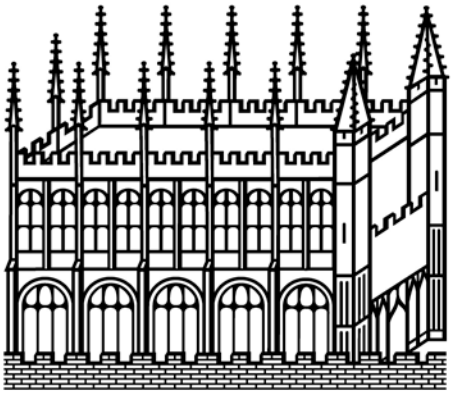

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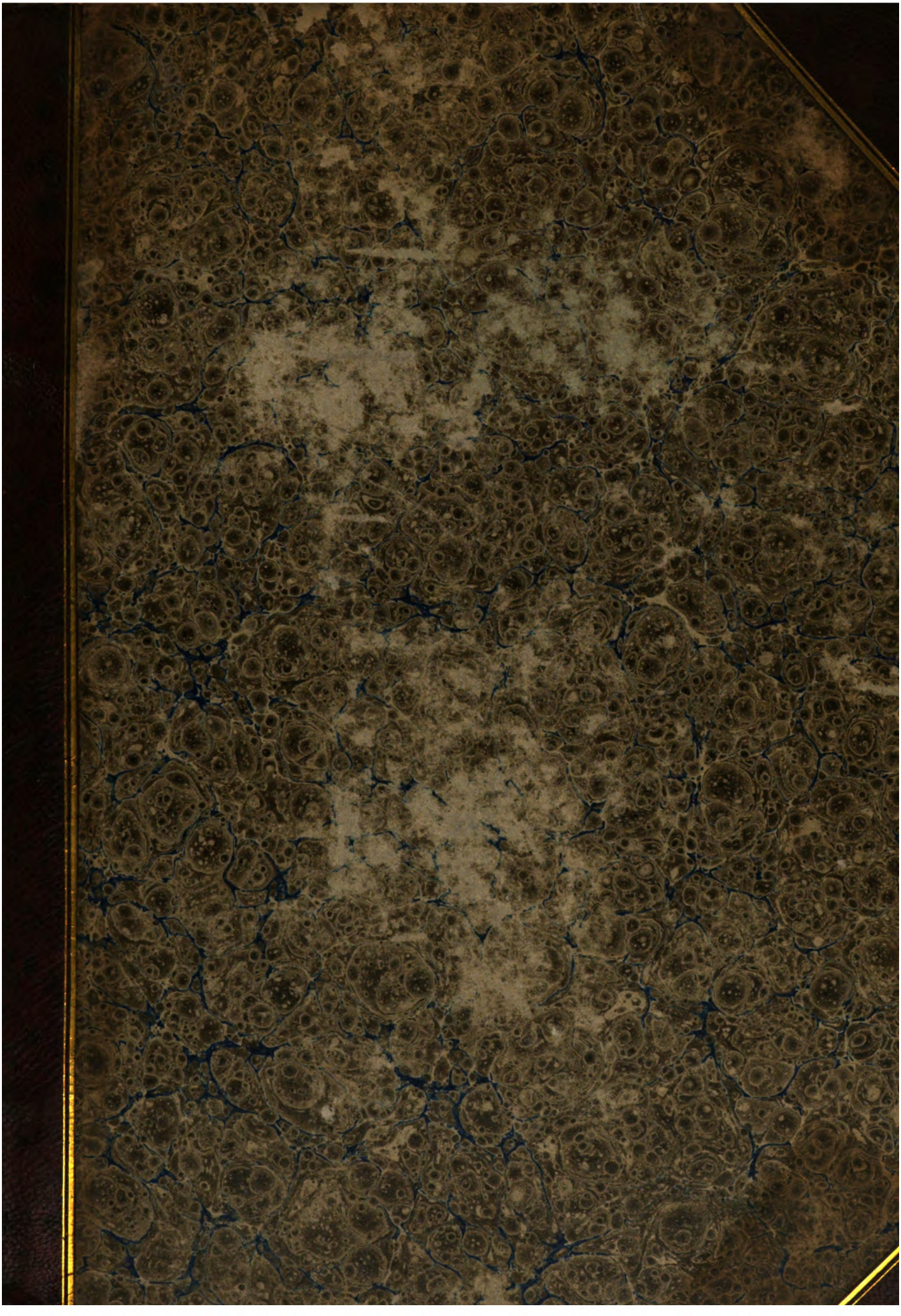

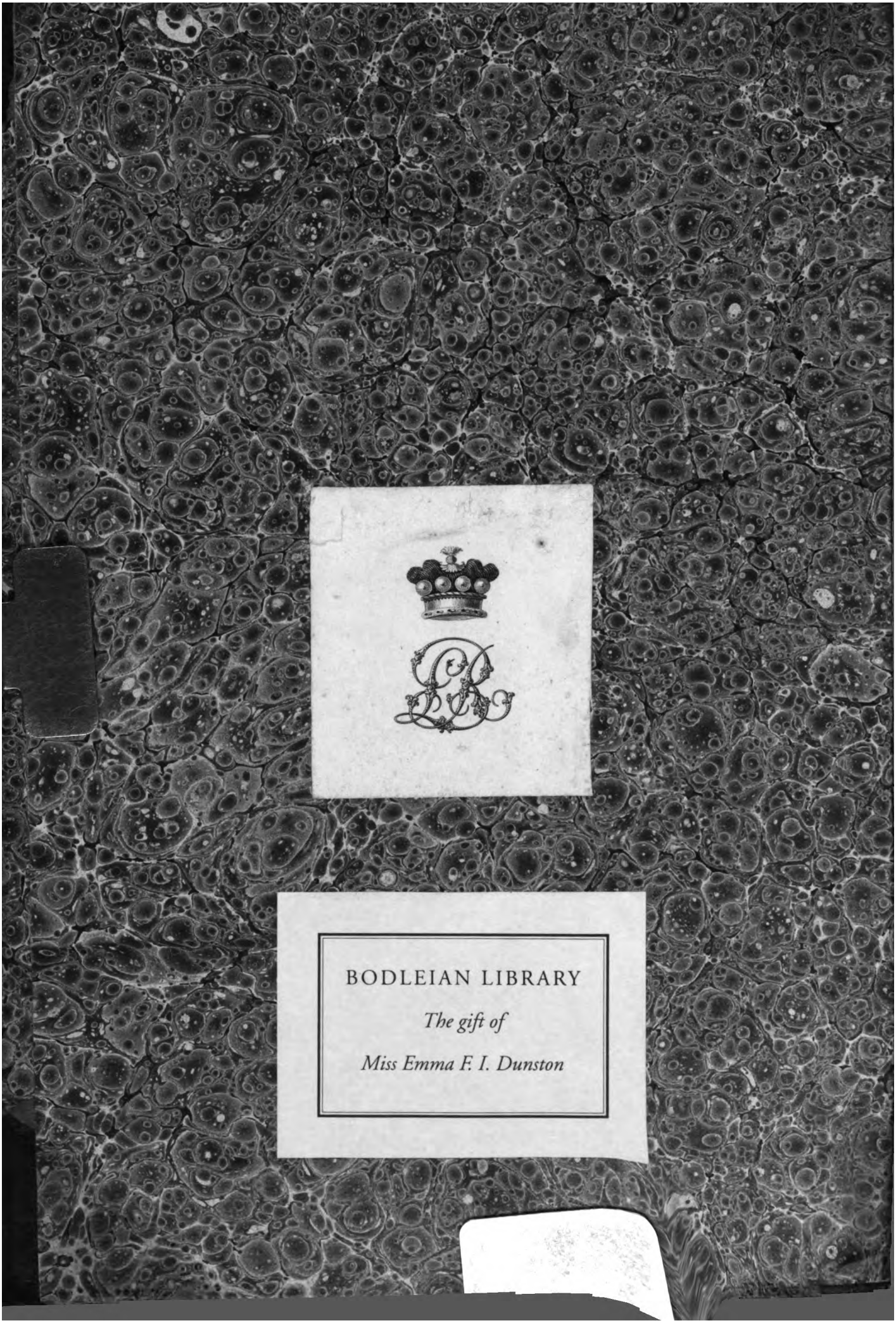
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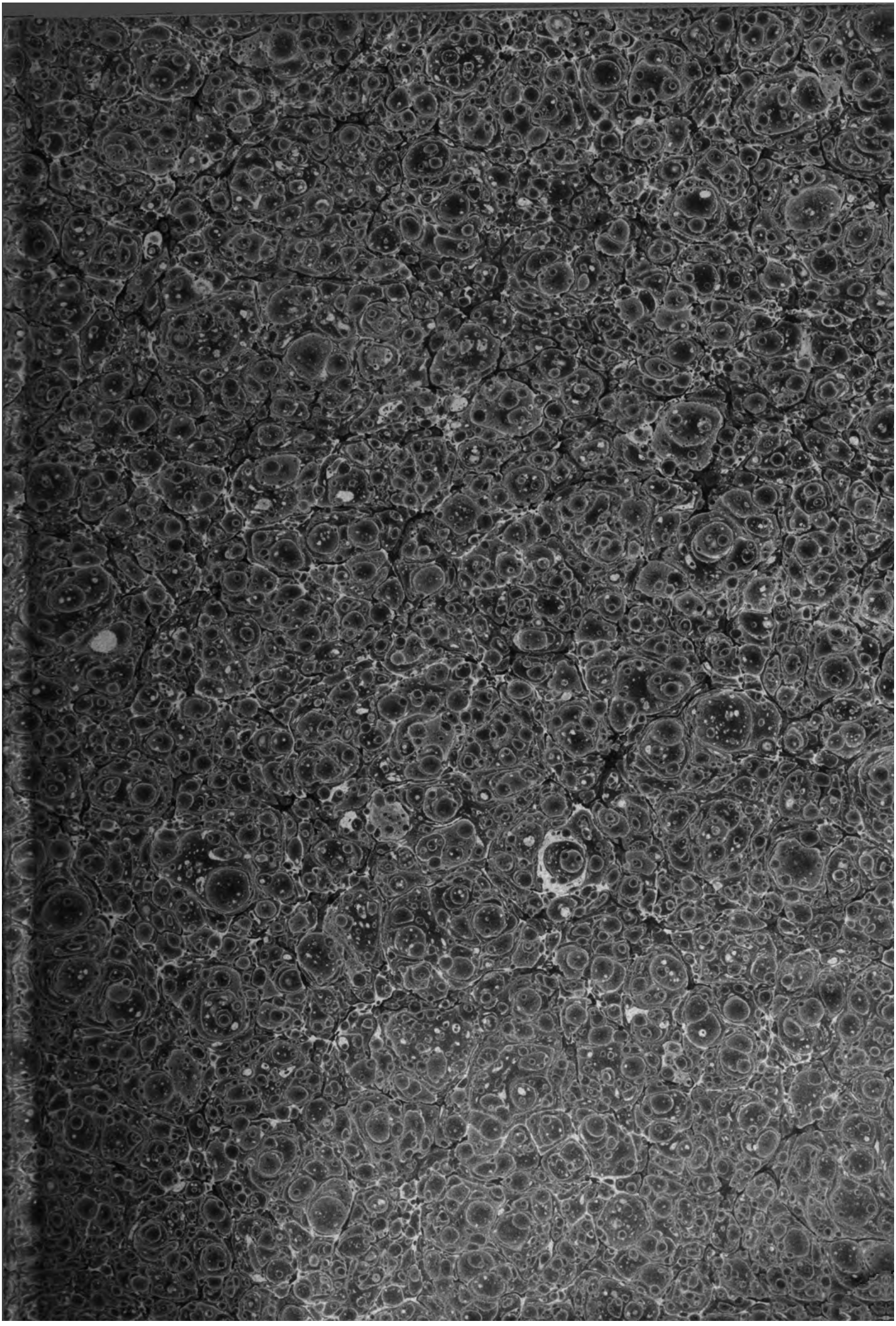

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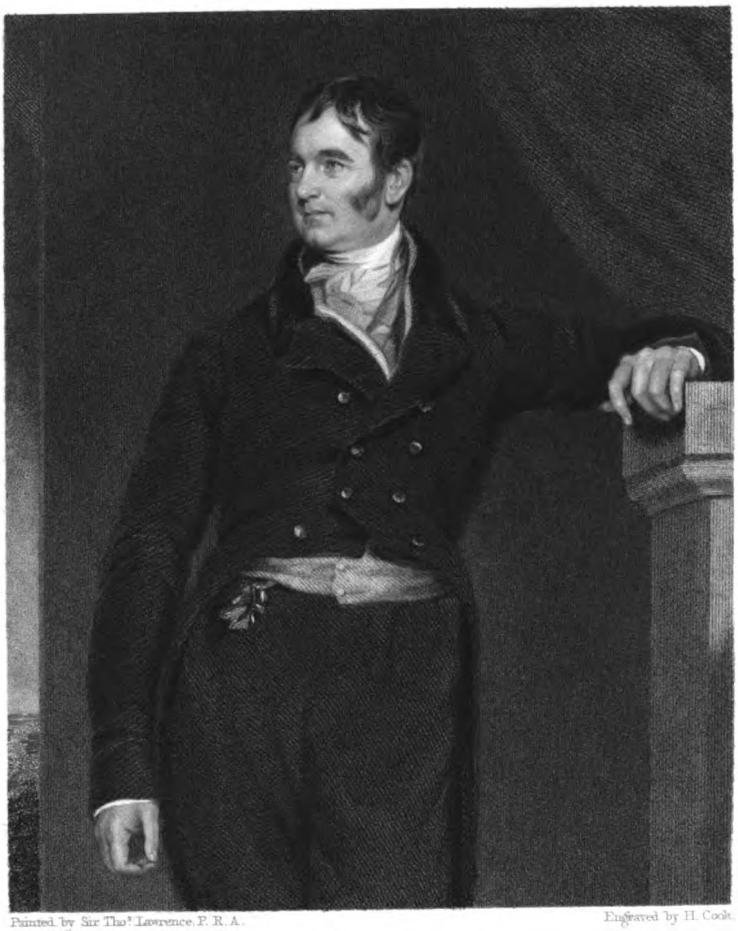

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THE R.T HON.BLE HENRY-FITZMAURICE-PETTY. D.C.L. F.R.S. MARQUESS OF LANSDOWNE.

Lansdowne

FISHER, SON & Co. LONDON. 1838.

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VOL. V.

LONDON:

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1834.

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THE MOST NOBLE

THE MARQUIS OF LANSDOWNE.

HENRY PETTY, third Marquis of Lansdowne, Earl of Shelburne, &c. was born at Shelburne House, on the 2nd of July, 1780.* The father of the present Marquis of Lansdowne was the celebrated Earl of Shelburne, created Marquis of Lansdowne in 1784; and his mother, the second wife of the Earl, was Lady Mary Fitzpatrick, daughter of the Earl of Upper Ossory. By his former marriage Lord Shelburne had two sons, of whom the one died at an early age; and the other, though he survived his father, retained the honors to which he was born for four years only, and at his death they descended to the present possessor. One evidence of the special hold which he had upon the fondness of his father is to be found in the mode of his education. Lord Shelburne had a great dislike to public schools; and his elder sons were accordingly indebted for their education to the private tuition of Drs. Priestley and Price. The influence of the youngest son, however, prevailed over the aversion of the Father; and he was permitted, in accordance with his wishes, to avail himself of the advantages of Westminster school. From Westminster he removed to Edinburgh, where, together with some other noblemen, he resided under the roof of Professor Dugald Stewart, and,

* Among his ancestry, Sir William Petty, born at Rumsey, in Hampshire, in 1623, is deserving of particular praise. This extraordinary man appears to have attained a degree of eminence in every branch of science. He is regarded as the father of political economy in this country; he was one of the principal founders of the Royal Society, an eminent physician, and natural philosopher, and a very voluminous writer on miscellaneous subjects.

in concurrence with those studies by which he has gained his literary reputation, laid the foundation of his parliamentary eminence, by joining himself to the Speculative Society, which was at that time in its zenith, and to which the present Lord Chancellor, and other distinguished senators, were indebted for their early practice in debate.

After leaving Edinburgh, he repaired to the University of Cambridge, where, at Trinity College, he closed his academical career, and graduated honorably. On his return from college, he travelled for some time upon the Continent, accompanied by M. Dumont, subsequently well known as the translator of the writings of the late and lamented Jeremy Bentham; and shortly afterwards commenced his public life by taking his seat in the House of Commons, as member for the borough of Calne, in Wiltshire. At this time, Lord Henry Petty was but twenty-one years of age, and, during the first year or two of his parliamentary course, manifested none of those qualities which have subsequently characterized it, excepting modesty and caution; and these only by preserving an entire silence, and so declining to commit either his principles or his reputation. His first speech in parliament was delivered on the 13th of February, 1804, on the Irish Bank Restriction Bill, and in this early effort he not only indicated the superior talents as a statesman, which have since distinguished him, but also the path in which they were destined for a time to be chiefly employed. Both public and private considerations, probably combined to direct the special notice of Lord Petty to the state of Ireland. Its condition at that, as at all subsequent periods, was calculated to attract and fix the attention of every legislator; besides which, it offered some further claims to the regard and the industry of his Lordship, as containing the possessions from which his family derived large revenues, and their first title.

But it was not until April, 1806, that Lord Petty fully discovered to the House of Commons those great talents which made him the worthy opponent of Mr. Pitt, and which pointed him out, and fitted him for, the important functions he was destined to exercise. This was on the debate respecting the conduct of Lord Melville as treasurer of the Navy. Mr. Pitt on this occasion interposed his shield before his colleague; in spite of which Lord Petty, with a degree of energy and intrepidity which marked the justice of his cause, while it gave the omen of its success, prosecuted his attack until he had fixed upon the treasurer the charge of peculation and corruption. This was, as has been said, his Lordship's most powerful and happiest effort. It evinced

so comprehensive a knowledge of his subject, such aptitude at arrangement and argumentation, such nervous and manly eloquence,—and these so honorably employed in the detection of abuses, and the maintenance of public virtue,—as gained the warmest applause, and drew from his friend Mr. Fox, in particular, a tribute of admiration the most cordial and flattering.

The period now arrived at which this nobleman was called to public service of a more arduous and responsible kind. In 1806, the extraordinary man, who had for so many eventful years directed the fortunes of his country, sunk under the weight of those anxieties which the perilous and convulsed state of Europe multiplied upon him; and his colleagues, unable to direct the complicated machinery which Mr. Pitt had constructed, and which his hand alone could wield, gave place to a cabinet, formed on principles radically different, under the auspices of Mr. Fox and Lord Grenville. In this administration Lord Petty was called to fill the office of Chancellor of the Exchequer, in which, as in the representation of the University of Cambridge, he immediately succeeded Mr. Pitt. Upon entering on this office, his Lordship evinced his discernment by engaging the present Bishop of Lincoln for his private secretary. This gentleman had graduated at Cambridge two years previously, and had distinguished himself as a young man of the highest literary attainment, by taking the degree of senior wrangler, besides high classical honors. This was an appointment of no small importance to Dr. Kaye, as it prepared the way for his subsequent elevation, the rapidity of which has been proportioned to his merits. He was elected Master of Christ's College, Cambridge, in 1814, and became Regius Professor of Divinity in 1816; in 1820, he was presented with the bishopric of Bristol, and in 1827 was translated to the see of Lincoln, which he fills at the present time.

Of the policy of those financial measures which were adopted by this short-lived administration, and for which Lord Petty is *ex-officio* responsible, it is beside our object to add one more to the various opinions which have already been expressed. The most general one appears to be, that the selection of so young a man to fill an office which requires so much of that knowledge which experience alone can supply, was of itself unwise and inauspicious. At the same time, the whole tenor of his life offers convincing proof, that the acts of his administration were dictated by that noble superiority to the temptations of selfish ambition, in the absence of which greater political sagacity is but the occasion of more extended desolation and distress.

But whatever may be thought of the financial measures proposed by Lord Petty, there were other respects in which he doubtless constituted a vital part of this cabinet. Some memorable measures of justice and benevolence reflect their lustre on this brief interval of Whig administration; and in the origination of these measures, considerable influence must be attributed to Lord Petty, if we may judge from the prominent part which he has subsequently taken in advocating and perfecting them, and in carrying out the great principles which they recognize, to their more remote and subordinate issues. It will be obvious that one of the principal measures we refer to was the abolition of the slave-trade in 1807. This great act of justice was, in the first instance, originated and carried through by this nobleman and his colleagues. But the efforts of Lord Petty did not cease here. He watched the working of the measure with continual vigilance; and in 1814, we find him moving an address to the Prince Regent, expressing "the deep regret of the House that their exertions for the abolition of the slave-trade had not been attended with more complete success, and praying that means might be taken more completely to secure the merciful intentions of the legislature." In support of this motion, he addressed the House (of Lords) with great energy; and with such effect, that his motion passed without opposition. Again, in June, 1821, he called the attention of the House of Peers to the existing state of the slave-trade; and moved an address to his Majesty, the chief object of which was to point out the breach of their engagements, with which some of the continental powers had made themselves chargeable by persisting in this inhuman traffic. The cabinet with which Lord Petty was associated continued for but a short time after the passing of the measure for the abolition of the slave-trade. Their fatal failure was upon the Catholic Relief Bill; and if they felt any degree of disappointment on retiring from office, it must have been more than compensated by the pleasure of finding from recent events, that they were only so far unfit for the government of their country, as they outstripped their age; and, anticipating the spirit, endeavoured to antedate the events of a day of greater light and liberality.

Upon the dissolution of parliament, Lord Petty again offered himself to the University of Cambridge; but so great was the consternation of that body in consequence of his efforts in favour of the Catholics, that after the election his name was found at the bottom of the poll, and he accordingly took his seat, at the commencement of the new parliament, as member for the borough of Camelford, and about the same time reunited the noble families of Ilchester and Lansdowne, by

a happy marriage with his cousin, the Lady Louisa Emma Strangeways, daughter of the Earl of Ilchester, by whom he has issue two sons and one daughter. His continuance, however, in the lower house was of but short duration. His half-brother, who then bore the title of Marquis of Lansdowne, died in 1809; and Lord Henry, succeeding to the estates and titles of his family, took his seat in the House of Peers.

