its appendages.—Fossils, &c.—Caves, cairns, and cromleches.—Mounts, forts, and other antiquities.—A directory to the seats and post towns of the shire.*

*Soils.*

IN noticing the soils of this country, it is not meant to distinguish them with chemical accuracy, but to point out that quality which is sufficiently predominant in each, to form a separate character; neither can it be expected that, in a general account of an extensive country, every spot of any peculiar kind can be pointed out. The prevailing soil in the plains and vallies is a strong loam upon clay, in many parts interspersed with whynstones of various sizes, having the appearance of being water-worn; these lie on or near the surface, and sometimes so close as to resemble a rude pavement, the removal of which is absolutely necessary previous to the operations of husbandry.\* In

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\* Whynstones.—Portions of basalt detached from the great mass, (of which the mountains are composed) and often rounded by motion.

the best cultivated parts this has, in a great measure, been done; but a sufficient portion still remains to shew the original compositions. The substratum of clay, to which this soil is supposed to owe so much of its excellence, is, however, not unattended with disadvantage; it makes it tenacious of moisture, which in spring often retards the labour of the farmer; and when dry, beyond a certain degree, renders it difficult of cultivation.

Judicious draining is the true remedy for both these defects. This prevents the moisture from remaining too long on the ground, and makes the soil less liable to be hardened, when the evaporating winds of spring prevail. The subsequent application of lime and other manures is attended with the happiest effects; the soil becomes kindly and fertile, affording to the occupier an ample return for his toil and expense. As the ground rises, the soil assumes a different quality, and in many cases a different hue; the vegetable mould is less in quantity, lighter in texture, and in colour; it is no longer the pingue solum. The under stratum loses much of its tenacity, and frequently degenerates into brown or yellow till. As the mountains are more closely approached in all directions, the deterioration is more perceptible, both from the scanty and coarse produce, as well as from the appearance of rocks and stones, which in many parts nearly occupy the whole surface. On the lesser mountains, the soil sometimes undergoes another change, from the

mixture of covering of peat or turf; which at certain elevations is generally to be found, forming by that means extensive tracts of moors.

Turf bogs, of various extent, and of different degrees of density, occupy the tops of most of the mountains, where they seem to bid defiance to the hand of the improver; nevertheless, their coarse produce affords in the summer season subsistence to a hardy breed of cattle and sheep; for even in those dreary regions there are kindly and verdant slopes and vallies, which furnish those animals with change of food and with shelter. The fuel from those bogs is of excellent quality; and notwithstanding the damps and fogs, it dries, when early cut, in a manner scarcely credible to those who have not paid attention to it. The plains which lie between the mountains and the Bann, are also interspersed to a considerable extent with turf bogs: much of this could be improved on moderate terms; that, for example, between Ratholarkin and Ballymoney, with several other bogs, which are in many parts clothed with green herbage. It would be difficult to ascertain the portion of the county thus covered, as it lies in so many detached situations, attended however with this advantage, that it gives the necessary supply of fuel to the inhabitants, within reasonable distances. But the barony of Masserene, and a great part of the barony of Belfast, are not so well provided as those which lie more to the north, most of the bogs in them being exhausted, except the southern extremity of the

former, and what the mountains afford in the latter.

*Sandy soil.*

To the west of the Lagan river, at a short distance from Belfast, a sandy loam commences, which, with some interruptions, continues to the Maze-course; this soil is, when under good management, very productive, yielding excellent crops of potatoes, grain of all kinds, and clover, luxuriant in a high degree. On the shores of Lough Neagh, there are likewise some tracts of the same species of soil; that near Shane's castle is formed in part of broken sand-banks, and gives the lake, in this point of view, much the appearance of the sea. Small strips of sand are to be found on different parts of the sea shore. It must however be observed, that in Malone, clayey knolls are interspersed among the sandy loam, that clay also forms the substratum, it is very stiff, and both are strongly tinged with red.

*Gravelly soil.*

The gravelly soil prevails in those gently swelling hills, which are to be met with in different parts of the county; they are composed of rounded or water-worn stones of different dimensions, with a slight covering of soil; some of the swells are detached, others in ridges,\* which run with small intervals to a considerable length, like to that ridge which takes its rise at Dunmurry, crosses the road from Lisburn to Lambeg, and

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\* These ridges are called drumlins,

from thence runs near to Magheragall church, a distance, with its various windings, of not less than six miles; a continuation of the same, or a similar ridge, makes its appearance on the south-east side of the Lagan, and is said to have been traced many miles farther. Wheresoever this ridge has been opened, the gravel has the same appearance, however different the soil on each side may be.

*Limestone soil.*

Wheresoever the limestone has been stripped of its covering of basalt, has advanced into the plains, and has acquired a covering of clay or of mould, there is formed a soil of peculiar excellence, adapted to every purpose of cultivation. Detached tracts of this nature are to be met with at the extremities of the limestone area; the most extensive one in this district, that we have heard or read of, lies in the parishes of Magheragall and Soldierstown, stretching from the hill of Mullacartin to the verge of the county: on the coast, near Redhall, at the point of island Magee, near Glenarm, and at Ballintoy, it also makes its appearance. But the fertility which this substance imparts to whatsoever soil it is mixed with, is no where more conspicuous than in the melioration of Ballypatrick mountain, on the road from Cushendun to Ballycastle, where a considerable improvement has been achieved, by mixing the fragments of limestone with the moory soil that covers it. Amongst the many advantages of this

soil, its being most favourable to the progress of fruit trees, must not be omitted; the freedom of their growth, the cleanness of their bark, and the flavour of their fruit, are real proofs of its excellence. There is another species of soil which still remains to be mentioned; we cannot describe it better than by giving Mr. Sampson's words, taken from his "Derry Survey." Above the lime is the region of basalt, and the soil thenceforth is without clay. It is only a rust, or oxide, of the softer parts of the iron-stone. It is loose, hoves with moisture, and has neither cohesion nor strength; witness the wretched crops of every thing but potatoes or straw.—The country people call it deaf land.—A great deal of this soil exists on the Antrim mountains.—It is also seen about Carrickfergus, and is complained of in nearly the same terms, as refusing a return to the farmer's labour; but as it produces a kindly food for cattle and for sheep, nature seems to have pointed out its destination to be grass.

#### *Surface.*

In every country the most striking features are formed by the mountains.—In this district they are particularly interesting, not only from their offering to view in their steep sections, the different strata of which they are composed, but from their elevation being greater on the coast, and their general descent inland; so that all the rivers which run any length of way, rise near the sea, and have descending courses towards Lough Neagh, and

the Bann. To these points (Mr. Sampson observes) all the strata of the basalt and limestone in Antrim descend; whilst the strata of the same fossils in the county of Derry descend to the same point, although in relation to the lough quite differently situated. This construction of country seems to shew that Lough Neagh, which occupies the greatest part of the intermediate space, has, at some period, been the theatre of an extraordinary convulsion, which has disturbed the probably original horizontal position of the strata. These mountains are wild; though not remarkable either for their elevation (the highest being only 1580 feet) nor for the irregularity of their outline, except where they approach the sea, and end in abruptions almost perpendicular. As to their extent, they run nearly from the southern quite to the northern extremities, and exclusively of their vallies, occupy a very large proportion of the county. Between them and the sea, in some places, are tracts of very fertile land, as that between Belfast and Carrickfergus, and from thence to Glenarm; there the mountains nearly overhang the sea; and in several places it is with difficulty a road can be made between them, as at Dunmaul fort, near Nappan, and at the Garraon point; from thence to Bengore head, with little interruption, the arrangement of the coast is the same. The succession of different headlands in this course presents a number of the most picturesque views, to which, if any thing on paper can do justice, it is the pencil; but we have

already expressed our opinion of the inadequacy of the finest paintings to this task, unless aided by those glasses which give to nature her own size and forms. In some places the openings between the mountains shew narrow vallies with torrents, as Glenarve and Glendun, which contribute their proportion to the scenery of this curious coast ; while in others, immense masses of basalt and limestone, indiscriminately thrown together, form a scene of ruin under different shapes, and compose a picture of wild confusion. In the openings of these mountains to the west are some vallies of considerable extent, and of great fertility. That of the Six Mile water, which contains the villages of Straid, Ballynure, Ballyeston, Doagh, and Templepatrick, is a fine specimen of the beauty and cultivation of the county, to which the frequent white-thorn hedges contribute not a little, shewing, as the plains about Antrim are approached, the increasing richness of the soil by their superior size and vigour. In the higher parts of this valley the soil is much lighter, and less deep than in the lower, which, about Templepatrick, begins to assume the general characteristic of the country, having a large portion of clay in its composition.

In the valley of the Glenwherry, a branch of the Main water, lie Kells and Connor, in a kindly but light soil. Around the former village cultivation is good ; potatoes, oats, barley, and clover all thrive, and the enclosures about Kells are equal to most in the county. The valley of the



Broad river, another tributary stream to the Main water, contains the towns of Broughshane and Ballymena; it is neither so extensive nor so fertile as that of the Six Mile water; the soil is light in colour and in texture, and though well cultivated, especially in the lower parts, and favourable for crops of potatoes and oats (particularly of the potato-oat) it is not found to be so much so for wheat or for barley. Whether this defect arises from the soil, or from the vicinity to the mountains, it is difficult to say; but such is represented to be the fact of its history; although the white thorn (supposed to be a proof of a good under stratum) flourishes there, and the well-kept fences of this plant which ornament the country part of the way from Broughshane to Ballymena, especially about Ballygarvey and Drumfane, give an aspect of comfort and improvement to the whole scene.

The mountains come close on the valley of the Ravel to the south-east, which contains nothing remarkable, except the basaltic hill on which the village of Clough is situated: this hill, like many others in the county, is completely insulated. From hence to Clough mills the surface is not unlevel, and the soil is good. From Cullylack, to Lough Neagh, the banks of the river Main offer many fruitful and well cultivated views to the eye, though, in several parts, these banks are steep quite close to the stream.

On both sides the river Bush there is much good and strong land: it produces excellent wheat

and barley between Stranocum and Benwarden, where Mr. Montgomery has done much. In the same valley Mr. M'Naghten is also a considerable planter and improver; and archdeacon Trail has made some improvement at Ballylough. On this river are the villages of Armoy and Bushmills; the latter serves as a retreat to the curious traveller, who has viewed the Giant's Causeway, from whence it is distant about two miles. Derroock lies on a branch of the same river; the improvement of this village was a favourite object with Lord Macartney.

To particularize all the variations of surface this county contains, would be most difficult. The valley of the Lagan, bounded to the west by the mountains of Antrim, and to the east by the hills of Down, has already been noticed; the richness of its soil, its superior cultivation, its beautiful undulating surface, the number of excellent habitations it contains, with the plantations, fences, and gardens attached to them, and the bleach-greens lying close to the river; altogether justify us in asserting, that few tracts in any country, of the same extent, exceed this valley, in the beauty of its scenery, or in the value of its produce. Between the mountains and the Bann, the general inclination of the surface is to the latter; the flattest parts are the turf bogs, which occupy a great space, and are in most parts very capable of improvement; but the disposition of the surface in the southern part of the barony of Toome, along the shore of Lough Neagh, is very

pleasing, as it consists of numerous detached swells, which afford a variety that no flat country can possess, and which shews every improvement in the best point of view. Near this the most extensive level tract in the county commences; it runs without much interruption through the south of the barony of Antrim and the west of Masserene, along the shores of Lough Neagh; until it meets the county of Down. It contains the town of Antrim, the villages of Crumlin, Glenavy, upper and lower Ballinderry; and Aghallee; and for cultivation, soil, planting, and hedge-rows, habitations, and orchards, has the appearance of the best parts of England. The vicinity of Lough Neagh gives a cheerfulness to the whole; and though many situations might be pointed out as deserving of notice, that particular part, which extends from Crumlin to Langford lodge, by Glendarragh, must attract the admiration of every person whose eye is gratified with pictures of rural prosperity.

The soil in this district is generally strong loam with an under stratum of clay, which being more or less mixed with the surface, forms a vegetable mould of different consistencies, according to the quantity of that substratum with which it is combined. The richness and depth of these plains must, in a great measure, be owing to the deposition of soil from the higher grounds; for here the waters being arrested in their course, have had time to part with the finer particles, which in a more rapid descent they must have carried with

them. The surface of this division of the county is retentive of water, and requires great efforts and attention in draining; when that is performed, and manure laid on, of which it requires a large quantity, no soil can better pay the cultivator's labour: of this the occupiers in general seem sensible; and that the cultivators find an equivalent in the crop for this expensive and laborious process, a view of the produce in the time of harvest will probably be found sufficiently convincing. Notwithstanding the general retentiveness of this ground, a deficiency of water has often taken place in the summer months. Killead, in this instance, was at times a great sufferer; but the introduction of pumps, of which it is said there are above two hundred in that parish, affords an ample supply, and precludes the necessity of driving the cattle to Lough Neagh in times of drought, which the inhabitants were obliged to do sometimes from the distance of two miles. Other peculiarities belonging to the surface of Antrim that remain to be pointed out, are those detached basaltic swells, some of which are extremely lofty; of these Slemish is, from its height and size, the most remarkable, and from its situation the most conspicuous, standing on a valley to the south-east of Broughshane. The gravelly knolls also, which have been mentioned under the head of soils, are the next and last peculiarities which shall be noticed. These gentle hills are not confined to any part of the county, though that near Lambeg, from its situation, has been most observed; they exist in many places

from Antrim to Kells, are particularly striking, and afford many materials for the roads wherever they are found; in their course they are winding, like the beds of rivers, and their situations are generally in low grounds, from whence they seem to emerge. To speculate on the formation of these hills would be idle, yet their component parts must have been subject to the action of water. We have given this short topographical description of the county, separate from its works of art: by some it may be thought too general, by others the contrary; the first may think it too concise, the latter too long; but so far as it goes, it is to be hoped it will be found correct.

#### *Basalt.*

This fossil naturally claims the first place in a sketch of the mineralogy of the county of Antrim; as well from its pervading the greatest part of its extent, as from the strong interest it has excited amongst naturalists, arising from the extraordinary and stupendous regularity it has assumed on our northern coast. Notwithstanding, however, that its most curious and most interesting features are there displayed, its area is by no means confined to this county; for it extends into all those which border upon it. Therefore, in tracing its area, let Fairhead, near Ballycastle, be taken as one extremity; it extends from thence westerly to Magilligan in the county of Derry, and is bounded by Lough Foyle; its southerly direction, from Fairhead, as far as the Blackhead, in island

Magee, inclines to the east; from thence, diverging a little to the west, it proceeds, by Carrickfergus, Belfast, and Lisburn; and passing near Moira, in the county of Down, it proceeds to the south as far as Portadown, in Armagh, (though after the subsiding of the mountains, it is not always visible on the surface, nor is it regular in its outline) and having travelled thus far, between Portadown and Loughgall it seems to be lost, the grey limestone commencing there; but the whynstones on the surface shew, that it is not far distant. It again becomes visible in the eastern part of Tyrone; and on the western side of the mountains, which run from Slieve Gallon, it appears in nearly as great perfection as on its northern and eastern sides. The shape of this area is regular, approaching to a square, except at its southern extremity, where it seems to have deviated from it; and near Lisburn, where, *contrary to the general idea*, it crosses the Lagan, and extends some miles in an easterly direction, sending forth innumerable dikes, which penetrate to the eastern coast; completing, according to Doctor Hamilton, a boundary which, taken in its entire course, amounts to a circuit of not less than 130 geographical miles. This area contains many varieties of basalt, from the coarsest to the finest grained; from the amorphous to the most highly finished columns; from that species, whose friability amounts to rottenness, to that, which, from its hardness, emits fire upon percussion. But, however extensively this substance is diffused, its

grand display is reserved for the northern coast of this county, of which the two great promontories of Bengore and Fairhead form the leading features. These stand at the distance of eight miles from each other, both formed on a great and extensive scale, both abrupt towards the sea, and abundantly exposed to observation; and each, in its kind, exhibiting noble arrangements of the different species of columnar basalts. The former of these lies about seven miles west of Ballycastle, and is generally described by seamen, who see it at a distance, and in profile, as an extensive headland, running out from the coast a considerable length into the sea; but, strictly speaking, it is made up of a number of lesser capes and bays, each with its own proper name, the *tout ensemble* of which, forms what the seamen denominate the headland of Bengore. At the base of one of these capes, to the west, is situated the Giant's Causeway. This extraordinary production of nature first attracted notice about the latter end of the 17th century, as appears by a letter from Sir Richard Bulkley to Dr. Lyster, (preserved amongst the papers of the Royal Society) who gives an account of it, received from a gentleman of Cambridge, who had seen it. Soon after this information was received by Sir Richard Bulkley, several queries were drawn up by him, which, with their answers by Dr. Foley, are to be found in the Philosophical Transactions; but neither these answers, nor a drawing which accompanied them, seem to have given much satisfaction. Dr.

