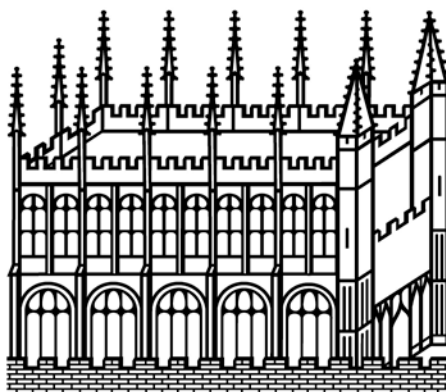




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A
R E P L Y
TO
MR. JOHN THOMAS SMITH'S
Vindication,

PREFIXED TO THE FIRST NUMBER OF HIS
SUPPLEMENTAL PLATES
TO HIS
ANTIQUITIES OF WESTMINSTER:
CONTAINING ALSO SOME
REMARKS
ON THE REVIEW OF THE ANTIQUITIES OF WESTMINSTER,
INSERTED IN THE
EUROPEAN MAGAZINE
FOR THE MONTHS OF AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, AND OCTOBER
1807.

BY
JOHN SIDNEY HAWKINS, ESQ. F. A. S.

L O N D O N:
SOLD BY MESSRS. FAULDER, BOND STREET.
1808.

(1)



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ADVERTISEMENT.

BEFORE I reply, as I mean to do, to Mr. Smith's Vindication, I think it necessary, in candour and fairness, to acknowledge two mistakes, and they are the only ones I have discovered, into which I have accidentally fallen, though it will be found that neither of them in any manner alters the conclusion they were produced to support.

Of these, the first, an error in stating, p. 20 of my former pamphlet, 3310 pounds to be the balance of my computation instead of 2710, was not discovered till after the pamphlet had been published and circulated, so that it was impossible to correct it by an erratum; but I mentioned it on my discovering it to all my friends, and always intended to notice it in print the very first opportunity, as in conformity to that intention I have now done. It is evident the mistake was not in-

tentional, because no use has been made of the error; nor can I now account for it, or in any way trace how it happened. Neither has it in fact done Mr. S. any injury; because the conclusions I have drawn are all taken from the state of the computation, as it would have been had he sold none but to subscribers; and consequently this sum, which includes the value of a number for sale beyond that, makes no part of that estimate. The whole was introduced to shew, that a very considerable profit might have been made, as there incontestably might, had he conducted the work properly, and whether that profit were 3310 pounds or 2710, was not material. I did not, however, mean to allow, in making my computation, so unreasonably long a period as seven years for the completion of the work; nor did I intend to admit the necessity for the extravagance of using a paper four inches larger each way than that at first proposed, in order that one plate, the view of Palace Yard, might be somewhat bigger. I took the sum for printing from the ratio of Mr. Bensley's computation, which was, that 25 sheets, or 200 pages, would cost 250 pounds; so that, by that rule, 300 would have required 375

pounds; to which I added 225 pounds for printing the plates, and paper for that purpose. Mr. Bensley's estimate allowed for printing the book handsomely and on a very good paper; and the reason why he computed for 25 sheets, or 200 pages only, evidently was that that number produced a round sum without fractions, namely, 250 pounds, which 250 or 300 pages would not have done.

The other error of which it seems I have been guilty, and of which I was not aware till very lately, consists in my not recollecting, at the distance of nearly seven years from the first meeting, that there had been three meetings instead of two with Mr. Bensley; and consequently in my attributing to the first, what in fact happened at the second; for that there was a meeting at Mr. S.'s house, in Newman Street, for the purpose of settling what quantity of letter-press there should be, and perfectly distinct from that at which the copy was delivered for printing, I do most positively aver. I do also positively assert, that from the conversation I understood that 300 pages could be afforded if I thought fit to make

the book of that length, and that I conceived Mr. S. was desirous I should do so; though I never intended to say, nor have I said, that number was so agreed on that I was bound at all events to produce that quantity if I should think fit to make it shorter.

Nor has this been more prejudicial to Mr. S. than the former; for as it is a fact that such a meeting, and to such an effect, took place, whether it were the first or second in order, does not in any way affect the merits of the question. I at all times abhor misrepresentation, or concealment of the truth, both of which would, indeed, in the present case be extremely injurious to me, as the facts, when correctly stated, are abundantly strong in my favour; and had I wilfully perverted these facts, immaterial as they are, I should have been guilty of a great crime without any temptation.

A
R E P L Y,
&c.

I WAS at one time preparing to have exposed to public view the numberless gross and wilful misrepresentations with which Mr. Smith's Vindication abounds, which, though it bears his name, is evidently the production of some one else for him, probably of his friend Dr. Gower, and to have answered the whole of it charge by charge, as I can most completely. With this view I had already written about half my answer to it, when, in going through his tract for that purpose, I discovered some circumstances which have induced my friends to advise me to alter my plan, and content myself with stating merely the following facts.

He insists, p. 3, that he is supported in his procedure, as to the making alterations in his work without my knowledge, by my verbal and written declarations already mentioned, as he says, and by his unquestionable right over his own work. Of these verbal declarations he has given no instance, which if he could, he cer-

tainly would ; and as to written ones, he only, in defiance of common sense and express words, obstinately persists in claiming that as an authority, which was but a conditional offer, namely, if he was dissatisfied, and was never accepted by him *.

No such unquestionable right, as he calls it, and claims to his own work, ever belonged to him ; on the contrary, common practice will shew he had no such ; for, not to mention that common sense and common justice require that every gift should be used for the purpose and in the manner intended by the giver, the contrary of Mr. S.'s assertion is proved by every day's practice in his own occupation. Had I, for instance, employed him to make for me a drawing or engraving of any subject, and had I afterwards clandestinely got it altered by another, and then published it with Mr. S.'s name, he would have had a right, and would undoubtedly have exerted it, to insist on my suppressing his name, for fear of injuring his reputation ; and this, even though I had, by paying him for it, made it completely my own. Of this kind a multitude of instances might certainly be collected among artists, were it worthwhile, and it is very likely some of Mr. S.'s acquaintance might be able to furnish cases

* See my former pamphlet, p. 38.

in which he himself had so acted ; but if this rule is admitted, as it is, in cases of purchase, that of a voluntary gift is still stronger, as, in that event, gratitude ought to prevent every species of unhandsome treatment.

In page 3 he states, that, dreading the chance of being forsaken by me, he determined to omit his pencil remarks on the remaining proof-sheets, and to consult the opinion of several friends, on whose judgment he placed dependence, on all such points as were of material importance. Most artfully worded as this passage is (and it is the language of a man who knew he had done wrong, for he has not dared to avow the making the alterations), *the sense of it is exactly this,* and his conduct confirms my interpretation, that dreading I should act like any other man of spirit, by throwing up the work, as I should have done in consequence of such ill treatment, he determined on concealing from me what he meant to do, and that when the sheets came back he would clandestinely make his own alterations. This he endeavours to veil under the pretence of consulting his friends, though it is evident that some only of his corrections, namely, such as he should think were of material importance, were to be submitted to their inspection ; the rest must be supposed to be his own, and indeed they are too bad for any one else. Here is a confes-

sion that he dreaded the loss of that assistance which he elsewhere affects to despise *, and a direct and unequivocal admission of a deliberate and determinate fraud, together with an avowal of the purpose for which it was intended.

Finding, as it is believed, that no one would give credit to his assertion against me, he has thought it necessary to retract, in p. 5, the charge of obscenity †, which with an equal degree of falsehood and effrontery he now affirms he never made;

* See pages 4 and 9 of his Vindication.

† A person is, I am told, in existence who has been heard to say, that Mr. S. had read to him, either from the manuscript or the proof-sheets, passages that certainly were of that tendency. To this I can only reply, that the original manuscript will shew there never were any such in that, and so would the proofs, had they been still remaining, which, however, were destroyed in Mr. Bensley's fire. But it never was pretended that I had introduced any such among the corrections, and Mr. S. has himself said he never knew me use any such expressions: if therefore he read any such, Mr. S. must have either read what was not there, or have made the insertions himself in the proofs, for he has not done it in the manuscript.

For the sake of public justice it were to be wished, this person would come forward and assist in the detection and refutation of so foul and false a calumny. Though his name was not disclosed, nor any circumstance mentioned that would lead to a discovery, I have some strong suspicions who this person is, and I have reason to think Mr. S.'s want of veracity is so well known in that person's family, that his wife had occasion to contradict some of Mr. S.'s assertions to his face in a public shop.

but the best answer to this is the following affidavit made by Mr. Berridge, the gentleman to whom he uttered it :

‘ Middlesex, to wit :

‘ William Berridge, of Hatton Garden, in the
 ‘ county of Middlesex, Attorney at Law, maketh
 ‘ oath and saith, that on the fifth day of June
 ‘ last, he, this deponent, at the request of John
 ‘ Sidney Hawkins, Esquire, served a notice from
 ‘ the said John Sidney Hawkins on Mr. John
 ‘ Thomas Smith, at his lodgings in Castle Street,
 ‘ Oxford Street, by which notice the said Mr.
 ‘ Smith was required to deliver to this deponent,
 ‘ the said John Sidney Hawkins’s attorney, all the
 ‘ copy and manuscript of the work written by the
 ‘ said John Sidney Hawkins, then in the said Mr.
 ‘ Smith’s custody, possession, or power ; but this
 ‘ notice not having been complied with, though
 ‘ Mr. Smith had promised to deliver it, he, this
 ‘ deponent, on the next day, viz. the sixth day
 ‘ of June last, called on the said Mr. Smith at
 ‘ his lodgings aforesaid to repeat the demand, and
 ‘ to receive the said copy or manuscript ; and
 ‘ saith, that in the conversation which on the
 ‘ latter occasion passed relating to Mr. Smith’s
 ‘ having published the said work, under the title
 ‘ of “ The Antiquities of Westminster,” with
 ‘ various alterations and omissions of passages in
 ‘ the original manuscript, made, as this depo-

' nent is informed and believes, without Mr.
 ' Hawkins's knowledge, after the proof-sheets
 ' had been corrected and settled by him, Mr.
 ' Smith said, that the manuscript had been spun
 ' out to an amazing length; and averred as the
 ' reason for having made such alterations, that
 ' the manuscript was so filled with obscenity, that
 ' if it had been published as originally written it
 ' would have entirely ruined his book. And this
 ' deponent saith, that the assertion made by Mr.
 ' Smith in page 5 of his Vindication, prefixed to
 ' the first number of the supplemental plates to
 ' his Antiquities of Westminster, that the obser-
 ' vation made by him was, "that there were some
 ' "indelicate or less choice terms than he could
 ' "have wished in Mr. Hawkins's manuscript,
 ' "which made it vulgar, and which he had on
 ' "that account omitted in the text," is not true.
 ' And this deponent saith, that Mr. Smith ex-
 ' pressly made use of the word obscenity; and
 ' that he, this deponent, cannot be mistaken as
 ' to the language used by Mr. Smith, or the in-
 ' ference which Mr. Smith at that time evidently
 ' intended should be drawn from it; for after he
 ' had adverted to the great length of time taken in
 ' preparing the book for publication, and the
 ' great expence which had been incurred, he ap-
 ' pealed to this deponent, whether under those
 ' considerations he was not justified in making
 ' the alterations, and whether he could have put