Here his Lordship's public conduct was distinguished by the same features which had characterized it in the early stages of his career—the same catholic spirit, and the same liberal policy, both foreign and domestic. We regret that our limits allow of our taking but a brief review of it. Upon the discussion of the Regency bill, he strenuously opposed the restrictions upon the power of the Prince over the second branch of the legislature, as unconstitutional in their character. In 1819 he warmly supported the bill for rendering the produce of the consolidated fund available for the public service; and in the following year concluded a very able and comprehensive address to the house, by moving for a committee to take into consideration measures for extending and securing the foreign trade of the country. In 1822 his Lordship again brought before the house the suffering condition of Ireland, which he attributed not only to those causes which were producing distress in all agricultural districts, but also to some that were peculiar to that country—as, injudicious taxation, a defective magistracy, absenteeism, and the tithe system. In March, 1824, the Marquis of Lansdowne resumed the question of the South American States, urging the ministers to acknowledge their independence; thus forwarding the very measure, the consummation of which gave occasion to Mr. Canning's eloquent hyperbole, that he had called a new world into existence.

The time now arrived when the Marquis of Lansdowne was called to serve his country in a more responsible situation. Early in the year 1827, the seals of office had devolved, by the death of Lord Liverpool, upon Mr. Canning; and immediately on his accession, he availed himself of his Lordship's co-operation as Secretary of State for the Home Department. The duties of this office were discharged by him with his accustomed ability and industry; and the cessation of these functions, at the lamented death of Mr. Canning, was not the least unfortunate circumstance which constituted that event a most serious national calamity.

On the death of Mr. Canning, in 1827, he was invited to join the cabinet formed by Lord Goderich; and, during its brief existence,

filled the office of Foreign Secretary. But the speedy dissolution of that administration again placed his Lordship in the ranks of opposition, and so gave occasion to some of the most conspicuous and important services by which he has benefited his country. In April, 1828, a measure for the repeal of the Corporation and Test Acts was forced upon the Wellington Cabinet by the vote of the House of Commons; and the motion for going into a committee upon the bill in the Upper House called forth one of the noblest efforts of his Lordship's oratory. His speech was distinguished throughout for its eloquence, its liberality, and the respect it manifested for religion; and will not be forgotten by those who heard it, or by those whose rights it maintained. "I must protest," said his Lordship, "against what I can never hear without pain and surprise, that these acts of exclusion are parts of the Constitution. I am one who can never subscribe to any such doctrine. King, Lords, and Commons are, I admit, parts of the Constitution, and so is the Church, so long as it meets with their approbation and support. But, are the means which we devise for the support of the Constitution, part of the Constitution itself? They may be necessary, or they may not; they may be rejected, or they may not; they vary according to times and circumstances,—according to the feelings, the prejudices, and, I will even add, the principles of men. But there is one principle of the constitution which never varies; there is one principle in it which I may call its fundamental and pervading principle; and that is, that every subject of the realm is admissible to every office within it. That principle may, I allow, be legally and legitimately suspended; but when we remove the suspension, we resort to the ancient, the fundamental, and the immutable principle of the constitution."

The same opinions, and the same philosophical habit of reverting to first principles, marked his conduct with respect to the Catholic Relief bill. In supporting this measure, it became necessary to deal with the preliminary proposition to put down the Catholic Association; and while he discountenanccd the existence of that assembly, he adverted to the former abortive attempt to dissolve it in the following characteristic remarks—"The cause of the inefficacy of that attempt was to be found in the fact, that it did not go to the root of the evil. It left untouched the circumstances out of which that assembly had sprung. In what other way, then, would they proceed, to prevent the people of Ireland from explaining their grievances? Whether the one intended by the Noble Duke should be a suspension of the liberty of the subject, or whether it

should be the committal of all the members of that body to the Tower, or the Castle of Dublin; so long as the grievances remained untouched, these remedies would be ineffectual. As well might they attempt to remove the danger of a volcano by sweeping into it the cinders which it sometimes cast up; the inflammatory mass would remain, and the attempt to check its vent would probably only cause it to explode in a quarter where it would be least expected, and most injurious."

In perfect conformity with his conduct on these measures, he introduced a bill, in 1831, for diminishing the number of oaths rendered necessary by the laws affecting the Customs and the Excise; and exposed, in a very striking manner, the irreverent and profane character of the system then in force. Nor should we omit to mention the efforts which his Lordship has made, both in and out of parliament, for the amendment of our criminal jurisprudence. Long ago, he perceived the uncertainty and consequent inefficiency of our criminal law, and has, on many occasions, employed his talents to develop and remedy these evils.

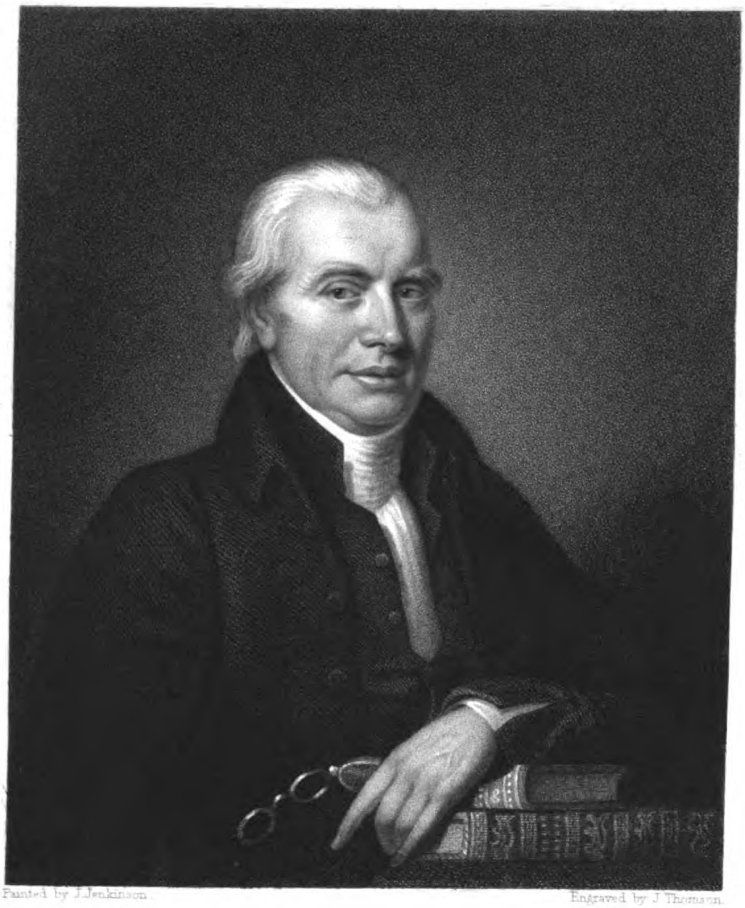
At length, the Marquis of Lansdowne has become re-associated in office with the men with whom he has principally acted through life, and at present fills the situation of Lord President of the Council; and though we hope he is far from having closed his public labours, yet we may safely assert, that he has crowned them by the measures which have rendered the period of this re-union one of the most memorable epochs of English history. The Reform bill, and the other measures alluded to, are too fresh in the memory of all, to require a particular mention in these pages.

From the preceding notices, some general view may be obtained of the political history and character of the Marquis of Lansdowne. He has been eminently distinguished through life for the comprehensiveness of his views, for his contempt of merely party considerations, and for his habitual regard to the great interests of humanity.

The private life of this nobleman has been in perfect consistency with those principles which have regulated his public conduct. He has ever devoted himself with great energy to all objects of public utility and benevolence, and particularly of late years has been foremost to extend the privileges and advantages of education, by assisting in the institution of the London University, and of the Society for the Diffusion of useful Knowledge. Indeed, the temptations to indolence and vice, which necessarily accrue from distinguished rank and wealth, appear to have found him fortified against them, and to have left him

most admired for their opposites—for his public spirit, the amenity of his disposition, and the purity of his life.

The Marquis of Lansdowne has been consistent through life, because through life he has invariably acted upon the principles of truth and justice; and whatever may be thought of the policy of some of his measures, he will doubtless be regarded by posterity, as one who has maintained the only course which, in all the fluctuations of national fortune, deserves to be called *conservative*—which promotes the stability, suspends the decline, and consecrates the ruins of empires.



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ADAM CLARKE. LL.D. F.A.S.

A. Clarke

ADAM CLARKE. LL.D.

F. A. S. ETC. ETC. ETC.

WHEN we look upon the portrait of a man distinguished among his contemporaries by the possession of extraordinary abilities, and still more by the noble and useful purposes to which those abilities were applied, the question naturally suggests itself,—What were the individual traits which have impressed their characteristic influence upon the countenance, and what the events which marked his course?

The brevity of the present memoir will not permit us to enter into the details of a life unceasing in active exertion, both mental and bodily; yet, even from a general view, we may discover the striking features of a godlike mind, a mind gifted with that power of intellect which alone proceeds from the Father of all wisdom, and which, while rendering back glory to its Author, raised the subject of these pages to that high station in the religious and literary world which he so long and uninterruptedly maintained.

In the obscure village of Moybeg, in the county of Londonderry, ADAM CLARKE was born. The parish register having been lost, or perhaps never kept, the exact date of his birth has not been ascertained, but most probably the event took place in the year 1760. His father, John Clarke, was descended from an ancient English family, for several generations settled in Ireland; he had been originally brought up and intended for the Church, but, marrying imprudently early, his prospects were destroyed, and a rapid increase of family caused him to adopt the profession of a public licensed schoolmaster. His wife was a Scotch woman, of the name of M'Lean.

Adam, their second son, was early inured to many hardships, and practically taught the virtue of independence. His education scarcely deserved the name, for the circumstances of the family requiring the attention of the boys to the small farm which they held, the two brothers, Tracy and Adam, were obliged to attend their father's school only on alternate days, and each rehearsed to the other, on his return, the lessons which he himself had acquired.

Adam, though assiduous, was a very slow scholar, and found almost insurmountable difficulty in learning, till at length the bitter taunts of his companions gave a sudden stimulus to his mind, which it

never lost. From this time his progress was as rapid, as his desire after knowledge and his love of reading were intense. The few pence which he could call his own were scrupulously laid by, to purchase books; and to many of the works which then formed his treasured juvenile library, he frequently owned himself indebted for much permanent good. They chiefly consisted of tales of chivalry and enchantment, works admirably calculated to impress upon the youthful heart exalted, though perhaps exaggerated, notions of courage, and constancy, and a firm belief in the existence of a spiritual world. From one of these, the Arabian Nights' Entertainment, he acquired that taste for Oriental literature, which afterwards led to such important results in biblical criticism.

While his faculties were thus exercised in studies suited to his age, the capacities of his soul were also gradually developing themselves with reference to the work for which he was designed. A mother's watchful care had laid, even on his infant years, the restraining influence of the fear of the Almighty, and impressed him with a deep reverence for his word; but this fear remained in his mind unaccompanied by that heartfelt joy and strength of faith which the Christian verity alone can cause to flourish in the heart: for this possession he was induced to seek, by the preaching of the Methodists.

When about the age of seventeen, he became a member of Mr. Wesley's societies, and shortly afterward was sent by him to Kingswood School, where he remained only thirty-two days; but these were days of sorrow and disappointment, his treatment at this institution being discreditable to even common humanity, and the means of instruction few and inadequate. On his leaving Kingswood he was immediately sent forth as a travelling preacher, engaged in the unceasing and arduous duties, and exposed to all the privations and difficulties, which that office then involved. During the first year of his itinerant labours he preached upwards of 500 times, beside giving many public exhortations, and frequently visiting the different families in his circuit, comforting the sick and counselling the afflicted. In most places he obtained universal favour, and his fervid eloquence found a ready witness in the hearts of his hearers: but, in some of the dark places of the land—and these were not few—the vital truths of religion could be proclaimed only through dangers and deaths, lawless multitudes assembling to persecute and to destroy. In such scenes (for he passed through such) the young missionary stood unmoved, strong in the Rock of his trust and the Tower of his defence.

About this time a singular circumstance occurred, the results of

which, had the influence of it continued, would have proved fatal to the future eminence of this distinguished individual. A friend, whose piety was greater than his discretion, strongly reprobated the studies of Mr. Clarke, affirming that they were nothing but incentives to pride and vain-glory. Diffident of himself, and entertaining a high opinion of the religious knowledge of him who thus judged, he was unhappily alarmed into concession, and for some years relinquished all literary pursuits, till more experience, and a juster estimate of his own powers, dispelled the delusion. He now became convinced that the cultivation of his mind was a duty which he owed both to God and man; and, as a teacher of righteousness, he strained every nerve to gain a nearer approach to the Fountain of light, and to bring down thence those treasures of knowledge which at last so abundantly enriched his own mind, and illustrated and enforced the words of revelation.

Few, however, were the facilities which Mr. Clarke then possessed, of satisfying his ardour and thirst after learning; but those which he did enjoy, were used to the uttermost. Miss Kennicott having lent him a copy of her brother's edition of the Hebrew Bible, his attention was much devoted to biblical criticism; a subject which he shortly afterward pursued more fully when he removed to the island of Jersey, where, in the public library of St. Helier's, he had an opportunity of consulting Walton's Polyglott. After carefully comparing, and noting down the variations between the Septuagint, the Vulgate, and the Hebrew text, he was desirous of obtaining a still more accurate knowledge of the ancient Oriental versions, and, by close application, he soon mastered the Samaritan, Chaldee, and Syriac; thus laying a solid and extensive foundation, which he subsequently increased by the acquisition of Persian and Arabic. Some of the stores of learning, thus attained, were also made subservient to the benefit of others. Feeling, himself, the great importance of these acquirements to the successful exercise of the ministerial office, Mr. Clarke, during his second residence in Manchester, constantly opened his study every morning, from five o'clock till seven, for the gratuitous instruction of several young friends in the Greek and Hebrew languages.

A tolerably correct estimate of Mr. Clarke's unwearied diligence, may be formed from the following statement:—From the year 1784 to 1785, he preached 568 sermons, independent of lectures, expositions, &c.; and from 1782 to 1808, he preached no less than 6,615 sermons, exclusive also of exhortations, &c. During his abode in London, for three years, commencing 1795, he walked more than 7,000 miles, merely on journeys to preach in the city and its neighbourhood, not

reckoning his walking on other public and private business. Another remarkable fact concerning that period is, as stated by the late Mr. Buttress, of Spitalfields, his invariable companion, "though preaching at widely distant places, he never gave the same sermon twice, excepting, on one occasion, at my particular request."

In the year 1800, Mr. Clarke published a new translation of Sturm's Reflections, which was shortly followed by his valuable work, the Bibliographical Dictionary. Many were the difficulties which he had to encounter in the prosecution of his literary labours, arising from his small means of procuring the scarce and expensive authors which the nature of his studies required; still, by persevering and judicious purchases, he finally obtained what he desired, and gradually formed, not only an extensive and valuable library, but also a very large and curious collection of MSS., chiefly Persian and Arabic, consisting of many hundreds of volumes. A book-stall could seldom be passed by unnoticed, and many rare and important works were thus obtained. In 1804 he published a new edition of Fleury's Manners of the Ancient Israelites, with numerous notes; and in 1807 the first volume of a Concise View of the Succession of Sacred Literature, since brought to a conclusion on an enlarged plan by his youngest son, the Rev. J. B. B. Clarke.

About this period Mr. Clarke gave his efficient aid, and became a most zealous assistant, to the British and Foreign Bible Society, being one of the earliest members of its committee; his intimate acquaintance with Eastern literature, manners, and prejudices, enabling him to give much important advice toward the successful accomplishment of the noble objects which it had in view. He himself constructed the scale of types used in the translations of the Scriptures into the Calmuc dialect.

The varied information and well-known talents of Mr. Clarke were now called, though reluctantly on his part, into a still more public sphere by his connection with Government as a sub-commissioner appointed to investigate the Records of the Nation. To his care was committed the important and responsible task of preparing and arranging the materials for a corrected and enlarged edition of Rymer's Fœdera; an arduous work, both as regarded the difficulty of its accomplishment, as well as its heavy demand on time already so fully occupied. During ten years he continued his labours in this department, though twice having tendered his resignation; which the extreme difficulty of finding an adequate substitute obliged the commissioners to refuse.

From his constantly accumulating toil, the health of Mr. Clarke

suffered very severely; his body was worn down by ceaseless exertion, and his spirit was exhausted by these public engagements being added to his ministerial duties, for, with *their* due performance he never allowed any other occupations to interfere: but what chiefly undermined his health was the close study and minute investigation which were necessary, and were diligently employed in laying up stores of materials for that great work, on which his fame as well as usefulness will ever securely rest—his Commentary on the Holy Bible.

His design in undertaking it is briefly described in the title, "A Help to a *Better Understanding* of the Sacred Writings;" and to the completion of this design he brought all his resources of piety, experience, learning, science, and general knowledge, under the direction of sound judgment, and arrangement of patient accuracy. Each verse was first literally translated from the original, and all its various readings carefully collated, after which his own opinion was formed, and temperately expressed. The *sense* of Scripture was enforced by every illustration which the vast creation, both of mind and matter, could furnish to the exploring of a spirit capacious of all excellence, comprehensive in its grasp, and unwearied in its energies.

During his residence in London in 1796, the notes were first regularly commenced, and an accident shortly afterwards occurred, which had nearly terminated their course abruptly. He left the comment on the book of Job by mistake in the house of a friend; on discovering his loss next morning, he returned, and found that his friend's servant had used the sheets as waste paper, to fold up ends of candles: when reproduced, they were in a deplorable state; still they were legible; or, as he afterwards frequently observed, he should never have had the courage to write them again, or to proceed with his undertaking. Genesis was published in the year 1810, and the whole work completed about fifteen years afterwards.

Thus far we have traced Mr. Clarke labouring with success; but there was one object which lay very near his heart, in which, about this period, he failed. He was well aware of the great additions and emendations which might be made to Walton's Polyglott, in consequence of the improved state of biblical criticism, and the fresh sources of accuracy for the text of Scripture, which have been discovered since Walton's time; he was, therefore, very anxious that a new edition should be undertaken: he laid down plans, formed scales, drew up proposals, obtained the support of several spiritual and lay lords, and wished that the Bench of Bishops should be the sole directors of the design, being careful solely for the due execution of the object, and

cheerfully proposing that Government and the Bench of Bishops should have all the credit of the work: he earnestly longed for the good to be achieved, and sought none of the fame which would be attendant on its success. For some time, the scheme seemed to prosper, but ultimately, to his great grief, it failed; and a Polyglott, answerable to the means possessed for a standard text, is still a desideratum.

The talents of Mr. Clarke were justly appreciated in the literary world, both by eminent individuals and learned societies. He was honored by the friendship of his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, (who visited him several times at Heydon Hall,) Lord Teignmouth, Professor Porson, Professor Lee, and many others, distinguished alike by their rank and talents. On the decease of Professor Porson, he published a Narrative of his Illness and Death, with a fac-simile of an Ancient Greek Inscription, which was the chief subject of the Professor's last literary conversation. In 1808 he received high testimonies of public respect in the successive presentations of the diplomas of M.A. and LL.D. from King's College, Aberdeen, for which the University refused to accept even the usual fees. Other learned bodies also elected him a Member of their Societies—the Royal Society of Ireland, the Society of Antiquaries, of England, the Royal Asiatic Society, besides several others, both in England and America.

The latest work which he published was three volumes of Sermons, a fourth being left incomplete.

But not alone in the literary world will the name of Adam Clarke be revered and honoured; his memory will live from father to child, among the thousands who have owed their present as well as eternal welfare to his exertions. While residing in Manchester, in 1791 he was the means of first organizing the Strangers' Friend Society, an admirable Institution, now widely spread, and as extensively useful.—A Mission to the Shetland Isles, which being remote, and difficult of access, had long remained neglected, was originated by him, and supported by his exertions. Twice he personally visited each of the Islands, and, by his influence among his numerous friends, raised funds for the relief of their temporal wants, and for the maintenance of adequate preachers in the most important islands.

In most instances of his appealing in behalf of any charity, he was remarkably successful, being generally able to raise nearly double the amount realized by the most popular of his fellow-preachers; yet this was usually effected by a few sentences at the close of his sermon, by which he had called into life the best feelings of the soul: thus prepared, they only needed the direction of him who had summoned

them into being; and then they proved, by the results, how powerfully he could speak to the heart.

Dr. Clarke always took an active interest in the welfare and prosperity of Ireland, the land of his nativity; and one of the latest acts of his life was the establishment of schools for the neglected population in the north of the County of Antrim.

In the year 1788, Dr. Clarke had married Mary, the eldest daughter of J. Cooke, Esq., of Trowbridge, a lady whose gentle yet firm virtues, united to a cultivated mind, enabled her truly to be one in spirit with her affectionate husband. His family consisted of three sons and three daughters, who survived the period of their childhood. By his children he was regarded with intense affection; veneration for his character heightening the fervent love which his conduct as a father inspired.

The manners of Dr. Clarke were simple, kind, and cordial; his domestic habits were regular and active; he constantly rose at five o'clock in the morning, and continued in his study, when freed from necessary interruptions, until eight in the evening, after which he joined his family circle, and enjoyed some hours of social intercourse, never yielding to the indulgence of studying late at night—a practice destructive to the best energies of the mind, if not fatal to life itself.