Thomas Molineux was the next person who took upon him to obtain information respecting the Causeway; from his inquiries it appeared, that the stone, which had excited so much wonder, was not confined to the Causeway, but extended into the country; therefore, by his influence, the Dublin Society employed a painter of some eminence to make a general sketch of the coast near the Causeway; but the artist seems not to have been qualified for the employment, having introduced many objects not in the least appertaining to his subject. From that period, this coast seems to have been unnoticed for nearly half a century; but in 1740, Mrs. Susanna Drury made two most correct paintings of the Giant's Causeway, which obtained the premium for the encouragement of the arts in Ireland; and these drawings being soon after engraved by an eminent artist, and published, the attention of the philosophic world was once more directed to this subject. After this, Dr. Pococke made a tour through the county of Antrim, and was the only person who appears to have taken a general view of the coast, of which he has given a description; he formed a theory upon the formation of columnar basalts. About 40 years ago, the bishop of Derry, (Lord Bristol) brought a painter with him from Italy, who took views in Indian ink, of the most striking features upon the coasts of Antrim and of Derry; these, though not quite perfect, give a good idea of the subject, as far as they go, and are upon the whole a valuable collection. In the year 1784, Dr.



Hamilton published his "Letters concerning the Coast of Antrim;" and in 1790, a new edition of the same came out, much increased. These publications on the basaltic subject, (in which all the geological world was much interested, and on which many contrary theories had been formed) were much attended to. By some of these theories, the potent, clear, and often indignant pen of that accurate observer, Dr. Richardson, was called out, who certainly has favoured the world with more facts than any one who has yet written upon the subject; but who has contented himself with combating the theories of others, without forming any of his own.

#### *Giant's Causeway.*

The Giant's Causeway, which we should despair of doing justice to in our own language, is a mole or quay, projecting from the base of a steep promontory, on the coast of Antrim, some hundred feet into the sea. It is formed by perpendicular pillars of basalts, which stand in contact with each other, exhibiting a sort of polygon pavement, somewhat resembling the appearance of a solid honeycomb. The pillars are irregular prisms, of various denominations, from three to five sides, but the hexagonal are as numerous as all the others taken together.

On a minute inspection of this grand curiosity, each pillar is found to be separable into several joints, whose articulation is neat and compact

beyond expression ; the convex termination of one joint always meeting the concave socket of the next ; besides which, the angles of the under one frequently shoot over those of the upper one, so that they are completely locked together, and can rarely be separated without a fracture of the parts. The sides of each column are unequal amongst themselves ; but the contiguous sides of adjoining columns are always of equal dimensions, so as to touch in all their parts. Though the angles be of various magnitudes, yet the sum of the contiguous angles of adjoining pillars always make up four right ones, so that there are no void spaces among basalts, the surface of the Causeway exhibiting to view, a regular and compact pavement of polygon stones. Though the Giant's Causeway has often been compared to a honeycomb, which it certainly resembles much, yet accurate observers find a striking difference between their component prisms. This was the first assemblage of such pillars as attracted particular notice on this coast, and in point of symmetry, it is perhaps the most perfect group hitherto discovered, yet, in the article of magnificence, that particular spot is vastly inferior to many others on the same coast ; and Mr. Pennant, probably knowing of no other columns in the north of Ireland, pronounced, that basalt pillars in the island of Staffa far exceeded the Irish in grandeur ; but this gentleman was not aware that the Irish coast exhibits many miles of vast perpendicular precipices, lined with basalt

columns, in parallel ranges, with a magnificence that is perhaps unrivalled in any other part of the world.

These extensive and towering precipices, disclose to the naturalist the materials and arrangements of the strata of which this country is formed, displaying a variety of the basalts of different forms, and of a different principle of construction, internal and external, such as has not yet been met with, or noticed in any other part of the world.

These stupendous facades offer a scenery, magnificent beyond description, to those who sail along their base, and discover many curious circumstances, which have hitherto escaped the notice of naturalists. The Giant's Causeway, compared by Doctor Hamilton to a mole, and supposed by Messrs. Desmarey and Raspe to be a jet or current of lava running into the sea from the base of a volcanic hill, now appears to be a part of one of the original strata of our globe, placed at its intersection with the plane of the sea; this stratum is 45 feet thick, and entirely composed of basalt pillars of that length; it is inclined to the horizon with a small angle, and when traced from the Causeway eastward, ascends obliquely along the face of the precipice. It terminates at about the distance of a mile from the Causeway. Its upper surface is now elevated near 250 feet above the level of the sea; proceeding eastward it dips, and finally immenges at Portlmoon, two miles east from the Causeway, forming,

at its immersion, the base of two beautiful conical islands. Magnificent as the colonnades may be supposed, which this stratum displays in so extensive a course across the face of these mighty precipices, they are by no means the finest; the stratum next but one to this, is 11 feet thicker, and of course the pillars, of which it is entirely composed, are 55 feet, and its extent is somewhat greater than the former; the intermediate stratum is composed of another variety of basalt, prismatic but not columnar; this is 54 feet thick. The Giant's Causeway stratum, when it attains its greatest height, is the eighth, counting from the sea; all the lower ones immerging in succession, as they approach Portmoon; and where this stratum finally immerges, it has eight over it, four of them columnar, the pillars being of very different lengths, determined by the thickness of the stratum. The diameters of the pillars, and the perfection or imperfection of their construction appear pretty much the same; whilst the whole mass of the strata are parallel to each other, and the pillars of the whole headland of Bengore appear naturally to affect a perpendicular position; and in the few places where they lie in an inclined posture, it seems to be the effect of some external cause, which has deranged them from their original disposition. It is also worth remarking, that the ranges of pillars are more perfect, in proportion as they lie deeper in the ground. The second range in Plaiskin is evidently better finished than the upper one, and

contains much fewer irregularities in the grain of the stone ; whilst the pillars of the Causeway, which run into the sea itself, have greater sharpness in their figure, and are more close and uniform in their grain ; and it is to be observed, that the columnar basalts come in contact with the sea in three points only, the third being at Carrickarade, five miles to the eastward of the Causeway.

The magnificence of this coast, when viewed from the sea, cannot be conveyed by any written description. Its whole portrait is eminently striking, and has called forth the talents of many writers, whose developement of its history has proved, no doubt, an acceptable addition to the European cabinets of science. We have now given the reader a concise account of this grand natural curiosity. Those drawings of the Giant's Causeway, which have been well executed, will however place the *picturesque* of this object before the reader's eye in a more striking point of view, than any written description. Nevertheless, their united powers will fall far short of the effect which is produced by an actual inspection of the object itself, and of that grand and romantic coast, of which it forms such a singular and striking feature.

#### *Fairhead.*

At the distance of eight miles from Bengore (mentioned above) the promontory of Fairhead raises its lofty summit more than 500 feet above the sea, and forms the eastern termination of Ballycastle bay. It presents to view a vast mass

of rude columnar stones, the forms of which are extremely coarse, so as to resemble an imperfect compact granite, rather than the uniform fine grain of the Giant's Causeway basalt. These pillars do not at first view appear to have any marks of articulation; but, on observing such as have fallen from the top of the promontory, they are found to be separated into pretty regular joints by the fall. Though the basalts of these two magnificent promontories have been more particularly mentioned, there are many other similar arrangements, in different parts of the coast and of the country, which are highly interesting to those who wish to search into the natural causes that may have produced those extraordinary pillars. The hill of Craighullar, the south-east of Portrush, and the mountains of Dunmull, between Coleraine and the river Bush, shew abundance of this species of stone; the latter, particularly, at the crags of Islamore, where two ranges of columns may be discovered, and at most of the quarries, which have occasionally been opened round that mountain: they may be seen also at Dunluce hill, near the castle, in the bed of the river, near the bridge of Bushmills, on the summit of the mountain of Croaghmore, in many parts of the highland over Ballintoy, in the island of Rathery, and various other places even to the entrance of Carrickfergus bay, at the Blackhead; and, though they are very rude, are found so far to the south-west as on Glenavy river, near where it discharges itself into Lough Neagh. At the point

of Doon, in the island of Raghery, the basaltic pillars deviate from the usual perpendicular direction; also near Ushet in the same island, they form a variety of regular curves.

Among the curiosities of this eminently distinguished coast, that of cape Plaiskin, deserves particular notice.

The strata of the cape exhibit two ranges of pillars with interjacent masses of rock, elevated between 300 and 400 feet above the level of the sea. About 12 feet from the summit, the rock begins to assume a columnar tendency, and forms a range of massy pillars of basalts, which stand perpendicular to the horizon, presenting, in the sharp face of the promontory, the appearance of a magnificent gallery, or colonnade, upwards of 60 feet high. This colonnade is supported on a solid base of coarse, black, irregular rock, near 60 feet thick, abounding in blubs and fair-holes. Under this bed of stone stands a second range of pillars, between 40 and 50 feet in height, less gross, and more sharply defined than those of the upper story; many of them, on a close view, emulating the neatness of the columns of the Giant's Causeway.

But of the numerous varieties of basalt which have been observed by, and have given birth to, the speculations of the curious, none deserve more particular notice than that species known by the name of whyndyke, which diverges in such numbers from the north and east sides of this great basaltic area.

Whyndykes are mighty walls or steps of basalt, which issue and diverge from the north or east sides of the great area of the basaltic country; they are composed of rude prisms laid horizontally, their thickness from 12 to 15 feet, and often much more, though in some instances they do not exceed one or two. They first shew themselves in the face of the highest precipices, where they are seen vertically cutting the several strata, of which these precipices are composed, descending to the sea, where they are sometimes lost; but in many cases their course can be traced to a considerable distance in that element: as yet it has not been ascertained, in any one instance, to what depth they reach beneath the surface, even in the deepest mines; they penetrate indifferently all substances, which are encountered by them, and proceed to a distance almost incredible.

It may be proper to mention a circumstance generally attendant upon the whyndyke, which is as curious as any fact in natural history; that is, the frequent dislocation of the strata, cut by them, or through which they pass; or, as Dr. Richardson expresses it, the sinking or subsiding of these strata on one side, without disturbing their steady parallelism. This circumstance, so extraordinary to the naturalist, becomes to the miner an object of the greatest importance. Whatever be the order and thickness of the various beds of fossils, which occur on one side of any of these divisions, the same general arrangement and proportions may, with great probability, be expected on the



other side, only with this difference, that the entire mass will oftentimes be found to have altered its relative place, each stratum appearing in a more elevated or depressed situation on one side of the partition than the other; so that correspondent beds will no longer be found in one and the same plane, but must be sought for at different degrees of elevation; and it is only by comparing the stratum into which he has pierced, on the unexplored side of the partition, with the correspondent one on that side where he has already wrought, that he is directed whether to work upward or downward in search of the mineral he has lately lost. These dykes differ materially from each other; in many, the middle part and sides are not of the same grain, nor constituted upon the same principles; in some, zeolite is found in the centre but not in the sides; in others, the middle part is formed by cutting it across (no doubt into prisms) while the sides were a rude mass, studded with coarse round stones about the size of an eighteen pound shot, composed of concentric spheres like the pellicles of an onion. In all, the lines marking the construction of the dykes, whether accurate or faint, are across at right angles to their directions; but the perfection of the workmanship is very different.

The Scotch whyndykes (whose variety, as Dr. Richardson well observes, bid defiance to the most accurate attention) have been generally supposed to originate in Ireland. If this fact be admitted, we can easily trace them by attending to

the directions of our own; thus, those that issue from the coast west of Ballycastle, proceeding north, with a slight inclination to the east, are to be sought for in Islay, Jura, Mull, &c. *where Mr. Mills actually found them in great numbers.* The inference, therefore, is, that these dykes originally united Scotland and Ireland; and the probability is, that a communication by land between the two countries once existed; and this also was the opinion of Mr. Kirwan, of the Dublin Society, one of the greatest chemists of the age.

The Antrim dykes, which are seen at Murlogh, Torr, and Cushendun, are obviously those which have crossed the Mull of Cantyre, and were observed by Mr. Jameson in such abundance in the Isle of Arran. To find, therefore, in the natural history of the earth, strong evidences of a violent convulsion, such as the Deluge we read of in our own holy volume, must have produced; and to trace this awful visitation of divine vengeance, in the stories of ancient poets and the traditions of heathen nations, cannot but afford pleasure of the purest kind to every sincere believer in the divine original of the books of Moses.

Doctor Hulton mentions 20 or 30 whyndykes, which he found "in the shire of Ayre, to the north of Irvine, on the coast." These correspond with the numerous dykes about Garron point, on the coast of Antrim, whose rectilineal course is directed towards that part of the Scotch coast which we have just noticed. We believe the absurdities that have been fathered upon Christi-

anity, and still more the abominable acts of oppression that have been committed by its professors in power, have put into motion the ingenuity of some learned men to destroy the evidences of this religion:—but these evidences are too strong; and the religion itself has not greater enemies on earth than those religious impostors and Christian villains, who trample upon the reason and upon the rights of mankind.

The dykes about Larne may be expected to be found on the Mull of Galloway; while those examined by Dr. Richardson far up in Belfast lough, on account of their south-east direction, he concluded do not catch Scotland, nor meet land until they arrive on the coast of Cumberland.

*Of the fossils which are found in or near the basalt.*

The first of these which claims attention is zeolite, which has given birth to a variety of opinions; by some it has been alleged as a proof of the volcanic origin of the stones in which it is found; by others, as supporting a contrary theory.

Besides the above mentioned substances, iron ores of different kinds are not uncommonly found in or near the basaltic precipices; thin strata of that rich species called hæmatites, are found amongst the beds of argillaceous ochre, which divide them; and on the sides of the mountains and in the vallies, that species called bog ore is also found, and was probably washed down from the more elevated situations.

Beds of puzzolane shew themselves in different parts: from a quarry of this kind, in the island of Raghery or Rathlin, 500 tons were taken by one of the canal companies of Dublin, which answered the purposes to which it was applied, as well as the foreign kinds of cement. Argil, as well as silex and iron, abounding in this basaltic country, it cannot appear strange that the combination of it with silver should produce the various clays and colorific earths which proceed from their union; accordingly fullers' earth is found, and clays of all kinds, from those baser sorts, which make the coarser pottery, to those finer clays, which in strong fires only undergo an incipient vitrification, and are therefore fit for porcelain. Soap-stone, of a purple colour, in a large stratum, shews itself in the cut of a small river between Larne and Kilwalter. Fullers' earth is so frequent that it would be unnecessary to specify every place where it abounds: it is to be met with near Mr. Joy's cotton mills, in the falls of Belfast, at Banner's Glen, near Trumery, and in the island of Rathlin, &c. &c.