' such a book (meaning as it was originally writ-
 ' ten without the alterations) into the hands of
 ' his subscribers. And this deponent saith, that
 ' upon this deponent's asking Mr. Smith why, if
 ' he were not satisfied with the manuscript, he
 ' did not communicate that dissatisfaction to Mr.
 ' Hawkins, instead of publishing the work, and
 ' that too in Mr. Hawkins's name, with altera-
 ' tions and omissions of parts of the original
 ' manuscript neither made by Mr. Hawkins, nor
 ' with his privity, Mr. Smith replied, that no al-
 ' terations or omissions had been made but by the
 ' advice of friends whom he had consulted, and
 ' who he insinuated (though this deponent be-
 ' lieves he did not use the express words) were
 ' fully as capable of advising him as Mr. Haw-
 ' kins. And this deponent further saith, that in
 ' consequence of Mr. Hawkins's having always
 ' expressed to this deponent great regard for the
 ' interest of Mr. Smith and his family, and a
 ' wish that an amicable arrangement should
 ' if possible be made to save the book and Mr.
 ' Smith from ruin, he, this deponent, fearing it
 ' would prevent such an arrangement from taking
 ' place, did not communicate to the said Mr.
 ' Hawkins the particulars of the conversation before
 ' stated, until after this deponent had mentioned
 ' them to a friend of Mr. Hawkins's, who was of
 ' opinion that they ought to be made known to
 ' him. And this deponent saith, that when he

‘ called on the said Mr. Smith, on the said fifth
 ‘ day of June, to serve the said notice, Mr. Smith
 ‘ positively asserted, that no alterations of any
 ‘ passages in the original manuscript had been
 ‘ made in the text of the printed book, but that
 ‘ what insertions had been introduced were by
 ‘ notes, and that some passages of the original
 ‘ manuscript had been left out in the printed
 ‘ book.

‘ WM. BERRIDGE.’

‘ Sworn at the Public Office in
 ‘ Hatton Garden, this 28th
 ‘ day of March 1808, before
 ‘ ROB. BAKER.’ }

He objects, p. 8, to my severity on him for saying in his advertisement, that I was *supposed* to have employed myself in collecting information respecting the antiquities of Westminster; to my saying, that it is as much as to insinuate that he was deceived in his supposition; and to my adding, that it is a most malicious and insidious as well as false insinuation, because he knew that I had a multitude of papers relating to Westminster Abbey—more than there is reason to believe any other man possesses. In answer to this he says, it must be observed that he did not speak of the Abbey, but of Westminster generally; that he could not know the quantity of matter collected by me at a time previous to his

having an intimacy with my papers, which the time of his first application to me certainly was, and that he knows not now whether I possess more than any other man. It must be acknowledged, he says, that there is some ingenuity in identifying the history of a *single building* with the history of a *city* which contained it, because it enables me to advertise my intended work, and gives me an opportunity of accusing him of malice and falsehood..

Let the reader judge from his own while I relate it, what must have been my astonishment on discovering, as I did on turning to my former pamphlet, that the passage above given as mine is falsely given; it is garbled, for material words are purposely omitted, because they flatly contradicted what, though false, and he knew it to be so, Mr. S. was determined to say; and he has most cunningly avoided referring to the page of my pamphlet, as hoping by that method to elude detection; but, notwithstanding this artifice, the passage has been found; it occurs p. 13 of my former pamphlet, and is in these words, as the reader will see on turning to that place: ‘ Mr. ‘ S. has stated his reason for applying to me to ‘ be, because I was supposed to have employed ‘ myself in collecting information respecting the ‘ antiquities of Westminster; the manifest inference intended from which is clearly to insi-

'nuate, that he had found himself deceived in
 'his supposition: but this is a most malicious
 'and insidious, as well as a false, insinuation;
 'Mr. S. knew, for it was commonly known, that
 'I had and have a multitude of papers and col-
 'lections relating to Westminster Abbey, *and se-*
 '*veral other parts of the city of Westminster*, more
 'than there is reason to believe any other man
 'possesses; and that I had written and published
 'several papers to explain some of the plates in
 'Mr. Carter's work, entitled Specimens of Sculp-
 'ture, in which I had given intelligence of that
 'kind of which no one else was before aware.'

The words in Italic, which are here so printed
 for the sake of distinction, he has entirely sup-
 pressed, and draws a conclusion, and asserts a
 fact, which those very words contradict; he
 therefore *purposely* suppressed them: and as no
 conduct can be more shameful, or more strongly
 prove the danger that would attend giving credit
 to any of his assertions, my friends have thought
 such a man wholly unworthy of refutation, and
 that any further vindication of myself was abso-
 lutely needless; I however still retain the inten-
 tion mentioned in my former pamphlet, p. 85,
 &c. of publishing the work as originally written
 by me, if I am favoured by the public with a suf-
 ficient number of names; for though that ex-
 pence could, if necessary, have been borne without
 injury, and gain is by no means my object, yet

it cannot be reasonably expected, that, for the purpose of acquitting my engagements to the public made under a very different plan, I should advance such a sum as five hundred pounds, which I am told it will cost to publish the whole, at the uncertainty whether I shall ever be reimbursed, and whether the demand is not sufficiently supplied by Mr. S.'s publication, however defective: mine, it is true, will contain the addition of a great deal that has not been given by him; but it is certain that the utmost endeavours of Mr. S. and his friends will be exerted to misrepresent and suppress it; nor will fraud or falsehood be withheld, as is evident from the conduct he has already pursued.

To that public decision which has generally been found to be in favour of those who are in the right, and to that spirit which is roused by any attempt like the present at flagrant injustice, I trust to be enabled to carry my intention into execution, in recommendation of which I am able to add, that in consequence of the late fire at Mr. Bensley's (at which, as my friends can testify, I felt very sincere concern*), but in which, as I am told, four hundred copies of his work were destroyed, Mr. S. can have no copies for sale, as it is said he printed only one thousand, and by

* See a proof of this given in a subsequent page.

his list it appears he had upwards of six hundred copies subscribed for; neither is there any probability that the work will be reprinted, for it is reported the Insurance Office contest the point of their responsibility to Mr. Bensley, and Mr. S. certainly cannot afford to have it reprinted at his own expence. The copper-plates are the only things he has now to rely on, and from his conduct it is likely they will not long continue his property. It never would be worth any purchaser's while to reprint the book; and his only chance of reimbursement for his purchase-money would be selling the prints without letter-press, but without explanation few would buy them. This objection my publication would remove, especially as it is intended, if it is published at all, that the work shall be printed of a fit size to bind up with the cuts, in order that such persons as already possess Mr. S.'s book may, if they please, cancel his letter-press, and bind up the cuts with mine; and so far my intention to reprint the book is a favourable circumstance for Mr. S.

So great a degree of inveterate hatred as Mr. S. has shewn towards me without any cause apparently adequate, may naturally lead strangers to suppose, there must have been some secret reason for it, or, at least, some quarrel between us; but, on the word and honour of a gentleman, I know of none such of either sort: I never

had any quarrel with him, unless resenting his impudent note *, which he immediately retracted by an explanation, be thought one; nor had I the smallest suspicion he was dissatisfied, till he wrote and sent me his letter of the third of June 1807, the day before he published his book, telling me what he had done without my knowledge †. For his conduct, I cannot account any otherwise, than by attributing it to his own natural temper, unless some of the following circumstances may be imagined to have influenced him: but since this breach between us, I have heard of several persons whose characters he has thought fit to attack much in the same way he did mine by the charge of obscenity; and when they have resented it, he has been driven to endeavour to pass it off under the *pretence* of a joke. It has also been mentioned to me, that many persons who had been so treated, and had no opportunity of a *public* vindication, hoped I intended, as I always did, to call on him to prove his charge, which, indeed, he now confesses to be false; and to fix him by evidence with what he now denies the having made use of, the word Obscenity, as I have done by an affidavit of the person to whom he used it, in order that his character might be *publicly* known.

* See it, p. 37 of my former pamphlet.

† Ibid. p. 38.

Whether he thought I had eclipsed him in the work, or was offended because I suppressed his fulsome compliments to his friends; or whether he was angry because I gave him advice not to use words he did not understand, which would only expose himself *, I know not; but certainly he seems to entertain so great a degree of inveterate malice against me, that if I thought he had sufficient understanding for that purpose, I should be justified in suspecting, that the ungrammatical alterations he has made were inserted with a view to pass for *mine*, and disgrace *me*, as the letter-press was to be pointed out as *mine*, which it certainly is, though sophisticated by him—a method not unlike the conduct of Hudibras, who is represented as confessing he had agreed with an honest lawyer to leave a flaw in the deed for the widow's jointure, with the view of enabling him afterwards to set it aside †.

Consistently with this hostile disposition towards me, but in direct opposition to his pretences, for pretences they are, of having ever entertained sentiments of gratitude for my assistance, as well as in contradiction to his assertion of his relying on the justice of his cause ‡, his Vindication abounds with misrepre-

* See p. 42 of my former pamphlet.

† Hudibras, part iii. canto 1, line 1190.

‡ See the first page of his Vindication.

sentations. Circumstances are brought together, and represented as relating to each other, which happened, some at the distance of two, and some of four years asunder, and had no connection whatever with each other. Many of his assertions now contradict what he had before said; but where the facts are too well known to be denied, he has attempted to refer them to sinister motives which never produced them.

Of this latter kind, is his endeavour to make it believed that my stay in town in the months of April, May, and June, 1806, for the purpose of consulting the records for his work, was unnecessarily long, and protracted for my own convenience, which it was not; and with this view, he pretends to ascribe it to my wish to make extracts from Mr. Cayley's manuscript.

The fact as to Mr. Cayley's manuscript, which Mr. S. mentions, was this: For the purpose of making a search at the Augmentation Office, for the surrender of the chapel of St. Stephen at its dissolution, and in order to use it in Mr. S.'s work, if it had been found, I applied to Mr. Cayley, the proper officer, and gave him instructions to search for me, which he did. On this business I saw him more than once; and, in the course of conversation, one day he mentioned this manuscript, which he lent me, and I returned

it to him a short time after ; making the extracts from it, which I did at my intervals of leisure, never in any manner protracted my stay in town, as, indeed, I was at liberty, if I pleased, to have taken the manuscript with me into the country. I should have done this could I have returned home sooner, and my stay was inconvenient to myself, as I wished to be at home ; but, if I am not deceived in my recollection, the extracts above-mentioned, and alluded to by Mr. S. were completed, and the book returned, some weeks before Mr. S.'s business would permit me to leave town.— This, however, is only *one* of Mr. S.'s *many* attempts at wilful misrepresentation and deception ; for I *deny* that I staid in town one hour for my own accommodation or convenience, or longer than the business of consulting the records, and examining the copies with the originals, necessarily required ; and this I could, if requisite, prove. The records were not discovered at once, but came to hand at various periods. I could not, from the uncertainty when they might have been found, have returned home in the intervals, and come up afterwards, as it happened that discoveries of fresh ones were perpetually making ; and, indeed, this is evident, on recollecting the number from which I have given extracts, and that only one of those was known of when Mr. Topham wrote his account, the other which he has mentioned not having been since found. After this fact, which cannot, consistently with truth,

be denied, and if denied can be proved, that the copies of the records were procured at my expence, I would only ask, whether Mr. S. can be justified in terming me, as he has done, p. 16, one with more wealth than he has a heart to expend, and whether such an assertion is not a complication of falsehood and ingratitude?