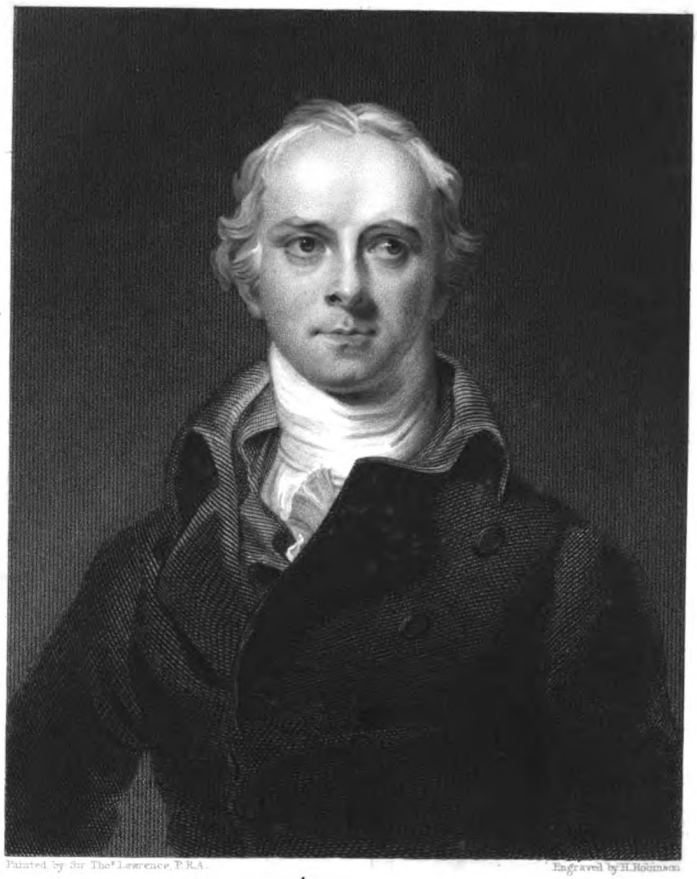
To escape from the overwhelming engagements which were perpetually pressing upon him in London, and materially injuring his health, Dr. Clarke purchased an estate called Millbrook, near Liverpool; and, during his residence here, he received into his house and home two young Budhu Priests, who had voluntarily come over from Ceylon to learn the Christian faith. He instructed them in our language, habits, and in the doctrines of our Religion: they became warmly attached to him, and, after being baptized, returned to their own people, among whom they still continue to dwell, teaching the truths which they have received.

In 1824, Dr. Clarke purchased, and removed to, Heydon Hall, in the county of Middlesex, where he remained till the period of his decease. His valuable life was suddenly terminated by an attack of the cholera, on the 27th of August, 1832, in the seventy-third year of his age. His funeral was attended by thousands of mourners, and the body was deposited in a vault adjoining that of his early friend and teacher, the Rev. John Wesley.

In the life thus briefly narrated, there are few striking incidents or remarkable events. Adam Clarke was distinguished from his fellows by no happy coincidences or fortunate accidents; the narrative of

his life is simply the history of a man who made all circumstances bend to his will, and that will was—the glory of his God, the welfare of man, and the cultivation of his own understanding to its utmost limit. His mental powers were sustained in full action, by a strength of determination which never gave way under difficulties and toils. With a partial knowledge, he could never rest satisfied; in all things he sought full conviction; and, though *reasoning* became thus the habit of his mind, Dr. Clarke was no controversialist: so great was his aversion from all disputes, that he declined giving any reply to the attacks made upon his writings and opinions, contented in stating his own belief, with the grounds upon which it rested, and leaving it to stand or fall by the force or deficiency of its own truth. His attachment to the religious society of which he was a minister, was unshaken and fervent; never for a moment did he waver in his love of Methodism, though this did not render him incapable of strong feelings in approbation of the Church Establishment: its liturgy he always esteemed as the purest composition of devotional exercise, next to the scriptures; and wheresoever he was able, he invariably used it in all its offices. His sentiments on this subject were uniform, as many still living can witness; and his correspondence will amply prove, that the Church of England in its government and doctrines was a direct blessing from the God of heaven to these lands, and that it was the grand preserver, under God's providence, of pure and undefiled religion. Another striking characteristic remains to be noticed—his entire freedom from ambition of power: revered by the religious body with which he was connected, he yet had NO PARTY among them; his influence was used for *them*, without one grain of self-exaltation; he was identified with them as an individual, not as a chief. Unsought also, though not unesteemed, were the many honors which spoke the testimony of the public to his learning and merit.

Adam Clarke walked with men in the pure integrity of a blameless life, and with his God in the fervent sincerity of an upright and holy conversation.



Painted by Sir Tho.s Lawrence, P.R.A.

Engraved by H.Hoffman

SAMUEL LYSONS, ESQ. F.R.S.- F.A.S

Sam.l Lysons.

FISHER SON & Co. LONDON 1833

SAMUEL LYSONS, ESQ.

V.P.R.S. F.S.A.

KEEPER OF HIS MAJESTY'S RECORDS IN THE TOWER.

AMONG the eminent literary characters with which the present age has been so signally distinguished, but few have occupied a more prominent station than the subject of the present memoir, or will longer or more deservedly be cherished in the memory of those who were best acquainted with the extraordinary powers of his mind, and the amiable qualities with which that mind was adorned. Yet how few are the incidents, which a life devoted to literature or to science, generally presents to the pen of the biographer!

MR. LYSONS was born on the 17th of May, 1763, and was the younger son of the Rev. Samuel Lysons, rector of Rodmarton, near Cirencester,—an ancient and considerable family, which has for several generations been settled in Gloucestershire, and whose principal seat and patrimonial property are situated at Hempstead in that county.

His clasical education was principally acquired under the Rev. Nathaniel Morgan, in the Grammar-school at Bath, and, being designed for the bar, he was afterwards placed in the office of a Mr. Jefferies, an eminent solicitor in that city, to be initiated in the forms of the common law; and during this early period of his life, he became introduced, through his uncle who resided there, to many of the most distinguished persons, who then occasionally made Bath the place of their abode, and whose attention and esteem, his excellent qualities seldom failed to engage, whilst the peculiar energy of his mind, and his various acquirements, secured that friendship and interest, which afterwards brought him forward in the first literary circles in the metropolis, and determined his future course and fortunes in life.

Having previously entered at the Inner Temple, he removed from Bath to London in November, 1784, and finished his legal studies under Mr. Walton, a distinguished special pleader; after which he practised in that branch of the profession till the year 1798, when he was called to the bar. It is well known, however, that the only road to eminence in the law is by an unwearied devotion to that pursuit, without the admission of any rival object. Few there are whose natural turn of mind leads them by choice to that dry and laborious study; and if the want of such a bias ever stood in the way of any man, it presented an insurmountable barrier between the great and estimable character now before us, and a distinction in that profession which in his early days had been chosen for him. His talents were unquestionably such as might have raised him to its highest ranks and honors; and to these were united those powerful auxiliaries to forensic excellence,—a graceful and commanding person—a flow of language—a penetrating eye—and a power of voice, which can never be forgotten by those who have heard it. But the natural bent of Mr. Lysons' genius was too strong to be overcome: it was fixed on exploring the antiquities and early history of his country; and the friendship and intimacy which he had cultivated, from so early an age, with Sir Joseph Banks, and most of the learned men of his day, tended, no doubt, to wed him to his favourite objects.

In 1786, when only twenty-three years of age, Mr. Lysons was elected a member of the Society of Antiquaries; and it may justly be said, that no individual ever more zealously or more successfully supported its character and usefulness than he: few have ever contributed so largely or so valuably to its objects, and he continued the most ardent interest in its honor till his death. During eleven years, he held the honorary office of Director; but this he resigned in 1809, as it required more of his time than his other avocations and duties would allow; and, in November, 1812, he was appointed one of its Vice-presidents.

In July, 1796, he was introduced, by Sir Joseph Banks, at Kew, to his late Majesty, King George the Third, the Queen, and the Royal Family, who, from that time, continued to honor him with their frequent notice, and always evinced a lively interest in his discoveries and pursuits: but these honors were not the most important result of this incident in his life; for to this introduction may be traced a subsequent event, which decided his future course, and not only rendered him independent of a profession which he had always regarded as a toil, but enabled him to pursue, with greater ease, his more congenial

studies, and to produce those splendid works which reflect so great and lasting honor on his name and country.

In the month of February, 1797, he was elected a member of the Royal Society; and, in 1810, had the distinguished honor of being appointed its Vice-president and Director, which offices he filled with extraordinary zeal and ability till his death.

Till the beginning of the year 1804, Mr. Lysons continued to practise with considerable success at the bar, and went the Oxford circuit; notwithstanding his increasing distaste to what he often forcibly termed, "brawling in a court of justice." At that period, however, an event occurred which left him to the uninterrupted pursuit of those objects for which his mind was so peculiarly framed. At the close of the preceding year, the office of Keeper of the Records in the Tower had become vacant by the death of Mr. Astle; and, chiefly through the kind influence of some members of the Royal Family, added to his then well-known character and qualifications, it was conferred on Mr. Lysons; and the zealous manner in which he performed its duties, and the services he rendered his country by providing for the better preservation and arrangement of those valuable muniments, entitle him to the regard of posterity; for whatever might have been effected in former ages towards reducing the records to a state of usefulness and safety, a very large and important portion of them lay in a state of total disorder and neglect, when Mr. Lysons entered upon his office, and their consequence was almost wholly unknown; but, by the most determined perseverance with the Government, he obtained an enlarged and competent establishment, and by directing attention to those masses of disregarded treasures, large collections of royal letters, state-papers, and parliamentary and other documents, of the highest value and importance as evidences of our history, laws, and government, were rescued from filth and decay, and restored to a state of usefulness and order.

Mr. Lysons' first literary production was a large folio volume on the antiquities of his native county, Gloucestershire, consisting of an hundred and ten plates, accompanied with copious descriptions, of the most remarkable churches, castles, and other ancient remains. These were all etched by himself, with extraordinary accuracy and spirit, from his own drawings,—an Herculean task, which was begun at an early period of his life, and completed in 1798.

About the year 1793, the discovery of a large extent of Roman antiquities at Woodchester, in the same county, presented a new and very interesting field for his genius, on which he produced a most splendid

and laborious work. It consists of forty plates of Mosaic pavements, and remains of Roman architecture, in Colombier folio, coloured after the originals, and accompanied with descriptions and historical observations, which at once displayed a vast extent of erudition and depth of research into the early history of Britain, and the manners and customs of her Roman conquerors. By this work, which was published in 1797, he gained great reputation and honor, which was subsequently enhanced by a succession of similar discoveries, which he published on the same splendid scale, under the title of "Reliquiæ Britannico-Romanæ." It forms three folio volumes, corresponding with the Woodchester, and contains figures of Mosaic Pavements, at Horkstow, in Lincolnshire—remains of two Temples, and other Roman Antiquities, discovered at Bath—figures of Mosaic Pavements found at Frampton, in Dorsetshire—figures of Roman Antiquities discovered in Kent, Cheshire, Durham, Lancashire, Cumberland, Northamptonshire, Somersetshire, and Wilts—sixteen plates of Roman Antiquities discovered in Gloucestershire—remains of a Roman Villa discovered at Bignor, in Sussex—and Mosaic Pavements and Roman Remains found in various other parts of England.

Of this magnificent work, on which he was occupied down to the period of his decease, only fifty copies were completed for sale; and it exhibits a collection of Roman remains, far greater in extent, and superior in execution, to any thing of the kind ever before published in this or any other country. It was completed at an expense of many thousand pounds; but by it he extended his well-earned fame, not only in England, but in learned societies abroad.

In the year 1800, Mr. Lysons, in conjunction with his brother, the Rev. Daniel Lysons, commenced their great topographical work, the Magna Britannia; the first volume of which, containing the counties of Bedford, Berks, and Buckingham, was published in 1806; and in it, taking the counties in alphabetical order, they had proceeded as far as Devonshire, comprised in six quarto volumes, when the death of the younger brother, the subject of this memoir, unfortunately prevented its further progress. In this work, the authors have given the general history of each county; its civil and ecclesiastical divisions—monasteries, and other religious foundations—borough and market towns—population—family pedigree and history—gentlemen's seats—forests and deer parks—geographical and geological description—natural history—manufactures—antiquities, and other necessary matters, arranged in a convenient manner for reference, under distinct heads; after which the parochial history, containing an account of the descent

of property and other local particulars, is classed alphabetically. The sources whence this useful work was compiled, independent of the best printed authorities, were the national records preserved in the several public repositories, the manuscripts in the British Museum and other public libraries, private muniments, and a personal survey made by the authors themselves in each parish, through the several counties on which they wrote. The whole is illustrated with maps and numerous other plates, a large proportion of which, particularly in the earlier volumes, were drawn and etched by the younger brother, whose biography we are now sketching.

Besides these, Mr. Lysons had begun, or had in contemplation, several other works, of which the world is unfortunately deprived by his death; he was also a frequent contributor to the Archæologia, the volumes of which contain several interesting communications of his on the subject of antiquities, chiefly Roman. Indeed, his capacious mind was never at rest: it grasped at more than any individual power could accomplish; and when we view all the productions of his pen, his pencil, and his graver, it is astonishing how any person, with his numerous other avocations, could have done so much. His drawings were made with great accuracy and spirit; and to this talent, and his skill in etching, which has rarely been equalled by an amateur, may be attributed the great extent and variety of his graphic productions. But this laborious course of life, particularly his ardent devotion to that prejudicial occupation, engraving, to which, especially in his earlier days, he frequently sacrificed his rest night after night, had made inroads on a constitution otherwise good and strong; and for two or three years before his death, those who saw him most, perceived a rapid decay in his strength and appearance of health: he latterly suffered much from shortness of breathing, and in the month of June, 1819, was taken suddenly ill at Cirencester, where, a few days afterwards, he died, of ossification of the heart.

In 1818, the last public tribute of admiration was paid to this estimable and learned man, by the Royal Academy of Arts. The honorary office of antiquary professor in that Society being revived, Mr. Lysons was chosen to fill it, and his appointment met the most cordial sanction of the Prince Regent.

There were but few eminent men of his day, either as literary characters or patrons of literature, that Mr. Lysons did not number among his friends and acquaintance. On a short visit to London in the summer of 1784, to enter at the Temple, he was the bearer of an introductory letter from Mrs. Thrale to Dr. Johnson, who in his letter

of acknowledgment, dated the 26th of June, says, "this morning I saw Mr. Lysons; he is an agreeable young man, and likely enough to do all that he designs—I received him as one sent by you ought to be received, and I hope he will tell you he was satisfied." This was the only time he saw Dr. Johnson. When he returned to London in the following November, to pursue his studies for the bar, he called at Bolt Court, with the intention of profiting by his introduction; but, alas! that great star of literature was then almost set. Dr. Johnson was too ill to be seen, and died not many days afterwards. In the first week that he came to settle in London, he was introduced to Sir Joseph Banks, with whom he continued on terms of intimate friendship till his death. His first introduction to Horace Walpole, at whose interesting villa at Strawberry Hill he was always a welcome guest, was about the same period; and with Sir Thomas Lawrence, who left Bath about the same time with himself, he continued in cordial friendship during the remainder of his life; and scarcely any one had so fine a collection of the portraits and exquisite drawings of that eminent artist as he,—all being the spontaneous and gratuitous efforts of his pencil.—At Mr. Lysons's request, Lord Orford sat to him for a beautiful pencil drawing, and also Sir Joseph Banks, for the fine portrait, which, since Mr. Lysons's death, has been given by his brother, the Rev. Daniel Lysons, to the British Museum, and now graces the committee room of that institution.

To his profound knowledge of the history and antiquities of his country, Mr. Lysons united great classical learning; and the comprehensive powers of his memory, which enabled him to retain accurately, and recall readily whatever he had read or heard, materially assisted him in his labours, and also gave peculiar attractions to his conversation, by supplying him with an inexhaustible fund of information and anecdote. The singular enthusiasm with which he devoted himself to his favourite pursuits is well known to the literary world; but the warmth of his private attachments, and the affectionate feelings which he displayed in all the relations of domestic life, could only be seen within the circle of his family and nearest friends; and among these his memory will always be associated with sentiments of the strongest regard: for there was experienced, under every circumstance, the invariable firmness of his friendship, and the genuine goodness of his heart: indeed, in all the qualities that distinguish and adorn a man, as a son, a brother, and a friend, it is impossible to do justice to his memory.

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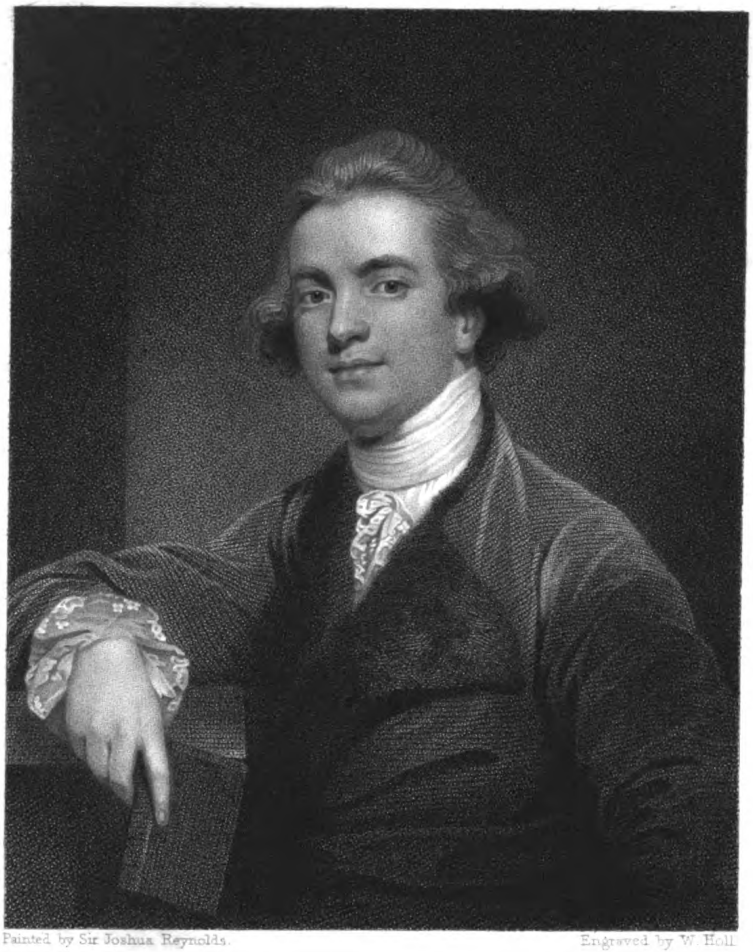


Painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds. Engraved by W. Holl.

SIR WILLIAM JONES

W. Jones.

J. MURRAY, LONDON 1793

SIR WILLIAM JONES.

THAT an ardent love of elegant literature must necessarily prove an impediment in the career of a professional man, can scarcely, in these times, need to be denounced as among vulgar errors. In minds possessed by the passion, but not possessing the power, of literary excellence, it may be wise to establish safeguards against the undue encroachments of this, as of any other inordinate tendency; but it is frequently through this medium alone, that characters destined to be the light and ornament of society, are enabled to reach their proper level, or to diffuse their energies through the extensive sphere which they are appointed by Providence to fill. By means of the intellectual wealth brought home from discursive inquiry over the regions of poetry, philology, oratory, and even romance, a more effective stimulus to effort is imparted, not only in those which are rightly distinguished as the liberal professions, but in every pursuit not absolutely mechanical—if we are to except even these—than can possibly be withdrawn in consequence of the attention being occasionally diverted from the direct but narrow line of a single pursuit. The divine is, of necessity, a man of literary taste and habits; but it may also be fearlessly asserted, that the lawyer, the physician, the merchant—nay, the manufacturer and agriculturist, in the higher departments of their respective occupations—will each be in a condition to prosecute his aims, with an efficiency in no small degree answerable to the care employed in imbuing his heart and intellect with the sentiments and the truths to be derived from those studies, which, in the language of the schools, are appropriately termed *the Humanities*. A striking example of the justness of these observations, is seen in the accomplished subject of the following sketch.

SIR WILLIAM JONES was the youngest child of Mr. William Jones, an eminent mathematician and natural philosopher, and the author of several works on mathematical science, remarkable for accuracy, and a perspicuous neatness of style and arrangement. He survived the birth of his illustrious son in 1746, only three years. The loss of his paternal care, however, was well supplied by that inestimable

advantage, to which not a few of the most excellent and distinguished men have owed the formation of their minds, and the ground-work of their celebrity—the attentions of an intelligent and devoted mother. The plan of education adopted by this lady might not seem, in common cases, the most judicious; but in its application to the happily constituted mind of her son, it proved eminently successful. "She proposed," his biographer informs us, "to reject the severity of discipline, and to lead him insensibly to knowledge and exertion, by exciting his curiosity, and directing it to useful objects. To his incessant importunities for information on casual topics of conversation, which she watchfully stimulated, she constantly replied, *read, and you will know;* a maxim, to the observance of which he always acknowledged himself indebted for his future attainments."

At an early age he was sent to Harrow School, where his progress, for a time, was not such as to attract remark; but having met with an accident by which his thigh was fractured, his reflections upon the loss of time occasioned by a year's confinement in consequence, seem to have roused that lively ambition to excel, which never afterwards for a moment forsook him. Aided by a peculiarly retentive memory and an uncommon quickness of apprehension, his diligence and persevering industry, not only soon regained for him the ground which he had lost, but quickly placed him on a level with the ablest of his contemporaries. In Dr. Sumner, who had now succeeded to the mastership of that school, he excited a degree of esteem, equalled only by the admiration and regard of his fellow-students; for in every social sport, and in every generous and becoming enterprise of boyhood, his frank and amiable disposition, united with his intelligence, placed him at the head, no less than in the graver business of learning.

Mr. Jones was transferred to Oxford in 1764, and placed in University College. Here he quickly grew impatient of the customary routine of College exercises; and, with the approbation of his tutors, ceased to attend the regular lectures, devoting himself wholly to those pursuits, more congenial with his taste and his ambition, to which the wide range of desultory reading, thrown open by his access to the libraries of the University, invited his inquiries. The poets, historians, and orators of Greece deeply engaged his attention; but, above all, that predilection for Oriental learning, which exercised so much influence over his future life, began now to be fixed in his character, and to appear in an earnest and successful study of the leading languages of the East. The vacations, he passed in the cultivation of the best society—in the acquisition of those accomplishments, physical

as well as mental, which he judged necessary for a gentleman living in the world, (for Sir William Jones, at no period of his life, affected the singularities and recluse habits of a mere scholar,) and in obtaining a knowledge of the principal dialects of modern Europe.