From the combination of argil and silex with iron, the rough tripoli proceeds, and French chalk is only an ochre with a larger portion of argil; the former shews itself in the bed and banks of a river on the south-west side of Agnew's hill, in this county; the latter in the path to the Gobbins, in a large vein. To these valuable materials may be added manganese, so useful in the manufacture of pottery. This metal, which is also applied to

the making of glass, exists in many parts of Antrim; and though what has been tried at Ballycastle has not been found so good as that imported, yet little doubt can be formed of a superior quality existing in the country; as that brought by Mr. Donald Stewart to the Dublin Society's house, has been found upon trial to be good.

*Calcareous limestone.*

A vast stratum of white limestone, about two hundred feet in thickness, and in its general course considerably elevated above the level of the sea, is the body upon which the immense mass of basalt rests; this is of the same extent as the basaltic area, but discoverable only at its periphery, though, in some cases, even there its appearance is interrupted; for, wheresoever the columnar basalts occur, the limestone seems to shrink from them, and is very rarely found, nor does it even approach them without evident signs of derangement. In some places it is depressed greatly below its general level; after a short space, it is borne down to the water's edge and can be traced under the surface of the sea, then it dips entirely, and seems lost under the incumbent mass; again, however, it emerges, and, with a similar variation, recovers its original height.\*

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\* Into what a train of solemn reflection does the evidently disorganized strata of this coast, with the marine exuviae found buried in the loftiest mountains, introduce the mind of a spectator, who believes in the scriptural account of the creation, the origin of evil, and the awful visitation of the Deluge. He

By tracing the progress of the limestone eastward of Portrush, where it makes its first appearance on entering the county of Antrim from the west, the extraordinary effects of the columnar basalt on the limestone stratum will more plainly appear.

The chalky cliffs are seen a little to the eastward of Portrush, where they form one of the finest and most interesting views on the coast; the forms into which these rocks have been thrown by nature and by the depredations of the ocean, impart to them features that cannot be placed before the eye,

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sees the monuments of the vengeance of a God displayed—but he sees also the progress of the ruin arrested, by the hand which signed its commission!—"Thus far shalt thou go, and no farther, and here shall thy proud waves be stayed!"\*

If it were in the believer's power to change one atom of the existing order of the universe, he would not change it.—Neither would he barter that presence of Omnipotence, into which his weakness retires—nor that sanctuary of mercy, into which FAITH conducts his trembling spirit—for the pride of Lucifer, and the whole range of his dominion!

In the whole course of the heavens, and in the stupendous monuments of power, which stand displayed before him in this place, he sees the covenant of God with man deeply engraven! With the sinners driven forth from Paradise, to water the scenes of their banishment with tears—he trembles! but, with Abel, his believing spirit raises an altar of gratitude upon THE REDEEMED EARTH—high as the heavens—deep as the foundations of hell—wide as illimitable space—long as eternal ages roll!

"These are thy works, parent of men!—  
How wond'rous they!—  
Thyself how wond'rous then!"

\* "The fountains of the great deep were broken up."—GENESIS.

ner planted deep in the imagination, by the puny works of art. After a short course, they are suddenly depressed to the water's edge under Dunluce castle, and soon after are lost entirely in passing under the columnar hill of Dunluce, which lies at a little distance from the sea. At the river Bush, the limestone recovers, and skims for a short space along the level of the sea, but vanishes on approaching towards the great promontory of Bengore, which abounds in every part with columnar basalts: under this headland it is lost for the space of more than three miles eastward; from thence, beyond Dumsevrick castle, it again emerges, and, rising to a considerable height, forms a beautiful barrier to White-park bay, and to the Ballintoy shore. After this it suffers a temporary depression near the basalt hill of Knockooghy, and then ranges along the coast to Ballycastle bay from Kenbaan head; and in this direction the limestone and basalt, in all their endless varieties, are seen uniting in that after-piece of the great tragedy of nature, which they were appointed to sustain on this portion of the coast; but for the *mere human farce* which succeeded to this awful tragedy, and continued for many ages, (and is only on the wane even now) we are indebted on the one hand to that brutish ignorance and stupidity of mankind, upon which the policy of priests is founded; and on the other, to that erroneous philanthropy, which in order to render void this policy of the priests, is vainly directing its powers against the awful moral of

the play!! Here pieces of limestone are seen embedded in the basaltic mass, and similar fragments of basalt dispersed in like manner through the limestone, and in the precipice above, strata of basalt and limestone alternating. Here the opportunities of examining into the contact of basalts and limestone are numberless, and on every occasion they are found solidly united; the line of demarcation correct, as if drawn by a pencil, but not the smallest trace of calcination.

Between Ballycastle and Fairhead, alternate strata of coal and sandstone intervene, then Fairhead magnificently towering with its massive columns of basalt; but the limestone once more rises to the eastward, and pursuing its devious course with some interruptions, at length forms, on the shores, a line of coast the most fantastically beautiful that can be imagined. Between Glenarve bay and Glenarm, the confusion of the basalt and limestone is so complete, that you cannot trace them, as the immense fragments of both lie in the most chaotic confusion. At Dunmaul fort, near Nappan, the top of the mountain is basalt, then limestone; under that is the fort, cut out of the basalt, and beneath that, limestone to the surface of the sea.

From Glenarm to the neighbourhood of Maheralin, in the county of Down, (the most southern point to which limestone extends) it may be traced either along the coast, or in the eastern and southern faces of the mountain; but in one part of its



circuit it suffers an entire depression, at Blackhead, the most southerly point of island Magee; here the basalt is columnar, and this seems to be the boundary of that species of stone to the south. This vast body of calcareous matter is disposed in regular strata, which, when undisturbed, preserve, as Dr. Richardson well expresses it, a steady parallelism, and are in many parts separated by layers of flints, which, in the operation of raising, shiver into pieces of various shapes and sizes; other portions besides these are found, standing perpendicularly over each other, and joined by a narrow neck of limestone, funnel-shaped, as if in a liquid state they had been poured into a cavity formed to receive them.

At the further extremity of the limestone, where the country subsides into gentle hills, it is mostly divested of its covering of basalt, clay of a reddish colour, and of various depths, taking its place. In one part of its course, from Brook hill to Trummery, it is elevated above the general surface, but still accompanied by the basalt, though not crowned with it. For all round this ridge, quarries of it are found stratified as perfectly as in any part of its course; and extending far beyond the limestone limits; and very often these substances are found in contact, the sides of each standing nearly parallel to each other. Notwithstanding the general hue of this limestone is white, and in its nature not adapted to take a fine polish, yet, in different situations, specimens have been found of a finer texture and superior hardness. The va

iegated blue and white, or dove coloured marble, is said to be found in great abundance on the lands of Ballymurphy, two miles from Belfast. In Collin Glen, there is also a stratum of the same kind, some of which is reputed to be white, and as transparent as statuary marble. In Banner's Glyn, near Trumery, is a stratum of fullers' earth, one foot thick; it lies between the limestone and the basaltic rock. *Here is fine red marble,* and remarkable red coloured flints. Mr. Dubourdien observes, that the limestone quarries in a south-west direction; in this part of the county, are traversed by a whyndyke, far advanced to a state of decomposition, and bedded in its whole course, sometimes in a yellowish, sometimes in a reddish ochereous substance. It appears to be this substance which has imparted the colouring matter to the limestone, and which is also much harder, much finer in the grain, and more completely crystallized than any specimens hitherto met with. Pieces of this marble have been sent to the Dublin Society. When cut and polished, they are nearly equal to the best imported; the disadvantage of it is, that it cannot be raised in large blocks.

The remaining varieties of calcareous substances are, micaceous limestone, found at Torherbell, near Ballycastle, which makes good lime for mortar, or for manure, and is of the same quality with that used at Dalmully in Scotland. On the black mountain, that species, denominated phosphoric limestone, is met with; likewise at Church

bay, in the island of Rathlin. On the mountain just noticed, at the height of about 1100 feet, is a kind of calcareous sandstone, containing a variety of shells, among which, some of our native ones may be recognised, as *arcta glycinaris*, *pestens*, *cardium*, &c.

Limestone gravel exists in many parts: at Ballinderry, near the corn mill, in the river Durnart; also at Portmore park, in the parish of Glenavy. Mr. D. Stewart says, the limes are large, of various colours, and resembling petrified bulrushes; these must be coralites. The same gentleman also takes notice of a limestone quarry, near Templepatrick, on the north side of the mountain from Belfast; but this quarry, from the quantity of silex it contains, will not answer for making lime. Marine exuviae of different kinds are embedded in the limestone; and Mr. Dubourdieu saw bones of terrestrial animals, as the bone of a hand, supposed to be that which supported the middle finger, which was found at a great depth in a limestone quarry, and part of the rib bone of a cow, or of some animal of that species, as perfectly shaped as if just taken from the carcass.

According to Mr. Sampson, (author of the Derry Survey) with whose observations those of Mr. Dubourdieu agree, this immense body of limestone rests in some places upon a green marble-like substance,\* which does not effervesce with

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\* The lower stratum of limestone at the quarry on the left hand of the road, at Cave hill, is quite discoloured with this substance.

acids; also on a red clay, which dips and rises with it. This red clay has frequently pieces of soft calcareous earth interspersed with it, in a state like putty; in many instances it is lamellated, and of the finest and most unctuous feel, free from any mixture. In the contact of limestone with basalt, there is a mixture of reddish ochreous matter, including nodules of flint, or in masses of flints agglutinated; no marks of calcination, but it is shivery and shattered in several places, and even contains shells immediately in contact.

The calcareous petrifications that occur on the shore of Larne lough, not far from the town, on the approach from Carrickfergus, seem to be entitled to a place in this division of the work. The well, which to all appearance is the agent in this operation, lies close to the high water mark, and issues from the bank just below the road. The beach is formed of a stiff blue clay, which, in many places, has wilek and other shells lying upon the surface; these, when deprived of their fish, are by the rolling of waters filled with the clay, and coming in contact with the water of the well, become one solid mass of calcareous substance, the whole the colour of the clay. That the well has the power of performing this, is clear from these petrifications being found close to it; and from other substances of a like nature being thrown out of it from time to time, as the jointed and angular stones, that creep in vinegar. These stones called, from their shape, *astroides*, being placed in a saucer, and immersed in acid, immediately begin to effervesce, which,

causing a gentle motion, they glide down the inclined plane of the saucer, until they meet in the middle of it.

This quality must be imparted to this well from its taking its source in, or running through a stratum of limestone, with which it must be highly saturated during its passage. There are several streams in this line of coast, that take their rise in or above the limestone stratum, which in their course meet with openings, through which they disappear for some space, and burst out lower down. Two instances of this occur, one near Kilwalter, and the other in the glen at Red hall.

The sudden breaking out, and quick disappearing of springs, is common in all limestone countries. For the same construction of the strata, which, from their openness, enables those waters to gush out in one place, facilitates their entrance into them in another. In the county of Clare, which is a limestone county, the number of paltry subterraneous streams is very great, and some of them are very large.

#### *Gypsum alabaster.*

This fossil is found on the Forth river near Belfast, and in several other places on the coast from thence to Castlechichester, in island Magee; on the Forth river it runs in veins, in the steep banks, which are formed of a most tenacious clay, that effervesces with acids; these veins are of various depths, from three or four inches in thickness to that of a line, so as scarcely to be per-

obtainable, except from their whiteness, contrasted with the redness of the clay. The mode in which the gypsum is extricated from the clay, is by striking the latter with pickaxes, as sharp and as well-tempered as possible. Above the veins the tenacity of the clay is such, that not more than the size of a walnut can be taken away at one stroke, which makes the difficulty of procuring the gypsum very considerable. In some instances the clay, in which gypsum is found, is of a fine blue colour resembling Prussian blue. The clays of this kind, that Mr. Dubourdieu tried, effervesce also with acids; invariably, however, its situation, so far as he had observed, is on the verge of the limestone country, but much under the level of the limestone, and not much above the level of the sea, in the intermediate stratum between the sandstone and the limestone. In that portion of the county where it is met with, the limestone lies very high in the faces of the mountains, where it does not appear to have been disturbed by any violence; where the limestone has been brought below its usual level, as in many places it appears to have been there, he had not heard of any gypsum having been found, so that its formation appears to have been accomplished in, and confined to that stratum; what is now gypsum has probably been chalk, or limestone reduced to a chalky consistency, as it is often found in clays; the vitriolic acid, which is necessary to its existence, having also been afforded by the same stratum, from which it is taken. How this operation has been effected,

he presumes not to inquire; but asserts, that he never met with gypsum in large masses, as it is found in other countries. The use to which this fossil is applied, is the running of cornices, coating ceilings and walls, and making other ornaments for apartments, to which it is well adapted; it is first roasted, then pounded and sifted; and, being afterwards mixed with a proper proportion of lime, run into a paste; it quickly grows hard, and when completely dry, acquires a beautiful milky whiteness. It is sold by the hundred weight or ton, as it is required by the persons who raise it.

#### *Coals.*

The working of this mineral has hitherto been chiefly confined to the vicinity of Ballycastle; every attempt towards finding it *in any considerable quantity*, in any other quarter, has so far proved abortive. The collieries lie between the town and Fairhead, which terminates the bay of Ballycastle to the east. The coal lies in an abrupt bank, which overhangs the sea, and is first seen at the Salt-pans, its westerly point; from thence it runs eastwardly along the coast for about two miles; here the blazing coal is lost; but at the commencement of the Fairhead a blind coal has been discovered, which, from its utility, promises to become a profitable article to the owners. This species is also found on the east side of the same promontory, and is separated from the blazing coal by a whyndyke, at a place called Whaley's-folly; these two species are

never found in contact, neither contiguous nor intermixed. The different fossils, commonly situated above the coal of this place, are iron-stone, black shivery slate, grey, brown or yellowish sandstone, and basalt, or whynstone. The three former of these appear to be usually attendant on coal in the northern parts of Ireland; but the sandstone, which may be traced from the southern to the northern extremities of the country, and which seems to be the body on which all the other strata rest, is here out of its usual level, being as it were forced up from its natural place, and hemmed in by basalt, which it equals in elevation. All these strata are tolerably regular in their disposition, forming a small angle with the horizon to the south, and shewing their edges in the steep cliff itself, or (as the miners term it) bassetting to the north; but it happens not unfrequently that they are intersected by thin, hard, and firm veins of basalt, which standing perpendicular to the horizon, cut them in two, forcing through every opposing barrier in a precipice 300 or 400 feet high, pursuing a direct and uninterrupted course as far as the eye can trace them under the surface of the sea, or as far as human industry and perseverance has attended them into the bowels of the earth. As the properties of these walls or dykes have been described above, we need not add any more on the subject than to say, that the miner, who has occasion to break through one of these divisions, is almost certain that he will immediately lose the bed of coal, in which, a short



time before, he was working; and it is only by comparing the stratum into which he has penetrated, on the unexplored side of the partition, with the correspondent one, on that side where he has already wrought that he is directed, whether to work upwards or downwards, to recover the course of the coal. The veins of coal are from two and a half to five feet in thickness, and generally run from the north-west to the south-east, dipping gradually from the shore, as they proceed into the country. Until 1807, none of the levels extended beyond 900 yards; for there a whyndyke, towards the south, had hitherto prevented the workmen from penetrating further in that direction.

All the mines are worked and drained by levels running into the country; no shaft is sunk, except for the purpose of ventilating the different apartments. At a former period, when the steam-engine was unknown, Mr. Boyd, the proprietor, who possessed talents and enterprise equal to arduous undertakings, having sunk shafts to a bed of coal under the level of the sea, conducted a stream from a distant river along the precipice, which rises from the shore, where, by means of machinery, he was able, cheaply and effectually, to keep his submarine pits clear from water; but this work has long since been abandoned. The levels, which are now the only mode by which the coal is extracted, are about four feet wide by four feet and a half in height, and are cut at the expense of from one guinea to one guinea and a half per yard, running measure. In this estimate:

are included the clearing away the rubbish, which is generally thrown into the sea.