A friend has pointed out to me as deserving of notice the passage, p. 5, in Mr. S.'s Vindication, in which Mr. S. says he ever found me scrupulously attentive to religious ceremonies, and which, contrasted with the following passage used also by him, p. 16, cannot be understood as meaning anything else than to tax me with hypocrisy: 'Gracious Heaven! that a being can exist who would by an act of injustice ruin a whole family, out of mere hatred to its supporter; that there can be one, who, with more wealth than he has a heart to expend, can ask for a subscription to commit dishonour!'

That vindicating myself to the world by a correct publication of the letter-press as I wrote it, and performing my engagement to them by printing what relates to Gothic architecture, which Mr. S. had not done, is an act of either injustice or dishonour, I deny; and of the truth of the rest of the assertions, let the public judge, when they are informed that as soon as I heard of the

destruction of the copies at Mr. Bensley's, I had, notwithstanding the ill-usage I had received, a strong inclination to have written to Mr. S. and had actually, for that purpose, drawn up the following sketch of a letter, which was shewn to my friends whom I consulted :—

‘ MR. SMITH,

‘ Notwithstanding the ill-treatment I have
 ‘ received from you, I harbour no enmity towards
 ‘ you ; I am sorry for your loss, and as a proof of
 ‘ it, if you are inclined to do me justice by re-
 ‘ tracting what you have said and done, and by
 ‘ stating fairly the real facts, I am willing to par-
 ‘ don all that has passed, and to give you all the
 ‘ assistance in my power.

‘ These conditions I cannot consistently with
 ‘ my own character give up; and if you are in-
 ‘ clined to accept them, and for that purpose will
 ‘ meet me at Mr. Toller's to talk over the bu-
 ‘ siness, and see what can be done for the benefit
 ‘ of the work, I will get him to make an ap-
 ‘ pointment. I have no objection to your bring-
 ‘ ing with you *any gentleman*, whether of the pro-
 ‘ fession of the law or not, as you please, ex-
 ‘ cepting Dr. Gower and Mr. Cowper, neither of
 ‘ whom will I meet ; nor will I meet any book-
 ‘ seller, because the subject requires a man of

‘ education. Mr. Berridge, who delivers this,
 ‘ waits for your answer, which will determine
 ‘ the future conduct of

‘ Your humble Servant,

‘ J. S. H.’

My reason for excepting Dr. Gower and Mr. Cowper was, that when, on a former occasion, a meeting had been proposed to take place at Mr. Toller’s, they had refused to meet me*, and the meeting therefore never was had. This draught of a letter was laid before my friends; but on consulting them, they thought that a man of such a temper as Mr. S. had shewn himself was not likely to accept my offer, and they therefore dissuaded me from the attempt. In their opinion I acquiesced; subsequent circumstances have shewn they judged better than I did, and the transaction would not have been disclosed, but for the purpose of repelling the false charge Mr. S. has thought fit to make.

Mr. S. has endeavoured, p. 6, to shew, or rather to create a suspicion, that the whole manuscript was never communicated to him; but this, as the following circumstances will prove, is no better than a mean subterfuge. The time, he says, of his going down to Twickenham to have the

* See their letter inserted by Mr. S. in his Vindication, p. 13.

complete manuscript wholly read over to him before it went to press, was in August 1806, by appointment from me ; but that, soon after his return, it appeared I was not satisfied with what I had so written and read ; for that in a letter to him I had said, ‘ I am going on, and allow about
 ‘ six hours a day to my job ; but I have cut up
 ‘ and altered my manuscript already so much,
 ‘ that you would hardly know it again.’ Another letter of mine of the 12th of September 1806, contains, as he says, the following passage :—
 ‘ My work is now so forward and settled, that I
 ‘ have little more than the part relating to Gothic
 ‘ architecture to read over and settle, and am
 ‘ therefore ready to begin with the printer as soon
 ‘ as you please. If, therefore, you will see Mr.
 ‘ Bensley, and make an appointment for him to
 ‘ meet you and myself at your house to settle the
 ‘ plan for printing it, any day and hour next
 ‘ week that may suit him and you, I will meet
 ‘ you both, and bring with me the manuscript,
 ‘ upon being informed, as soon as you can, what
 ‘ time you have fixed.’ To this he adds a third letter of mine, dated 15th September 1806, in these words :

‘ MR. SMITH,

‘ I finished the revising and settlement of the
 ‘ whole of the work on Saturday evening, and
 ‘ there now remains nothing to insert but the

‘ close of the account of Eustace, which I cannot
 ‘ finish till an Irish Peerage, containing the ex-
 ‘ tinct titles, can be got at ; but of this I will talk
 ‘ to you when we meet. I have only to say I
 ‘ am perfectly ready for the printer ; that Tues-
 ‘ day, at the time you mention, will perfectly
 ‘ suit ; that I will be in town and with you ac-
 ‘ cordingly, and will bring up with me the whole
 ‘ of the manuscript.

‘ Your sincere well-wisher,

‘ JOHN SIDNEY HAWKINS.’

And from these and the necessity of his filling up dates in the proofs, arising from the defects in the intelligence communicated by his friends and sent by him to me, he endeavours to deceive the reader into an opinion that he was ignorant of the contents of the manuscript, and that my assertions, that I was ready for the printer, were not true. But let us now see what are the real facts : he states his visit as taking place in August 1806, but most cautiously avoids mentioning any day, or whether it was in the former or latter part of the month, and as cautiously has he omitted to notice how long it continued : he has not, however, ventured to assert that the manuscript, as far as, according to his own account, it was then complete, was not wholly read over to him as it then stood, and the circumstance on which, as it seems, he means to rest, is an endeavour to per-

suade the reader that it was much altered after it had been read to him.

I do not, at this distance of time, recollect either the precise day he came, or the length of his stay; but allowing him, as the supposition most favourable to him, to have come on the first of August, it is manifest that 955 folio draught sides, at the rate of 16 lines in a side, written in a close hand (for that is the amount of the manuscript), could not have been read through and settled without a very considerable portion of time, even admitting that I made, as I did, all possible dispatch, and gave to it a great many hours each day; neither do I now remember what number of sides on an average we dispatched; but at the rate of 50 a day, it would have required rather more than nineteen days to go through it, which, with the addition of the intermediate Sundays, would extend to the 21st. On the 12th of September, it appears, I had finished my reading it over and revision, after his departure, with the exception only of 193 sides, that being the extent of what related to Gothic architecture; and he places the letter, which he says he received soon after his return, and which speaks of the alterations, as sent after his return, and before the 12th of September. Those who know what it is to write a work of any length, comprizing a great deal of multifarious intelligence, will clearly

see the impossibility, that in so very short a space of time the manuscript could have undergone such alterations as are here described, and will find it equally plain that the letter must refer to some period anterior to his visit, as it really does to one above a twelvemonth before.

To satisfy the inquiries I perpetually met with, as to the progress of the work, I at different periods wrote and put together from my materials, such detached parts as did not require an immediate reference to particular plates; and which I knew, whatever intermediate intelligence should be stated or inserted, must ultimately form parts of the work; such, for instance, as the previous account of the buildings in the Strand, a general account of the old palace at Westminster, and what concerned Gothic architecture, which I meant for its conclusion. In proportion as in my own researches, from the inspection of records, or from the communications of Mr. S.'s friends, new light on the different subjects was acquired, it became necessary for me from time to time to alter my intentions as to the insertion of matter, and to reject the less important, though curious in itself, for the admission of intelligence of more consequence; and in this mode I compute, and my papers will shew it, that I have not merely transcribed, but actually composed, nearly the whole of the work three times over. The manu-

scripts, as thus prepared at different periods, were all in succession submitted to Mr. S.'s perusal; for which purpose he had them at distinct periods at his own house: part he read himself, and part Mrs. S. used to read to him, as he himself told me; and it is to the state in which he saw it at these times that my letter refers as to his knowledge of what the manuscript had been.

Before his arrival at Twickenham in August 1806, great part of my manuscript was transcribed or written by me ready for the printer, subject only to such alterations in it as we should make in reading it over; but there were several parts of which I had only written rough draughts, because I wished to settle them with Mr. S. before I inserted them in the copy for the printer, which I completely did while he was with me. On his leaving me I transcribed these into the work for the printer, which sometimes made it necessary to cut a sheet into two for the purpose of admitting these insertions between two paragraphs immediately succeeding each other; but I do positively assert that all these were before this latter insertion read over to Mr. S. as part of the manuscript in their proper places, and that they were inserted as we had settled them together. The passage as to Eustace, which it was necessary to keep back from the printer till I could get a sight of the Irish Peerage, was the only part not delivered to

the printer with the rest ; but when I had afterwards completed it, I carried it myself to Mr. S. and it was then either read over by me to him, or read over by himself, if not both, before he gave it or sent it, as he himself did, to the printer ; for the printer received it from him, and not from me.

After Mr. S.'s departure I also gave the whole manuscript a complete reading over and revision, for the purpose of preventing the too near recurrence of the same word ; and this, and the insertion of the passages above mentioned into the copy for the printer, occupied the whole time from his departure to the Saturday before the 15th of September. From that time to its delivery to the printer nothing was done to it ; and I do positively assert that the alterations made after Mr. S. left me were of no greater importance than what I have here stated.

My letter of the 12th of September 1806, from which he has given an extract, shews in that passage that I had then little more than the part relating to Gothic architecture to read over and settle ; and from another letter of mine of the 15th, which he has also inserted, it is plain that this part relating to Gothic architecture was then also read over and settled. It is manifest from the first of these that the whole of the work was then

written, and all read over and settled, but the part particularly specified ; and when the reader is told, as is the fact, and the manuscript now in my possession will shew it, that what related to Gothic architecture was to be the conclusion of the work, and contained in the whole but 193 draught sides, whereas the whole manuscript was 955, no one can doubt I was clearly justified in saying I was ready for the printer, to whom indeed, on the Tuesday after the 15th, the whole copy, including the part as to Gothic architecture, was, with the exception only of what concerned Eustace, which was to come in at folio 755, and consisted of about five sheets, delivered.