In the prosecution of all these objects, he had hitherto enjoyed the unlimited use of his surviving parent's pecuniary resources. With a view, however, to relieve her from a charge which was becoming too heavy for his filial piety longer to impose, he, in the following year, accepted the situation of private tutor to Lord Althorp, the present venerable Earl Spencer; and in 1766, he was farther assisted in his laudable wishes by obtaining a fellowship in his College.

Among the many fortunate qualities that distinguished Mr. Jones, was a facility of accommodating himself to every new position in which he was placed, and an aptitude to draw forth all the advantages it presented. He beneficially availed himself of those favourable circumstances which were connected with his employment in the noble family of his pupil. A short residence with Lord Althorp, at Spa, in 1767, he rendered subservient to the completion of his knowledge of the German language; nor did his attention to his duties as a tutor, prevent his pursuing, at the same time, his own literary designs, more particularly in regard to the learning of the Asiatics. The following year, he was induced to undertake the translation of a Persian MS. of the Life of Nadir Shah, which the King of Denmark, at that time on a visit to England, had brought with him. This was his first, and one of his most laborious publications; the version being in French, a language with the niceties of which he was, at that time, but indifferently acquainted. This difficulty, however, he not only surmounted, but gained much applause by the purity and elegance of his style; and the work appeared in 1770, accompanied by a treatise on Oriental poetry, also composed in the same language.

As was to be expected, the time came when he wished to escape from a kind of life which, however agreeable in his instance, presented no prospect, and admitted of no exertions, corresponding with his active powers and enlarged ambition. In the choice of a profession, Mr. Jones's friends strongly recommended the law; not merely on account of the brilliant success which, they believed, would be secured to him in it, by his talents and industry, but also because, in his unceasing incursions into the wide field of learned inquiry, he had early cultivated an acquaintance with legal erudition. In the autumn of 1770, therefore, he entered at the Temple. In 1774, he was called to the bar; and in 1776 appointed a Commissioner of Bankrupts.

In the mean time, as he long declined the actual exercise of his profession, on the ground of his not having yet acquired sufficient practical knowledge, there is no doubt—notwithstanding occasional resolutions of renouncing, for that purpose, the pursuits so dear to him—that his chief attention was still given to literature. Constantly alive to all that was passing on the subject of Eastern learning, he vindicated the character of Oxford—ever the object of his ardent veneration—from an attack, contained in Anquetil du Perron's preliminary discourse to his edition of the treatises ascribed to Zoroaster, in a letter addressed to that writer. In 1772, appeared a volume of his Poems, chiefly translations from the Asiatic languages. His celebrated Latin Commentaries on the Poetry of the Asiatics, a work composed with equal purity of style and knowledge of the extensive subject on which it treats, was published in 1774. That a mind ardently attached to elegant literature, may yet effectually overcome the difficulties in the way of acquiring a thorough mastery over the dry study of law, he now demonstrated, in two publications which appeared in 1778. These were a translation of the speeches of Isæus, in causes concerning the succession to property in Athens, published with a prefatory discourse, notes, and a commentary; and an Essay on the Law of Bailments, which has been much admired for its method and perspicuity. The celebrity of the author of these numerous and varied publications, was now no longer confined to his native country, but had spread through Europe, and even reached the shores of Asia.

Susceptible as Mr. Jones was of every generous impulse—an enthusiastic admirer of the popular elements of the English constitution, on which, he contended, "depends its real force, the obligation of its laws, its welfare, its security and permanence"—and animated by the warmest social desires for the general good, it is not to be wondered at, if even the attractions of those purer and nobler pursuits, to which he was devoted, could not prevent his zealous participation in the political feelings and discussions which, at this time, agitated the nation. His sentiments respecting the American contest were unfavourable to the Government; and those sentiments he had too much manliness and sincerity to conceal, however injurious the open avowal of them might be to his fortunes. He proclaimed them to his excited countrymen, in a spirited Latin Ode to Liberty; and further displayed his jealousy of what he deemed the encroachments of the executive upon that sacred cause, by publishing, in 1780, an Inquiry into the Legal Mode of Suppressing Riots, occasioned by the tumults for which

that year is disgracefully memorable, and directed against the employment of a standing army. Immediately afterwards he was induced to make an injudicious and ill-timed attempt to succeed Sir R. Newdigate, as representative in parliament for the University of Oxford; but it becoming evident that his political principles were too little in unison with those of that learned body, to admit of his success, he reluctantly declined the contest before the period of election arrived. He was now, indeed, though without formally taking his place under the banners of any faction, rushing headlong into the vortex of party politics, which has proved fatal to the dignity and usefulness of so many noble characters, endowed with gifts "meant for mankind:" he associated with the more extravagant advocates of popular rights; he ably supported, in a speech delivered at the London Tavern, in 1782, the principles of Parliamentary Reform—a cause, in those days, scarcely reputable; and became an active member of the Society for Constitutional Information. It is, however, probable, that the predominance of those better and higher tendencies of his nature, which

> "liv'd insphered
> In regions mild of calm and serene air,
> Above the smoke and stir"

of party agitations, soon rendered the course he was pursuing irksome to his feelings; for, we find in his letters at this period an increasing impatience for an expected appointment, which would take him far away from the scene of political tumult; and, in writing to the Bishop of St. Asaph, Sept. 1782, he observes, "As to politics, I begin to think that the natural propensity of men to dissent from one another, will prevent them, in a corrupt age, from uniting in any laudable design; and, at present, I have nothing to do but to rest on my oars."

The situation to which the brilliant subject of our memoir had long looked forward with pleasure, as likely, among its other advantages, to afford him the opportunity he coveted for pursuing his Oriental inquiries, was that of Judge in one of the British settlements in India. In the month of March, 1783, his wishes were realized, by his receiving an appointment to that office, in the Supreme Court of Judicature in Bengal. On this occasion, he had the honour of knighthood conferred upon him; and, in May, his marriage took place with Anna-Maria, eldest daughter of Dr. Shipley, Bishop of St. Asaph, a lady for whom he had long entertained a warm affection. It was under these pleasing circumstances, that Sir William Jones shortly afterwards embarked for those interesting scenes, which had, from an early age, been connected

with his intellectual predilections, and with which his fame will be lastingly associated.

He arrived at Calcutta, whither his reputation had long preceded him, and where it now obtained for him a cordial welcome, in Sept. 1783; and immediately entered, with his accustomed ardour, on the business of his official station; the able and enlightened discharge of which, in harmonious conjunction with his more studious occupations —now almost equally dedicated to the welfare of the people among whom he was providentially placed—engaged, during the remainder of his life, his unremitted attention. Foreseeing that the unexplored mines of literary and antiquarian wealth, now brought within his immediate reach, would, with the performance of his public duties, be far too extensive even for his unrivalled ardour and industry, he had already conceived the plan of an institution, to be established in Calcutta, on the model of the Royal Society of London, having for its object to make inquiries into the history, antiquities, arts, and natural resources and productions of Asia. The characteristic promptitude of the founder presided over the progress of the design; and the first assembly of the Asiatic Society took place, under the auspices of Sir W. Jones, as President, in January following. At the same time, as the indispensable medium to a knowledge of the religion and literature of the country, as well as, in his opinion, to a satisfactory execution of his judicial functions, this indefatigable scholar commenced with his characteristic earnestness the study of the sacred dialect of India.

The effects of the climate, combined with these arduous and multifarious labours, were soon apparent upon the constitution of Sir William. With the double object, therefore, of recruiting his health, and of opening new sources of information of an interesting and valuable kind, he took a journey, in the autumn of 1784, through Bahar and the district of Benares. The activity of his mental faculties, even under the deepest depression of bodily languor, enabled him to bring back, as the fruits of this excursion, besides the local knowledge and experience derived from visiting every object worthy of notice on his route, two original compositions—one a metrical tale, entitled The Enchanted Fruit, or Hindu Wife, which enriched the pages of the Asiatic Miscellany, a periodical just established at Calcutta; the other, a Treatise on the Gods of Greece, Italy, and India, afterwards presented to the Asiatic Society.

Among the various objects to which this eminent person directed the powers of his energetic and benevolent mind, during this por-

tion of his life, was the compilation of a complete digest of Hindu and Mussulman law, on the system of Justinian's Pandects. His purpose was, by placing such a code in the hands of the English judges, to enable them to decide causes between native parties, without the necessity of recurring to the opinions or interpretations of the Hindu professors of the law; on whose knowledge and integrity he found it unsafe to place reliance. To the accomplishment of this noble and delicate undertaking, which was sanctioned by Lord Cornwallis, the Governor-General, he devoted much of his own valuable time, in examining the stores of Indian learning and jurisprudence; while he incurred no small expense in employing persons qualified for the task, to make collections from the standard law-tracts of the country. The early death of the enlightened projector prevented his bringing this most important of his labours to a conclusion; but that it has since actually been completed,* must be attributed to his suggestions, and his personal exertions in the first instance.

Amid every other engagement, the progress of the Asiatic Society ceased not to occupy his anxious regard. The first volume of the Transactions of that body, under the name—since so well known—of Asiatic Researches, was printed in the year 1789. Two others were also published in his life-time, and a fourth was prepared for the press before his death; to all of which he contributed, in addition to ten annual Discourses, a great number of valuable and curious papers.

Such, indeed, was his regard for this favourite object of his care, that, in spite of a weakness of sight, from which he suffered during his whole life, but at this period of it especially, he commonly undertook the laborious and irksome toil of correcting the errors of the printer. In the year 1789, he likewise presented to the public one of the most singular productions yet brought to light from the stores of Eastern literature. This was the drama of Sacontala, or the Fatal Ring; a work of no mean interest, written by Calidas, whom Sir W. Jones denominates the Shakspeare of India; which he rendered into our tongue in a free and paraphrastic style, but with much beauty and effect. In 1794, he once more appeared before the public in a literary character, as the translator of the venerable Institutes of Menu—a task suggested by the same philanthropic motives which had previously led him to undertake his digest of Indian law. It was, indeed, regarded by him as in some degree introductory to that code. The version is said to be, upon the whole, as faithful as it is pleasing:

* By Mr. Colebrooke.

this was his latest performance; and it must have imparted consolation to the dying reflections of this benevolent and accomplished scholar, that the last patient and laborious exertion of his matured talents was devoted to illustrating the sublime sentiments and ancient manners of that people in whom he had ever taken so cordial an interest.

Lady Jones's health, which was naturally delicate, had suffered so much from the climate of India, that, in order to save her life, it became at length the painful duty of her husband to break up that affectionate society, in which he had found the chief solace of his existence, and his best recreation from incessant toil. She embarked for Europe at the close of the year 1793. Sir William intended to follow her, as soon as the great work which he contemplated as a boon to the inhabitants of India, should be brought to a conclusion, and his official engagements honourably fulfilled. His own constitution, though so much enfeebled as to demand frequent relaxation, had, in his opinion, become habituated to an Eastern atmosphere. He continued to be as busy, and as ardent, as he had ever been; and still, without distrust of that *future*, whose fiat is so often fatal to the plans of mortals, contemplated, with all the sanguine ambition of youth, a vast accumulation of literary projects, sufficient for the employment of a protracted and laborious life, in the execution of which he hoped to pass his coming years of dignified and lettered leisure, in some salubrious retreat of his native land. But a close was soon to be put to these flattering prospects. He was seized, at Calcutta, in April, 1794, with an inflammation of the liver, which rapidly advanced beyond the power of remedies, and, on the 27th of that month, terminated his useful and honourable career, in the 48th year of his age. His death, which has with truth been termed untimely for his country, for India, and for the human race, occurred precisely at the moment, when he had within his grasp all the external elements of happiness—a competent fortune, a brilliant reputation, and such a share at once of private esteem and public regard, as have seldom fallen to the lot of any individual.

The page of English biography presents few names of purer brightness than that of Sir William Jones. His fame has found no detractors, —for his splendid talents were endeared to all who knew him by his high moral and social endowments; and to those who knew him not, by the conspicuous utility of their results: few, indeed, have been his censurers; and he never had an enemy. After forty years, crowded with events of unexampled magnitude, and adorned with prominent characters in every department of intellectual and moral

exertion, his services and his merits remain still affectionately familiar to the public memory.

In a summary view of Sir W. Jones's character, the observation first turns to his literary eminence. His extreme mental activity might seem incompatible with much depth and accuracy; yet the profundity of his erudition would be striking, were it not for the almost unbounded extent of surface over which it was diffused. As a linguist, he has seldom been equalled,—his list of languages, given by himself, comprises "eight critically studied; eight studied less perfectly, but all intelligible with a dictionary; and twelve studied least perfectly, but all attainable." Mere philological acquirements, however, he never regarded as the true end of study. In all his inquiries, he kept a practical end in view. The multifarious keys of knowledge, of which he was possessed, he was ambitious to employ in unlocking the treasures of wisdom, concealed in remote times and distant regions, for the instruction, improvement, and rational delight of mankind,—for promoting the reign of truth, and augmenting the welfare of his species. Nor, while his diligence in the acquisition of languages, of history, and of the elements of science, was almost without a parallel, were his labours unadorned by the products of a luxuriant fancy, or not chastened by the delicacy of a refined taste; in his numerous poetic efforts he displays grace and liveliness, and a susceptibility of the varied charms of metrical composition.

Over all this intellectual superiority, the mild and amiable qualities of the man, the pure and generous virtues of the citizen, cast a softening and attractive radiance. In every relation of private life, he was distinguished by a cordial, manly, and unaffected discharge of his duties: his filial piety, his conjugal tenderness, his steady friendship, his universal philanthropy, his humanity even to the inferior creation, were essential and natural parts of his character. His conduct in his judicial capacity, displayed all his usual quickness of apprehension, patience, and industry. His veneration for the laws was tempered by benevolence and mercy towards offenders; his integrity was beyond suspicion; his decisions have remained unvisited by reproach.

Sir William Jones had the warm feelings of patriotism, without its unreasonable prejudices. He loved India—its wild and mysterious mythology, its venerable history, its strange forms of civil life, which carry back the thoughts along their deep and arbitrary lines of social demarcation, to ages dimly beheld in the abyss of antiquity. "I never," he writes, in 1787, "was unhappy in England, it was not in

my nature to be so; but I never was happy till I was settled in India."

The estimable biographer of Sir William Jones, mindful of the influence of great example, has, with laudable care, laid before his readers abundant evidence of the firm belief of his illustrious friend in the doctrines of Christianity. On this subject, we are ourselves unwilling to ascribe so much weight, as is sometimes given, to the authority of names; but we have pleasure in closing the present slight notice of a person who was an honour to his age and country, by reprinting the following testimony to the worth of the Sacred Writings, transcribed from Sir William's autograph, in his own Bible: "I have carefully and regularly perused these Holy Scriptures; and am of opinion, that the volume, independently of its divine origin, contains more sublimity, purer morality, more important history, and finer strains of eloquence, than can be collected from all other books, in whatever language they have been written."

The works of Sir William Jones were published by his widow, Lady Jones, in six volumes, 4to. in 1799; followed, in 1801, by two supplemental volumes, containing the whole of the papers published by the Asiatic Society, under his auspices. His life was written by his intimate friend, Lord Teignmouth; who, at the period of Sir William's decease, was Governor-General of India, and who succeeded him as President of the Asiatic Society.

Painted by A. Chisholm. Engraved by H. Cook.

SIR JOHN LESLIE.

John Leslie

SIR JOHN LESLIE,

PROFESSOR OF NATURAL PHILOSOPHY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

PERHAPS there are few who furnish to the biographer less materials of general interest than those who spend their lives within the walls of colleges in the study of physical science. In this respect it fares better with the student of literature. His is a pursuit in which all men more or less engage; it is one which furnishes the student for the world, and in which the effects of his diligence are perceived in those accomplishments upon which the attractions of society are dependent. But the votary of physical science, on the contrary, is actuated by tastes in which but a contracted circle are found to sympathize; his labours are appreciated, and his successes admired, by the few whose studies have been similarly directed, while the mass of mankind remain in comparative ignorance of both. These remarks apply to the learned and ingenious subject of this brief sketch. But though, during his life, the large majority of society knew little of the diligent and successful labours by which he was engrossed, it is due to his memory to characterize him as one of the foremost of his day to extend the empire of scientific truth.

SIR JOHN LESLIE, was born in April, 1766, at Largo, in Fifeshire, and designed, as it appears, to follow the very humble occupation of his parents, connected with a small farm and mill. Before the age of twelve, however, he gave promise of his future distinction by a degree of aptitude at calculation and geometrical exercises, which made him somewhat notorious; and he was in consequence mentioned to the late Professor John Robison, and by him to Professors Playfair and Stewart. In compliance with the earnest recommendations of a few persons who had witnessed with surprise the early exhibitions of his talent, opportunity was afforded him of obtaining some preparatory education, and, under the patronage of the late Earl of Kinnoul, he was entered at the university of St. Andrew's. Having occupied some

time in availing himself of these advantages, he proceeded to the university of Edinburgh, where he was introduced to Dr. Adam Smith, and by him employed in superintending the studies of his nephew, Mr. Douglas, afterwards Lord Reston. It would seem that at this time hopes were entertained by his friends that he would enter the church; but being averse to that profession, he came to London as a literary adventurer, after having completed his university studies. Here some recommendatory letters from Dr. Smith obtained for him a few valuable literary connexions, from whom he derived several minor engagements. His first important work was a translation of Buffon's "Natural History of Birds." This he accomplished with great success; and his preface, though it exhibited those defects which distinguished his style through life, was a very superior performance, and evinced a high degree of sensibility to the sublime. For this work he received a sum of money, which, economized with a degree of care not often found in literary men, laid the foundation of his independence for life.

Soon after the publication of this work, he left the country, and, in the capacity of private tutor, accompanied a member of the distinguished family of the Randolphs to the United States; and on his return, visited various parts of the Continent in the company of the late Mr. Wedgwood, a young gentleman of much promise, and whose early death the Professor often mentioned as a great loss to the scientific world.

It does not appear at what precise period Leslie entered upon that course of investigation in which he conferred his chief services on science, and arrived at those results which have signalized his name. Before the year 1800, however, he introduced the Differential Thermometer, which has been characterized as "one of the most beautiful and delicate instruments that inductive genius ever contrived as a help to experimental inquiry," and which rewarded its author by its happy ministry to the success of some of his finest experiments. This ingenious and delicate instrument was not, as has been stated, invented by Mr. Leslie, but merely recovered from the disuse into which it had fallen, improved in its construction, and applied by him to his experiments on heat. It was invented more than a century and a half ago by Sturmius, professor of mathematics at Altdorf, who has left a description and sketch of it in his Collegium Curiosum. Its object is not to ascertain the temperature of bodies, like the ordinary thermometer, but, as its name imports, to estimate the difference of temperature in any two bodies to which it may be applied; and from the sensi-

tiveness of its construction, if we may use such an expression, it detects differences so minute, as to be quite inappreciable by any other instrument. It now consists of two thin glass balls joined together by a tube bent twice at a right angle, and consequently forms three sides of a square. Both balls contain air, but the greater part of the tube is filled with sulphuric acid coloured with carmine. It is obvious that this instrument cannot be affected by any change of temperature acting equally on both balls, for as long as the air within them expands or contracts to the same extent, the pressure on the opposite surfaces of the liquid, and consequently its position, will continue unchanged. Hence, the differential thermometer stands at the same point, however different may be the temperature of the medium. But the slightest difference between the temperature of the two balls will instantly be detected; for the elasticity of the air on one side being then greater than on the other, the liquid will retreat towards the ball whose temperature is the lowest.

The result of those inquiries in which he was so materially aided by this instrument, were published in 1804, in his celebrated "Essay on the Nature and Propagation of Heat." This work is distinguished by great merits and great defects. On the one hand, it is deficient in method and perspicuity, and contains some flagrant violations of that simplicity of style which is so essential to the communication of scientific truth; while, on the other hand, these defects are more than redeemed by the ingenuity and research it displays, and the development which it contains of the true laws and principles of the radiation of heat. It was honoured in the following year by the unanimous adjudication to its author, by the Council of the Royal Society, of the Rumford Medals, appropriated to reward such discoveries as his; and it deserves remark, that this was the first occasion on which the premium had ever been awarded, except to the Count himself. Its value was further enhanced by a highly panegyrical letter from Sir Joseph Banks, the President, with which it was accompanied.

The year 1805 was memorable in the history of Mr. Leslie, by an interesting series of events, arising out of his appointment to the Professorship of Mathematics in the University of Edinburgh, in consequence of the removal of the former professor, Playfair, to the chair of Natural Philosophy. This arrangement gave rise to a protracted and vehement dispute.

The reverend ministers of Edinburgh presented to the Town Council a memorial opposing his election, which was founded on a right possessed by them, in consequence of some of the original statutes

of the University, to judge, in conjunction with the Town Council, of the qualification of such as were proposed to fill the Professor's chairs. Their objection was occasioned by a single note in Mr. Leslie's Essay on Heat, respecting the relation of cause and effect, which they considered to involve atheistical opinions. It was as follows:—

"Mr. Hume is the first, as far as I know, who has treated of causation in a truly philosophic manner. His Essay on Necessary Connexion seems a model of clear and accurate reasoning. But it was only wanted, to dispel the cloud of mystery which had so long darkened that important subject. The unsophisticated sentiments of mankind are in perfect unison with the deductions of logic, and imply nothing more at bottom, in the relation of cause and effect, than a *constant and invariable sequence.*"

The definition which closes the above passage only needs to be qualified by the further word "*immediate,*" in order to signify all that the writer intended, and in fact to imply what the greatest christian philosophers have maintained. Nor does this definition of a cause, namely, that it is simply the event which invariably and immediately precedes a certain other, which is its effect, at all militate against the christian doctrine of a First Cause, as has been abundantly and repeatedly shewn. "It is not necessary to the purity of theism," says the acute and excellent Dr. Brown, "that we should suppose something divine and incomprehensible to be interposed amidst all these obvious and regular changes which we observe. It is sufficient that we be fully impressed with the necessity of a Creator, and trace the universe, with all its regularity and beauty, as one great effect, to the almighty source of being." "In our highest contemplations of his power, we believe only, that when he willed creation, a world arose; and that, in all future time, his will to create cannot exist without being followed by the rise of worlds; that his will to destroy, will be in like manner followed by destruction; and his will to vary the course of things, by miraculous appearances. The will is the only necessary previous change; and that being has *almighty* power, whose *every* will is immediately and invariably followed by the existence of its object." In another place he says, "To express, shortly, what appears to me to be the only intelligible meaning of the three most important words in physics,* immediate invariable antecedence, is power; the immediate invariable antecedent in any sequence, is a cause; the immediate invariable consequent, is the correlative effect."