The produce and consequent value of the different mines vary considerably, according to the quantity of slack they contain. Blazing coal was sold for 10s. per ton, and the blind coal for 12s. A ton of the former weighs 23 cwt. The slack was sold for 5s. per ton, and is generally used for burning lime. All the coal is sold by measure. A ton of coal contains four trams of two barrels each; a barrel contains four bushels; consequently there are thirty-two bushels in a ton of coals as sold from the bank.

When Mr. Dubourdieu surveyed this country, some fifteen or twenty years since, there were about one hundred men daily employed in different departments about this colliery. The earnings of labourers and of artificers were then from 1s. to 1s. 7d. per day, and the weekly expense of labour from £30 to £40.

Those employed in cutting the coals were paid by the piece, and the prices varied from 4s. to 6s. 6d. per ton, according to the difficulty of the work, and the length of conveyance from the different chambers to the mouth of the pit. The coals are taken from hence to the store by labourers employed for that purpose. The workman's measure to his employer is a third more than what is given to the buyer; as a ton of pit measure (as it is called) consists of six trams, or twelve barrels, which is supposed to cover incidental losses and expenses. Many years since there were from 60

to 120 tons of coal (pit measure) turned out every fortnight from those mines, and from 10 to 20 trams of slack; and, on an average, it was computed that three men, viz. one cutter, one bearer, and one trammer, turned out one ton of coals per day. The country consumption at that time was from 20 to 50 tons per week; sometimes 200 ear loads, of two barrels each, have been taken away in that period. They are carried to Ballymena, and not unfrequently to Antrim; but their principal market was Coleraine, about sixteen miles from the colliery, where they were sold from 6s. 6d. to 9s. 9d. per load, or from 26s. to 39s. per ton. The quantity exported from these collieries does not appear to be considerable; however, it is said that a single boat can ship 30 tons in a day, and that a vessel of 200 tons could be loaded in two days.

No charge was made here for shipping at this period; although to the proprietor, the expense for doing so was more than 1s. per ton. The men employed in this operation received 6d. per ton; this added to the expense of boats and stages, amounted to something considerable; and from the increased price of timber since the origin of those collieries, the necessary accommodations must have materially swelled the table of expense. The consumption of iron and wood varies at different times; but it has been estimated at two hundred pounds annually. The expense of candles alone was about one hundred pounds; but this is defrayed by the workmen,

who likewise furnish themselves with tools, that are repaired at the expense of the company; but on the opening of a new mine a complete set of tools is provided for the undertakers of the work. The colliers are considered by some as a lazy and indolent denomination of people; because they work only from six to eight hours in the day time; and when they calculate that they have earned from a shilling to eighteen-pence for their day, retire to idleness or amusement. However, upon a fair view of the subject, we cannot condemn them; as we are not able to prove either from Scripture or reason, that the extremes of doing nothing upon one side, and of being worked to death upon the other, are exactly of God's appointment.

The Ballycastle collieries are supposed, by some, to have been worked at a very remote period: for the miners, in pushing forward to a bed of coal about the year 1770, at an unexplored part of the cliff, unexpectedly broke through the rock into a narrow passage, so much choked up as rendered it impossible for any of the workmen to force through to examine it further; two boys were therefore sent in with candles, for the purpose of exploring; but having penetrated into a kind of labyrinth, and their lights being extinguished, their voices also being exhausted with frequent calling, they would, in all probability, have been lost, if it had not occurred to one of them that as the hammers of miners are often heard at a distance, they might make themselves heard by knocking with stones against the sides

of the cavern : this expedient fortunately for them succeeded, and they were taken out after being in this perilous situation for some time.

This cavern was found to be a complete gallery, which had been driven forward many hundred yards to the bed of coal, branching into numerous chambers, which were dressed in a workmanlike manner ; in reality, it was found to be an extensive mine, wrought by people expert in the business. Remains of tools and baskets are said to have been discovered, but in such a decayed state, that, on being touched, they immediately crumbled to pieces. The implements discovered were of a different construction from those of the present day ; and candles, whose wicks were formed of rags, or shreds of linen, were amongst the articles that were found.

Another proof of the remote period at which coal mines were worked on this coast, arises from the circumstance of coal cinders being still visible in the lime used in the building of Bruce's castle, in the island of Raghery, the antiquity of which building cannot be less than 500 years : it may, indeed, according to Dr. Hamilton, be more, as the time which Robert Bruce spent in this island was scarcely sufficient for the purpose of erecting it. But by whom these mines were originally worked, there does not remain any tradition.

Previous to the year 1736, a company, chiefly composed of Englishmen, are said to have occupied the collieries of Ballycastle. In that year, Alexander, Earl of Antrim, granted them in

perpetuity to Hugh Boyd, Esq. of Ballycastle, great grandfather of the present or late Mr. Boyd. The grant conveys all coals, pits, mines, &c. &c. &c. from the church of Bonamargy, on the west, to the hill called the Fairhead eastward, and from the sea coast, three miles into the country southward. The only rent paid is the twelfth ton of coal at the mouths of the different pits; the banking, shipping, &c. is a charge to be deducted from the chief rent: this amounts to two shillings and eightpence for each ton, common measure. It may not be amiss here to mention, that pit measure is one half more than common measure; and that, in the year 1805, the quantity raised was 2,791 tons, the total expense of which amounted to the sum of £1,976. 4s. 3d. Mr. Boyd, being fully sensible of the great advantages to be derived from an extensive distribution of the produce of the collieries, not only to himself, but to the public, turned his mind towards rendering the bay of Ballycastle useful to his purpose. From its situation, and the circumstances attendant on that situation, (for it is exposed to the north-west winds, which, meeting the island of Rathlin in their way, drive in between that island and the main land a most tremendous sea) it does not offer a safe retreat for vessels, except for a very short portion of the year, therefore it was necessary that a quay, or pier, should be constructed, as a remedy for this evil. Different parliamentary grants were accordingly obtained, amounting to above £23,000, and a quay was built; but whether the situation

was injudiciously chosen, and the work not so skilfully planned and executed as works of the present time, or whether the force of the swell was irresistible, the sea overpowered it, having first filled the little harbour with sand, so as to render it nearly useless. To remedy this misfortune, it is said that the river, which runs into the bay a little to the eastward of it, was turned in, under the idea of clearing away the sand; but this completed its ruin, and in that state it now remains.

It is therefore a matter of great regret, that this place, the neighbourhood of which, in addition to its collieries, abounds with so many valuable materials, should be deprived of those advantages of a port, with which the munificence of parliament was so well calculated to provide it. But while we lament that fatality by which the efforts of a worthy citizen, for the improvement of his fortune and his country, were rendered abortive, we cannot, whatever may have been the improvements since made in the science of engineering, unite with any other writer in recommending parliament, in the present encumbered circumstances of the country, to apply the money of the people to uncertain speculations.—The other materials found in the vicinity of Ballycastle, are clays of the most valuable kinds. One species obtained near the Fairhead has, upon trial, proved to be of that description which is employed in the manufacture of the finest earthenware, and is said to possess the qualities of the kaolin, which enters into the composition of china; whilst the granite, which is found

in Ballypatrick mountain, resembles the petanase, also a component part of the same ware, and which abounds in the limestone flints. Excellent potters' clay, and clay for bricks, also abound here, and firestones of the most lasting kinds. Sand for manufacturing glass is in large quantities, and kelp employed in making the coarser glass. A glass-house had been built many years ago, but the business is now given up. Manganese has been discovered; but the quality of it is inferior to that imported from England. To these may be added the freestone, in all the extent of the colliery, the excellent quality of which must be evident, from the scythe stones, so much valued over the whole country. Many other substances, useful when accompanied with abundance of fuel, might probably be added to those rendered valuable by being near it; but sufficient has already been said to draw attention to those that are known.

#### *Wood coal.*

This fossil is said to have been first brought into notice in this district, about 60 years since, by a Mr. Alexander Stewart. It is generally found in veins: where these are of the least thickness, the appearance of the wood is most distinct. These veins are from two inches to four or five feet thick, and universally run from east to west.

This wood is found near Portmore in large masses; it is there known by the name of black wood. It has been met with on the eastern shore of Lough Neagh; and between Ballinderry



and Crumlin, on this shore, Mr. French was at great expense on the first stratum, which was 30 inches thick at the end of the level or drive.\* The resemblance between this wood coal and that mentioned in "Letters on Iceland," seems to be so very great, as to induce a conclusion that they are similar substances, and have been produced by the same cause. But this must not be confounded with those thin strata that are dug up very near the surface, in many places on the Lough Neagh shores. These latter strata lie so near the surface, as to be met with in shallow cuts made for watering meadows, and are supposed to be wood in a state of decay, with no other resemblance to coal than in the colour; whereas the other, from its weight; appearance, and feel, seems to hold an intermediate place between wood and coal; and notwithstanding the burning qualities of it may not be such as could be wished for, when the bogs are more exhausted, it may become a valuable substitute.

#### *Sandstone.*

Sandstones of different colours, different degrees of hardness, and differing in the size of the grains which enter into their composition, are most extensively to be met with in this county.— They appear at the southern extremity of it, near Spencer's bridge, where it joins the county of Down. From thence they may be traced along the whole valley to Belfast, and along the shore to Carrickfergus, a tract of not less than 22 miles:

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\* Donald Stuart's Report.

They occur again between Broughshane and Clough, near the centre of the county, and at Ballycastle, the northern extremity; also in the island of Raghery; but in these last mentioned places, where the sandstone alternates with strata of coal, it seems to have left its humble situation, and in elevation, rivals the basaltic precipices which it joins. At the bottom of the mountain, between Ballycastle and Newtown glens, sandstone of a red colour forms the paste in which numerous rounded pebbles are embedded: some of the pebbles are white, some are brown, and many of the colour of the paste. This stone is of peculiar hardness, and seems confined to this track: the pebbles are of the siliceous kind; and the whole forms a species of pudding-stone, which is seen more plainly in the great cave near the sea shore at Cushendun, where the whole mass is connected together as hard as any rock, the cliffs above it being of the same composition, and extending to Red bay. The depth to which the sandstones go is very great, and quite uncertain. This has been tried in many places near Lisburn; where, after boring near 200 feet, the undertaking has been abandoned; and at the freestone quarry at Scabra, in the county of Down, 450 feet have been bored through without success. The other aggregate stones are granite and gniess: these are found very near each other on the mountain above Cushendun, the first appearing from under the boggy banks of a branch of the Cary river, on the right hand of the road from Ballycastle. This is

a very large-grained red granite, hard, and the component parts distinct and clear. Much of it could not be seen, but sufficient to shew that it was not a single stone, but that there was a mass of it together. At a little distance, on the same side, the gniess began to show itself, where the covering of a bog was slight, and continued from thence to the bottom of the mountain at Cushendun. The enormous fractured mass of this substance which hangs over the road on the left, and the disjointed fragments that lie under it on the right, as the hill is descended, cannot fail of striking the beholder with awe, nor of bringing to his imagination the horrid convulsion that must have taken place at the moment this compact mass was torn from its foundation, and scattered in gigantic fragments below.

After the valley is passed between Ballycastle and this mountain, you ascend, for some time, with the limestone at a distance on the north, the basalt country on the south. The limestone then approaches the road to the north-east, rising from the turf bogs; on the other side all is covered by it, and in a little space the limestone vanishes also under the bog. When the bridge appears, the granite is seen in the bed of the river to the south-west: the gniess then succeeds, and continues as far as the foot of the mountain on the other side, where it is bounded by the red sandstone, of the same composition as that which forms the sides and roof of the cave at Cushendun.

*Caves.*

A very curious and extensive cavity lies at Blackcave head, north of Larne, which is said to penetrate the basaltic rock, in which it is formed, to a considerable distance, and the sides of this are composed of pillars of great dimensions.

At Cushendun there was a cave with a blacksmith's workshop in it, formed of materials of a very different kind, being a kind of reddish sandstone.

Under the castle at Red bay is a cave of great dimensions. The roof and sides of it are formed of rounded siliceous stones, in a paste of sandstone. It opens to the sea, and affords, through the arch which it forms, at all times an interesting view, but particularly when the sea is high and agitated.

The cave under Dunluce castle is another noble natural apartment of the same kind, but exists in materials of a nature totally different from that at Red bay, the walls and roof being of rude basalt. But the cave at port Coan requires particular notice. Its sides and roof are formed of round stones, embedded in a basaltic paste, so hard as not to be broken without great difficulty: these stones again are formed of concentric spheres like the pellicles of onions, the whole composing a mass of most extraordinary appearance. As this cave is approached, the dyke stands on the left; behind is the rude basaltic precipice, in the face of which is the dyke from whence the other was

detached; and beyond the cave, at no great distance, is the Causeway itself; so that four most distant varieties of basalt are displayed in a short space, each preserving the characteristic features of their formation, as distinctly as if at the distance of many miles.

*Cairns.—Cromleches.*

The antiquities of the east coast of Ireland, from the county of Meath to the north sea, have so great a similitude, that to describe those of one district, (unless the minutiae of each object be entered into) is to give an account of the whole. Cairns, cromleches, pillar-stones, raths or forts, and mounts of different magnitudes and forms, abound along the whole coast, and extend inland. The monastic and military remains are also similar, as well as the detached pieces; such as arms, urns, and ornaments, which are occasionally met with. Of these monuments, the cairns have least the appearance of art or of contrivance, and are evidently the work of men in a very rude state of society. The most remarkable of those, as well as the most conspicuous in this county, is that on Colin mountain, about three miles to the north of Lisburn; it seems like a point, when viewed from a distance, but is of considerable extent. It is formed of a number of small stones, piled up in a conical shape, and now nearly covered with a green sod, seeming to have its origin in the growth and decay of the grasses, which have taken root in the soil, caused by the decom-

position of the stones, by the moisture of the climate in which they are situated. We have not heard of any attempt to open it, consequently nothing of its contents is known. Another of these monuments exists on Slieve-True, west of Carrickfergus, and two on Colinward, and no doubt there are others of a similar character.

Neither is the cromleche wanting in the antiquities of this county, although Mr. Dubourdiou thinks they are not so numerous as in the neighbouring county of Down; that near Cairngraaney is most remarkable, having twelve stones ranged from south-east to north-west, the western one near seven feet high; that to the east is nearly level with the ground; this sloping position is common, and has given rise to the name. It is further to be observed, that the upper or flat stones composing the cairn, or heap of the sun, (which, in the Irish language, Cairngraaney signifies) are each supported by three upright stones, in the same manner that the single cromleches are.

Near these stones is a large mount, and several strengths, different from those forts so common in every part of the county; these lie to the north-east of the road from Belfast to Templepatrick.

Another cromleche stands on the lands of the Rev. Robert Trail, of Mount Druid, near Ballintoy: the principal stone is six feet six inches in length, by five feet six inches in breadth, and stands on four supporters, one at each end, the other two on each side. It had been surrounded by a circle of stones, the diameter of which was

about 33 feet inside of the circle; many of these stones are now gone; those that remain are from one to two feet in thickness.

Another of these rude monuments stands at the northern extremity of island Magee; this also is in a sloping direction, supported by three large stones set upright, the inclination is to the east; the covering stone is above six feet in length, and at one end nearly equal to that in breadth; under it is one large stone lying flat; on the outside are six large stones upright in the earth, four of which stand on the north, and two on the south side; these stones are about three feet high.