As nothing can be more plain than that Mr. S. is wrong, nor can any thing render his own conduct more disgraceful, I have at present no intention of continuing the contest any further, and indeed there is now not so much as a question between us. By his conceit and extravagant opinion of his own understanding and endowments he has ruined the book, which he has rendered a lasting monument of his ignorance and folly ; and in consequence of his obstinacy in disregarding the advice of several of his friends, who foresaw that in his mode of conducting the work his profits would be but comparatively small, and whose judgment is confirmed by the

event, he is, as he confesses, a loser * by that undertaking, which, if properly conducted, would have produced him a very handsome sum of money. If he has any understanding, he also, for his own sake, will drop the contest, which his interest requires should, if possible, be forgotten. Should he however determine to persevere, I here recommend to him as applicable to his own case one of the most apposite mottos for his next publication that perhaps can be any where found.

In that scene of Hamlet in which the fencing-match between Laertes and Hamlet occurs, Laertes treacherously wounds Hamlet with a poisoned foil, and a scuffle ensues, in which they change foils: in consequence of which, Laertes himself is afterwards wounded by the same deadly weapon. On his falling, Osrick asks him

‘How is ’t, Laertes?’

and receives this answer:

‘Why, as a woodcock to my own springe, Osrick;

‘I am justly kill’d with mine own treachery.’

* See his Advertisement at the end of his Vindication, in which he says that by the fire at Mr. Bensley’s all his prospects of reimbursement are done away. The subscription for the other six hundred copies ought to have repaid him all his expences, with a considerable surplus, and it would have done so if he had been but commonly prudent.

In another speech a little lower down, addressed to Hamlet, Laertes says,

——‘ the foul practice
 ‘ Hath turn’d itself on me ; lo ! here I lie,
 ‘ Never to rise again.’

Before I entirely quit this part of the subject I think it necessary still farther to guard the reader against receiving as genuine any letters of mine which Mr. S. may think fit to produce. Not indeed that the reader is likely to admit them as conclusive evidence after what Mr. S. has been proved to have done, or not to see that they may be capable of an explanation totally different from that which he chooses to give them ; but the moral principles of Mr. S. and some of his advisers admit of a greater latitude in practice than those of other persons ; and I know from facts of which I am in possession, but which I forbear here to mention, merely for the sake of those to whom they relate, that they have been convicted of resorting, on some occasions, to methods for advancing their ends, from which every man of gentlemanly feelings would have thought it decent to refrain.

The instance above relates only to the *suppression* of passages ; but what I wish to guard the reader against, is the possibility of the *alteration* of

them ; and though I have not as yet detected any such artifice in this case, it will yet appear from the note, that something very little short of it has been done *. Almost every artifice that could be practised has evidently been used by Mr. S. and his advisers to elude discovery ; but unfortunately for them, every step they have taken only tends to shew, in a greater degree, the danger of deception, which would attend giving credit to their representations ; and the following transactions which have lately occurred, will, it is imagined, be sufficient to induce every reader to reject, as unfairly stated, any passages from letters of mine which they may hereafter attempt to produce.

From a variety of circumstances, my friends and myself were firmly persuaded that the letters stated by Mr. S. in his Vindication, must contain also material intelligence, which he had omitted, with the same candour and integrity as he and his advisers have shewn in suppressing, as they have done, nine words in one place in a passage of mine, because those words flatly contradicted what they were determined to say † ; and therefore it was thought advisable to apply for an inspection of those letters. To such an inspection I was in fairness and justice entitled ; but to have

* See the note p. 10, *supra*, in which it appears that Mr. S. read to a person passages as mine, which I never wrote.

† See the instance given, p. 16, *supra*.

applied for it on that ground, would have been appealing to a sense which Mr. S. and his advisers evidently do not possess; and therefore it was judged expedient that Mr. Berridge, my Attorney, should apply for it, under the offer contained in p. 6 of Mr. S.'s Vindication, expressed in the following words: 'This letter, in the handwriting of Mr. Hawkins, may be seen, together with all his letters which are quoted in this Vindication, at Mr. Smith's, No. 31, Castle Street East, Oxford Street.' Mr. Berridge accordingly applied, and the result of his application is here stated, as given by Mr. B. in a letter to me:

' DEAR SIR,

' According to your desire I waited upon Mr. Smith on the 18th of February, and requested a sight of your letters to him, pursuant to the offer which he had made in the first number of Supplemental Plates to his Antiquities of Westminster, to shew them to any person who would call at his lodgings for the purpose of inspecting them; and I told him my reason for making the application was, to ascertain whether they were correctly stated in that publication. Mr. Smith requested I would make the application in writing, and he would consult Mr. Cowper on the subject; and if Mr. Cowper approved of it, he, Mr. Smith, would make

‘ an appointment, and let me know when I might
 ‘ see them. Being much engaged, and not cer-
 ‘ tain whether I could attend for several days, I
 ‘ did not write to Mr. Smith till the 23d Fe-
 ‘ bruary, when I sent him a letter to the follow-
 ‘ ing effect :

“ SIR,

“ In consequence of the offer made in
 “ your late publication to shew the original letters
 “ from Mr. Hawkins to yourself, I will thank
 “ you to let me see them, and I will call at your
 “ house any morning that you will appoint for
 “ that purpose. I am, Sir, &c.

“ WM. BERRIDGE.

“ *Hatton Garden, 23 Feb. 1808.*”

‘ Not receiving an answer to this letter, I sent
 ‘ a note on the 4th inst. to the following effect :

“ Mr. Berridge will be obliged to Mr.
 “ Smith for an answer to Mr. Berridge’s letter of
 “ the 23d Feb. last.

“ *Hatton Garden, 4th March 1808.*”

‘ I last night received the inclosed, which I
 ‘ send you to make such use of as you may think
 ‘ proper.

‘ I remain, dear Sir,

‘ Your most obedient, and very

‘ Humble Servant,

‘ WM. BERRIDGE.

‘ *Hatton Garden, 6 March 1808.*’

The following was the letter inclosed, and which was addressed to Mr. Berridge :

‘ SIR, *Friday, March 4th, 1808.*

‘ I should have answered your letter before this time, if my friends, whose advice I informed you I should take on the subject of your request, had favoured me with their determination. It was not till this day, that I received a letter from them, of which the following is a copy :

“ DEAR SIR, *Friday, March 4th, 1808.*

“ As you ask our advice, we can by no means suffer you to shew *any thing* in your possession to *Mr. Hawkins’s Attorney*; it looks like some idle attempt at *law*, which must be vigorously repelled in the outset, to save trouble, tho’, if persisted in, it could only add to your triumph in the end. If Mr. H. will first write or declare to any of your friends that no such attempt will be made, but that the proposed inspection is merely to procure information for his new pamphlet, announced in the ‘ *Gentleman’s Magazine*,’ shew the letters by all means; truth and integrity have nothing to conceal, and the more Mr. Hawkins writes against you, the better; for, like his last pamphlet, it will only procure you friends.

“ As nobody doubts the authenticity of the
 “ letters, or the correctness of the quotations,
 “ there is no need for a committee of indepen-
 “ dent persons to compare and certify them : it
 “ will be time enough for *that*, if any one should
 “ be found hardy enough to dispute either point ;
 “ though, even then, we should think it hardly
 “ worth the trouble, as nobody can *really* enter-
 “ tain a doubt.

“ Be not under the slightest apprehensions :—
 “ nothing can hurt you. The genuine worth you
 “ have evinced through life, in every transaction
 “ which has fallen under our observation, has de-
 “ termined us to support you against all results
 “ in this business.

“ We are,

“ Dear Sir,

“ Your faithful humble Servants,

“ CHARLES GOWER.

“ CHARLES COWPER.

“ P. S. We are sorry to have delayed our an-
 “ swer so long ; but material things have pre-
 “ vented our attending to this trifle.”—

‘ I am, Sir,

‘ Your obed^t Servant,

‘ No. 31, Castle St.

‘ JOHN THOMAS SMITH.’

‘ Oxford St.’

To this letter from Mr. Smith, Mr. Berridge, by my desire, wrote and sent the following reply :

‘ SIR,

‘ Under your general offer to shew the
 ‘ original letters from Mr. Hawkins to yourself,
 ‘ contained in your first number of the Supple-
 ‘ mental Plates, I considered myself entitled to
 ‘ see them as a private individual ; but as my re-
 ‘ quest has been refused because I was Mr. Haw-
 ‘ kins’s Attorney, and my application has been
 ‘ said to look like some idle attempt at law, Mr.
 ‘ Hawkins, who is now with me, authorizes me
 ‘ to say, that in desiring me to apply to you for
 ‘ a sight of his letters, he never had nor has any
 ‘ intention of commencing any law proceedings
 ‘ whatever: his object was to know that the
 ‘ letters were correctly stated, and what were
 ‘ their other contents, in order to make use of the
 ‘ intelligence in his intended pamphlet. I will
 ‘ therefore thank you to make an early appoint-
 ‘ ment, when I may call upon you to see them.

‘ I am, Sir,

‘ Your obedient Servant,

‘ WM. BERRIDGE.

‘ *Hatton Garden, 7 March 1808.*’

The following was the answer returned by Mr. S.

‘ SIR, *Wednesday, March 9th, 1808.*

‘ I have just now received the following
‘ letter from my friends, in answer to yours of
‘ the 7th inst^t.

‘ I am, Sir,

‘ Your humble Servant,

‘ JOHN THOMAS SMITH.’

“ DEAR SIR,

“ Mr. Berridge, no doubt in the hurry of
“ writing, says only : ‘ Mr. Hawkins authorizes
“ me to say, that in desiring me to apply to you
“ for a sight of his letters, he never *had* nor *has*
“ any intention of commencing any law proceed-
“ ings whatever.’—The subsequent words carry it
“ no further.

“ This falls materially short of the stipulation
“ we thought it our duty, as a security against
“ even a pretence for unnecessary trouble to you,
“ to advise you to make,—namely, for a declara-
“ tion from Mr. Hawkins, that no such attempt
“ *will* be made.—An intention not hitherto enter-
“ tained, may soon arise.

“ Until this stipulation shall be explicitly ful-
“ filled, we take upon ourselves the entire re-
“ sponsibility of directing you to refuse the appli-
“ cation. But we recommend it to you, upon

“ compliance, to afford every practicable facility
 “ to an inspection of the letters.

“ We are, dear Sir, with esteem,

“ Your faithful humble Servants,

“ CHARLES GOWER.

“ CHARLES COWPER.”

The reply most completely justifies all our suspicions—it shews to a demonstration that the letters contain intelligence, and material intelligence too, which they have suppressed, and which they are afraid to produce ; and the unreasonable condition to which they wanted to bind me as to how I should act hereafter, is evidently the language of Guilt and not of Innocence, and would never have been thought of by or for any one who had not very good reason to dread the consequences of what those letters might disclose. They affect to term any attempt that could be made in consequence of the disclosure of such information, an idle attempt, though, if persisted in, it could, as they say, only add to Mr. S.’s triumph in the end ; yet they had every reason to be persuaded that no idle attempt, or one likely to fail, would ever be made: neither if the attempt had in itself been so destitute of foundation, or chance of success, as they would have it believed, would they have been so extremely anxious as they shew themselves to guard against what their own guilt convinces them they merit.