* It is to be observed, that Mr. Leslie's expressions have reference solely to physics.

Upon learning that his election was opposed by the Presbytery of Edinburgh on the grounds above stated, Mr. Leslie wrote a letter to Dr. Hunter, one of that body, justifying himself, and disclaiming the illogical inferences which were deduced from his opinions, in the strongest and most decisive terms:—

"The gross misapplication which Mr. Hume has made of these premises to invalidate the argument for the existence of the Deity, it did not fall under my plan to point out, in a treatise entirely confined to physical discussions; more particularly as this has been already done by Dr. Reid and various other writers, in a manner which I conceive to be completely satisfactory to every reader who understands the argument. Had I been aware of the possibility, by my silence on this point, of affording the slightest colour to a misrepresentation of my real sentiments, I should have guarded against it effectually, by following out the speculation a little further than the nature of my subject seemed to me to require."

"Limited as I am to a few moments of time, I can only disavow, (which I do with the greatest sincerity and solemnity,) every inference which the ingenuity of my opponents may be pleased to draw from the partial view I have taken of the general doctrine, to the prejudice of those evidences on which the truths of religion are founded. If I live to publish another edition, I pledge myself to shew, in an additional paragraph, how grossly and injuriously I have been misrepresented on this occasion."

Notwithstanding this disavowal, however, a considerable part of the Presbytery persisted in their opposition to his election; while, on the other hand, his claims were supported with great energy by many others of the highest character and literary distinction. A number of meetings ensued, in which the hostile parties pleaded with equal talent and energy; and perhaps there never was an occcasion in which an affair of so private a nature excited such a deep and universal interest. At length it became, as might naturally be expected, a matter rather of party than principle, and after much delay and discussion the election of Mr. Leslie was confirmed by a majority.

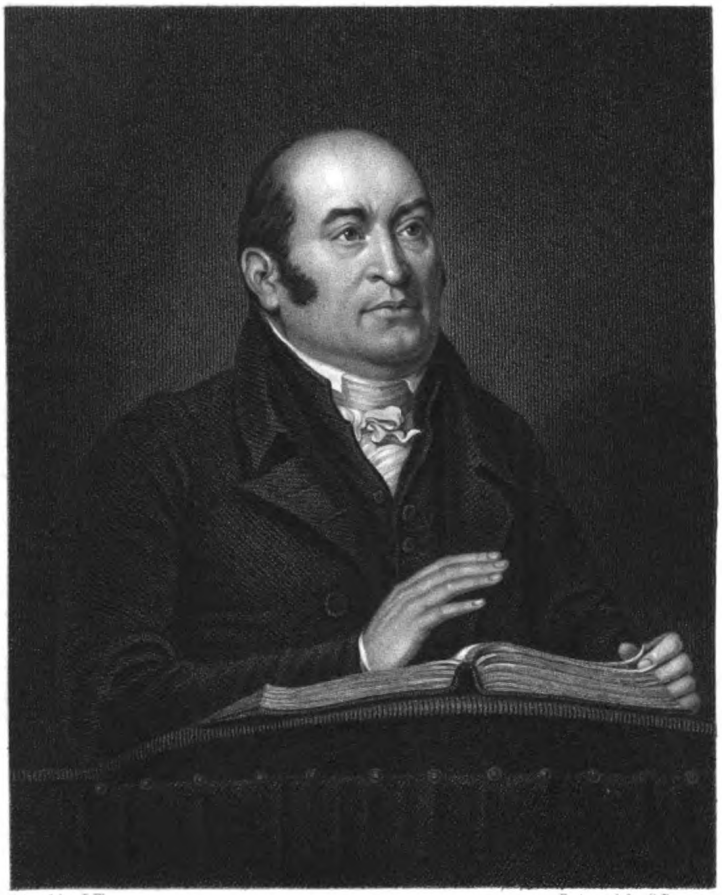
As Professor, he prosecuted the same course of experimental inquiry as before, and in 1810, arrived, through the assistance of an ingenious contrivance of his—the Hygrometer—at the discovery of that singularly beautiful process of artificial congelation, which enabled him to convert water and mercury into ice.

In 1819, Professor Leslie was removed to the chair of Natural Philosophy, vacated by the death of Professor Playfair, whom he had

also succeeded in his former office. In the discharge of the functions of this situation, his own learning, in connexion with his remarkable thoughtlessness and absence of mind, was a serious bar to his success. Frequently, the activity of his mind, and the pleasure with which he expatiated in physical science, would lead him to outstrip in his lectures the more tardy advances of his class, and carry him to distant heights far beyond the sphere of their vision.

In 1832, he was complimented with the order of knighthood, bestowed, it is believed, at the suggestion of that illustrious patron and chief of science and literature, the present Lord Chancellor. But he did not long survive this last honour. In October of the same year, he caught a violent cold, in consequence of his careless exposure of himself to wet, while superintending some improvements on his estate in Fifeshire. He neglected this cold, and, as was usual with him, refused all medical advice. Erysipelas supervened in one of his legs, and carried him off in a few days.

The principal works which he has given to the world, besides those already mentioned, are his "Elements of Geometry," his "Account of Experiments and nstruments depending on the relation of Air to Heat and Moisture;" one volume of his "Elements of Natural Philosophy;" various articles in the Edinburgh Review; some valuable treatises on different branches of physics in the Supplement to the "Encyclopædia Britannica;" and a "Discourse" prefixed to the seventh edition of that work "On the History of Mathematical and Physical Science during the Eighteenth Century."



Painted by J. Flowers. Engraved by S. Freeman.

THE REVᴰ ROBERT HALL, M A.

Yours Affec.ly R. Hall

THE

REV. ROBERT HALL, M.A.

We are glad to have the high authority of Sir James Mackintosh, in condemnation of the "modern practice of writing huge narratives of lives in which there are no events." The opinion, too, is the more valuable to us, inasmuch as it was given with special reference to the subject of the following memoir. But although the life of Mr. Hall is not distinguished by striking incidents, yet every portion of it, and even its minutest events, derive a powerful interest from their association with so much genius, learning, and excellence.

. Mr. Hall was born, May 2d, 1764, at Arnsby, a village in Leicestershire. His faculties unfolded themselves at an early age; and he had scarcely passed the season of infancy, when he became familiar with works requiring, in their perusal, the most intense and uninterrupted exercise of application and reflection. Edwards on the "Will," and Butler's "Analogy," were his constant companions before he had reached his tenth year.

In early life, his health is said to have been precarious; still his activity was considerable, when he was not disabled by the paroxysms of that formidable disease, the principal symptom of which was intense pain in the back, and which appears to have commenced its inflictions at the very outset of his life. Though his education was carefully attended to by his excellent and strong-minded father, it does not seem to have been of that sound and substantial kind, which is more easily obtained in the present day than at that time. Had Mr. Hall enjoyed the advantages afforded by our public schools, he might not perhaps have been a sounder classic—for in this department of learning, his scholarship was at once deep and extensive—but the foundation would have been better laid, and much labour eventually saved. His first regular schoolmaster was compelled to

resign his charge, from inability to keep pace with the rapid acquisitions of his pupil. A year and a half was subsequently spent under the more effectual tuition of the Rev. John Ryland, who seems to have had the art of awakening emulation among his scholars, and of stimulating their minds to an active pursuit of general knowledge. Having passed through the usual course of instruction, he quitted school, and was for some time under the immediate superintendence of his father, who was well qualified to direct his theological studies. In October, 1778, he was admitted as a student in divinity, at the Baptist College, in Bristol, and, after the usual term of three years, was sent, on an academical "exhibition," to a Scotch university.

In 1781, Mr. Hall matriculated at King's College, Aberdeen, where he availed himself to the utmost of the various advantages afforded by the academical arrangements. But to a mind like his, essentially active and independent, the resources of the lecture-room must have been soon exhausted; and the friendship which he then contracted with the late Sir James Mackintosh roused his faculties into far more energetic exercise than any merely formal course of instruction could excite. Their hours of study and of relaxation were alike spent in each other's company; and their friendly contentions must have tended more to the invigoration and enrichment of their minds, than all the discipline of the schools. In a most eloquent and affectionate letter addressed to Mr. Hall in 1805 by Sir James Mackintosh, while Recorder of Bombay, he testifies his sense of the benefits he had derived from their early intimacy, in the following terms—

"It happened to me a few days ago, in drawing up (merely for my own use) a short sketch of my life, that I had occasion to give a faithful statement of my recollection of the circumstances of my first acquaintance with you. On the most impartial survey of my early life, I could see nothing which tended so much to excite and invigorate my understanding, and to direct it towards high, though, perhaps, scarcely accessible objects, as my intimacy with you. Five and twenty years are now past since we first met; yet hardly any thing has occurred since, which has left a deeper or more agreeable impression on my mind. I now remember the extraordinary union of brilliant fancy with acute intellect, which would have excited more admiration than it has done, if it had been dedicated to the amusement of the great and the learned, instead of being consecrated to the far more noble office of consoling, instructing, and reforming the poor and the forgotten.

"It was then too early for me to discover that extreme purity, which in a mind pre-occupied with the low realities of life, would have been no natural companion of so much activity and ardour, but which thoroughly detached you

from the world, and made you an inhabitant of regions where alone it is possible to be always active without impurity, and where the ardour of your sensibility had unbounded scope amidst the inexhaustible combinations of beauty and excellence."

Before the termination of Mr. Hall's course of study in Scotland, he received and accepted an invitation to the joint pastorship of the Baptist Church, Broadmead, Bristol; Dr. Caleb Evans, his former tutor, being the senior minister. He began his labours in 1784, and his preaching attracted audiences both large and select, although its strain was by no means so decidedly evangelical as it afterwards became. In 1785, he was appointed Classical Tutor in the Bristol Academy; and he is said, on good authority, to have been a highly effective teacher. This statement we are unable to assign any positive ground for questioning; and yet we find it very difficult to understand how he could ever subdue and coerce the elasticity of his mind, and the irregularity of his habits, to the order and detail of such an employment. That his instructions were invaluable, and that the intercourse, necessarily included in the relationship of tutor and pupil, must have been, beyond calculation, profitable to the students, there can be no question; but that he was, at any period of his life, at all suited to the steady fag of regular tuition, we exceedingly doubt.

In 1791, he was induced to form a connexion with the Baptist Church at Cambridge; and this may be considered as one of the happiest events of his life. His immediate predecessor, the Rev. Robert Robinson, was a man of singular ability, and had at one period been distinguished for his powerful advocacy of orthodox doctrine; but, having gradually lapsed into a looser creed, his example had been followed by many of his congregation. This state of things had, it is probable, a considerable influence on the minds of the people, as an inducement to their choice of Mr. Hall as their pastor. He was at that time fond of hazardous speculation; yet was there about him a spirit of piety, and an anxiety to ascertain the right in religious truth, that led to the most favourable anticipations on the part of his evangelical friends. Thus the two parties in the church united in approval of his ministrations; but his religious character gradually underwent some most important changes. He studied theology with more and more attention and sincerity, and every day gave him a firmer hold on what are called the orthodox doctrines. Upon the whole, Mr. Hall was favoured in his situation. Among his friends and hearers were men of strong minds and extensive acquirements;

and in his immediate circle some were found well qualified to be his companions, so that the attachments which he then formed remained with him through life.

It was during this period that Mr. Hall published his "Apology for the Freedom of the Press;" one of the most brilliant and effective of the writings, on the popular side, of the great question then in agitation, and which, like the "*Vindiciæ Gallicæ*" of his friend Mackintosh, is among the few which have survived their immediate occasion. The principles which he then advocated, he never changed; and the futile attempt which has been recently made, by bringing together a set of disjointed scraps from the mere surface of his writings, to prove his inconsistency, are altogether unavailing against the substantial facts of the case, supported by the testimony of his most intimate friends. He felt, however, that to be personally engaged in the commotions of that troubled period, was most unfavourable to the due exercise of his pastoral duties; and he remained satisfied with the bold and eloquent exposition of his opinions which he had already given to the world.

In the mean time, he was giving himself, with increased zeal and assiduity, to the service of the church. He was then, as always, remarkable for attention to the poorer members. In his regard to their interests, both temporal and spiritual, he was most exemplary; and his liberality was even beyond his means: no inconvenience, no disgust, was permitted to interfere with this part of his duty; the rich might be at times neglected, but to the poor and needy he was a prompt and attentive friend. To such his society was delightful, and his conversation most suitable and interesting. After having lain in a state of the utmost agony on the floor, he was frequently observed to become lively and pleasant as ever, as soon as his sufferings intermitted sufficiently to allow him to take part in conversation. At this period the pain in his back, of which the cause remained in obscurity until his death,* was perhaps at its worst; he afterwards enjoyed long intermissions; but slight negligences, a deviation from the usual manner of disposing his bed, or a long continuance in an upright sitting posture, would at all times excite it in a greater or less degree. Perhaps there never was a period of Mr. Hall's life in which he was not, what might be fairly called, an indefatigable student, but he seems, during the greater part of his residence at Cambridge, to

* Upon a post mortem examination, a number of large, acute, and barbed calculi, were found in the gall-bladder, &c. One of his medical friends has strikingly characterized them as "an internal apparatus of torture."

have applied himself with uncommon closeness to the study of language, and partially to that of mathematical science. He acquired Hebrew, in which he ultimately attained great skill; and he paid then, as he continued to do throughout life, considerable attention to the fathers.

Hitherto Mr. Hall's notoriety was comparatively limited; and where he was known only by his "Apology for the Liberty of the Press," he was regarded with a great diversity of feeling. But he shortly extended his fame by an exhibition of his genius and piety, which united the good of all classes in sentiments of equal admiration and respect. This was the publication of his sermon on Modern Infidelity. To this extraordinary production it is difficult to do justice by any description or eulogy. It is perhaps, for the profundity and acuteness of its reasoning, for the power and spirit of its illustrations, and for the exquisite beauties of its style, one of the most extraordinary productions in the language. It was received by all classes with the warmest applauses. "With the exception," says Dr. Gregory,* "of a few letters from private friends who disapproved of his denominating the Roman Catholic Clergy 'the Christian priesthood,' every communication he received was highly gratifying, particularly as it did justice to his motives. The most distinguished members of the University were loud in his praises; numerous passages in the sermon, which were profound in reasoning, or touching and beautiful in expression, were read and eulogized in every college and almost every company; and the whole composition was recommended in the charges and sermons of the dignified and other clergy, in terms of the warmest praise. The "Monthly Review," (then the leading critical Journal,) the "British Critic," (at that time under the able superintendence of Dr. Nares,) and other reviews, gave to the sermon the highest commendation. Kett, in his "Elements of General Knowledge," William Belsham, in his "History of Great Britain," Dr. Parr, in the notes to his "Spital Sermon," and many others, were profuse in their expressions of panegyric. From that time Mr. Hall's reputation was placed upon an eminence, which it will probably retain so long as purity and elevation of style, deeply philosophical views of the spring and motives of action, and correct theological sentiments, are duly appreciated in the world."

One of the indirect effects which resulted from the publication of this sermon, was the attraction of a considerable number of members of the University to attend upon Mr. Hall's ministry. Not merely

* Hall's Works, Vol. VI. Memoir, p. 64.

under-graduates, but college fellows and tutors, were often seen at the Baptist place of worship. This irregularity naturally occasioned some uneasiness among the Heads of Houses; of whom a meeting was summoned, to consider the expediency of interposing, to prevent its recurrence. Dr. Mansel, however, the Master of Trinity, and afterwards Bishop of Bristol, declared, "that he could not be a party in such a measure: he admired and revered Mr. Hall, both for his talents and his genuine liberality; he had ascertained that his preaching was not that of a partizan, but of an enlightened minister of Christ; that, if he were not the Master of Trinity, he should certainly often attend himself; and that even now he had experienced a severe struggle, before he could make up his mind to relinquish so great a benefit."

During the early months of the year 1803, the complaint, to which reference has already been made, renewed its attacks with increased vehemence; and his medical adviser recommended horse-exercise as a probable means of relief. In consequence of this advice, he removed to a short distance from Cambridge, and experienced some benefit from the little journeys which this arrangement rendered necessary. This advantage, however, was more than counterbalanced by the serious evils resulting from comparative solitude; and, being left exposed to the influence of a disordered body, and a prey to his unrestrained passion for study, he became the subject of a mental malady, which laid him aside from the discharge of his public engagements, for the space of some months. On his recovery, he unhappily returned to similar habits, both of solitude and of intellectual excitement, and suffered a recurrence of his affliction about twelve months after his first attack. Upon his recovery it was considered necessary, on many accounts, that he should quit the scene of his previous labours, and seek elsewhere for that retirement and quiet of mind which was deemed essential to his bodily and mental health. He accordingly resigned the office which he had held at Cambridge in 1806, and went to reside at Enderby, a small village in Leicestershire. Here he suspended for a time all ministerial exercises, and devoted himself, at the request of some friends, to the subject of biblical criticism. When at length he resumed the public employments of his profession, he preached occasionally to a small congregation assembling in Harvey Lane, Leicester, and from this society he subsequently received an invitation to become their pastor, with which he complied, and commenced a connexion which lasted, with great happiness and usefulness to both parties, for a period of nearly twenty years.

Here his ministry was eminently successful. It brought together men of all sects and parties; some, indeed, attracted solely by the brilliancy of his genius and the unequalled power of his eloquence, but many others, impressed by his exhibition of religious truth, and anxious to walk in the light while they possessed it. It would appear, from the concurrent testimony of many who were so privileged as to hear him regularly at Leicester, that a very marked change was observable in the character of his sermons, as compared with the stupendous intellectual efforts with which he astonished and delighted his hearers at Cambridge—they appear to have been of a more chastened and purely evangelical order. Frequently, indeed, he would, at that and every subsequent period of his life, break forth into trains of the most sublime and impassioned eloquence; but this was, in a greater degree than formerly, owing to the fascinations of his subject, which led him away, in the prosecution of it, into lofty paths where ordinary minds were unable to follow him; comparatively forgetful, for the time, of the highest interests, perhaps even of the presence—of his auditory.

It should be here mentioned, that, in March, 1808, he contributed materially to the peace and happiness, and probably to the usefulness, of his life, by a marriage with one who was every way suited to him, and in whom he ever found an affectionate and devoted wife. By this lady he had two sons and three daughters, of which family the female members alone survive.

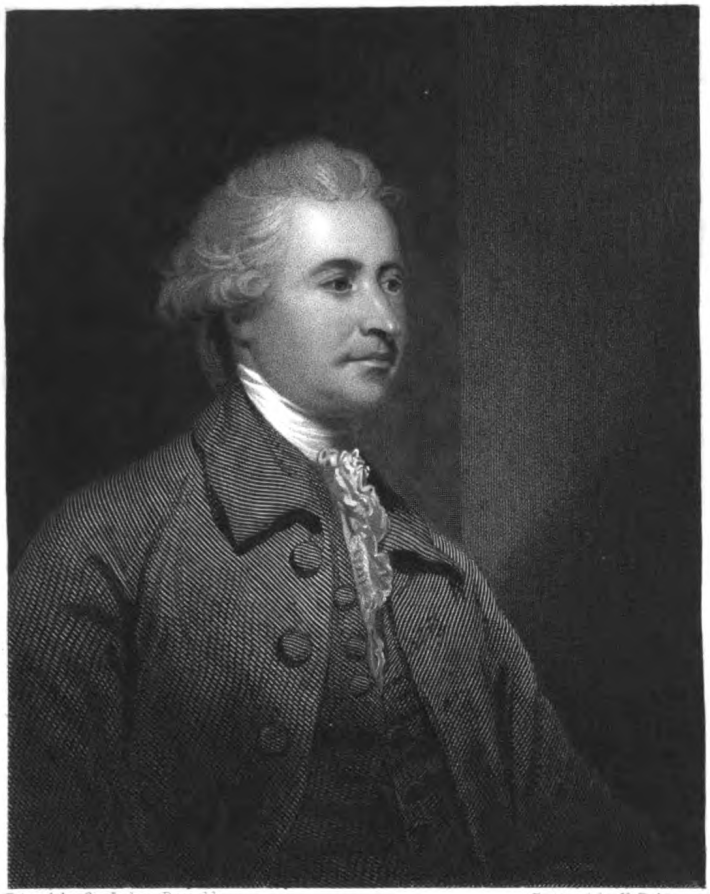
Throughout the whole of Mr. Hall's residence at Leicester, he suffered much from his constitutional disease, which he attempted in vain to mitigate, materially, by smoking almost continually, and taking excessive quantities of laudanum. In 1825, the death of Dr. Ryland occasioned an invitation to Mr. Hall to succeed to the office of pastor of the Church at Broadmead, Bristol, which the Dr. had occupied for many years; and, after some months spent in the most anxious deliberation, he acceded to the request; and with feelings of the most pungent sorrow, both on his part and on that of his people, he dissolved his connexion with them in the year 1826. At Bristol he enjoyed much happiness, in the affectionate respect of his friends, and in the society of some few individuals distinguished for genius and learning. But the frightful disease which had made his whole life a scene of suffering, now manifestly increased upon him, and at length closed his brilliant career on the 21st of February, 1831. He died in the arms of his medical friend, supported under the most fearful paroxysms of suffering, by as much moral and physical courage as ever ennobled a man,

and by as much elevation of Christian sentiment as ever sanctified the memory of a saint.