*Mounts, forts, &c.*

These works of earth, which have been raised by the hand of man to various magnitudes, are so numerous, (two or three parishes in this county containing no less than 237 forts) and so well known, even to the blind men that traverse the Ulster soil, that to enter upon a minute description of this class of the Antrim antiquities, (for the information of an Irishman, at least) would be to force a subject upon his attention, with which he is as familiarly acquainted as with his parent soil. We shall therefore content ourselves with the few examples that we have already given, and shall add for the stranger's information, who, if a plain man of business, may not wish to have his brains *boddered* with long-spun details of our antiquities, that these forts, though numerous in Ulster, are rarely seen in the west of Ireland, and not much

farther south than the county of Meath. Whether Ulster had been more frequently invaded by the Danes, the Scots, or the Britons, than the other provinces, and that these forts, if they had a prior existence, were then multiplied and converted into places of defence, we shall not, with our uncertain lights, pretend to determine; but from their numbers and various magnitudes, they must have been the work of a great population, who certainly had either the incentive of safety, religion, or public justice, to urge them on in their formation.

*Ecclesiastical antiquities.*

Mr. Archdall, in his *Monasticon*, enumerates 48 establishments of this kind, and says that 20 of them are now unknown. But in reality the number, of which there are any remains or certain records by which they may at present be traced, does not amount to one half of those said to have existed in the county of Antrim. Of the religious house, supposed to have been founded at Antrim by a disciple of St. Patrick, it is said there is not any existing record *in this country* prior to 766.

Carrickfergus.—The foundation of a monastery for Franciscan friars, who, from humility, called themselves friars minor, and also grey friars, (from the colour of their garments) has already been noticed in our description of this town. It is supposed to have been founded in the year 1232 by Hugh de Lacy, Earl of Ulster, who was afterwards interred there, as were also, Gerald



Fitzmaurice and Richard Burgh, in 1408. Hugh Adam M'Gilmore, who had destroyed forty churches, and amongst them this church of Carrickfergus, was at length killed in the oratory of the same church, by the family of the Savages, who entered the place through the windows of the church, which he had enlarged by opening and destroying them, that he might take from thence the iron bars!

This monastery and its possessions were granted, at the suppression of religious houses, to Sir Edmund Fitzgerald; he assigned them to Sir Arthur Chichester, who erected a noble house in that place.

Connor is now a wretched village; although it gives name to the bishopric. Little is known of this religious foundation.

Glenarm.—A monastery was built here for Franciscan friars of the third order (that is, they were neither conventuals nor observantines) in the year 1465, by Robert Bisset, a Scotchman. This monastery, and the lands belonging to it, were granted to Alexander M'Donald, ancestor to the Earls of Antrim. There are still some remains of this building on the bay of Glenarm.

Goodburn, or Woodburn, near Carrickfergus. A priory, dedicated to the Holy Cross, was founded here for Premonstratensian friars, (why did not the modest founder add a few more syllables to its name?) who were called so from their order being reformed at Premonstré, in the diocese of Laon, in Picardy; they were also called

white friars. It is supposed to have been founded by some of the Bissets, in atonement for the murder of the Earl of Athol, which obliged them to fly from their country. The last abbot resigned this monastery, with its appendages, into the hands of Henry VIII. the 1st of March, 1542, and retired to island Magee. At that time, the abbot was not only in possession of lands around the priory, but of the rectory of Entroia, (Antrim) and the tithes of 16 townlands, belonging to the rectory of Killaboy in the Reuts; also of the rectories of Crolille and Carmony, and of two townlands in island Magee, viz. Ballypor Magna, and Ballypor Parva! It is pretty clear that there was tolerable good picking here. This worthy abbot did not preach with an empty stomach.

Kells, or Disert, four miles north of Antrim and close to Connor.—A priory of regular canons was erected here, under the invocation of the Virgin Mary, by O'Brien Carrog, before the arrival of the English. Murtagh M'Annallowe, the last abbot, surrendered it on the 1st of February, 1542, being then in possession of the temporalities as well as spiritualities of eight townlands, circumjacent to the priory; of five rectories, and the tithes of Templemotragh, near Glenarm, and of Kildoran in island Magee, (eight townlands, five rectories, and other picknicks.) This young man also was pretty well provided for. Indeed before the time of Henry VIII. not only these gentlemen, but the doctors of the church generally, had rare sports—they might well burst out into a

horse-laugh (as Voltaire said) at the posture in which the Christian religion and the reason of mankind then stood!—for even the quarrels of princes and the murder of subjects became tributary to their wealth and power, until the reformation interposed, and Henry laid his unholy hand upon the pious plunder of the church. However, if this prince could return, and make some reparation to the Catholic clergy of Ireland for the ruin of their estates, out of the church livings which remain, it might prove an effectual plaster for old sores, and perhaps procure for Henry himself that political absolution, of which his memory, in the view of Catholic Ireland, stands so much in need.

Lambeg, near Lisburn.—M'Donnel built a small monastery here, in the 15th century, for Franciscan friars of the third order; but Mr. Dubour-dieu supposes this was a nunnery, as one part of the church-yard is even now distinguished by the name of the nun's garden. However, let the title be compromised, and both remain in quiet possession, as society is always best when it is mixed.

Masserene.—A small monastery was founded here, in the 15th century, for Franciscans of the third order, by O'Neil. On the 20th of November, 1621, it was granted to Sir A. Chichester, Baron of Belfast, by the name of the friary of Masserene.

Muckamore, in the vicinity of Antrim, which has been already noticed in its modern character of a villa.—In 550, a noble monastery was built

here by St. Colman Elo, under the invocation of the Virgin Mary. This saint was afterwards bishop of Dromore. Some ruins are still in existence in the village of this name.

In 1183, the prior of this abbey was a subscribing witness to the charter granted by Sir John de Courcy to the abbey of St. Patrick, at Down.

Bryan Doyomahallon was the last abbot, and surrendered it in the 32d year of Henry VIII.; being then seized of eight townlands, lying round the priory, and of the manor, &c. of Masserene, the town or parish of Ballymohellan, two townlands near the woods of Dunmore and Kilwoode-rag; and of the said woods, and of all the tithes in Lower Clondeboy, and two parts of the tithes within eight parishes or granges in upper Clondeboy, (part of the county of Down) two parts of the tithes of Magherscergan in the Reuts, and of Kilglarne in the Ardes, the rectory of Whitekirk; in island Magee, and the tithes of a quarter of land, called Carrownaghan in the county of Down. On the 3d of December, 1564, a return was made to queen Elizabeth, that the prior and all his monks were dead. This priory was granted to Langford; and Sir Roger Langford was seized of it in 1639. The grange of Muckamore is mentioned in the visitation book of the diocese of Connor. This is reckoned at present a very ancient burying-place, and some ruins are still to be seen. Many years ago, it is said, two silver candlesticks were found here, and two golden tables about two feet long by fourteen inches broad, and

various other articles, besides some money. The history of the above monasteries furnishes a useful hint, and that of ecclesiastical property, in France, one still more so, to all those orders of priesthood, who hold immense revenues for their own sole benefit, regardless of the embarrassments of the state, or the distresses of the people.

Of White Abbey, to the west of the road from Belfast to Carrickfergus, there are considerable remains, but no records. In Lord Macartney's papers, it is said to have been the daughter of some other religious house, not in that part of the country; as there was a monastery of Premonstrant or white friars at Drieburg, in Scotland, and as this was of the same order, probably it was from it that it took its rise, as was the case with that of Woodburn, near Carrickfergus. However, it appears more likely that White Abbey was that named "Druin La Croix," than the other, because there are accounts of the latter to 1326, whilst of the former there are none; for a paper granting a lease of certain lands is dated from Woodburn, in the year above-mentioned.

Dundesart.—In this townland, which lies in the parish of Killead, near Crumlin river, are the ruins of an ancient church or monastery, 60 feet long, and 25 feet wide, situated on a large fort, with a double intrenchment, faced in front with stones, and paved over the top, with two complete entrances, one north-west, the other south-east; in cleaning out the trench, was found an iron bow, and an arrow-head of steel, also a golden broach,

six inches long, with a swivel on the top; several pieces of silver were also found, with a cross on one side, and an impression not intelligible on the other; as were several pieces of marble stones, one in particular shaped like a man's head and neck, and three stone basons, (probably fonts) which contained about three pints each, and several pieces of metal of different descriptions. In the interior of this intrenchment was an ancient burying-place, wherein were several human skeletons, enclosed in oak coffins; others were found in the church and in the windows, without any coffins; this, with a cannon-ball found near the house, induced some people to suppose, that the latter had been levelled, when people were assembled within the walls.

In the townlands of Ballykennedy and Caronavy, in the same parish, are the ruins of two churches. There is a tradition respecting the destruction of the churches, in the barony of Masserene, that, in the rebellion of 1641, the Irish having got possession, in one night, of many of them, and having fortified themselves, it was necessary for the army to burn these edifices before they could be driven out. This may account for the unburied skeletons being found, as before mentioned, in the ruins of Dundesart; but this certainly does not account for the position of the cannon-ball.

Ballycastle.—Near this is an ancient building called Bona Margy, which was founded in 1509, by Charles M'Donnell, for monks of the order of St. Francis, and may be reckoned among the latest

monastic edifices erected in Ireland. The chapel is about 100 feet in length, by 34 in breadth; all the other buildings are in too ruinous a state, to form any accurate idea of their dimensions; but the eastern gable is still in tolerable preservation, and adorned with well executed devices in bass-relief. This is the burying-place of the Antrim family, who have put a new roof upon a small oratory, built over the ashes of the family by a former Earl of Antrim. Over the window is the following inscription, now almost illegible:

*In Dei, Dei paræ que virginis honorem  
Nobilissimus, et illustrissimus,  
Randolphus M' Donnell Comes de Antrim  
Hoc sacellum feri curavit, An. Dom. 1621.*

The situation of this place is very grand, commanding a view of the ocean, with the bold outlines of the rocks that rise along the coast; and of the mountains that surround it.

#### *Raghery, or Rathlin.*

This island, which forms a part of the county of Antrim, (and whose history has been already given) had a monastery founded by St. Columba, who founded Derry in 546. Archdall records nothing remarkable of this, except the ravages of the Danish pirates, who, in 790, destroyed every thing sacred and profane. This was the first descent of these invaders on our coasts.

Linn.—A nunnery of this name is said, in the Monasticon, to have been founded in a spacious

plain near Carrickfergus, of which St. Darerca, sister to St. Patrick, was abbess. But the house, of which this lady was prioress, is rather thought to have been at Glynn, near Larne, which was anciently called Linn, and where some remains of a chapel still exist. The abbey, with its lands, was granted to Sir Arthur Chichester, by James I. by the title of the chapel of Glinn. There was also in the parish of Larne, an abbey of friars Aster-tians of St. Augustin; it was dissolved, as others were, in 1542, and, by James I., granted to Sir Arthur Chichester; but at present no vestiges remain.

#### *Round towers.*

Of these buildings, the original use of which has given rise to such innumerable conjectures, we have already several times spoken. There are four at present in this county, in different degrees of preservation; one at Antrim, one in Ram's island in Lough Neagh, one near the old church at Trummery, (between Lisburn and Moira) and the remains of one in the parish of Armoy. Whatever, therefore, might have been the purpose for which they have been erected, "they all seem as if they had been built by the same hand;" they are always round; their diameter, at bottom, is generally about 15 feet, or from 42 to 48 feet in circumference; within, the diameter is seldom more than eight feet; they are from 70 to above 100 feet in height; they have nearly the same thickness of wall; the door of each, also, is found



at a distance from the ground, except where the earth has been raised; and there has never been found any means of ascending to the top, but by a ladder from floor to floor. In some instances there are abutments of stone in the walls all round, to rest timbers on for floors or stages; and every story has a little narrow loop-hole for light, or else a window. Four windows are also always found in the upper story, facing the cardinal points, and seldom any elsewhere. In their external form they are nearly alike, gradually diminishing from the bottom to the top, and in most cases covered with a stone conical roof. Had these been erected for watch-towers, as some have supposed, they would not have stood, as they usually do, on plains or vallies, and in the neighbourhood of elevations much better calculated for such a purpose. Whether, therefore, if erected prior to the introduction of Christianity, they were intended as temples of the sun, where that luminary should be worshipped by perpetual offerings of fire; or whether, if a production of the Christian age, they were intended to be the residence of penitents or hermits; or whether for bell-towers to call the people to public worship, is a matter of mere conjecture; nor can we learn that any ancient document of unquestionable authority has descended to posterity to remove the cloud that rests upon their origin.

Churches of wicker-work are said to have stood near those towers in the early ages of the Christian church, and they are farther said to have been

called bell-towers by the Irish Christians. A modern writer, however, thinks that this was a monkish trick played off upon posterity, for the purpose of giving an appearance of greater antiquity to the Christian religion than it had a just claim to; as he could not suppose that the founders of those lofty stone towers, which according to the Christian hypothesis were built as an appendage to the church, would make those towers of such permanent materials, and the church itself of slight wicker-work, which he asserts to have been the description of edifice in which the first Irish Christians worshipped. Whether, therefore, Christianity is coeval with these towers, or whether it is not, it is admitted that these towers and our churches have been very old neighbours, and that the stone churches which succeeded to the first wicker edifices have kept up this intimacy to the last. Could the ruins of those churches, therefore, which now communicate to us their venerable and instructive lesson, (on the same spot where many of those towers stand) tell us how and by what means themselves and their wicker predecessors were brought into such a close acquaintance with their loftier neighbours, or how their loftier neighbours were brought into such a close acquaintance with them (for which of them is the older is still a question) they would no doubt shed a clearer beam upon the history of these latter objects than has been yet shed upon it by all the writings of our modern antiquarians. That they were, however, well calculated for bell-

towers when the vallies of this country were covered with wood, and when the inhabitants (from that circumstance) may be supposed to have chiefly resided on the elevated lands around them, is self-evident; but whether built for that purpose, or whether for those of Pagan worship in a prior age, it is impossible to determine. Did these towers possess the faculty of speech, and were they disposed to communicate to us their knowledge of antiquity, we are sure that their history would be found deeply interesting; and we are equally certain that, without this faculty, they point out to us, in very impressive language, the poor short-lived character of man, with the vanity of his ambition, whose castle, in the air, so long survives him! That their existence on the surface of this country for so many ages, is an interesting monument of the progress of civilisation, is obvious; while, to any landscape with which they are connected, they impart an influence, which no other object now existing on the surface of this country could possibly supply. But the best lesson of all which they have left behind them, is that which they convey to legislators,—“Build, and leave behind you a political edifice that shall stand firm on its base when other edifices have fallen,—that shall prove a perpetual monument of your wisdom, and compel future ages to bless your memory, when in solemn silence they shall stand to contemplate its majesty and beauty.”

*Castles.—Olderfleet, &c.*

Olderfleet castle, the ruins of which are to be seen at the extremity of the peninsula which forms one side of the harbour of Larne, was probably built by the Scotch family of the Bissets, who were once in possession of that place and the country around it. This property is said to have been given by the favour of Henry III. to John Bisset, who died in the reign of Edward I. and had large possessions there; but his successors appear not to have been quite so fortunate, as in the reign of Edward II. Hugh Bisset forfeited many of those lands by his rebellion. They were afterwards claimed by James M'Donnell, Lord of Cantyre, in right of the Bissets. But Angus M'Donnel, son of James, after repeated defeats, was obliged to submit to queen Elizabeth, and to receive and hold this territory on these conditions, that he would carry arms under none but the kings of England and Ireland, and pay a certain number of cattle and *hawks* annually.\* This was formerly considered as an important fortress against the attacks of the Scots; and, in 1569, Sir Magus Hill was governor of it. After several changes, this castle was granted to Sir Arthur Chichester, in 1610, by James I. It was here that Bruce landed, in 1315, before he began his ravages, which were attended with such dreadful consequences to the English settlers.

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\* Camden's Britannia.—He always calls the M'Donnells, M'Connells, as he does the M'Quillans, M'Willies, or M'Guillies.