The plain truth, however they may try to disguise it, is evidently this, that they dread not the chance, but the certainty, of its proving successful, as myself and my friends, from their conduct, are convinced it would.

After the assurance I have given, that I never had, nor have any intention of proceeding at law, I was advised by my friends not to give any further undertaking. My application, notwithstanding the inspection has been refused, unless I would consent to an unreasonable stipulation, has succeeded in producing a confession from them of the fact which the inspection was intended to ascertain; and it is beyond contradiction that my letters are not fully or fairly stated. Suppression of evidence has, indeed, been the plan on which, from the commencement of the present contest, Mr. S.'s attack on me, and defence of himself, has been conducted; for when, in an early stage of it, I had required, previous to a meeting proposed by me to take place at Mr. Toller's, a production of the proof-sheets as corrected by me, and which have since been burnt at Mr. Bensley's, in order to ascertain what corrections I had made in the sheets while they were passing through the press, and to distinguish Mr. S.'s alterations, made without my knowledge, it was refused. When Mr. S. and his advisers could no longer evade it, they promised the proofs should be produced at the

meeting at Mr. Toller's, which meeting they took care should never be held. *Nice honour*, which would not permit them to meet me, because I had refused to deliver papers to which Mr. S. had no right, was the motive assigned for refusing to meet me *; but the refusal was evidently intended to prevent detection—this I have always thought, and their subsequent conduct confirms my opinion.

To an application from any friend of mine for an inspection of my letters, it cannot be doubted every subterfuge and every difficulty would be opposed, by insisting on unreasonable stipulations notwithstanding Mr. S.'s unconditional offer, and the appearance of candour, which, for the sake of their own reputations, Dr. Gower and Mr. Cowper have thought it necessary to assume, by recommending it to him, upon compliance with their condition, to which, because it was unreasonable, they had every ground for thinking I would not submit, to afford every practicable facility to an inspection of the letters †. It is equally clear, also, from their conduct, that any production to any one else would be so managed, that the letters should not be fully or fairly in-

* See the joint letter of Mr. Cowper and Dr. Gower, inserted in Mr. S.'s *Vindication*, p. 13.

† See their letter, as stated in Mr. S.'s of the 9th of March, p. 41, *supra*.

spected, nor the rest of their contents be seen. Their aim has been, throughout, to prevent a full and fair disclosure of the facts ; but their endeavours have not been successful. Notwithstanding the refusal to produce the proof-sheets as corrected, and the subsequent destruction of those sheets by fire, the original manuscript, every sheet and page of which is still in my possession, will shew how it was originally written, and Mr. S.'s printed book will evidence how it has been altered. Nor have they been more fortunate on the present occasion ; for, in the very attempt to secure themselves, they have, by refusing the inspection, been obliged to admit what that inspection was intended to ascertain, that material passages have been suppressed.

If any tricks have been practised with my letters by making alterations in passages which they afterwards thought it too dangerous to use, a circumstance which, from facts in my possession, I am justified in suspecting to be not impossible, I do not wonder at the excessive anxiety these persons shew to avoid a production, or the fear they express of being liable to be proceeded against at law. But whatever may be their particular reason for this refusal, they have decidedly shewn that every fact they relate is to be suspected, and that no evidence they produce can be relied on ; but that, on the contrary, the very circumstance of the production of it by them, affords the strongest

possible reason, and indeed creates a necessity, for supposing it imperfectly stated.

That Dr. Gower and Mr. Cowper will adhere to their promise in supporting Mr. S. to the utmost, there is every reason to conclude, as they have pledged themselves to do so. But what can be thought of the principles of two persons, who, after Mr. S. has been repeatedly convicted, and sometimes under his own hand, of falsehoods and contradictory assertions, can yet, in defiance of such evidence as has been produced, make use of the following words: ‘The genuine worth
‘you have evinced through life in every trans-
‘action which has fallen under our observation,
‘has determined us to support you against all
‘results in this business* ;’ and who profess themselves to be, *with esteem*, Mr. S.’s faithful humble servants†? Or what opinion can be entertained of the merits of that cause which requires the concealment of evidence, and that this step should be advised by the very men who in another part of the same letter said that truth and integrity have nothing to conceal‡? Neither can much dependence be placed on the sentiments which in a letter, that is, however, un-

* See their letter of the 4th of March, p. 38, *supra*.

† See their joint letter stated in Mr. S.’s of the 9th of March, before inserted, p. 41.

‡ See their letter of the 4th of March, p. 38, *supra*.

grammatical §, they profess to entertain, that any attempt at law, founded on passages in my letters, would be idle, and, if persisted in, would only add to Mr. S.'s triumph in the end, when it is recollected that this opinion comes from a Barrister of very little, if any, business, and consequently of small experience; and from a Physician, who has had the temerity and presumption to deliver his sentiments on a point of law *, of which he cannot be a competent judge. The anxious solicitude which they have shewn to secure themselves against any possibility of Mr. S.'s being legally called upon for his conduct, which they have adopted, evidently shews these pretended expectations of success not to be genuine; and the opinion of the public I *know* from circumstances to be decidedly *against* Mr. S. So far are the world in general from thinking this business will end in Mr. S.'s triumph, that they are already prepared to expect what will inevitably be the case, that it will terminate in the shame and confusion of himself and all concerned with him in it. Without farther observation, I shall

§ The passage occurs in their joint letter of Friday, March 4th, 1808, and is in these words: 'It looks like some idle attempt at *law*, which must be vigorously repelled in the outset, to save *'trouble.'* In p. 38 of the present pamphlet the whole letter has been inserted, and the reader will there see that the pronoun relative *It* has no antecedent to which it can refer.

* See these letters, p. 38 and 41, *supra*.

therefore here consign them and Mr. S. to that disgrace and contempt which it is impossible, from their conduct, they can individually escape.

Nor are those persons whom Mr. S. professes to have consulted, the only ones who have given their assistance to him in his transactions; for the conductor of the *European Magazine*, who is reported to be Mr. Joseph Moser, one of the Police Magistrates, and the proprietor, as it is also said, of the work, has, in his review of Mr. S.'s book in his *Magazine* for August, September, and October 1807, in defiance of the moral obligation he was under to do justice, and in breach of his duty to the public, thought fit to make himself a principal in these disgraceful transactions. For the purpose of misrepresenting me, he gives only a part, instead of the whole, of a passage from the Preface, which he confesses to be mine * ; and attributes to Mr. Smith the whole of the letter-press, though he himself acknowledges, in the outset of the review, that the Preface and many other parts of the work are mine. On this performance of Mr. Moser's, which he signs J. M. I here insert the following animadversions, in order that the reader may be able to understand the motive of his future conduct, whatever it may be, whether he chooses

* Review for August, p. 122.

avowedly to adopt Mr. S.'s cause, vindicate him throughout, and attempt to depreciate my share of the work and the defence of my conduct; or whether he should more wisely determine to say nothing on the subject.

He begins, p. 121, with the following very sagacious remark: 'It is not always that the ideas of reviewers follow the pens of their authors: this indeed, considering the number and the variety of those works that come under their inspection, notwithstanding the predilection that we have for the learning and talents of our brethren, we well know impossible; therefore, with respect to ourselves, when we peruse a volume that assimilates in some degree with our particular pursuits, we hail the auspicious circumstance, and are sometimes apt to dwell longer upon it than the contracted limits of even the largest of our periodical publications ought to allow.'

Of this passage, which, if it is not in some places stark nonsense, is very nearly so, it is difficult to find out the meaning or tendency; for the observation, that the ideas of reviewers do not always follow the pens of their authors, though intended, as it is supposed, only to say that authors and reviewers do not think alike, may more naturally and correctly mean, that re-

viewers do not always understand their authors ; and this is the usual sense of the expression. If a person in conversation says to another, who is endeavouring to convince him of any thing, ‘ My ‘ ideas do not follow your words,’ the manifest sense is, ‘ I do not understand you ;’ and not, ‘ I think differently from you.’ More than once I have heard it used in this former meaning by a Judge on the bench, to a counsel who was speaking before him, when he could not understand what the counsel said ; and it was evident it was so received, because the counsel set himself to explain what he had before said.

In this sense, which attributes to the reviewer, in the present case, the charge of not understanding what he meant to criticise, neither myself nor the reader, as it is supposed, will be inclined to differ from him in opinion. That he did not understand the subject on which he wrote, I do most firmly believe ; and I am persuaded, that, after the specimens I shall presently give, every one of my readers will entertain most perfectly the same sentiments.

‘ The predilection that we have for the learning ‘ and talents of our brethren,’ and ‘ a volume ‘ that assimilates in some degree with our particular pursuits,’ are certainly expressions so nearly bordering on nonsense, that it is difficult

to contradistinguish them from it. This and the other circumstances and instances which will be given hereafter, together with the set of principles either disclosed by them, or by the conduct the reviewer has pursued, induce me to think, as to the variation of opinion between an author and reviewer, that in the present case my sentiments and actions are more likely to be correct in proportion as they differ from those of the reviewer.

Very early in the review he gives, p. 122, this declaration of the conduct he means to observe in regard to the question between Mr. S. and myself: ‘ With respect to the disagreement betwixt Mr. Hawkins, to whom we are obliged for the whole of the Preface and for many other parts of the work, and himself, we do not mean to enter into the subject of it, further than by observing that we consider it as a loss to literature when those who have begun a work in conjunction do not persevere in the prosecution of it to the conclusion,’

This passage is one of the most artful attempts to mislead the reader that could perhaps have been made; for it is calculated and intended to induce him to believe that I had withdrawn my assistance, and left Mr. S. to finish the work as he could. The fact is, I corrected all the sheets

as far as my own letter-press went, and expected to have received the rest for that part, which I afterwards found Mr. S. had chosen to leave out without my privity; but after I had seen and corrected the proofs of what he has printed, he, without my knowledge or suspicion, altered them. From Mr. S.'s advertisement to the Antiquities of Westminster the reviewer knew this, and was, no doubt, as many others have done, that the facts there mentioned did not justify him; he has, therefore, here endeavoured to help him by directing the reader's attention another way in search of a false fact. That this is the true construction of his conduct, is evident from the circumstances; and indeed it is so plain, when the facts are noticed, that, if he has any regard for his own character for veracity, he will not venture to deny it, as no one *can* believe him if he should. Another fact is also shewn by the above passage, namely, the reviewer's full knowledge that many other parts besides the Preface were attributable to me; notwithstanding which, as he proceeds, the only part he acknowledges mine is the Preface; and the rest he ascribes to Mr. S. personally, as will be presently shewn.

But with what disposition towards me this person commenced his office, is apparent from this, that, in order to misrepresent me as an enemy to

antiquarian researches, which I am not, if directed to proper and important objects, he has given unfairly a passage from the Preface, and has stopped it in the middle of the subject, to make it serve his own purpose; whereas, had he given the whole, it would directly have contradicted what he has thought fit to say. His words are these :—

‘ In the Preface Mr. H. whom we are to consider as the author of it, seems to express a disapprobation, which, although untinctured with ridicule, appears to us in some degree Hogarthian, of those authors who crowd their volumes of miscellaneous antiquity with representations of fibulæ, spoons, knives and spurs, darts, javelins or daggers, celts, arrow-heads of iron and stone, and other trifling particulars or offensive weapons, which have nothing to recommend them but a rudeness of workmanship and an apparent antiquity very rarely ascertained.