The highly social disposition, and the extraordinary conversational powers, of this great man, gave to his society a rare and irresistible charm. When comparatively free from pain, his animation and gaiety were delightful, and his conversation was alternately sparkling with wit, and teeming with the most varied information and the most profound philosophy.

Of his intellectual character, no description can convey an adequate idea, and those who have not had the privilege of his acquaintance must learn it from his writings. In doing so, they will unquestionably be familiarizing themselves with the most perfect models of English composition. They have been accurately described in a single sentence, by Professor Dugald Stewart. "There is one writer," says he, "who combines all the excellences of Johnson, Burke, and Addison; if you wish to read the English language in its perfection, you must peruse the writings of Robert Hall." Perhaps this criticism, which is perfectly within the limits of truth, furnishes also the most correct view of his intellectual character. That, like the immortal productions which were its natural emanation and transcript, was almost equally distinguished by the intellectual acumen of Johnson, the vivid fancy of Burke, and the immaculate taste of Addison. But it is as a preacher that he will be remembered by the present generation with the deepest interest and wonder. And in this character, not only description but comparison fails to convey any impression of his powers. Those who have witnessed the majestic array of logic with which he generally commenced his discourses, the gradual kindling of his feelings, the overwhelming torrent of his eloquence, and the "lightning of his eye," must have been reminded of the fabled progress of Inspiration, and must sometimes have been tempted to believe that a higher power was controlling that vast intellectual apparatus, of which the preacher himself seemed to have lost the command.

\- - - - - Ille fatigat
Os rabidum, fera corda domans, fingitque premendo.



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EDMUND BURKE.

It is under all circumstances difficult to form a correct estimate of public men, until sufficient time has elapsed after their decease, to allow of the subsidence of that feeling of political partisanship, which identifies individuals with the events of their day, and the ulterior results of their actions. Still more difficult does this task become, when, as in the instance of Mr. Burke, the individual has lived in critical and eventful times, has exercised a controlling influence upon events of universal interest, and, having been partially formed by the age in which he rose, has, by a species of moral reaction, given to subsequent times the complexion of his own character. Some other circumstances of a still more peculiar kind are connected with the history of Mr. Burke, which tend to preclude all posterity from the full appreciation of his exalted genius. He lived in an age distinguished, perhaps above all others, by the number of extraordinary men which it witnessed; and standing associated, in the recollections of mankind, with such names, his pre-eminence is the less conspicuous.

Of his early life, comparatively little is known; a singular degree of modesty, which characterized him, prevented his making those disclosures of his history, with which many inferior men have thought fit to gratify public curiosity. He was born on Arran Quay, Dublin, on the 1st of January, 1730. His father was an attorney, who for many years enjoyed an extensive practice in that city, and his mother was a relative of the gallant Sir Edmund Nagle, whose ancestry were related to the poet Spenser. In his early years he was of a very delicate constitution, and, as was supposed, exhibited strong tendencies to consumption. This degree of debility, however, was ultimately subservient to his intellectual greatness, as it obliged him to decline those active amusements in which his brothers and companions indulged, and led him to the more congenial pursuits of study and reflection. He received the first rudiments of education from an old woman, who lived near his father's house; and subsequently, on being removed to the

house of his grandfather at Castletown Roche, for the benefit of change of air, he was put to school there. From this place he returned to Dublin, where he remained about a year; and in May, 1741, was sent to a classical academy, at Ballitore, in the county of Kildare, under the superintendence of one Abraham Shackleton. Here his pursuits were of such a kind, as to offer some analogy to his future character. He has been commended by some of his biographers for the application which he displayed at this period of his life; but by a careful comparison of the best authorities, we are led to believe that this statement is not perfectly correct. It is true that he spent much time in reading; but the order of books which he selected was more calculated to stimulate, and give scope to his exuberant imagination, than very vigorously to exercise the intellectual faculty. Thus he principally devoted his time to the perusal of the classics, history, and poetry; and although to a mind so philosophically constructed as his, that was study which to others is but listless and unprofitable enjoyment, yet it was an order of study most consonant with his tastes, and requiring little of that austere and self-denying discipline which is necessary to less interesting and congenial researches.

No employment is more delightful than that of tracing the minute resemblances between the early appearance and the full development of intellectual greatness; and in the instance of this wonderful man, notwithstanding the obscurity which rests on his mental history, these analogies are not altogether imperceptible. "He was not far advanced," observes Mr. Shackleton, "when he first came to school, but soon evinced great aptitude to learn, and on many occasions a soundness and manliness of mind, and a ripeness of judgment, beyond his years. He read much while quite a boy, accumulated a great variety of knowledge, and delighted in exercising, and occasionally exhibiting to his companions, superior powers of memory, particularly in what is called *capping* Latin verses." In this last circumstance, which is also related of his contemporary Mr. Sheridan, we may discern the early development of that comprehensive and ready principle of association, which Mr. Burke afterwards exhibited in the singular aptitude and variety of his quotations, in his accumulated metaphors, sometimes drawn from remote subjects, but always beautifully illustrative, and in the discursive plenitude of his conversation. Indeed, this faculty, in the degree in which Mr. Burke possessed it, is unquestionably one of the primary elements of genius.

After having spent about three years at Ballitore school, he was entered as a pensioner at Trinity College, Dublin, and, in May 1746,

was elected a scholar of that house, which honour he received as soon as the college regulations allowed. Here his favourite studies were classics, history, philosophy, and general literature. The speculative turn of his mind led him to the partial study of metaphysics; but, to the more abstract and useless branches of that science, he then manifested the distaste which on one occasion, in after life, he most emphatically expressed; and at that, as at every subsequent period of his career, acted upon the great aphorism of Pope, that "the proper study of mankind is man." One of the many erroneous statements made respecting this extraordinary man is, that he quitted the university without a degree. He commenced A. B. in February, 1747-8, and proceeded A. M. in 1751. Some interesting poetical memorials of him are preserved, written about this time, which discover a highly cultivated taste, and an intimate acquaintance with the principles of the art.

During his residence at college, Mr. Burke became a member of the Historical Society at Dublin, to which he, perhaps, in some measure owed his early acquaintance with political science, and more especially the aptitude with which he applied the examples of past times to the circumstances of the present. He was from the first designed for the bar, and, in 1747, was enrolled in the Middle Temple. In the spring of 1750 he arrived in London, to keep the customary terms previously to being called. His first impressions, on visiting the metropolis, were represented with characteristic fervency and vigour, in a letter to a friend in Ireland, which is, perhaps, the earliest document extant, exhibiting very distinctly the features which subsequently marked his style.

Mr. Burke's talents soon brought him into notice: he became acquainted with various individuals of literary distinction, and was induced to contribute several pieces to the periodicals of the day. His tastes became averse to the profession of the law, and unceasingly fixed upon the pursuit of general literature, and, accordingly, he was not called to the bar at the expiration of the usual time. In the year 1752, or 1753, he appears to have offered himself as a candidate for the chair of logic at Glasgow, but was unsuccessful, and for some years vacillated between various pursuits, and even formed a purpose of trying his fortune in the American colonies. His first avowed work, the "Vindication of Natural Society," came out in the spring of 1756. Its object was, nominally, to assume the principles and style of the sceptical Lord Bolingbroke, and to produce a conviction of the unsoundness of his views, by carrying them to greater lengths than he

had intended; that is, by shewing that the same arguments which he employed against religion, bore with equal force against all the institutions of civilized society.

This bold and ingenious plan was executed with great ability, and the resemblance to Bolingbroke approached so nearly to identity, as to have imposed upon the judgments of some eminent critics, who supposed it one of his Lordship's genuine productions. "In Burke's imitation of Lord Bolingbroke," says the Edinburgh Review, "(the most perfect specimen, perhaps, that ever will exist of the art in question,) we have all the qualities which distinguish the style, or we may, indeed, say the genius, of that noble writer, concentrated and brought before us; so that an ordinary reader, who, in perusing his genuine works, merely felt himself dazzled and disappointed—delighted and wearied, he could not tell why—is now enabled to form a definite and precise conception of the causes of those opposite sensations, and to trace to the nobleness of the diction, and the inaccuracy of the reasoning —the boldness of the propositions, and the rashness of the inductions— the magnificence of the pretensions, and the feebleness of the performance—those contradictory judgments, with the confused result of which he had been perplexed in the study of the original."

In the course of the same year, Mr. Burke gave to the world his "Philosophical Inquiry into the Origin of our Ideas of the Sublime and Beautiful;" a title probably suggested by that of Dr. Hutchinson's work, "An Inquiry into the Origin of our Ideas of Beauty and Virtue." Whether, however, the title may have been borrowed or not, the work was strictly his own, and remains a striking monument of the philosophical cast and the versatile aptitude of its author's mind. He who has acquainted himself with the profundity of this dissertation, and observed the chasteness and maturity of its style, will be surprised to learn, from Mr. Burke's declaration to Dr. Lawrence, that he had begun it at nineteen years old, and, following Horace's rule, had kept it by him for seven years before it was published. Too continued application to such pursuits occasioned a severe fit of illness, which obliged him to repair to Bath for the benefit of change of air and relaxation. Here Dr. Christopher Nugent, who resided at Bath, and had enjoyed some previous acquaintance with Mr. Burke, invited him to his house, in order to have him under his special and constant care. This visit was not only the means of his entire restoration to health, but also the occasion of an attachment to the daughter of his host, Miss Jane-Mary Nugent. This lady became his wife; and their union was, through life, a source of such never-failing comfort and happi-

ness, that he repeatedly declared, that, "every care vanished, the moment he entered under his own roof." Among other tributes to her excellence, Mr. Burke has left a portrait of her character, from his own pen, which constitutes an incomparable model of female loveliness and virtue. It is headed "The Character of ——," (leaving her to fill up the blank,) and was presented to her one morning, on the anniversary of their marriage. Among other inimitable strokes, it contains the following—

"She has a face that just raises your attention at first sight; it grows on you every moment, and you wonder it did no more than raise your attention at first."

"Her eyes have a mild light, but they awe you when she pleases; they command like a good man out of office, not by authority but by virtue."

"Her stature is not tall; she is not made to be the admiration of every body, but the happiness of one."

"No person of so few years can know the world better; no person was ever less corrupted by that knowledge."

"She has a steady and firm mind, which takes no more from the female character than the solidity of marble does from its polish and lustre. She has such virtues as make us value the truly great of our own sex; she has all the winning graces which make us love even the faults we see in the weak and beautiful of hers."

Mr. Burke's reputation as an author was now rapidly rising. He was employed by Dodsley in writing for the Annual Register; and among the friends whom he acquired through his literary connections, perhaps the most eminent was Dr. Johnson. This acute observer soon saw and appreciated his transcendent genius, and was unusually lavish in his admiration of him: "Burke," said he, "is an extraordinary man; his stream of mind is perpetual. His conversation is the ebullition of his mind; he does not talk from a desire of distinction, but because his mind is full." On one occasion, when Johnson was very unwell, and Burke's name was mentioned, he said, "That fellow calls forth all my powers; were I to see Burke now, it would kill me." "Burke," said he, on another occasion, "is the only man whose common conversation corresponds with the general fame which he has in the world. Take up whatever topic you please, he is ready to meet you."

Being once asked whether he did not think, that in the style of his eloquence, Burke resembled Cicero, "No, Sir," said Johnson, "Cicero resembled Burke." And when, in the last moments of his life, Mr. Burke visited him, and expressed his fear that his company

was oppressive to him: "No, Sir," said the dying philosopher, "it is not so; and I must be in a wretched state indeed, when your company would not be a delight to me."

In January, 1758, Mr. Burke's domestic circle received an addition by the birth of that favourite son, who was beloved by him through life with unusual tenderness, and whose death, at the age of 35, is believed to have hastened his own. Another son, named Edmund, born about two years afterwards, died in infancy. The wants of an increasing family proved an irresistible stimulus to his industry; and he entered upon a work entitled an "Essay towards an Abridgment of English History." This, however, was discontinued after eight sheets of it had been printed. In 1759 he was introduced to Mr. Gerard Hamilton, commonly called Single-speech Hamilton, on account of one masterly effort which he made in the House of Commons, and the fame of which he never endangered by a second. This solitary speech obtained for Hamilton the Secretaryship for Ireland, and hither he was accompanied by Mr. Burke, to whose pen the speech has been confidently attributed. Although the latter had assumed no official capacity, yet his services were deemed sufficiently valuable to be rewarded with a pension of £300 a year. This he very shortly threw up with indignation, in consequence of a rupture with Hamilton, who appears to have made some claims on Mr. Burke's services, to which he could not in honour accede.

Towards the end of the year 1763, a young man was recommended to his attention by his old friend Dr. Sleigh. This was Barry, the celebrated painter, and one of the most wayward individuals of that *irritabile genus*. Mr. Burke took considerable notice of the young man from the first, and, if he had any of the vanity which characterizes his species, must have had his interest in him somewhat increased by a little incident which occurred in one of their first interviews. While discussing together some of the more debatable principles of the art of painting, Barry quoted a passage from the Essay on the Sublime and Beautiful, in support of his opinion, and ignorant, it would appear, that his new acquaintance was the author of it. Burke for the sake of argument opposed him still, and treated the work that he had cited as one of but little authority. Barry lost his temper, and, to appease him, Burke was obliged to avow himself the author of the treatise. On this the young painter's enthusiasm passed all bounds; and in the midst of his raptures, he took from his pocket a manuscript copy which he had made of the work, being too poor to purchase it.

The acquaintance of the subject of this memoir, with Barry,

developed some new features in his character. Considering the smallness of his own means, the contributions by which he enabled his *protegé* to live and study in Italy, were perfectly munificent; and his letters to him while so engaged, not only exhibit a remarkable knowledge of the fine arts, and a profound acquaintance with human nature, and with what may be called the science of human life, but also, in spite of their scientific and didactic character, are among the most perfect models of the epistolary style.

Meanwhile Mr. Burke was preparing himself for his public career by frequent attendance at the House of Commons, and at a famous debating society, called the "Robin Hood," at which he habituated himself to public speaking. The moment at length arrived when the desired avenue was opened before him. The Marquis of Rockingham being placed at the head of the Cabinet in 1765, appointed Mr. Burke his private secretary, and procured his return to parliament as member for Wendover, in Buckinghamshire. He had taken his seat but a short time, when he made his first speech in a discussion concerning America. This commencement was most auspicious. He received the warm congratulations and praises of Mr. Pitt, and soon became a frequent and leading speaker. He signalized himself as a decided enemy to all those measures which gave rise to the American war, as the champion of a rational liberty, and the advocate of religious toleration. The effects of his parliamentary efforts were such as might have been expected from the exalted genius they discovered. He established a new school of senatorial eloquence. He raised the tone of their discussions. Impatient as his mind was of mere detail, and tending as it naturally did to great principles, he led away the senate of his day from that petty policy which is limited to the consultation of a temporary expediency, and set them the example of engrafting politics on philosophy, of contemplating a remote futurity, of legislating, as if all posterity would regard their discussions as models, and preserve their decisions as precedents.

Nor is it matter of wonder, that, in spite of these extraordinary qualifications, Mr. Burke should have occasionally fatigued the House; nor even that there should be found one stupid rustic, accustomed only to the somnulent deliberations of a parish vestry, who could arrest him as he rose with his hands full of documents, and inquire if he meant to read all those papers, and to bore the House with one of his long speeches into the bargain. In the first place, he was entirely unacquainted with the petty art of *making himself scarce*. Impelled by patriotic interest in the affairs of his country, he continually took part

in its councils, and brought the entire force of his mind to bear upon almost every question. Hence he became cheap and common; his vast intellectual efforts were esteemed events of every-day occurrence, and, like the great wonders of nature, were only disregarded by those who daily witnessed them. Besides, there was a great difference between the condition both physical and mental of Mr. Burke, and that of his great parliamentary rivals, at the time when their chief exertions were necessary. The morning which they spent in bed, recovering from the fatigues of the previous evening, and preparing for the next, was by him occupied from an early hour in the transaction of public and private business. So that when, on his way to the House, he called, as was his habit, upon Fox, he found him fresh for the exertions of the night, while he himself was far spent with those of the day. "It is no wonder, therefore," he would sometimes say, "that Charles is so much more vigorous than I am in the debate." But, to conclude these very unnecessary apologies, the true solution of this apparent difficulty is to be found in the fact, that, even in the English House of Commons, there were but few individuals capable of appreciating Mr. Burke. That would, indeed, have been an Augustan age, had it witnessed more than a few, who could accompany that great man, night after night, with unwearied step, to those vast profundities where were laid the solid resources of his knowledge, and with undazzled eye to those heights whence he brought down the heavenly beauties of his eloquence.

During the early part of his parliamentary life, he occupied himself chiefly in the affairs of the East India Company, and gained much credit for his great industry, and the astonishing aptitude with which he acquainted himself with all the intricacies of that branch of commerce.

In 1774 he also took an active part in the discussions respecting the taxation of America; and, on the 19th of April, in that year, made that great effort upon this subject, which has often been pointed to as one of the most illustrious exhibitions of his genius. Throughout the protracted discussions of the great question at issue between Great Britain and her American Colonies, Mr. Burke advocated conciliation and peace; and, in his eloquent warnings against the policy which was ultimately pursued, he evinced in a striking manner that profound political sagacity which marked his whole career, and which, as Mr. Fox justly observed, amounted to prophecy.

At the dissolution of parliament, in 1774, his return for Wendover having been rendered improbable by a disagreement with Lord

Verney, he accepted an offer of the interest of the Marquis of Rockingham in Malton, whither he proceeded, and where he was elected. While returning his acknowledgments to his Malton friends, a deputation from the merchants of Bristol arrived, after having travelled rapidly to London, and thence down into Yorkshire, to request that he would accede to his nomination for the city of Bristol, which had occurred without his knowledge. This, to one who had never courted popularity, was an unexpected honour, and its value was enhanced by a promise to return him free of expense. He therefore obtained the cheerful consent of those to whom he had engaged himself, and, travelling night and day with the deputation, arrived in Bristol on Thursday, the 13th of October, and the sixth day of the poll. He drove immediately to the Guildhall, ascended the hustings, and, having paid his respects to the sheriffs and the other candidates, he reposed for a few moments, exhausted with want of sleep; then rose, and addressed the electors with as much energy as if he had endured no previous fatigue. After a contest protracted to the last moment, he was returned on the third of November; and, in his address of thanks at the close of the election, undertook one of the most delicate and difficult tasks which, perhaps, ever fell to his lot to perform, and accomplished it with the most memorable success. This was the determination of the precise relative powers and functions of constituents and representatives. His decision was equally distinguished by good sense and independence, and it was one which it would be well for both the parties concerned in the present day to consult and to follow.

"Certainly, gentlemen," said Mr. Burke, "it ought to be the happiness and glory of a representative, to live in the strictest union, the closest correspondence, and the most unreserved communication with his constituents. Their wishes ought to have great weight with him; their opinion high respect; their business unremitted attention. It is his duty to sacrifice his repose, his pleasures, his satisfactions, to theirs; and above all, ever, and in all cases, to prefer their interest to his own. But his unbiassed opinion, his mature judgment, his enlightened conscience, he ought not to sacrifice to you, to any man, or to any set of men living. These he does not derive from your pleasure; no, nor from the law and the constitution. They are a trust from Providence, for the abuse of which he is deeply answerable. Your representative owes you not his industry only, but his judgment; and he betrays instead of serving you, if he sacrifices it to your opinion.

"My worthy colleague says, his will ought to be subservient to yours. If that be all, the thing is innocent. If government were a matter of will upon any side, yours without question ought to be superior. But government and legislation are matters of reason and judgment, and not of inclination; and what sort of reason is that in which the determination precedes the discussion; in which one set of men deliberate, and another decide; and where those who form the conclusion are perhaps three hundred miles distant from those who hear the arguments?"

But Mr. Burke's connexion with Bristol was not destined to be permanent. On the dissolution of Parliament in the autumn of 1780, he repaired to that city in the full expectation of being rejected, owing to the disapprobation of some part of his political conduct by the majority of his constituents. The charges made against him were, that he had supported Lord Beauchamp's Insolvent Debtor's Bills, the Irish Trade Acts, and the Catholic Relief Bill. These measures he defended on the hustings with prodigious power and eloquence, and then, though enthusiastically supported by the main body of the Dissenters, and much of the property and respectability of the city, declined a contest, and respectfully took his leave. He was returned to the next Parliament by his old friends at Malton.

On the resignation of Lord North's cabinet in March, 1782, Mr. Burke accepted the office of Paymaster General of the Forces, and in pursuance of those measures of retrenchment which he had most eloquently advocated while in opposition, he introduced such reform into his office, as saved to the country the almost incredible sum of £47,000 per annum, of which £25,300 were the usual and avowed perquisites of the Paymaster, which all his predecessors had received.

The death of the Marquis of Rockingham threw Mr. Burke and his associates out of office. Lord Shelburne, who succeeded the Marquis as premier, was soon compelled to retire by the political junction of Fox, Burke, and their friends, with the party headed by Lord North. In this celebrated coalition, Burke re-assumed the office of Paymaster-general; but the cabinet thus formed was but of brief duration, and was dismissed by the King, on the rejection of Mr. Fox's India Bill by the House of Lords.