On the isle of March, which lies on the coast of island Magee, are the ruins of a small square castle; and near the entrance of the same peninsula, are the remains of castle Chichester, situated most beautifully upon that bold shore.

Considerably to the north of this lies Red bay castle, now in ruins. The caves at this place deserve particular attention; the paste and stones, rounded by water, which form the roof and walls of them, are so different from the other stones and rocks in the vicinity.

At the north side of Newtown glens are some remains of another castle, called Court Martin; it is said to have been built by a Martin M'Owen, and stands upon a mount, which is thought to be an indication of Danish origin. Whatever it was, it is now reduced to a very small remnant, parts of it having been carried away to assist in more modern structures.

Near the northern coast, several old castles, many of them being very difficult of access, must have been places of considerable strength before the use of artillery. Of these, Dunluce is the most remarkable, both for its size and situation. It stands on a rock over the sea, and at first sight it only presents an unseemly pile of ruins, like those of a village destroyed; but, on a nearer approach, its situation becomes truly striking, and indeed majestic, particularly when viewed from the sea shore, at its base. Its position is one of the boldest that can be conceived, and gives a degree of grandeur to the ruins, which in a

less commanding situation might, perhaps, pass unnoticed. A mansion and offices are seen situated on the main land; their remains are very extensive, and are divided from the fortress by a deep cut in the rock, on which the castle is placed. Over the chasm lies the only approach to the castle, along what is now a narrow wall, but what was probably one side of a bridge, which joined it to the land; as, on examination, another wall appears to have run parallel to it. The walls are built of columnar basalt. Doctor Hamilton says, the original lord of this castle was an Irish chieftain, called M'Quillan, of whom little is known, except that, like most of his countrymen, he was hospitable; brave, and improvident; unwarily allowing the Scots to grow in strength, until they contrived to beat him out of all his possessions.\* Sorley Boy, (Yellow Charley) brother of James M'Donnell, who, with others of his family, appears to have been a violator of the English laws, possessed himself of the Glyns, and, by some means, made himself master of this castle, of which he was soon afterwards dispossessed by the Lord Deputy, Sir John Perrot. As this fortress was situated on a rock, and equally commanded the sea and land, it must have been an acquisition of no small importance to the government in those turbulent times.

On the same coast lie Duncervic and some other

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\* The history of the misfortunes of this family has been already given. One of its lineal descendants, resident between Belfast and Carrickfergus, has been noticed in this work.

old castles, built in situations very difficult of access, but of whose histories nothing is known; all these are in the tracts of country granted to the Antrim family, (descended, as we have already noticed, from the M'Donnels) but now in the possession of other proprietors; they were probably erected about the same time, and with the same intentions as the castle of Dunluce.

In the internal parts are also many other remains of military antiquities; near one of these castles, on the borders of Loughguill, Lord Macartney built his retreat, which, after it, he named Lis-sanoure.

Shane's castle, the venerable seat of the O'Neil's, (and the pride of this country) and castle Upton, already noticed in these memoirs, were the only mansions, of the ancient magnificence, that were habitable in this county, some years since. Shane's castle, formerly also known by the name of Edindufearick, was capable of defence in 1598. This place has at different times undergone many alterations; but the vast improvements that were made by the present Lord O'Neil, joined with its bold situation on the shore of Lough Neagh, and backed by a demesne and park of 1600 acres, enriched with the noblest trees, and enlivened by the river Main, which flows through it, constituted it one of the most magnificent seats in this part of Europe, until the destruction of the castle by fire deprived this demesne of one of its most magnificent internal features. The ruin of such a noble monument of antiquity, very justly filled the country with

regret. The other features of this seat, however, have not been consumed by fire; and those original touches of the artist's finger which they exhibit, are truly beautiful. Sir Robert Norton, who in queen Elizabeth's reign built castle Upton, was also the founder of castle Robin; (so called after him) it stands near the summit of the white mountain, two miles north of Lisburn. The walls of this ruin are 84 feet long, 36 wide, and 40 feet high; near it is a fine mount. At Portmore, near the Little Lough in Ballinderry, are also some ruins. The castles, towers, garden walls, and stables, were built by Earl Conway in 1664; and the ancient garden wall, with the remains of a bastion and part of the stables, (the brick, of which the latter were composed, as good as at the first) were standing not many years since. The stables were one hundred and forty feet in length, thirty-five feet in breadth, and forty feet high. There were marble cisterns to pump the water into, and accommodations for two troops of horse. Here was the residence of the celebrated Jeremiah Taylor, during the usurpation.

*Curious antiquities.*

A peasant walking near Ballycastle, beside a rivulet, some years since, observed a glittering hook of yellow metal projecting from a part of the bank, where the earth had been recently washed away by the current; on stooping to pull it out, he found it to be the extremity of a rod, 38 inches long, free from rust, and of a bright straw colour;



each end was terminated by a narrow hook, inflected in contrary directions; these hooks are massive, about two inches in circumference, and about two inches below the neck of each, the rod was divided into three distinct virgæ, which were closely twisted together in the manner of a toasting-fork; the hooks are not included in the length of the rod, which, if extended in a straight line, would measure 42 inches.

Unacquainted with its value, the peasant suffered it to be used as a bauble by his children, until his attention was raised by a person offering more for it than it was apparently worth; he then with some difficulty wrenched off one of the hooks, and sent it to a gentleman in Ballycastle, who, on trying it with aquafortis, found it to be entirely of pure gold, and to weigh (in air)  $20\frac{1}{2}$  ounces avoirdupois.

The workmanship, though neat, is simple; it is void of all those embellishments so commonly used in gold and silver ornaments of the middle centuries; it bears no religious symbol, and its original purpose remains for the skilful antiquarian to decide.

Near Soldierstown, a finely-wrought piece of gold, shaped like a gorget, was found several years ago; it was very thin, simply ornamented, quite flexible, and of the purest metal. Stone hatchets of various sizes have been met with in several places; the greatest number that have been found together were near Ballintoy, which might give rise to the idea, that a battle had taken place on

or near the spot; and arrow-heads frequently occur, made of flint. In some of them the work is as rude as possible; in others, they are formed with a degree of neatness and accuracy that bespeak a superior skill, the barbs being as nicely cut as if they were formed of metal. Brazen spear-heads are sometimes turned out of the ground; and a brazen trumpet, supposed of Danish origin, was dug out of a mount at Carrickfergus. Mr. Trail, a Protestant clergyman, has a curious vessel, with a handle and spout like a coffee-pot, with three legs, and formed of a kind of brassy metal; it is eight inches high, and at the broadest part or belly, four and a half; it was found in the townland of Ballintoy, in a hole of a rock. Several other antiquities, supposed of gold, were found at the same time, but not recovered.

Two urns were also found in the same parish in a lime quarry, about two feet under ground; the first of these is twelve inches high, by eleven and a half in the broadest part of the swell; the other only three inches by four; the workmanship of both very rude; the attempts at ornament, only a few parallel scratches, and made of dried clay, from appearance, not having been baked. Four others were found near them; all were laid on their mouths, and all contained the remains of bones evidently burned: each was included in a rude case of stones.

Here we shall close the antiquities of the county of Antrim, of which we flatter ourselves we have given a sufficiently ample specimen to satisfy the

appetite of any reasonable reader. For the natural history of Ireland, so far as it has been developed in this work, we have already acknowledged ourselves materially indebted to the writers who have preceded us, and particularly to Mr. Dubourdieu, whose long residence in Ulster furnished him with opportunities of information, which a mere traveller through that province could not possibly command. But notwithstanding those advantages which the writers on Ulster derived from a long and intimate acquaintance with their province, yet such was the deep and complicated nature of their subject, that they appear to have seen the utility of rendering the stores of others, tributary to that fulness of information which was necessary to the perfection of their object; or if an exception may be taken to this rule, it is in the case of Dr. Richardson, who may be regarded as a mine of information in himself. But this mode of proceeding is creditable both to the judgment and to the honour of these writers, for it evidences their solicitude for the information and improvement of their country; and viewing it in this light, we have endeavoured to forward the excellent objects which they had in view, by travelling in their footsteps, and hope we have not been totally unsuccessful. For the political, the moral, and the descriptive, we have, however, been indebted chiefly to our own resources; and if the entire mass of information which this work contains shall promote the improvement of Ireland, (the great object which our predecessors had in

view) we hope these gentlemen will pardon the liberty we have taken; and that our country, while rendering to these superior luminaries their larger meed of praise, will have the candour to acknowledge that, according to the views which we had of her solid and lasting interests, our slender talents have been honestly enlisted to promote them.

**ALPHABETICAL DIRECTORY**  
 TO  
**THE SEATS**  
 OF  
**THE COUNTY OF ANTRIM,**  
 WITH THEIR  
**RESPECTIVE POST TOWNS.**

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Name of the place.	Post Town.	Resident.
Antrim-castle - -	Antrim - - -	Earl of Masserene.
Abbeyland - - -	Belfast - - -	Hugh M'Calmont, Esq.
Achilley - - -	Randalstown -	Mrs. Hannah.
Ahogill - - -	Ballymena - -	Rectory Diocese Connor.
Ardclinnis - - -	Newtown-glens	Rectory Diocese Connor.
Ardmore - - -	Crumlin - - -	Thomas Hunter, Esq.
Ardmoulin - - -	Belfast - - -	John Alexander, Esq.
Armoy - - -	Ballycastle - -	(V) Vic. Dioc. Connor.
Aughagallen - -	Lurgan - - -	Vicar Diocese Connor.
Aughabrack - -	Belfast - - -	Edward J. Smyth, Esq.
Andraid - - -	Randalstown -	Mr. James Green.
Artresna - - -	Randalstown -	Mr. M'Auley.
Artresnagan - -	Randalstown -	Mr. D. M'Clure.
Ashmount - - -	Lisburn - - -	Mr. John Hall.
Aughaboy - - -	Randalstown -	Mr. D. Miller.
Aughadalgan - -	Glenavy - - -	Mr. John Dogherty.
Aughadavy - - -	Moira - - -	Mr. John Hammond.
Aughalee - - -	Moira - - -	(V) Vic. Dioc. Droamore.
Aughaloughan -	Randalstown -	Mr. M'Kelvey.
Balleny - - -	Ballycastle - -	Thomas Dixon, Esq.
Ballinamore - -	Ballymoney - -	Josiah Bryan, Esq.
Ballinderry - -	Moira - - -	(M. T.) Vic. Dioc. Connor.

Name of the place.	Post Town.	Resident.
Ballintoy	Ballycastle	(V) Rec. Dioc. Connor.
Ballyarnet	Derry	David Brown, Esq.
Ballyboley	Larne	Rev. James C. Ledlie.
Ballyclug	Randalstown	Vicar Diocese Connor.
Ballycor	Ballyclare	Rec. Diocese Connor.
Ballydevitty	Bushmills	James Moore, Esq.
Ballygaley-castle	Larne	Rev. Thomas Alexander.
Ballyhill	Carrickfergus	Noah Dalway, Esq.
Ballylinny	Ballyclare	Vicar Diocese Connor.
Ballylough	Bushmills	Rev. Arch. Trail.
Ballymagarry	Colerain	Adam Hunter, Esq.
Ballynure	Ballyclare	(V) Rec. Dioc. Down.
Ballyrashane	Colerain	Vicar Diocese Connor.
Ballytweedy	Antrim	Hans S. Elsemere, Esq.
Ballyvannon	Glenavy	John Neilson, Esq.
Ballywillan	Larne	Mr. George Quinn.
Bath-lodge	Ballycastle	S. H. Read, Esq.
Bay-lodge	Newtown-glens	Rev. Richard Dobbs.
Beardville	Colerain	E. A. M'Naughton, Esq.
Beechmount	Belfast	Robert Wallace, Esq.
Belleney	Ballycastle	Thomas Dixon, Esq.
Benneagh	Crumlin	Robert Macauley, Esq.
Bentfield	Bushmills	Henry Wray, Esq.
Benvardan	Colerain	Hugh Montgomery, Esq.
Bess-bank	Belfast	Trevor Hill, Esq.
Billy	Bushmills	Vicar Diocese Connor.
Birch-hill	Antrim	Miss Bristow.
Bog-head	Antrim	Rev. D. Macartney.
Bog-hill	Toome	John Harris, Esq.
Brackney-hill	Ballyclare	James Fergusson, Esq.
Brook-field	Ballyclare	W. Robert Adair, Esq.
Brook-hill	Lisburn	James Watson, Esq.
Broom-mount	Moira	Stafford Gorman, Esq.
Brown's-bay	Larne	Malcolm M'Neil, Esq.
Burleigh-hill	Carrickfergus	George Burleigh, Esq.
Burnside	Antrim	Upton Marshall, Esq.
Bushbank	Ballymoney	John Gage Leckey, Esq.

## SEATS OF ANTRIM.

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Name of the place.	Post Town.	Resident.
Bushmills-house	Bushmills	Hugh Anderson, Esq.
Bye-field	Antrim	Miss M' Cleverty.
Ballinacoy	Glenavy	Mr. John Murray.
Ballycassy	Glenavy	Mr. John Forsaythe.
Ballydonaghy	Glenavy	Mr. John Oakman.
Ballydunmaul	Randalstown	Mr. H. Fisher.
Ballyministra	Randalstown	Mr. John Hamilton.
Ballymontina	Randalstown	Mr. Samuel M' Master.
Ballymuckelroy	Randalstown	Mr. Samuel Agnew.
Bank	Larne	Mr. George Quinn.
Barnish	Antrim	Mr. James Davidson.
Black-rock	Bushmills	Mr. Daniel Martin.
Bracken-hill	Glenavy	Mr. Haddock.
Bricart	Toome	Mr. George Finneston.
Brook-field	Belfast	Mr. Samuel Alexander.
Castle Upton	Belfast	Francis Whittle, Esq.
Camlin	Antrim	Vicar Diocese Connor.
Carmoney	Belfast	(V) Vicar Dio. Connor.
Carn-castle	Larne	Rec. Dioc. Connor.
Carnlough	Glenarm	(V) Philip Gibbons, Esq.
Carnmore	Ballymenagh	Rev. William Mayne.
Carnspindle	Larne	Rev. John Murphy.
Carryrea	Ballymoney	Stephen Holland, Esq.
Castle Dobbs	Carrickfergus	Richard Dobbs, Esq.
Chequer-hall	Ballymenagh	Mrs. Adams.
Cherry-valley	Crumlin	John Armstrong, Esq.
Clady	Antrim	James Steen, Esq.
Clagan	Ballymenagh	Mrs. O'Hara.
Clare	Ballycastle	John M'Gildowny, Esq.
Clogher	Bushmills	George A. Wray, Esq.
Clover-hill	Antrim	W. J. Dillon, Esq.
Clover-hill	Ballymoney	Thomas Gordon, Esq.
Cogrey	Ballyclare	John Alexander, Esq.
Cogrey	Ballyclare	James Wilson, Esq.
Collin	Ballyclare	John Gilleland, Esq.
Corran	Larne	Malcolm M'Neill, Esq.
Corran	Larne	B. Butler, Esq.