‘ Here we must observe,’ says he, ‘ that we conceive much may be said on both sides of the question : if the workmanship of those instruments is, as we will grant it to be, coarse, and their shapes uncouth, yet surely some mental improvement may be derived from the comparison of them with our more elegant productions at least, which is no very unimportant disquisition;

‘ the progress of the mechanic arts may be more
 ‘ accurately traced and more systematically deve-
 ‘ loped; or even supposing the inquiry to be of
 ‘ little use in the present enlightened period, still
 ‘ the finding of articles whose forms identify the
 ‘ people to whom they originally belonged, may,
 ‘ and very frequently does, serve to settle contested
 ‘ points of topographical history with nearly the
 ‘ same certainty as the discovery of medals, coins,
 ‘ urns, statues, and any other of the more ele-
 ‘ gant productions of genius would have done;
 ‘ therefore we are sorry to observe in the *porch* of
 ‘ such an important work, antiquarian researches
 ‘ treated slightly—there is surely as much to be
 ‘ said upon an arrow-head, for instance, as upon
 ‘ many of the pieces of broken glass that are in
 ‘ this volume, though we certainly do not object
 ‘ to their insertion among a number of objects in-
 ‘ finitely more material.’

As the passage in the Preface has been here *pur-*
posely stopped short to make it bear a sense which
 it does not, and for that end the latter half of it
 is wholly unnoticed, I shall here print the passage
 at length, and it is as follows:—

‘ So common a fault is it with antiquaries to
 ‘ consider Antiquity alone as a sufficient claim to
 ‘ attention, and to bring forward objects which
 ‘ have neither beauty in themselves, nor ade-

'quate importance to introduce new or correct
 'former opinions, that, in offering to public no-
 'tice Ornaments and Decorations of any kind,
 'it is scarcely possible to avoid some risque of
 'a similar suspicion. Whether the supposed va-
 'lue of age has so wholly engrossed the minds
 'of these persons, that they are incapable of seek-
 'ing for other excellence, or whether the fault
 'has originated in a want of sufficient discern-
 'ment to distinguish beauty from deformity, or
 'in an absence of that information or judgment
 'which should have taught them that such dis-
 'coveries cannot be of any use whatever, it is
 'not material to inquire; but certain it is, that
 'county histories and other topographical works,
 'and those also on the subject of miscellaneous
 'antiquity, are often found to contain represent-
 'ations of fibulæ, spoons, knives and spurs,
 'darts, javelins or daggers, celts, arrow-heads
 'of iron and stone, and other trifling particulars,
 'or offensive weapons, which have nothing to re-
 'commend them but a rudeness of workmanship
 'and an apparent antiquity very rarely ascer-
 'tained. *Of these it frequently happens no further*
 '*account can be given, than that it is unknown to*
 '*whom they belonged, and that they have been, by*
 '*the plough-share, turned up from a situation, in*
 '*which, without loss to the science of antiquity, they*
 '*might for ever have remained. No other effect*
 '*can indeed be obtained from the discovery, than the*

‘ addition of so many more to the numberless other
 ‘ similar instances already produced, and what is
 ‘ already sufficiently proved by an adequate number
 ‘ of examples, cannot be rendered more certain by any
 ‘ accumulation of instances.

‘ Few publications of the kind here mentioned, are
 ‘ entirely free from the insertion of trifling and un-
 ‘ important subjects : and it is the more to be re-
 ‘ gretted, because the attention bestowed on them
 ‘ would be much better employed on others of more
 ‘ value, which, in the mean time, are often neglected ;
 ‘ and because it induces many persons, when they see
 ‘ such objects brought into notice as the result of in-
 ‘ vestigation into the manners and customs of anti-
 ‘ quity, to reject a pursuit which leads to no better
 ‘ an end, as of little value, and fitter to be dis-
 ‘ carded than embraced. If such an opinion is how-
 ‘ ever entertained, it is the fault of wrong applica-
 ‘ tion, not of the study itself ; for the study of an-
 ‘ tiquity is in fact that of history general and par-
 ‘ ticular at large, and comprehends not only local and
 ‘ personal, but every other branch connected with the
 ‘ transaction and administration of human affairs,
 ‘ and the government and events of various nations
 ‘ in all parts of the world. Indeed what has been
 ‘ said of a commentator, that, in explaining the text,
 ‘ he must have before him all the possible senses in
 ‘ which the passage can be taken, may, with little al-
 ‘ teration, and equal truth, be applied to an antiquary,

*‘ who, in forming an opinion as to the age of any
 ‘ structure, must not only have in his mind the cha-
 ‘ racteristic distinction of that period to which he
 ‘ assigns it, but also every variation and modifica-
 ‘ tion of those which preceded and followed it; and
 ‘ unless added to this he has an intimate knowledge
 ‘ of the history and principles of architecture, sculp-
 ‘ ture, and painting, an acquaintance with heraldry,
 ‘ and a great variety of other miscellaneous intelli-
 ‘ gence, he will often find himself embarrassed to
 ‘ decide, and frequently betrayed into impossible con-
 ‘ jectures.’*

To the silly observations he has chosen to make on this passage so imperfectly stated as it is by him, for he has omitted to notice all that is here printed in *Italic*, I shall only reply that my objection is directed merely to specimens, the age of which cannot be ascertained, or which are brought to prove a fact already sufficiently established; that instances without dates can never shew the progress of the arts; that medals, coins, urns, and statues, must, to be of any use, point out by their inscriptions or some other indubitable marks what is their age; that the date of arrow-heads can never be known; and that the pieces of painted glass are direct instances not included or intended to be included in my objection, because, in *many* cases, they are beautifully coloured and well drawn as to pieces of foliage; and in *all*, the

age of them is decidedly shewn by the evidence of records which fix them to the time of Edward the Third. I may add to all this, that, as the original passage will not bear the construction he has put on it, and it was because it would not, that he omitted to notice the latter part, his sorrow is affected, and his weak, laboured, and puerile vindication of antiquarian pursuits evidently talking, like a parrot, by rote.

His motives cannot be doubted; and it must be allowed he has been very consistent throughout: for after having inserted an extract from the Preface to explain to the reader the nature and extent of the work, he proceeds, p. 123, in these words: ‘As these extracts correctly allude to the
 ‘ plan, and amply explain the nature of the
 ‘ work which we are about to contemplate, it is
 ‘ now time to see how the promises contained in
 ‘ the proposals have been fulfilled; or, in other
 ‘ words, how it is executed.’ And then follows this paragraph: ‘Mr. Smith, for as it is impos-
 ‘ sible for us to entangle our minds or those of our
 ‘ readers with the division of the parts betwixt
 ‘ him and Mr. Hawkins as they appear in the ad-
 ‘ vertisement, we shall therefore consider the
 ‘ former of these gentlemen as the editor of this
 ‘ work, the whole of which has come under his
 ‘ inspection.’

The next paragraph begins with the following words, which immediately, and without interruption, succeed the passage just given, and are, indeed, the consequence of the resolution there declared : ‘ Mr. S. then states,’ &c. Another begins thus : ‘ Mr. S. then proceeds.’ And in p. 125, the description of Westminster is given to Mr. S. He says, p. 126, ‘ the plates of the Painted Chamber lead Mr. S. to make these observations.’ Again, p. 127, he says, ‘ This difficulty Mr. Smith has unquestionably felt, because we observe he has with laudable industry strove as much as possible to steer his literary bark as clear of the Scylla of conjecture, and the Charybdis of probability, as the nature of his work would allow ; and wheresoever he has cast anchor, endeavoured to do it in a port of certainty.’ To give similar passages would be endless—to enumerate all would be to transcribe almost the whole of his review, for the same conduct is observed throughout. It is therefore sufficient to say, that, p. 294, the deduction of arguments from the records, by which, as he says, the fact as to the original designer of the chapel is in his opinion successfully ascertained, is described as Mr. S.’s ; and, indeed, the *authorship* of the whole work, except the Preface, is, in every instance throughout the review, uniformly and decidedly ascribed to Mr. Smith, personally.

I know not by what words in the language any fact, however strong, can be proved, if these passages do not shew a gross and wilful partiality, exerted in contradiction to Mr. Smith's own acknowledgment in his advertisement: and it is the more singular that the reviewer should have so *glaringly* departed from his duty, because in his own Magazine for the very month in which his review begins, and but five pages before, is an Essay signed G. B. on impertinent Criticism, in which the duty of a reviewer is distinctly laid down, and in such a manner as to prove the flagrant immorality of such conduct *. In the reviewer's opinion, however, it seems that Mr. S.'s confession is no evidence of my share in the work; but, on the contrary, a ground for attributing the whole to Mr. S. With a distinct confession before inserted p. 51 in this pamphlet, that he knew many parts were written by me, and that, therefore, two persons were concerned in the work, and the enumeration by one of them of passages attributable to the other, the reviewer chooses to ascribe to the person making this enumeration the whole of the work; for though he professes only to consider Mr. S. as the *Editor*, it is evident he represents, and intended to represent him as the *Author*.

* The Essay here mentioned contains some very strong reasons, of which it is fit the public should be aware, and it is therefore recommended to the reader's notice, and as deserving a better place than in a periodical publication.

If he were too indolent to specify the particular parts, which, in justice to his readers, he ought to have done, it was incumbent on him *as a duty*, if he meant to be correct, instead of saying ‘ Mr. S. states,’ or ‘ Mr. S. proceeds to give an account,’ &c. to have said, ‘ The work states,’ or ‘ The book proceeds to give an account,’ &c. But that he did distinctly know what passages belonged to each, so as to avoid censuring Mr. S. is manifest from this circumstance, that though he has, p. 200, censured the enumeration of the rooms in the old palace, which is mine, as useless, he has totally omitted to notice Mr. S.’s note inserted by him without my knowledge, p. 232 of the work, in which is contained an account of Mr. and Mrs. Pearson, with a list of their works, though no part of it can have the least possible connexion with the subject. Neither has he noticed any one of Mr. Smith’s grammatical errors, if indeed he had skill enough to discover them, for his own production is extremely faulty in that respect, as will be presently shewn. There is, indeed, a manifest disposition, throughout the review, entirely to veil all Mr. S.’s faults, and a decided intention to give him, in contradiction to evidence, the whole merit of the letter-press; but if the reviewer has ever seen Mr. S. as I believe he has, for I understand both Mr. S. and Dr. Gower are acquainted with him, he must know that to assert, either verbally or in his Review,

that he could even *believe* Mr. S. able to write such a work, would justly call in question his own understanding, and ruin the reputation of his Magazine. The plan of Westminster, as it was in the time of Richard the Second, and which he mentions, p. 202, was drawn out by me from a copy of an old deed of that time. I made sketches before Mr. S. made his drawing, which I can shew among my papers; and when Mr. S. made his drawing, I dictated to him from my statement of the deed in my manuscript, the measures, the direction and shape in which the lines were to run; and the names of the spots, as put into it by him, were all dictated by me to him, and I saw him put them in while I sat by.