In 1784, Mr. Burke was made Lord Rector of the University of Glasgow; and in 1786, entered upon the most eventful and difficult task of his whole political life, in the impeachment, in the name of the House of Commons, of Warren Hastings, late Governor-General of India. Were it not beside our purpose to revert to long-forgotten

slanders we might recount a great variety of sinister motives attributed to Mr. Burke, in the performance of this most laborious undertaking. But this is altogether unnecessary. Apart from the overwhelming evidence which he brought in support of the charge, the previous tenor of his conduct, and the subsequent testimony of the successors of the party impeached, are sufficient to assure us that nothing but an instinctive abhorrence of unprincipled and oppressive mal-administration impelled Mr. Burke to the course which he pursued. A verdict of acquittal was recorded in favour of the Governor—but this Mr. Burke had anticipated; and he considered his own conduct sufficiently justified, as necessary to the honour of his country, by the facts adduced on the trial, by the decision of the House in favour of the impeachment, and by the vote of thanks to the conductors of it at its close. His opening address occupied four days in the delivery; and his final oration, nine; and each, by the almost superhuman eloquence it displayed, produced such an effect on the auditory as was never witnessed before or since. "The bosoms of his auditors," says his political adversary, Dr. Glennie, "became convulsed with passion; and those of more delicate organs, or weaker frame, actually swooned away. Nay, after the storm of his eloquence had spent its force, and his voice for the moment ceased, his hand seemed to threaten punishment, and his brow to meditate vengeance."

The breaking out of the French Revolution, in 1789, is thought by some to have effected a change in the political principles of Mr. Burke. His conduct, however, no less than his language, proves that his principles remained the same, while his measures changed with the sympathetic feelings of this country, and the political prospects of Europe. Approving as he did of that determined resistance to oppression which produced the first French revolution, he disapproved of almost every measure in which it evinced itself; and, above all, he foresaw, with prophetic sagacity, the effects which must result from the sudden assumption of lawless and long-lost political power, by those who had no higher principles than those of expediency to regulate their conduct. To arrest, in this country at least, the progress of those opinions which distinguished the infidel madmen of France, he published his Reflections on the Revolution, a work which exhibits such transcendent genius, as places it almost alone in English literature, and which was shortly read in every part of Europe. His views on the question, and the energy with which he resisted the introduction of every tincture of French politics into England, cost

him the loss of his dearest political and private friends, and the temporary odium of a large proportion of his countrymen.

In 1795, he received the reward of his unparalleled public services, in a pension on the civil list; but the loss of his beloved son, in the former year, had so deeply affected him, as to undermine his health, and to leave him but a short time to enjoy the expression of his country's gratitude. He died on the 9th of July, 1797, and was buried, according to his direction, in Beaconsfield church. If any single sentence could characterize the life and writings of Mr. Burke, it would be one that precisely falsifies the sentiment, dictated in doggrel rhyme, by the corroding and jealous vanity which made Oliver Goldsmith the most pitiable wretch in existence. So far from "giving up to party what was meant for mankind," Mr. Burke habitually spoke and wrote as if contemplating the highest and most permanent interests of his species; and, however minute and private might be the subject which engaged his attention, he rarely failed, in its elucidation, to develop some truths of a profound and universal character. Indeed, this was the natural tendency of his mind; and it was doubtless with views similar to these, that Mr. Fox, long after their final separation, uttered that noble and disinterested panegyric—"The eloquence of Mr. Burke is not the greatest of his powers; it is often a veil over his wisdom: moderate his more vehement sallies, lower his language, withdraw his imagery, and you will find that he was more wise than eloquent: you will have your full weight of metal, though you should melt down the chasing."

In short, Mr. Burke was a man whose enemies are never more eloquent than when they are doing homage to his merits; while his warmest friends never fail more, than when they attempt to do them justice—a man whose character was made up of all the powers by which humanity is dignified, and all the graces by which life is adorned; each of whose intellectual faculties, had it existed singly, would have excited astonishment; and all of which, combined, would have impressed a sentiment of awe, had they not been veiled and softened by modesty and benevolence — a man "whose abilities, happily for the glory of the age in which we live, are not entrusted to the perishable eloquence of the day, but will live to be the admiration of that hour when all of us shall be mute, and most of us forgotten."

Painted by F. Howard. Engraved by J. Cochran.

THE Rt REVD DANIEL WILSON, D.D. LORD BISHOP OF CALCUTTA.

Daniel Calcutta

FISHER, S. & N. & CO. LONDON 1843

THE

RT. REV. DANIEL WILSON, D.D.

LORD BISHOP OF CALCUTTA.

WHATEVER praise may be due to the character and the actions of those who, either by their talents, their courage, or their industry, advance the secular interests of mankind, that class of men are the most permanently useful to their species, and, though the effects of their exertions are less obvious to notice, deserve to be held in the most grateful esteem, who combine a care for the temporal happiness, with a supreme regard for the higher and more lasting interests, of society. Such men, indeed, are the only true philanthropists; and, in the first rank of this class, we do not hesitate to place the right reverend subject of the following memoir.

DANIEL WILSON was born on the 2d of July, in the year 1778. The place of his birth was Church-street, Spitalfields. His father, Mr. Stephen Wilson, who was one of a highly respectable Dissenting family, well known for their munificent patronage of religious and benevolent institutions, had removed from Derbyshire to London, where he successfully pursued the business of a silk-manufacturer. His mother was the daughter of Daniel West, Esq., who, during many years, was one of the managers of Tottenham-court-road Chapel, and of the Tabernacle in Moorfields. Mr. Wilson, their son, received the rudiments of a liberal education in a preparatory school at Eltham, from which, after a few years, he was removed to a seminary of higher pretensions in Hackney. He was instructed in the religious principles of his parents; and, being designed for the pursuits of commerce, was apprenticed to his uncle. About the age of eighteen, however, a considerable change took place in his religious views and feelings, the result of which was, that he abandoned the mercantile profession, and, with the consent and approbation of his parents, devoted himself to study, preparatory to entering the ministry in the Established Church. That this change of purpose proceeded entirely from

conviction and a sense of duty, may be very fairly inferred, as well from the prospects of temporal advantage which Mr. Wilson sacrificed, as from the whole tenor of his subsequent career. Accordingly, at the age of nineteen, he began to prepare for college, for which end he was placed under the care of the Rev. Josiah Pratt, B.D., the respected vicar of St. Stephen's, Coleman-street. In May, 1798, he was matriculated at St. Edmund Hall, Oxford, taking his degree of B.A. in 1801, and proceeding M.A. in 1804. Among other university distinctions, he obtained the prize for the Bachelors' English Essay on Common Sense, in 1803; the year in which Heber delivered his poem on Palestine. When Heber had descended from the rostrum, Wilson ascended to it; each little thinking that this represented what would take place, as to a very different station, at very different periods of their lives.

Mr. Wilson was ordained, in 1801, at Farnham Castle, by Dr. Brownlow North, Bishop of Winchester, his title being the curacy of Chobham and Bisley, in Surrey, of which livings the justly celebrated Mr. Cecil was at that time vicar and rector.

Mr. Wilson was married in November, 1803, to Ann, eldest daughter of William Wilson, Esq., of Worton House, in the county of Oxford. Six children, three of whom are now living, were the issue of their union. Mrs. Wilson died in 1827.

In the same month in which he was married, Mr. Wilson removed to Oxford, and, during nine years, was Tutor and Vice-Principal of St. Edmund Hall. With his college duties he united the curacy of the parish of Worton, in which the estate and residence of his father-in-law were situated.

At Christmas, 1808, Mr. Wilson, in consequence of the strong importunities of his old friend and former rector, Mr. Cecil, undertook, in part, the office of minister of St. John's Chapel, Bedford-row; but it was not till 1812 that he resigned his cure in the country, and his college engagements, and devoted himself exclusively to his new duties as Mr. Cecil's successor. It was in Bedford-row that Mr. Wilson's talents as a preacher became generally known, and highly estimated. Considering the person that had preceded him, it is plain that, unless he had evinced great ability, extensive knowledge, sound views, fervent zeal, and, above all, sterling piety, Mr. Wilson could not have kept together a congregation which had so long enjoyed the ministrations of a man whom few have equalled, and still fewer have surpassed, in any of the grand qualifications of a Christian teacher. It is, therefore, no mean testimony to the character of Mr. Wilson, whether as a

preacher, a divine, or a Christian, that, during fifteen years, he ministered in St. John's Chapel, with constant usefulness and increasing popularity; nor does his subsequent elevation afford a more unequivocal demonstration of his merit. Among his hearers was the late Charles Grant, Esq., the upright and excellent father of the President of the Board of Control, and of the Judge Advocate; and others there were, to whom his preaching was so peculiarly acceptable, that they resided in London from no other motive than that of attending on his ministry.

In 1824, Mr. Wilson's connexion with St. John's Chapel was dissolved, by his appointment to the vicarage of Islington; and the Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel, who is a zealous and an eloquent preacher, succeeded to the vacant office.

While minister of St. John's Chapel, Mr. Wilson was twice obliged, by illness, to desist from preaching. On the first occasion, the injury which his health had sustained, through the combined influence of unremitted private study and public labour, was repaired by an abode of two months on the sea-side; but, on the second occasion, he was incapacitated from preaching during nearly two years, except a few sermons delivered at wide intervals. It was during this illness that he made the continental tour, of which he published so interesting an account.

In May, 1824, the vicarage of St. Mary's, Islington, became vacant by the death of Dr. Strahan. Many years before, Mr. Wilson's father-in-law had purchased the advowson of this large and populous living, and bequeathed it to him. Mr. Wilson, consequently, acceded to it in his own right on the death of the incumbent, and preached his first sermon in the parish church on the 11th of July, 1824, immediately after his induction. Here he remained till he was elected to the episcopate of Calcutta, when he was succeeded by his son, the Rev. Daniel Wilson, whom he presented to the vacant living.

In the enlarged sphere in which Mr. Wilson moved on becoming a parochial minister, and undertaking the spiritual oversight of more than 37,000 souls, he found a field of exertion and opportunities of usefulness well suited to his benevolent heart and energetic mind. Some who have occupied positions of similar importance, have dwelt far away from the reputed scene of their ministerial and pastoral labours, and others have contented themselves with the dull performance of the mere routine of clerical duty; and these, though comparatively a small number, have brought a reproach upon a church with which they do not deserve to be connected. Far different was

the conduct of Mr. Wilson. He did not seek ease, as the consequence of preferment; he did not study how little he might do as the vicar of his parish, but how much he might effect towards its moral and religious improvement. Besides his labours within the walls of his church, which, when his health permitted, were unremitting, and were very useful, he was constantly engaged in extraordinary efforts, which his high and scriptural notions of pastoral responsibility led him to consider as much his duty as the due administration of the sacraments, or the performance of any other ordinary office of the Church.

Previously to his connexion with Islington, he had been an active supporter of the Church Missionary Society, the British and Foreign Bible Society—indeed, of almost every society and institution, the object of which was to promote the glory of God in advancing the welfare of mankind; but then, in addition to the support which he continued to give to benevolent associations of a more general nature, he applied himself diligently to the formation, within his own parish, of such institutions as seemed to him calculated to diminish the evils, whether physical or moral, which oppress society, and of which Islington, he found, had its share. Finding that the means of attending divine worship were quite inadequate to the population, he obtained the erection of three new churches, capable, altogether, of holding 5,800 persons, and supplied them with able and evangelical ministers. To promote the better education of the children of his parishioners, he founded a Proprietary Grammar School, which, we understand, is very prosperous. To relieve distress, and render charity, as it should be, ancillary to religion, he established District Visiting Societies; and, perceiving that in his parish a crime, far too general, prevailed—we mean, the violation of the Sabbath,—he formed a parochial society for the better observance of that sacred day. Too wise, however, and too benevolent, to expect that force would supply the place of principle, it was by mild measures, by the force of moral suasion, that he hoped to effect the repression of a sin which is the foundation and the source of so many evils. He prudently prepared the way for this institution, which, we believe, was the first of the kind established in the metroprolis, by preaching a series of discourses on the Divine Authority and Perpetual Obligation of the Lord's Day. They were afterwards published; and it must be allowed that they contain as clear and forcible a statement of the arguments for the Christian Sabbath as any work known to be extant.

Besides this volume, which is Mr. Wilson's latest publication, he published several works. In 1817, a volume of Miscellaneous Dis-

courses; in 1823, an account of a Tour on the Continent, in two small volumes; and in 1824, two volumes of Sermons and Tracts, which had appeared separately during a period of fourteen years. But his most important work is his Lectures on the Evidences of Christianity, which were first delivered in 1819, at St. John's Chapel, Bedford-row, and, afterwards, in the course of 1827, and the two following years, at St. Mary's, Islington. A second edition of this valuable compendium, in duodecimo, has recently appeared. The design of the work is to unite the external and the internal evidences of our holy religion, and to urge them practically upon the hearts and consciences of men. These are Bishop Wilson's principal works.

On the 28th of March, 1832, Mr. Wilson received from his friend, the Right Honourable Charles Grant, President of the Commissioners for the Affairs of India, the offer of the Bishopric of Calcutta, vacant by the lamented death of Bishop Turner. The intelligence of this appointment, which was alike honourable to the distinguished individual through whom it was signified, and to the Government with which he is connected, was received by the Christian public with evident pleasure, and inspired fresh hopes for the success of missionary enterprises in our Eastern provinces.

Some of Bishop Wilson's friends had their fears lest his health should suffer from the change of climate; and, remembering how rapidly his predecessors succeeded each other, how wide the sphere of his prospective labours, and how ardent the character of his mind, those fears were neither unnatural, nor indeed unfounded. His medical advisers, however, prognosticated more favourably, conceiving that the climate of India might even prove a beneficial change. With what feelings the Bishop himself, who, on being raised to the highest honours, was appointed to the most arduous station, of the Church, contemplated his elevation, we are, happily, not without the means of knowing. On the first of May, 1832, at the annual meeting of the Church Missionary Society, he is reported to have said, "The people among whom I am going, possess, above all others, a sovereign claim to my attention; and I fear that their necessities will absorb almost the whole of that slender care which my humble gifts will permit me to bestow. In the present circumstances of this country at home, and in the existing condition of our Eastern possessions, it deserves not the name of sacrifice for me to go forth to any duty, however others may have sunk under a similar charge. The duties which devolve upon me I undertake with chastened hopes, and with most humble expectations; but, even were it otherwise, I am assured that my friends will recollect, that, circum-

stanced as I am, I cannot esteem myself as confined to any one society, whether missionary or otherwise. I am the humble instrument, under the Divine blessing, by whom the duties of the Bishop of the whole Indian church are to be discharged. To that my attention must, in the first instance, be directed. Next am I bound to give such aid as may be in my power to the scattered Christians who dwell within and around the limits of my extended diocese. I desire to go forth in the name of the Lord; not knowing whither I go, or to what scenes I may be called; I wish not to look beyond the veil which stands between me and the future. I demand to know nothing that may be concealed on the other side. I only desire to know and to perform my present and immediate duty; but I nevertheless entreat your prayers, not for myself only, but for India."

Such was the truly missionary spirit in which Bishop Wilson awaited his departure, probably for ever, from his native land. On Sunday evening, May 27, he took leave of the congregation in St. John's chapel, Bedford-row, in an affectionate discourse, in which he reminded them that it was very nearly thirty years since he who was then addressing them for the last time, addressed them for the first time, and then solemnly commended them to God. On the 17th of June, he bade a similar farewell to his parishioners, in a sermon on the importance of maintaining a high and scriptural tone of practical piety.

On the 30th of May, 1832, the Bishop of Calcutta presided at a special meeting of the Committee of the Church Missionary Society, at which the instructions of the committee were given to several missionaries about to depart to their respective stations. The Bishop addressed the missionaries on the peculiar circumstances of their undertaking, and then commended them in prayer to the Divine favour and protection. The Rev. William Jowett, on the part of the committee, then expressed their feelings of affectionate respect for the Bishop, and solicited his Lordship to extend such countenance and assistance to the Society's proceedings, within the diocese of Calcutta, as his and their engagements and duties might enable him to afford. The Bishop assured the committee of his good-will toward the Society, and his disposition to aid its proceedings so far as his circumstances would permit.

On Wednesday the 20th of June, 1832, Bishop Wilson, with Messrs. Hœberlin, Kempt, Leupolt, and Linke, four of the missionaries whom he had recently addressed, sailed from Portsmouth for Calcutta, on board the James Sibbald, Captain Darby. They passed Madeira, on the fifth of July, and arrived at the Cape of Good Hope on the

31st of August, resuming their voyage on the 10th of September. During the passage from the Cape to Calcutta, the Bishop assembled the missionaries in his cabin twice a week, and delivered to them a course of lectures on the first epistle of St. Paul to Timothy; and one of the missionaries, referring to these occasions, emphatically styles them " meetings of blessings."

On the 4th of November, the James Sibbald arrived at Calcutta; but, it being Sunday, the Bishop and the missionaries did not go on shore till the following day. On landing, they immediately proceeded to the cathedral, where the Bishop was installed; and, according to the last accounts, the companions of his Lordship's voyage, not yet in orders, were awaiting the first exercise of his episcopal functions.

The character of Bishop Wilson in every respect entitles him to esteem; but it is as a preacher that he challenges the largest share of admiration. His evangelical views of Christian doctrine, his high notions of ministerial responsibility, and his pervading sense of the infinitely important consequences which depend on the faithful declaration of God's whole counsel, joined to a natural fervour, great physical energy, a nervous style of language, and not unfrequently a winning tenderness of entreaty, conspired to make his discourses uniformly impressive, and often permanently useful. There was likewise great variety in his pulpit exercises. Every condition of circumstances, every state of opinion, and every diversity of feeling, was in turn met by appropriate counsel, reasoning, and exhortation. The insidious sceptic, and the more open and shameless blasphemer, found themselves in the presence of a man before whom their unbelief trembled to its sandy base, and their boasted reasonings betrayed their flimsy texture: while the impenitent sinner often found his words productive of an effect beyond the power of mere eloquence to produce, the inconsistent professor was abashed at his reproof, and the sincere Christian was edified by his clear and consistent expositions of evangelical privileges.

But we gladly cut short our own remarks, to substitute the more important testimony of an individual who, by likeness of station, of character, and of talents, to the object of his eulogy, as well as by intimate personal acquaintance with him, is better fitted to describe his excellences. At the recent annual meeting of the Church Missionary Society, (April 30, 1833,) the Bishop of Winchester moved a resolution, expressive of joy on account of the safe arrival at Calcutta of the Bishop of that diocese, and of anticipation of the important results of his superintendence of that vast district; in doing which, his

Lordship observed, " there were around him those who had long known, loved, and revered the excellent prelate to whom his resolution referred; and any thing which he could say might well be supposed to fall short of the eulogy which their own minds would dictate, and to which their hearts would respond. He was fearful, also, lest, in saying any thing of the servant, he might forget the Master; and, if that were the case, that prelate would be the first to cast away the misplaced crown, and lay it at the feet of Him in whose service he wished to spend and to be spent. He had witnessed, in some degree, the exertions of that distinguished individual in favour of religion, before he left this country; and in those efforts he found the best assurance, that he would carry with him those measures of zeal for his Master, of love to his cause, of desire to promote his glory, which were especially needed in a Christian missionary bishop. He was glad to find, that, though the labourers in India were, indeed, few, one had been sent out, from whose counsels, example, and prayer, they would reap abundant benefit. Might they all be like-minded with their temporal head !"

Painted by O. Oakley. Engraved by J. Morrison.

THE Rt HONBLE JOHN TALBOT, F.S.A. EARL OF SHREWSBURY.

Shrewsbury

FISHER, SON & CO. LONDON 1840

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

JOHN TALBOT,

EARL OF SHREWSBURY,

IN ENGLAND; EARL OF WATERFORD AND WEXFORD, IN IRELAND;
HEREDITARY LORD HIGH STEWARD OF IRELAND;

F.S.A. ETC. ETC. ETC.

THE illustrious family of TALBOT* traces an uninterrupted male descent from the time of William the Conqueror, with whom their ancestor, Richard Talbot, came over to England. In the reign of Henry the Third, Gilbert Talbot acquired large possessions in and upon the borders of Wales, by marriage with Gwndalin, daughter and afterwards heiress of Rhys ap Gryffith, a prince of South Wales, on which occasion he relinquished his paternal arms, and adopted those of his wife's ancestors, which have been ever since borne by his posterity. His grandson, Sir Gilbert Talbot, was summoned to parliament among the barons of the realm, in the year 1330; and his descendants continued to be so summoned, until the year 1442, when John Talbot, the celebrated hero of the French wars, was, by Henry the Sixth, created Earl of Shrewsbury in England, and, in 1446, Earl of Waterford and Wexford in Ireland. The twelfth Earl, named Charles from his godfather, King Charles the Second, sustained the office of Secretary of State, and was created Marquis of Alton and Duke of Shrewsbury, but, dying without issue, the marquisate and dukedom became extinct; the earldom, however, devolved to his cousin, and descended to its present possessor.

* The following particulars respecting the early history of this family, are supplied in Debrett's Peerage of the United Kingdom.

This estimable and accomplished nobleman was born March the 18th, 1791, and was early instructed in the principles of the Catholic religion, to which he has zealously adhered. His Lordship was educated by the Jesuits in their College at Stonyhurst, which he quitted in 1810, and soon after spent some time as the pupil of the Rev. Chetwode Eustace, an elaborate scholar, and well known as the author of the Classical Tour in Italy. Having thus completed an education, of the excellence of which he has subsequently given abundant evidence, he left England on a tour in Spain and Portugal; also visiting Sicily, and various parts of Africa.

Since that time, the Earl of Shrewsbury has lived much with his family in Italy, and on other parts of the Continent; and while abroad, has contributed not a little to establish the character which deservedly attaches to the English nobility for liberal patronage of the fine arts, by making a very extensive collection of paintings. These he has placed in galleries constructed for the purpose, at his splendid seat at Alton Towers, Staffordshire. It is worthy of mention, that his Lordship has constantly employed nearly two hundred workmen, in adding to this mansion, which was commenced by the late Lord, in embellishing the picturesque gardens, and in a variety of other improvements, all of which are conducted under his own superintendence. We cannot help stopping to remark, that it would be well if other noblemen would imitate the example thus set by the Earl of Shrewsbury. It is by such a munificent distribution of their immense revenues, that they become the most important blessings to the neighbourhood in which they reside; that they establish themselves in the grateful regard of the poor, and realize that protective character which was contemplated in their first institution.