Name of the place.	Post Town.	Resident.
Craig	Bushmills	John Johnston, Esq.
Craigs	Ballyclare	James Gillis, Esq.
Cranfield	Randalstown	Rec. Dioc. Connor.
Crawford's-lands	Ballyclare	Messrs. J. & T. Fergusson.
Creabilly	Ballymenagh	Mrs. O'Hara.
Cromack	Belfast	W. Napier, Esq.
Cross	Ballycastle	Alexander Whitford, Esq.
Culfaghtrin	Ballycastle	(V) Vic. Dioc. Connor.
Culnasheskin	Bushmills	Robert C. Sturrock, Esq.
Curren	Larne	Malcolm McNeill, Esq.
Cyder-court	Crumlin	John Fergusson, Esq.
Carngraney	Randalstown	Mr. Thomas Davidson.
Clare	Randalstown	Mr. Robert Forster.
Cloghogue	Randalstown	Mr. Robert Alexander.
Clonboy	Randalstown	Mr. John Agnew.
Clonkeen	Randalstown	Mr. Robert Weir.
Cock-hill	Glenavy	Mr. Henry Hopes.
Collin	Belfast	Mr. Henry Warring.
Colon	Lisburn	Mr. S. Waring.
Cotton-bank	Toome	Mr. James McMullen.
Cotton-mount	Belfast	Mr. William Ewing.
Cowmack	Belfast	Mr. William Napier.
Craig's-house	Ballymenagh	Mr. King.
Creagh	Randalstown	Mr. James Telford.
Creavory	Randalstown	Mr. John Orr.
Cragan	Randalstown	Mr. Patrick O'Hara.
Crew	Glenavy	Mr. Robert Kennedy.
Crew-mount	Glenavy	Mr. Francis Murray.
Derryaghy	Lisburn	Vic. Dioc. Connor.
Derrykeighon	Dervock	(V) Rec. Dioc. Connor.
Doagh	Ballyclare	James B. Shaw, Esq.
Donegor	Antrim	Vic. Dioc. Connor.
Dowey	Bushmills	J. and H. Wray, Esqrs.
Draper-hill	Market-hill	Unknown.
Dromadon	Ballycastle	(V) John Hunter, Esq.
Dromahoe	Larne	John Sinclair, Esq.
Dromaule	Randalstown	Vic. Dioc. Connor.



## SEATS OF ANTRIM.

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Name of the place.	Post Town.	Resident.
Dromnagisson	Bushmills	John Dunlop, Esq.
Dromnanoe	Larne	John Sinclair, Esq.
Dromaketter	Ballycastle	Rev. Patrick Brennan.
Dromona	Ballymenagh	D. Birney, Esq.
Dromorne	Glenarm	Peter Mathewson, Esq.
Dunadry	Antrim	(V) James Blow, Esq.
Dunaghy	Ballymoney	Rec. Dioc. Connor.
Dunbought	Ballymenagh	James Edmiston, Esq.
Duncar	Toome	Rev. John M'Mullen.
Dunegan	Toome	Vic. Dioc. Connor.
Dunfin	Ballycastle	James Peacock, Esq.
Dunluce	Bushmills	(S.S.) Rec. Dioc. Connor.
Dunmaining	Ballymenagh	Mrs. Birnie.
Dunmurray	Lisburn	(V) — Hunter, Esq.
Dunsilly	Antrim	Richard Drew, Esq.
Derrylough	Randalstown	Mr. James Courtney.
Douglass-land	Ballyclare	Mr. D. Douglass.
Dromkerna	Randalstown	Mr. Charles Thompson.
Dromragh	Portglenone	Mr. John Hill.
Drundroad	Glenavy	Mr. Robert Young.
Ederowen	Crumlin	Robert Hyndman, Esq.
Eglantine-hill	Belfast	Hugh Hyndman, Esq.
Eden-vale	Randalstown	Mr. Robert Thompson.
English-town	Lisburn	Mr. M'Clune.
Fisherwick-lodge	Ballyclare	Marquis of Donegall.
Fennaghy	Ballymenagh	Sam. Cunningham, Esq.
Ferguson's-land	Ballyclare	William Ferguson, Esq.
Finvoy	Kilrea	Rec. Dioc. Connor.
Fort-blaney	Ballymenagh	William Casement, Esq.
Fort-field	Belfast	William Johnston, Esq.
Fort William	Belfast	George Langtry, Esq.
Farlough	Randalstown	Mr. James Blaney.
Feeogue	Randalstown	Mr. Edward Prentice.
Feighmore	Glenavy	Mr. Robert Gregory.
Fountain Ville	Belfast	Mr. William Dickson.
Friar's-glen	Moira	Mr. John Friars.
Gilgorm-castle	Ballymenagh	Earl of Mount Cashel.

Name of the place.	Post Town.	Resident.
Glenarm-castle	Glenarm	Sir H. V. Tempest, Bart.
Garden-hill	Belfast	Isaac Thompson, Esq.
Giant's-causeway	Bushmills	Signal-Station.
Glen	Larne	(V) Vic. Dioc. Connor.
Glen-bank	Ballycastle	John Cuppige, Esq.
Glen-brook	Kilrea	Rev. Henry Elder.
Glen-Corway	Crumlin	Stafford Whittle, Esq.
Glen-darragh	Crumlin	Longford Hyland, Esq.
Glen-dona	Crumlin	William Whitlaw, Esq.
Glen-oak	Crumlin	James M'Auley, Esq.
Glen-park	Carrickfergus	Stephen Trocke, Esq.
Glen-ville	Belfast	J. M. Stoutpe, Esq.
Glen-ville	Newtown-glens	Alexander M'Auley, Esq.
Gore-mount	Glenavy	William Gore, Esq.
Gort-fad	Portglenone	Rev. Alexander Speers.
Grace-hill	Ballymoney	James Stewart, Esq.
Grange	Portglenone	Charles O'Neill, Esq.
Grange	Toome	John Harris, Esq.
Grange	Ballymenagh	Thomas Courtney, Esq.
Green-mount	Belfast	John Bell, Esq.
Green-mount	Antrim	Robert Thompson, Esq.
Green-ville	Ballymoney	James Moore, Esq.
Grove	Belfast	William Symmes, Esq.
Glen-bank	Belfast	Mr. Robert Grogan.
Glen-ville	Glenavy	Mr. William Whitlaw.
Gobrana	Glenavy	Mr. Thomas Daniel.
Gorternanny	Glenavy	Mr. Pollock.
Gort-haran	Randalstown	Mr. Charles O'Hara.
Green-mount	Glenavy	Mr. James Ingram.
Greenan	Randalstown	Mr. Charles M'Cann.
Grier's-town	Lisburn	Mr. Arthur Grier.
Groggan	Randalstown	Mr. John Leviston.
Hazel-bank	Randalstown	Rev. Thomas Henry.
Hazel-bank	Belfast	David M'Tier, Esq. }
Hazel-brook	Kilrea	Rev. William Dickson.
Henry-field	Ballyclare	James Ferguson, Esq.
Hilden	Lisburn	Rev. James Norwood.

## SEATS OF ANTRIM.

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Name of the place.	Post Town.	Resident.
Hill-head - - -	Ballymenagh	Thomas Dickey, Esq.
Holestone - - -	Ballyclare	William Owens, Esq.
Hollybrook - - -	Randalstown	J. and H. Dickey, Esqrs.
Hull's-grove - - -	Moira	John Hull, Esq.
Hall's-town - - -	Lisburn	Mr. Joseph Hall.
Hill-head - - -	Glenavy	Mr. E. Quigley.
Jenny-mount - - -	Belfast	John Thompson, Esq.
Inchiloughlin - - -	Moira	Mrs. English.
Inver-lodge - - -	Larne	Georgé Whitlow, Esq.
Invermore-green - - -	Larne	John Berkley, Esq.
Island-ban - - -	Antrim	John Miniss, Esq.
Island Magee - - -	Larne	Rec. Dioc. Connor.
Island Reigh - - -	Antrim	James Stuan, Esq.
Ivy-brook - - -	Toome	Rev. Robert Scott.
Kilbride - - -	Ballyclare	James Ramsey, Esq.
Kilbride - - -	Ballyclare	Vic. Dioc. Connor.
Kildrum - - -	Ballymenagh	Jesse Miller, Esq.
Killagan - - -	Ballymoney	Rec. Dioc. Connor.
Killead - - -	Antrim	Vic. Dioc. Connor.
Killyons - - -	Kilrea	Sampson Moore, Esq.
Killyree - - -	Ballymenagh	Mrs. Cupples.
Killyslaven-lodge - - -	Toome	James Greer, Esq.
Kilraghtis - - -	Ballymoney	Vic. Dioc. Connor.
Kilroot - - -	Carrickfergus	Vic. Dioc. Connor.
Kilroot-house - - -	Carrickfergus	Edward Brice, Esq.
Kilrush - - -	Lisburn	Doctor Crawford.
Killinaghter-house - - -	Larne	Edw Jones Agnew, Esq.
Knockboy - - -	Ballymenagh	A. Davidson, Esq.
Knockcairn - - -	Glenavy	William Gregg, Esq.
Knockmore - - -	Lisburn	Mrs. Patten.
Knockmore - - -	Dervock	Mr. Hugh Mackey.
Langford-lodge - - -	Crumlin	Lady Langford.
Lake-view - - -	Toome	Joseph Duffin, Esq.
Lambeg - - -	Lisburn	(V) Cur. Dioc. Connor.
Larch-grove - - -	Ballyclare	Thomas Ferguson, Esq.
Lemanagh - - -	Ballycastle	John Stewart, Esq.
Leslie-hill - - -	Ballymoney	James Leslie, Esq.

Name of the place.	Post Town.	Resident.
Lilleput - - -	Belfast - - -	H. E. M'Neill, Esq.
Limnalary - - -	Glenarm - - -	Peter Mathewson, Esq.
Liscarrick - - -	Bushmills - - -	Rev. Thomas Babington.
Lisconan - - -	Dervock - - -	Samuel Allen, Esq.
Lissanoure-castle	Dervock - - -	Mrs. Hume.
Lodge - - -	Belfast - - -	William Magee, Esq.
Loughanmore - -	Antrim - - -	T. B. Adair, Esq.
Loughgule - - -	Dervock - - -	Vic. Dioc. Down.
Low-lodge - - -	Belfast - - -	Robert Rowen, Esq.
Low-park - - -	Ballymenagh -	J. Dickey, Esq.
Lurgan-west - - -	Randalstown -	Mrs. Black.
Lake-view - - -	Glenavy - - -	Mr. W. Vrankin.
Leitrim - - -	Randalstown -	Mr. John Kerr.
Liganeil - - -	Belfast - - -	Mr. Thomas Ferguson.
Lisnavannagh - -	Randalstown -	Mr. John Kennedy.
Macedon - - -	Belfast - - -	John Ewing, Esq.
Maghera-gall' - -	Moira - - -	Vic. Dioc. Connor.
Maghera-morne - -	Larne - - -	James A. Farrell, Esq.
Malone - - -	Belfast - - -	(V) William Legg, Esq.
Mary-ville - - -	Belfast - - -	Mrs. Wilson.
Maze - - -	Hillsboro' - -	(V) Captain Craig.
Meadow-brook - -	Larne - - -	Patrick Agnew, Esq.
Merville - - -	Belfast - - -	James Blair, Esq.
Mill-brook - - -	Colerain - - -	Charles Galt, Esq.
Mill-mount - - -	Randalstown -	Charles Dickey, Esq.
Mill-town - - -	Belfast - - -	Robert Hamilton, Esq.
Money-glass - - -	Toome - - -	Thomas M. Jones, Esq.
Moor-lodge - - -	Kilrea - - -	William Moore, Esq.
Moore's-grove - -	Kilworth - - -	Rev. B. O. Doran.
Moss-hill - - -	Toome - - -	John Harriss, Esq.
Moss-vale - - -	Lisburn - - -	— Agnews, Esq.
Mount-Collier - -	Belfast - - -	Rev. Dr. Drummond.
Mount-Davis - - -	Ballymenagh -	Lieut. Col. M'Manus.
Mount-Druid - - -	Ballycastle - -	Rev. Robert Trail.
Mount-Edward - -	Newtown-glens -	Samuel Boyd, Esq.
Mount-pleasant - -	Carrickfergus -	Doctor Fletcher.
Mount-Vernon - -	Belfast - - -	William Adair, Esq.

## SEATS OF ANTRIM.

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Name of the place.	Post Town.	Resident.
Moylaney. - - -	Antrim - - -	Mrs. Reford.
Moylusk - - -	Carrickfergus -	Rec. Dioc. Connor.
Muckamore - - -	Antrim - - -	Samuel Thompson, Esq.
Mullagh-carton -	Lisburn - - -	Rev. William Whitlaw.
Maghera-beg - -	Randalstown -	Mr. Robert Walker.
Malin-dober - -	Bushmills - -	Mr. James Cargill.
Mill-brook - - -	Larne - - -	Mr. James Hunter.
Money-nick - - -	Randalstown -	Mr. Charles Kidd.
Money-rod - - -	Randalstown -	Mr. John Thompson.
Moore-grove - -	Randalstown -	Mr. James Moore.
Moss-grove - - -	Randalstown -	Mr. Hugh M'Dermott.
Mount-horan - -	Portglenone -	Mr. Charles O'Hara.
Mount-prospect -	Moira - - -	Mr. John Hall.
Mount-shalgus -	Randalstown -	Mr. Henry Blair.
Mount-stafford -	Portglenone -	Mr. William M'Caw.
Muckelramer - -	Randalstown -	Mr. Abraham Agnew.
Murusk - - -	Lisburn - - -	Mr. James Wright.
Nappin - - -	Glenarm - - -	John Higginson, Esq.
New-bridge - - -	Belfast - - -	Nathaniel Magee, Esq.
New-lodge - - -	Antrim - - -	John Baily, Esq.
North-lodge - -	Carrickfergus -	Wilson Boyd, Esq.
Novelly - - -	Ballycastle - -	James Brady, Esq.
Now-head - - -	Ballymenagh -	Mr. Logan.
Ormeau - - -	Belfast - - -	Marquis of Donegall.
Oak-field - - -	Carrickfergus -	William R. Dobbs, Esq.
Oak-land - - -	Ballymenagh -	A. Duffin, Esq.
O'Hara-brook - -	Ballymoney -	Henry O'Hara, Esq.
Old-church - - -	Glenarm - - -	Rev. John Hodges.
Old-fleet-castle -	Larne - - -	Bernard Butler, Esq.
Old-park - - -	Belfast - - -	— Lyons, Esq.
Old-stone - - -	Antrim - - -	Mrs. Elliot.
Orange-field - -	Belfast - - -	Hugh Crawford, Esq.
Orange-grove - -	Belfast - - -	John Templeton, Esq.
Portglenone-house	Portglenone -	Bishop of Down.
Park-gate - - -	Antrim - - -	(M. T.) Benj. Adair, Esq.
Park-mount - - -	Belfast - - -	Nathaniel Cairnes, Esq.
Pear-tree-hill - -	Lisburn - - -	Thomas Lamb, Esq.

Name of the place.	Post Town.	Resident.
Plantation - - -	Crumlin - - -	Hans. Campbell, Esq.
Point - - -	Larne - - -	George Casement, Esq.
Port-rush - - -	Colerain - - -	(V) Rev. Dr. Richardson.
Prospect - - -	Carrickfergus -	Henry C. Ellis, Esq.
Plantation - - -	Lisburn - - -	Mr. Barber.
Port-balantrea -	Bushmills - - -	Mr. John Spencer.
Prucklass - - -	Randalstown -	Mr. Thomas Gourley.
Raymond-cottage	Toome - - -	Earl O'Neill.
Racavan - - -	Ballymenagh -	Rec. Dioc. Connor.
Raloo - - -	Larne - - -	Rec. Dioc. Connor.
Ramoan - - -	Ballycastle - -	Vic. Dioc. Connor.
Rasharkan - - -	Portglenone -	(V) Rec. Dioc. Connor.
Rashee - - -	Ballyclare - -	Rec. Dioc. Connor.
Rathlin-island -	Ballycastle - -	Rec. Dioc. Connor.
Rederowen - - -	Crumlin - - -	Robert Hyadman, Esq.
Red-ball - - -	Carrickfergus -	Richard G. Kerr, Esq.
Red-hill - - -	Lisburn - - -	Robert Garrett, Esq.
Ringing's-point -	Belfast - - -	H. Manly, Esq.
Rock-field - - -	Bushmills - - -	Rev. C. M'D. Stewart.
Rock-port - - -	Belfast - - -	John Turnly, Esq.
Rose-bank - - -	Belfast - - -	George Burton, Esq.
Rose-brook - - -	Carrickfergus -	H. Wilson, Esq.
Rose-land - - -	Belfast - - -	Major Hamilton.
Rose-lodge - - -	Belfast - - -	George Bristow, Esq.
Rose-vale - - -	Lisburn - - -	Lieutenant Patten.
Ross-lodge - - -	Ballymenagh -	J. and W. Miller, Esqrs.
Roxborough - - -	Glenavy - - -	John Dickson, Esq.
Rush-park - - -	Belfast - - -	William Cairnes, Esq.
Shane's-castle -	Antrim - - -	Earl O'Neill.
Saint Catherine's -	Carrickfergus -	William Stewart, Esq.
Saint-cunning - -	Glenarm - - -	Rec. Dioc. Connor.
Sandy-mount - - -	Belfast - - -	Rob. Montgomery, Esq.
Scout-bush - - -	Carrickfergus -	James Craig, Esq.
Sea-park - - -	Carrickfergus -	Thomas L. Stewart, Esq.
Sea-port - - -	Bushmills - - -	James Leslie, Esq.
Sea-view - - -	Belfast - - -	Robert Getty, Esq.
Seymour-hill - -	Lisburn - - -	Robert Johnson, Esq.