The charge of gross partiality having been thus completely substantiated ‡, I shall now give the reader some specimens of his ignorance both as an antiquary and a grammarian. In p. 201, he thus expresses himself: ‘We would here hint

‡ The Oxford Review, said to be the production of some young men educated at Dr. Valpy’s school at Reading, follows Mr. Moser in attributing the whole work to Mr. Smith, and is therefore so far liable to the same observations; but it is evidently conducted by very young critics, and betrays strong marks of inexperience. It seems to have been drawn up from a perusal of the former part of Mr. Moser’s, not from the book itself, as it deals much in general, not specific commendation, and does not point out any fresh circumstance or passage.

‘ to Mr. S. that it is much easier to assert than to
 ‘ *prove* that the generally accurate Stow is egre-
 ‘ giously mistaken. The expression along nigh
 ‘ to the Thames, is indefinite, and might either
 ‘ mean close to, or at some distance, provided no
 ‘ other chapel intervened ; and surely the vicinity
 ‘ of the present House of Commons to the
 ‘ Thames, is sufficient to authorize the term
 ‘ *nigh*.’ If the reviewer had understood my ob-
 jection, which it is evident he did not, or had
 known the situation of the buildings, of which
 he is manifestly ignorant, he would not have
 made so absurd an attempt to vindicate his fa-
 vourite author in a point where he is decidedly
 wrong.

Stow has said, edit. 1618, p. 892, speaking of
 St. Stephen’s chapel, and its re-erection by Edward
 III. that ‘ he builded it for them from the house
 ‘ of Receipt along nigh to the Thames with in the
 ‘ same palace, there to inhabit ; and since that
 ‘ there were also buildings for them betwixt the
 ‘ Clock-house and the Woolstaple, called the
 ‘ Weigh-house.’ My objection to this is stated
 in the following words in Mr. S.’s book, p. 81 :
 ‘ In many of these particulars Stow is most egre-
 ‘ giously mistaken. The chapel does not stand,
 ‘ as he represents it, from the house of Receipt
 ‘ along nigh to the Thames ; but this was actually
 ‘ the situation of houses for the vicars, which

' were erected afterwards. Again, they never had
 ' any buildings to reside in between the Clock-
 ' house and the Woolstaple; but they had a grant
 ' of a piece of ground abutting on the lane,
 ' which lane led by the Clock-house to the Wool-
 ' staple, and on that piece of ground houses for
 ' the dean and canons were afterwards built.—
 ' The lane led from east to west, and these
 ' houses stood from south to north, as will ap-
 ' pear hereafter. His blunder arose from not ob-
 ' serving, on reading the grant, which was the
 ' direction of the boundary line, and which was
 ' that of the ground enclosed—and that the last
 ' description which he has given, referred to the
 ' lane, and not the houses.'—I shall only here
 observe, that the house of Receipt, or, as it is now
 called, the Receipt offices of the Exchequer, and
 St. Stephen's Chapel, or the House of Commons,
 stand parallel to each other, and not at right
 angles; and therefore it cannot be true that the
 latter stands, as Stow asserts from the house of Re-
 ceipt, along nigh to the Thames; for had it stood
 as he says, one must have stood from north to
 south, the other from east to west, whereas they
 both stand from east to west.

The reviewer has said in a passage imme-
 diately following that, in which he says the vici-
 nity of the House of Commons to the Thames is
 sufficient to authorize the term nigh, ' The

' same observation will extend to the date which
 ' the father of our civic history gives to the build-
 ' ing, which is from the period that it was finished,
 ' or at least that its establishment was formed.
 ' Westminster Abbey,' he says, ' is said to have
 ' been built A. D. 914 *; yet it is certain that the
 ' erection of so large a pile as even the first was,
 ' could not have been completed in one year; the
 ' date therefore it is most probable referred to the
 ' time when it was finished. The same may be
 ' said of St. Paul's with respect to its building
 ' and rebuilding, to London bridge, St. Martin's
 ' church, and an hundred other fabrics; it was the
 ' common mode of expression in former ages;
 ' and if we look at some of our public buildings,
 ' we shall see it adopted in dates even in our
 ' time.'

Stow's assertion, of which this is intended as
 a vindication, was, that this ' chapel was again

* Where the reviewer got this date I know not. It is un-
 noticed by all those who have written the history of Westmin-
 ster Abbey; nor have I been able to meet with it elsewhere.
 Widmore states the supposed original foundation of Westmin-
 ster Abbey to have been in 604, 605, or 610; and would
 himself place it between 730 and 740, but I know from evi-
 dence he is mistaken.—It is supposed the reviewer intended this
 as the time when it was rebuilt by St. Dunstan. I have no
 where found the precise year of that event ascertained, nor was
 it then large, as William of Malmesbury calls it *cœnobiolum*,
 and says it was only for twelve monks. *Scriptores post Bedam*,
 edit. 1597, fol. 141.

‘ since of a far more curious workmanship new
 ‘ builded by Edward III. in 1347 ;’ and I had
 said, and I still contend I am right, that he
 ought to have placed it in 1330, because the re-
 cords from which I produced extracts proved
 it was begun at that time. Every antiquary
 knows the date of a building is to be reckoned
 from the time of laying the foundation-stone, and
 not its completion : the ages of all our cathedrals
 are so computed. The present Dormitory for the
 King’s scholars at Westminster is uniformly said
 by all who speak of it to have built in 1720, be-
 cause the first stone was then laid, notwithstand-
 ing that it was not finished till several years after.
 Winchester cathedral is said to contain the archi-
 tecture of four centuries ; but its age is always com-
 puted from its commencement, and not the date
 of the last. Henry the Seventh’s chapel is always
 said to have been built in 1502 * or 1503 †, be-
 cause in that year the first stone was laid *, though
 it was not finished in 1509, when the founder
 died, as appears by his will. And the age of the
 present Westminster Abbey is always computed
 from the time when Henry the Third began to re-
 build it, not from the year 1735, when the
 towers were erected, till which it was however in-
 complete.

* Stow’s Survey, edit. 1633, p. 499.

† Stow’s Chronicle, edit. 1615, p. 485.

I had objected to Stow's placing, as he does, the clochard or bell-tower of St. Stephen's chapel in the Sanctuary, Westminster, which is in fact that open place where Westminster Abbey now stands; and had shewn, from Widmore's History of Westminster Abbey, founded as it is on the evidence of records belonging to the church, that the bell-tower of the Abbey stood in the Sanctuary, and that it is so termed in records of the time of Edward I. To this I had also added the circumstance, that in the north-west corner of the cloysters belonging to St. Stephen's chapel, now part of the Speaker's house or apartments, there was, and is still in part, a large square stone tower of sufficient strength to hold bells, and most probably, from the marks in it still visible, formerly used for such a purpose. These facts, together with the unreasonable distance from St. Stephen's chapel, I had stated as grounds why the building in the Sanctuary was not, and why this in the cloysters was, the bell tower of St. Stephen's chapel; and I still think them and the other particulars sufficiently strong to justify me in asserting, as I again do, that in all these instances Stow is egregiously mistaken. But the reviewer has chosen to undertake Stow's defence on this head also in the following words, p. 201:

‘ Leaving the variety of proceedings respecting
 ‘ the building and endowment of the chapel of St.
 ‘ Stephen to the examination of the curious, and

‘ observing at the same time that many of the
 ‘ notices which the editor has collected well de-
 ‘ serve attention, we shall only remark, that,
 ‘ with respect to the situation of the clochard or
 ‘ bell-tower, we think that Stow was correct,
 ‘ though we cannot agree with Widmore that the
 ‘ cellars of the Quakers Tavern, for it must be
 ‘ them that is meant, were ever a part of it: these
 ‘ vaults *, which were certainly belonging to a
 ‘ church or chapel †, were situated too far west

* ‘ That these vaults (for there were several extending quite
 ‘ to Bow Street, Thieving Lane, where we think part of their
 ‘ walls remain to this hour) had been used for the purpose of
 ‘ interment, the vestiges of which we have many years since
 ‘ been informed by some of the then most ancient inhabitants
 ‘ of Westminster were discovered about the year 1750, fully
 ‘ convince us: perhaps our venerable and respected friend Mr.
 ‘ Gayfere has still some recollection of this subject: we think
 ‘ that he remembers the building of Westminster market.—
 ‘ *.* The ground was all the Sanctuary, and consequently,
 ‘ for the purpose of interment, esteemed doubly consecrated.
 ‘ *Editor.*’

† ‘ Most probably, nay, we might say most certainly, the
 ‘ church of St. Innocents. The extracts taken from the re-
 ‘ cords of the Court of Exchequer, but too long to quote,
 ‘ now before us, describe lands said to be contiguous to the
 ‘ church of St. Innocents, and which run down to the Thames
 ‘ in Westminster Street; so that the church must have stood on
 ‘ the west side of King Street, which was formerly we believe
 ‘ called Westminster Street: we know that the Strand never was.
 ‘ The inference drawn from Theobalds Road, however inge-
 ‘ nious, will not in the smallest degree bear Mr. S. out in his
 ‘ hypothesis.’

‘ to have ever been the foundations of the bell-
 ‘ tower of St. Stephen’s chapel, though we think
 ‘ that there is as little probability of the belfry
 ‘ of Westminster Abbey having once occupied
 ‘ the site to which we allude; for leaving the
 ‘ absurdity of placing it at the distance of the
 ‘ whole breadth of St. Margaret’s church-yard
 ‘ and the highway from the Abbey out of the
 ‘ question, of what use could the vaults that we
 ‘ have mentioned have been to a belfry? These
 ‘ kind of inquiries are the *play-things* of the hu-
 ‘ man mind; and dispute as long as we will, like
 ‘ the learned Mahometan doctors in the contro-
 ‘ versy about the feather plucked from the wing
 ‘ of the angel Gabriel, every one departs per-
 ‘ fectly satisfied with his own opinion *.’

When a man is determined not to give up a
 favourite opinion, the shortest way is, to refuse
 to be convinced by any evidence. This the re-
 viewer has in effect done by rejecting Widmore’s
 evidence of the existence in the Sanctuary of a
 bell-tower belonging to the Abbey. It is true,
 that from this circumstance a man’s understand-
 ing may be reasonably questioned, but he has
 the satisfaction of still maintaining his favourite
 point; and the weaker are his reasons in such
 cases, the stronger in general are his assertions

* ‘ Voltaire, *Candide*, ou l’ Optim, par. 1.’

that he remains convinced. To apply this to the present occasion, the reviewer here has termed it absurd to place the bell-tower of Westminster Abbey at the distance of the whole breadth of St. Margaret's church-yard, and yet has declared his belief that Stow was correct in placing the bell-tower of St. Stephen's chapel at a distance considerably greater; besides the probable intervention, in the latter case, of houses and other impediments, and the certainty that in the former there could be no such. Sagacious gentleman! He calls these inquiries the *play-things* of the human mind; but they are *play-things* that are far above such a *child* as himself.