## SEATS OF ANTRIM.

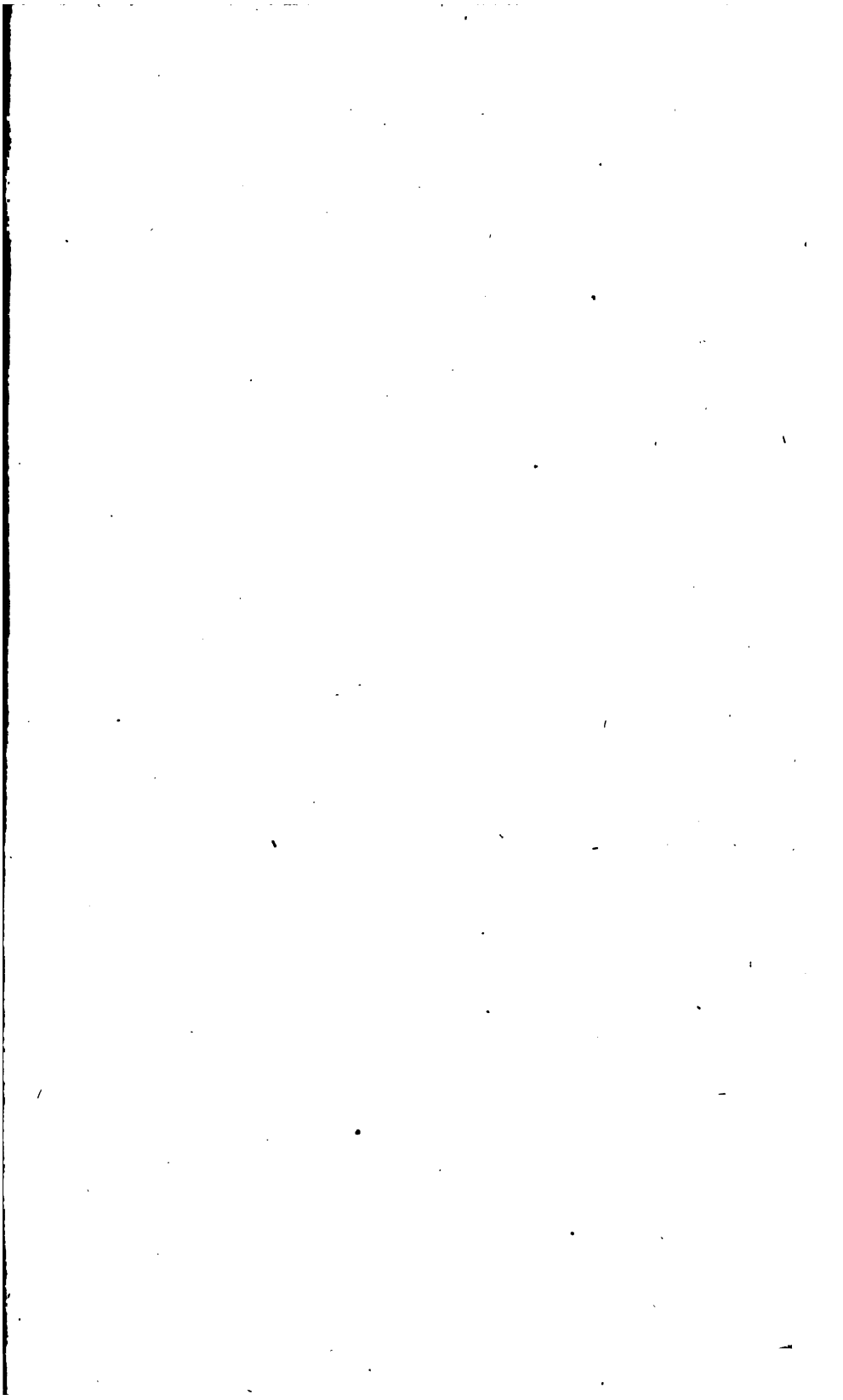
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Name of the place.	Post Town.	Resident.
Shamrock-vale	Lisburn	Lieutenant Clarke.
Shankill	Belfast	(V) Vic. Dioc. Connor.
Sharvogues	Randalstown	Mrs. Lang.
Skerry	Antrim	Rec. Dioc. Connor.
Skiganail	Belfast	Samuel Wolsey, Esq.
Soldier's-town	Moir	Vic. Dioc. Dromore.
Spring-brook	Glenavy	Mrs. Sloane.
Spring-field	Lisburn	Major Haughton.
Spring-ville	Ballyclare	James Watts, Esq.
Standing-stone	Ballyclare	George Price, Esq.
Steeple	Antrim	William Clarke, Esq.
Stoney-ford	Lisburn	(V) James Boyes, Esq.
Strand-mills	Belfast	George Black, Esq.
Stranocum	Ballymoney	(V) Ar. Hutchinson, Esq.
Stream-ville	Lisburn	Rev. Francis Patten.
Suffolk	Belfast	John M'Cauley, Esq.
Summer-hill	Antrim	Hugh Swan, Esq.
Sandy-bay	Glenavy	Mr. William Gregory.
Silver-spring	Ballyclare	Mr. John Thompson.
Spring-hill	Antrim	Mr. Samuel Whiteside.
Store-house	Glenavy	Mr. Samuel Donaldson.
Straid	Randalstown	Mr. Robert Craig.
Stray-park	Ballyclare	Mr. S. Montgomery.
Tullymore-lodge	Ballymenagh	Hon. Lt. Col. O'Neill, M.P.
Thorn-field	Carrickfergus	Sir William Kirk.
Tanaghmore	Randalstown	John Kerr, Esq.
Temple-Moyle	Ballymenagh	A. Browne, Esq.
Temple-Patrick	Antrim	(V) Rec. Dioc. Connor.
Thistleborough	Crumlin	Francis Whittle, Esq.
Thorn-hill	Antrim	Samuel Redmond, Esq.
Throne	Belfast	William Brown, Esq.
Thrush-field	Ballyclare	John Ferguson, Esq.
Tickmacrevan	Glenavy	Vic. Dioc. Connor.
Tildarg	Ballyclare	J. and J. Owens, Esqrs.
Tim-ville	Randalstown	Rev. W. Henry Pratt.
Tully	Antrim	Rev. Robert Orr.
Tullycranaght	Randalstown	Mrs. Reid.

Name of the place.	Post Town.	Resident.
Tullyruak - - -	Glenavy - - -	Vic. Dioc. Connor.
Turnarobert - - -	Ballycastle - - -	Henry Clarke, Esq.
Temple-cormuck -	Glenavy - - -	Mr. James Gibson.
Trummery - - -	Lisburn - - -	Mr. J. S. Condon.
Tunny - - -	Glenavy - - -	Mr. John Gregory.
White-hall - - -	Ballymenagh -	J. White, Esq.
White-park - - -	Ballyclare - - -	James Ferguson, Esq.
Windsor - - -	Belfast - - -	J. Younghusband, Esq.
Wood-ville - - -	Belfast - - -	Samuel Smith, Esq.

END OF THE SECOND VOLUME.

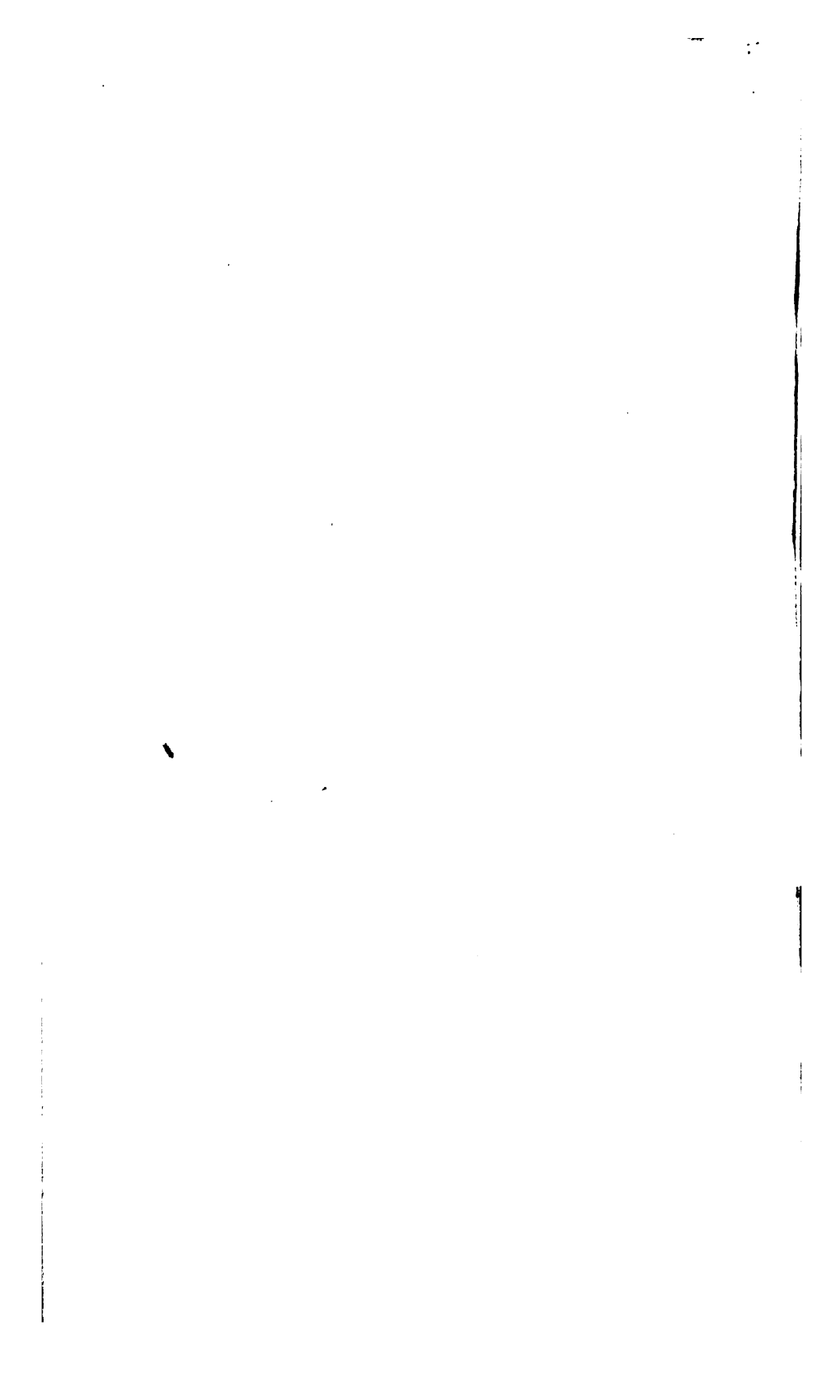


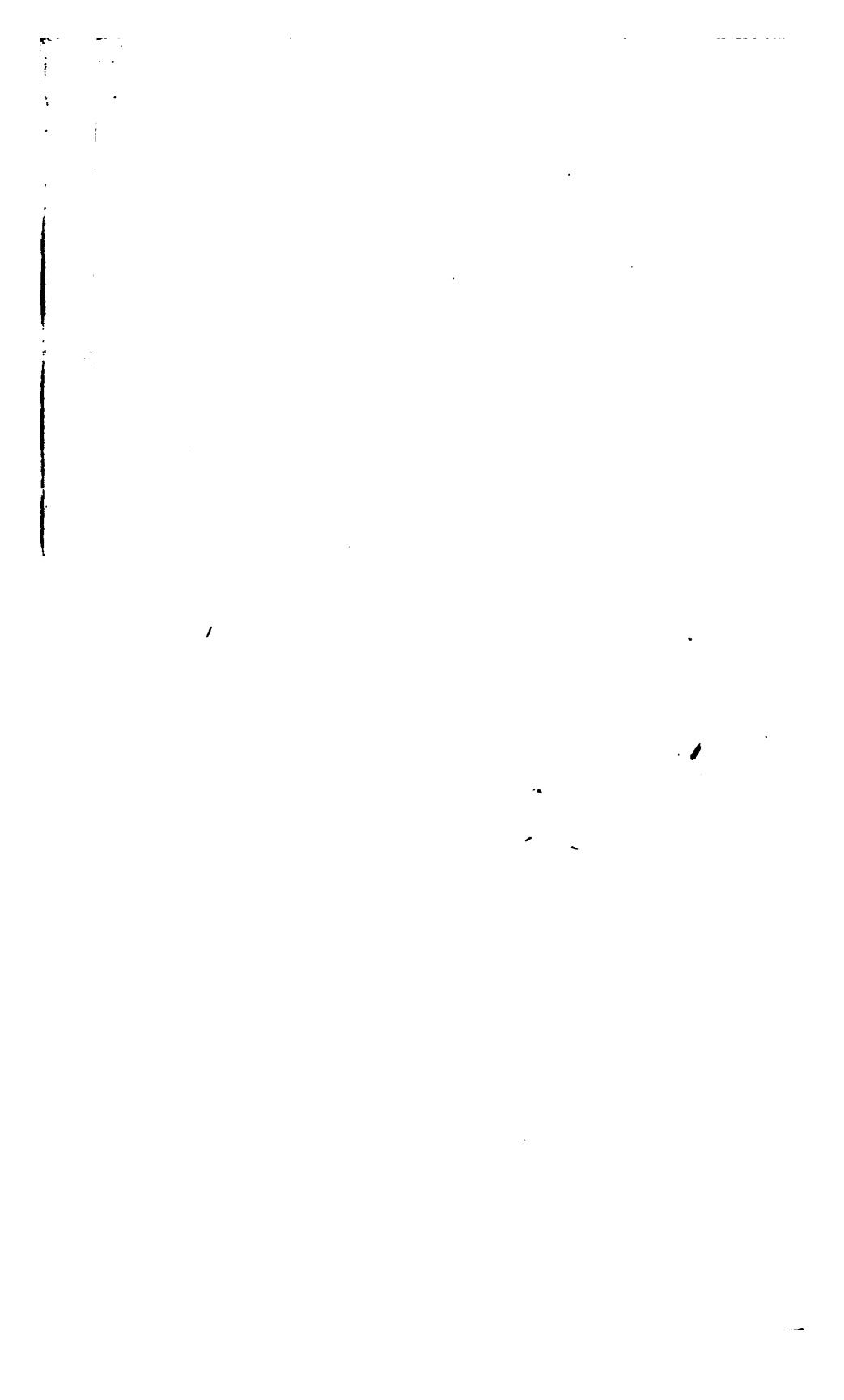


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