Ill as I had, and have strong reason from the instances before given, and those which are to follow, to think of the knowledge and understanding of the reviewer, it was not without astonishment that I read the following note which occurs p. 201. It refers to some vaults which he supposes to have belonged to a church or chapel, and has been before given as a note on a passage taken from him (see p. 68 *supra*), but was thought so extraordinary as to merit re-printing in the text, and to require animadversion: 'Most probably, nay, we might say most certainly, the church of St. Innocents. The extracts taken from the records of the Court of Exchequer, but too long to quote, now before us, describe

‘ lands said to be contiguous to the church of St.
 ‘ Innocents, and which run down to the Thames
 ‘ in Westminster Street ; so that the church must
 ‘ have stood on the west side of King Street,
 ‘ which was formerly, we believe, called West-
 ‘ minster Street : we know that the Strand never
 ‘ was. The inference drawn from Theobalds
 ‘ Road, however ingenious, will not, in the smallest
 ‘ degree, bear Mr. S. out in his hypothesis.’

Strype, who first formed this conjecture, and who for many years resided at Hackney, might perhaps be in some measure excused for not sufficiently knowing the spot ; but the reviewer is perpetually boasting of his full knowledge of the topography of Westminster, and ought not to have admitted such an impossible conjecture ; for that it is so, will appear from the following circumstances. If St. Innocents church stood on the west side of King Street, and if the land was, as it is here described, contiguous to the church, and extended to the river, it must have extended eastward, and have crossed King Street and New Palace Yard, because that is the only direction in which from the west side of King Street the land could have extended to the river. This any common map will shew, but in so doing it must effectually have cut off all access to Westminster Abbey, Westminster Hall, and the palace at Westminster ; a supposition manifestly impossible.

This also any common map will shew, notwithstanding the pretensions which the reviewer makes to an accurate knowledge of the spot, and his affecting to be thought an antiquary from his crude conceptions perpetually vented in his Magazine, under the title of ‘ Vestiges collected and ‘ recollected by Joseph Moser, Esq.’ and his puerile vindication before noticed of antiquarian pursuits. After all that the reviewer has said, St. Innocents church in the Strand is the church meant. His favourite Stow has ascertained that there was a church of that name there* : and Strype, speaking of the Strand, book 4, p. 105, edit. 1720, says, ‘ In former times it was an ‘ highway leading from London to Westminster, ‘ and so was called in a deed.’

Nor was it with much less surprise that I found the following words in p. 298 : ‘ We perfectly ‘ agree with Mr. S. that the King represented in ‘ the fourth plate is not Edward III.; but we cannot suppose with him that it is not the portrait ‘ of any one; because the absurdity of exhibiting a royal figure that had not the smallest application to any person, could not have passed unobserved in a period of such sagacity as the ‘ reign of the above-named monarch. We ‘ therefore are induced to believe that it was designed to represent John of Gaunt, King of

* Stow, 1618, p. 829.

‘ Castille *, and Leon, who assumed this title in
 ‘ 1371; and a circumstance that strengthens
 ‘ this conjecture, and leads us rather to believe it
 ‘ was him than Richard II. though the youth of
 ‘ that subject might perhaps warrant that opinion,
 ‘ is, that his crown is correctly that of Castille †,
 ‘ the same as that exhibited upon the head of
 ‘ John of Gaunt, in his portrait in the window
 ‘ of the library of All Souls College, Oxford.
 ‘ The figure in the picture in Mr. S.’s work
 ‘ seems to bear in his hand a castellated ornament
 ‘ with three points, and the same appears on
 ‘ the sceptre. These were the insignia of Cas-
 ‘ tille ‡. Whether the surmounting leaves are
 ‘ intended to represent lillies for Leon, it is im-
 ‘ possible to say.’

To all this I shall only reply, that from the cir-
 cumstance of the introduction of the portrait of
 Queen Philippa, who died in 1369 §, and her
 then surviving daughters, for the rest had died
 some years before, the paintings in this part of
 the chapel must, as I had mentioned in the ori-
 ginal work, have been done before that time :
 but Mr. S. has so altered the book, that I have
 not been able to find the passage, and I suspect

* Sic orig. instead of Castile. J. S. H.

† Sic orig. J. S. H.

‡ Sic orig. J. S. H.

§ Sandford’s Gen. Hist. edit. 1677, p. 172.

he has omitted it; that John of Gaunt, as the reviewer himself states, did not assume the title till 1371; that Richard II. having been born in 1366 †, was in 1369 only three years old; that the subject of this painting was the Adoration of the Magi, or three Eastern Kings; that there is no more reason for supposing these portraits, than for asserting that the pictures by all the great masters on this subject must also necessarily contain the portraits of three kings each, a position too absurd to be contended for; that the castellated ornament, as he calls it, which it is not, as it has no resemblance to a castle, is in fact a pix-box, or case for the host, but in the picture was intended as a representation of the case containing the myrrh, spices, and other offerings which they brought; and that the arms of Castile and Leon, as is well known, and might be proved by a multitude of instances of that period, as well as others, are not a castle and *lilly*, but a castle and *lion*.

That a man so grossly ill-informed should ever *pretend* to the character of an antiquary, must be truly matter of astonishment to all rational people; but his conduct affords the strongest confirmation possible of my assertion in the Preface to the original work, that the study of antiquity is, in fact, that of history general and particular

† Sandford's Gen. Hist. edit. 1677, p. 191.

at large, and that without an intimate knowledge of the history and principles of architecture, sculpture, and painting, an acquaintance with heraldry, and a great variety of other miscellaneous intelligence, an antiquary will often find himself embarrassed to decide, and frequently betrayed into impossible conjectures. This passage, with the rest, before inserted p. 55, he thought fit disingenuously to omit, for the purpose of misrepresenting me by putting a false construction on the portions he chose to select; but it is now brought forward to his confusion.

From his terming, as he does, p. 295, the records from which I have given extracts, 'the patent rolls of the Exchequer,' it is plain he knows nothing of the nature of records. A Patent or open writ, is so called, because it may be opened without destroying or defacing the seal which gives it its authority. It is of parchment, and has a seal, or (to speak more correctly) an impression in wax from the seal, hanging to it, but it is not closed round the middle with wax, as the Close writs are. The difference as to their use seems to have been this, that where a man was commissioned to do an act, or had any grant made to him, and it was necessary his authority should be produced to another, there a Patent writ was employed, that he might open and shew it, without destroying the seal, or injuring its au-

thenticity ; but where a man was ordered to do an act, the authority for which need not be proved to another—as for instance, to buy a horse, an image, a book, or gown, or to provide a chair, a door, &c. there it was done by a close writ ; because, after he had received it, the evidence of the seal was no longer wanted. In order, however, that these transactions might be recorded, these writs, of each sort, were copied or entered on two sets of parchment rolls, the patent writs on one, the close writs on the other ; and hence came the names of the Patent, and Clause, or Close rolls, at the Tower, which are still to be seen and consulted there, and which will fully justify this explanation, for I have repeatedly seen, read, and had copies from them. The accounts contained in the rolls, and which I have given, never were inserted in either of these sorts of writs, and indeed are of a quite different nature, but were brought in as money accounts, and passed and allowed on the production of vouchers, like other accounts in the Courts of Exchequer and Chancery, before the proper officer appointed for that purpose ; after which they were entered or recorded on these rolls. Patent rolls, therefore, is an improper term, and only proves him ignorant of the subject.

He hints, p. 126, a wish that a plan which he mentions as occurring in Mr. S.'s book, had been

in parts, such as the hall, the Cotton Garden, Palace Yard, &c. properly tinted, or, as it is termed, as he says, *illuminated*, and says it would, as an object of reference, have been rendered more useful. Cotton Garden, which belonged at one time to the Cotton family, was never called ‘the Cotton Garden,’ and it would have been absurd if it had, as the appellation would have implied that cotton had been grown there, or that it had been the garden to a cotton manufactory. Tinting and illuminating are different operations; the former is well known to every body, and is visible in every coloured map, and no one that has ever seen a manuscript missal or service-book, can be ignorant what the latter is, or that the term is here improperly used.

I am tired of pointing out instances of his incapacity, and shall therefore only add, that the expressions, “These kind of inquiries *,” “rather to believe it was him †,” and “for it must be them that is meant ||,” are grossly ungram-

* Vide supra, p. 69.

† Vide supra, p. 73. Upon looking into Mr. S.’s book, p. 250, I find nearly a similar expression, namely, “it could not be him;” and I take this opportunity to declare it is not mine; I wrote it, “that it could not be he;” but the whole passage has been much altered by Mr. S. since I saw and corrected the proof, and he has made it ungrammatical in the instance above mentioned, which it was not before.

|| Vide supra, p. 68.

matical ; and that the passage before inserted from him (see p. 58, above) beginning, ‘ Mr. Smith, for ‘ as it is impossible,’ &c. and containing the words ‘ we shall therefore,’ &c. is improperly connected, for that one of the two conjunctions *as* or *therefore* ought to have been omitted.

After such an enumeration of instances, it is impossible to entertain any other sentiment than that of contempt for the principles and understanding of the reviewer ; and yet this is the man who pretends to decide on the merits or defects of the productions of others, who undertakes, according to his own motto, to tell the world

‘ Quid sit pulchrum, quid turpe, quid utile, quid non * ;’

and to endeavour, as far as he is able, to stamp on them the character which they are in future to bear. The disgrace to which he has exposed himself on this occasion, will, it is hoped, teach him what, though often repeated, he seems at present not to know, that, besides being, as they are, moral duties, honesty, and fair and candid dealing, are also the best policy ; that nothing but public detection, contempt, and public disgrace, can follow from base and dishonourable conduct ; that the assumption of the office of a reviewer does not confer the ability to execute it ; nor are reviewers the *only* persons of common sense, or the

* See his Review for August 1807, p. 121.

only competent judges of literary productions; that, notwithstanding their affected concealment, it is possible for a man of good moral character, education, and spirit, and who feels himself master of his subject, to drag them forth to infamy; and that a few such instances will unquestionably stamp on the reviewer and his work such a character in future, as they will not be able to efface, and such as, together with that of his work, will prove the ruin of his personal reputation also. Nor will it avail him in this case to attempt to suppress this pamphlet by buying up the impression, as has been sometimes done on similar occasions, for a numerous impression has been printed, and such effectual measures have been taken for a very extensive circulation before any for sale were delivered out, as no exertions of his *can* counteract.

When haughty Guilt exults with impious joy,
Mistake shall blast, or accident destroy;
Weak man with erring rage may throw the dart,
But Heav'n shall guide it to the guilty heart.

DR. JOHNSON'S IRENE.

JOHN SIDNEY HAWKINS.

No. 71, Titchfield Street,
5th May 1808.

THE END.

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