In April 1827, his Lordship succeeded his uncle Charles, the late Earl of Shrewsbury, in that title; but the law as it then existed did not allow of his acceding to the full and constitutional exercise of his rights, without an assent to certain propositions of religious belief. These, as a Catholic, he could not conscientiously adopt; and with a spirit worthy of his name, he spurned them from him—thus affording a practical refutation of one of the most obnoxious calumnies entertained by the vulgar against the members of the Romish church, and debarring himself from those high functions to which his illustrious birth entitled him. England, however, has happily thrown aside the shackles of this contracted and miserable policy; and the Earl of Shrewsbury now gives to his country his abilities and his labours, which are consistently devoted to the promotion of liberal principles.

But the noble recusant did not content himself with declining the necessary oaths and declarations. In 1828 he published a volume entitled " Reasons for not taking the Test, &c." which speedily went through a second edition. It is a work of great research, and of most elaborate and eloquent composition. It does not rest in the discussion of the simple question of religious tests, but contains the most lucid, powerful, and candid exposition of the arguments in favour of Catholicity, which has perhaps ever been presented to the world. It is indeed characterized occasionally by a degree of acrimony; but this is only elicited from the noble author by the bigotry, misrepresentation, and insult of his opponents. On the whole, it is a work of extraordinary talent, and great value: it has no inconsistencies, except those into which his Lordship falls, in his modest references to himself; and few faults, unless we so denominate the eruptions of a noble and an honest indignation.

In the preface to the second edition, which is dated from Stuttgardt, his Lordship declares that he could hope to make but little impression, but for the very powerful minds, of whose assistance he had availed himself. Unfortunately, however, for the plausibility of this statement, that very preface, which contains every internal indication of his pen, will convince all readers that the interpolations of others were little needed. The following passage, for example, exhibits a degree of spirit and eloquence which has not often been surpassed.

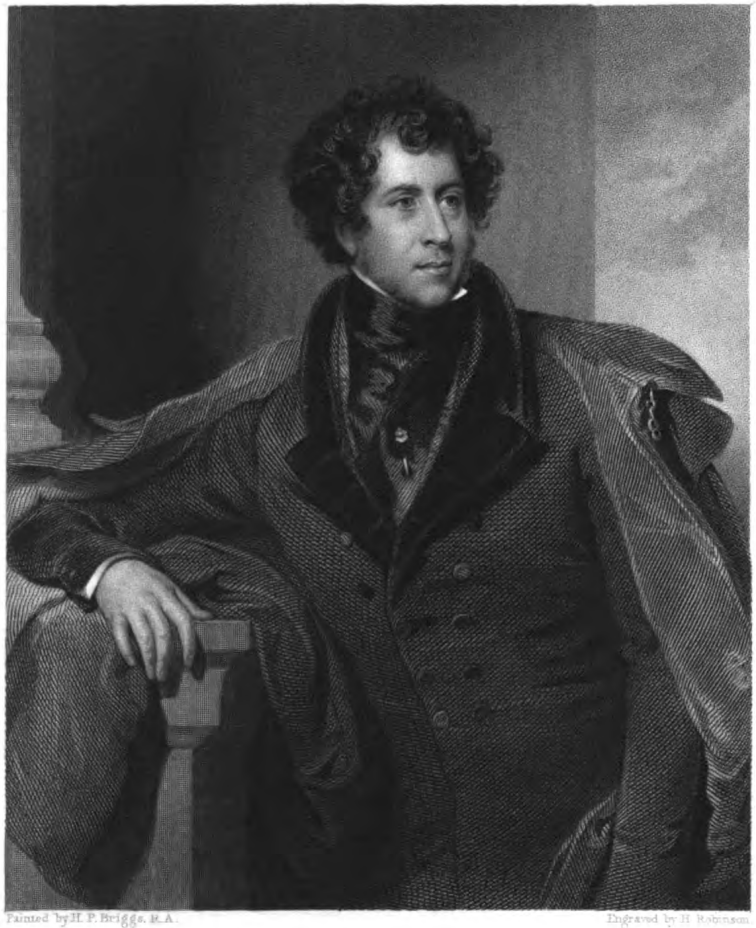
" In vain do we challenge our opponents to conjure up before us the individuals by whose magic powers the novelties, which are imputed to our religion, were first engrafted upon the primitive faith of Christendom, without any one perceiving the strange exotic foliage which thenceforth appeared upon the ancient indigenous stock. No branch, however small or insignificant, has been lopped off; no tender shoot, blighted by the noxious exhalations of error, has drooped and withered on the parent stem; whose fall has not been registered in the annals of history. Could then so many and such gigantic plants, sucking like vampyres the strength and vigour of the tree of which they had taken such tyrannic hold, parasites of the most deadly quality, not only attach themselves, but flourish upon the very life-blood of the dishonoured monarch of the woods—and no man tell the tale of their unnatural usurpation? Was all nature so deeply sunk in apathy and ignorance, as to be unconscious of the mighty change? Were the human passions become so docile, as to submit without a murmur to these new and galling restraints? Was reason so subjugated, as to embrace strange and unheard-of mysteries, without even an expression

of astonishment? Was every watchman of the Lord slumbering at his post, when the angel of darkness came to steal away the body of Faith, and bury it impervious to the search of man? Was there not even one 'sleeping witness' to attest the fact? No, not one! The mysterious deed was accomplished by such master-magicians, that no man knew, not even the most wakeful sentinel, who they were, or whence they came, whether

In airs from heaven, or blasts from hell.

Yet these are paradoxes with which the credulity of mankind is mocked, and their reason insulted, by men who have exalted that reason into a very goddess. They would annihilate, at one fell sweep, every attesting monument—would obliterate every trace of historic record from the world—would fill the dreary wilderness they had made, with the creations of their own fancy, and people the regions from which they had banished so many sages, saints, and scholars, with mere shadowy phantoms or revolting chimeras. They would apply their flimsy machinery to raze the stately structure of our religion to the ground, forgetting that, to crown their vain endeavours with success, they must undermine the foundations of Christianity itself.—But the Power which preserved our religion in her infancy, when she had, perhaps, even stronger prejudices and passions to contend with than she has at present, and which has brought her triumphantly through the troubles and misfortunes of her manhood, will continue to guide her in her old age, till, having accomplished her destinies upon earth, she returns, pure and spotless, to whence she came—to the bosom of the Divinity."

The Earl of Shrewsbury is a member of numerous literary and scientific societies at home and abroad, and president of various charities. He married, in 1814, Maria, eldest daughter of William Talbot, of Castle Talbot, County Wexford, Esq.; and has issue, two daughters.—Though in his 43d year, his countenance indicates a much less advanced period, as will be seen from the accompanying Portrait, for which his Lordship very obligingly sat to Mr. Oakley.



Painted by H. P. Briggs, R.A. Engraved by H. Robinson.

THE RT HON^BLE CONSTANTINE-HENRY PHIPPS, F.S.A. EARL OF MULGRAVE.

Mulgrave

THE RIGHT HON.

CONSTANTINE-HENRY PHIPPS,

EARL OF MULGRAVE,

F. S. A.

To the noble family of Mulgrave, an origin is ascribed, which, though it has not been unquestioned, possesses such claims to authenticity, and is besides so truly interesting, that we cannot deny ourselves the pleasure of relating the particulars of it with less than our usual brevity, in regard to matters of genealogical detail.

In the year 1683, William Phipps, a native of a North American colony, was appointed by the English Government to the command of a frigate, with a commission to proceed to the coast of Hispaniola, for the purpose of searching and unloading a rich Spanish vessel, which he affirmed to be sunk in a spot already examined by him, at Port de la Plata. He returned from his first voyage with no other success than a confirmed confidence in the feasibility of his project; but, being again enabled to try his fortune four years later, after much labour and difficulty, he brought home, as the produce of this adventure, a quantity of bullion to the value of £300,000. Captain Phipps's integrity was no less remarkable than his ingenuity and perseverance: with such scrupulous precision was this sum divided among those who had furnished him with means for the expedition, and the seamen who accompanied him, that his own share amounted only to somewhat less than £16,000. With reference to this enterprise, Captain Phipps is commonly regarded as the inventor of the diving-bell, though what the construction of the apparatus used by him was, we are not informed. The King (James II.) conferred on him the honour of Knighthood, with a patent of High Sheriff in his native settlement of

New England; and in 1691 he received from William III. the appointment of Governor of Massachusets. Sir William Phipps's administration of his office was both popular, and beneficial to the colony: it was, however, but of short duration. He died in London, in 1694, leaving an adopted son, the child of a relation, who became Sir Constantine Phipps, a lawyer of eminence, created Lord Chancellor of Ireland in 1710. Constantine Phipps, grandson of the Chancellor, was made an Irish Peer in 1767, as Baron Mulgrave of New Ross, in the county of Wexford. Constantine-John, the second Baron, was a distinguished naval officer; he held several high official situations, commanded a Polar expedition for the discovery of a north-east passage, an account of which he published in 1773; and, in 1790, was elevated to the peerage of Great Britain, as Baron Mulgrave of Mulgrave, in Yorkshire. Henry, his brother, the father of the present Earl, succeeded to his title; and, in 1812, received the further dignities of Viscount Normanby and Earl of Mulgrave.

The late Earl of Mulgrave was a General in the army. His first campaign occurred in the American war, where he acquired considerable reputation. He further distinguished himself in the expedition against Toulon, on the breaking out of the war with revolutionary France; but his most eminent services to his country were conferred in a political capacity. During the long and eventful period which embraced the administrations of Mr. Pitt, Mr. Perceval, and Lord Liverpool, he successively filled several important offices in the ministry. Of the general principles of government in which those statesmen agreed, he was a determined supporter; and he was the warm personal friend of the first and greatest of the three.

The noble subject of this memoir was born in May, 1797, and received his education at Harrow, and at Trinity College, Cambridge. On coming of age, Lord Normanby took his seat in Parliament, as Member for Scarborough, the representation of which borough had long been in the possession of his family.

The political sentiments avowed by his Lordship, at his entrance upon public life, and ever since consistently acted upon by him, were decidedly adverse to those of the late Earl. His first speech in Parliament was delivered on the 3d of May, 1819, in favour of the Roman Catholic claims. It was deemed so successful, that a special request for its publication was made by the Catholic Board, with which his Lordship complied. Long before the more loud and recent advocates of the great measure, by the passing of which the present Cabinet is distinguished, had joined the popular party on that ques-

tion, Lord Normanby's name was to be found in the list of Reformers. The very first resolutions on the subject, proposed by the noble Lord who since brought forward the Reform Bill, were seconded by him, in a speech which was regarded by his political friends as carrying conviction beyond the tenour of the specific resolutions before the House, but which it is said gave proportionate pain in the circle of his private connexions. Finding that, under existing circumstances, it would be impossible for him to pursue that parliamentary career which he had laid down for himself, as the course he was in conscience bound to follow, without unhappily placing his private feelings and obligations in constant opposition to his sense of public duty, he determined to put an end to the conflict by removing from the scene of both, for a time; accordingly, he resigned his seat, and retired to the Continent.

Italy, and in particular Florence, became now, for some years, the place of his Lordship's residence. Here he entered upon a course of life congenial with the tastes and feelings of the land of his adoption. In his ardent love and patronage of the fine arts and of literature, Lord Normanby took the lead among the northern sojourners on the banks of the Arno. His Lordship had married, in the first year of his majority, the Honourable Maria Liddel, eldest daughter of Lord Ravensworth, whose graces and accomplishments most essentially enhanced the charms of a society, to which the privileged residents in Florence at the period referred to, whether natives or foreigners, will ever revert with peculiar pleasure. Among his talents his Lordship numbers histrionic powers of no mean order; his Lady is said to be still more highly gifted with the faculty of personation; the private theatre in their palace was, therefore, the great attraction to the Florentine world of fashion. In regard to accuracy and splendour of costume, to the beauty of the scenery, and the ability and good order which presided over this temple of elegant amusement, it was perhaps unequalled in the history of private theatricals; and calculated, not only to "win golden opinions" from foreigners as to the condition of the drama in England, but even to afford useful hints for the improvement of the regular Italian theatres. This favourite pursuit his Lordship diversified with frequent concerts, with horse-races in the vicinity, of which he was among the chief promoters, &c.

Lord Normanby did not, even in that "voluptuous clime," give himself wholly up to luxury and aristocratic enjoyment. That active exertion of intellect which had received a check in his political career,

he now found scope for in more calm and delightful, if less animating, occupations. He became the friend and associate of literary men, and his name was soon familiarized to the public ear, at home, as one of the fraternity of admired authors.

The splendid creations of Sir Walter Scott had begun to pall upon the fickle palate of our "reading public." Scotland and her border-feuds were exhausted; no tolerably successful attempt was made to unlock the romantic legendary wealth of more distant countries; but there was yet a region, in the very midst of us, hitherto unexplored by plebeian inquisitiveness, yet abounding with attractive mystery to the forbidden research and uninitiated imagination of the ordinary reader—the world of fashionable life.

By his birth, his habits, and abilities, Lord Normanby was fitted to avail himself of the taste that was beginning to seek its gratification in this quarter. He had but to combine together, with that slight degree of art which it must have been easy for him to attain, the elements of his own daily experience from childhood; and to express the result, as was natural to him, in simple and graceful language. In this class of writers, therefore, his Lordship soon found himself occupying an eminent place. "Matilda," "Yes and No," and "The Contrast," may be referred to, as correct paintings of the manners of the age; they possess also the recommendation—no slight one, in productions of this kind—of being inoffensive as well as entertaining delineations. To a perception of the leading peculiarities of those forms of life with which he is best acquainted, sufficiently lively to enable him to copy them at once with playfulness and accuracy, he adds an insight into human nature in general, clear enough to qualify him to stamp his portraits with that air of truth which all instinctively recognize. His Lordship's style, if not always vigorous, is never ungraceful: he passes and repasses from satirical sketches, unobtrusively, yet wittily and pointedly touched, to pictures of gentle and unaffected pathos, with that facility which so well agrees with the versatile lightness of his materials. With regard to the suitableness of this class of subjects to the higher purposes of the novelist—and, again, as to the wisdom, in these times, of unveiling to the prying and jaundiced eyes of the many, the foibles of the privileged orders—some doubts may perhaps be allowed.

After an interval of two or three years, Lord Normanby returned for a short period to England; and though he still continued to reside, during the greater part of the year, beyond the Alps, his visits to his native country were now, we believe, annual, or nearly so. In a pamphlet ascribed to him about this time, entitled "Remarks on the

Bill for the Disfranchisement of Grampound," he entered generally into the question of Parliamentary Reform, endeavouring to demonstrate the necessity of such a measure, by pointing out the extreme discrepancy between the distribution of the population and wealth of the country, and that of the right of election. In 1822, he was again in Parliament, for the borough of Higham Ferrars. During this session he succeeded in realizing, in one instance, his convictions as to the necessity of retrenchment on the part of the Government, by obtaining the abolition of one of the offices of Joint Postmaster-General. Under the administration of Mr. Canning, he sat in Parliament for Malton; and on the dissolution of Lord Goderich's cabinet, which followed, he brought forward the subject of inquiry into the secret causes of that unexplained event. From this time, the hopeless state of his father's health, which had long been declining, prevented his Lordship from attending to his duties in Parliament, notwithstanding the animating nature of the business with which the legislature was occupied, and the lively interest which the great questions under discussion had ever excited in his mind.

At the late Earl's death, which took place in April, 1831, a wider and more unembarrassed field was opened for the exertion of his Lordship's talents. The party to which, from his first entrance on the stage of public life, he had undeviatingly attached himself, were now in the possession of power and great popularity; they had come into office pledged to act upon those principles which had been all along the settled maxims of his political creed; while his free-agency was no longer shackled by deferential regard to opinions, which had hitherto operated as a check upon his public conduct. In a crisis of unparalleled importance in the history of the West Indies, his Lordship accepted the office of Captain-General and Governor of Jamaica. All former subjects of discontent between that island and the mother country had been immeasurably augmented by the exasperating circumstances of the recent rebellion among the slaves. At the very period of the Earl's appointment, the House of Assembly was engaged in passing a vote of censure upon the Government at home, for its alleged "unconstitutional interference with the local legislature;" and every fresh arrival from England was looked forward to with jealousy and distrust, as expected to announce some further step in the development of a system, which the authorities of the island considered hostile to its rights and interests, and which they appeared determined, to the utmost of their power, to resist.

His Lordship's character, and the mildness and amenity of his deportment, acquired for him, notwithstanding these adverse circumstances, an enthusiastic reception. It was probably, however, to the personal rather than the official character of the new Governor, that these congratulatory testimonies were directed. On his arrival, he made a progress through a considerable part of the island, for the purpose of accurately acquainting himself with the particulars of the late unhappy insurrection, by an inspection of the districts which had been most exposed to its ravages. The opening of the Legislative Assembly, in October, sufficiently displayed the extreme difficulty of his Lordship's situation, as the functionary of a Government favourable to negro emancipation. His address was answered by the House in language of intemperate warmth, deprecating all interference on the part of the Parliament of Great Britain in the internal affairs of the island, and declaring that it did not admit the right of Parliament to legislate on them. Differences have likewise occurred between His Excellency and the Militia Officers and Justices of the Peace; whose conduct in enrolling themselves as members of the "Church Unions," or associations formed for excluding the services of sectarian ministers, of some particular denominations, from the island, has met with his marked disapprobation. Collisions such as these were, in the actual state of the West Indian Islands, inevitable; and it is matter of congratulation for all who desire the welfare of those valuable colonies, that the government of Jamaica is in the hands of a nobleman, who combines the firmness necessary to enforce, in his official character, the measures decreed by the British Legislature for their regulation, with all the influence in promoting the acceptableness of those measures, which can accompany distinguished rank, conciliatory manners, and personal worth.

[The Portrait of the Earl of Mulgrave which accompanies this sketch, is from the original whole-length Painting in the possession of the Duke of Devonshire; to whom the Proprietors beg to offer their grateful acknowledgments for His Grace's permission to execute the Engraving.]

Painted by F. Parsons. Engraved by H. Cook.

JAMES BRADLEY.

FISHER, SON & Co. LONDON, 1833.

JAMES BRINDLEY.

We have from the pen of an ancient and a pagan writer, the sentiment, (which a little modification would bring under the sanction of Christianity,) that the spectacle of a virtuous man struggling with misfortune is one which the gods themselves contemplate with intense interest. And, on the same principle, it is unquestionably true, that nothing is more calculated to call forth the highest regard and admiration, than the sight of a man of commanding talents emerging from an obscure situation—defying and dispelling the influence of circumstances which threaten to confine him there—compensating by sagacity for the want of wealth and education—and leaving far behind the competition of those who, with less merit, possess much higher external advantages. It is the unassisted nature of his efforts, and the consequent inequality of the contest in which he is engaged, which attracts our interest so irresistibly to such an individual: we observe his fluctuating fortunes with solicitude, and at length we give him our cheerful applause, when he has shewn himself "master of his fate," and assumed the station to which his talents and his industry entitle him.

Such an instance is offered to our notice in the history of James Brindley; a man who laboured under such great and numerous disadvantages as nothing but his own ingenuity, perseverance, and moral courage, could have surmounted; and yet, who, in spite of them all, attained a preeminence in his profession, which made him one of the greatest wonders, and one of the most important benefactors, of the age in which he appeared. This celebrated engineer was born at Tunsted, in the parish of Wormhill, Derbyshire, in the year 1716. Of his earlier years little has ever been recorded, except that his education was totally neglected, owing to the poverty entailed on the family by the dissolute habits of his father, and that, from the time he was able to work, he was employed in the ordinary kind of country labour. The effects of this neglect were manifested in the almost total illiteracy which distinguished him through life. It will scarcely be believed, that the man who conceived and executed such stupendous designs, and conducted such laborious computations, was unable in any period of his history to read a sentence without extreme difficulty,

and could only use a pen to trace a rude signature of his name.* Perhaps, however, it may be fairly questioned, whether the want of literary education was so great an evil to a man of Brindley's character and habits as it would appear at first sight, and as it is felt to be in ordinary cases; whether it did not leave his mind unseduced by the various attractions of books, and so favour the prosecution of his professional pursuits, by allowing him to devote to them his undivided attention. His taste for mechanics appears first to have manifested itself at the age of seventeen, when he bound himself apprentice to a millwright of the name of Bennet, residing at Macclesfield, and almost immediately evinced such a degree of ingenuity and aptitude in that calling as excited considerable surprise. One of his biographers, who received his information from Brindley's brother-in-law, and successor in some of his undertakings, writes, that, "In the early part of his apprenticeship he was frequently left by himself for whole weeks together, to execute works concerning which his master had given him no previous instructions. These works, therefore, he finished in his own way; and Mr. Bennet was often astonished at the improvements his apprentice from time to time introduced into the millwright business, and earnestly questioned him from whom he had gained his knowledge. He had not been long at the trade, before the millers, wherever he had been employed, always chose him again, in preference of the master, or any other workman; and before the expiration of his servitude, at which time Mr. Bennet, who was advanced in years, grew unable to work, Mr. Brindley, by his ingenuity and application, kept up the business with credit, and even supported the old man and his family in a comfortable manner."

It is especially to the credit of Brindley, that even at this early period of his life he derived so little instruction from any one, but, on the contrary, was so entirely indebted to his own sagacity and diligence. Indeed, his superiority to his master was most apparent, and was exemplified by one very singular instance in particular, during his apprenticeship. It appears that Mr. Bennet had received an order to construct the machinery of a paper-mill; and having never seen any thing of the kind, he took a journey to inspect one at a distance, in order that it might serve him as a model. Having made his observations, he returned and set to work, but with no success; so that it was currently stated in the neighbourhood, that he was wasting his employer's money. This report came to the ears of Brindley, who was employed on the machinery under the direction of his master, and probably suspecting that there

* We have made diligent inquiry, but have not been able to procure his autograph.

was much truth in it, he waited till the end of the week, and then set out on foot, to inspect for himself the mill which his master had visited, and returned on the following Monday morning entirely master of its construction. He now assumed the direction of the work, and completed an excellent machine, with various improvements on the model of his own contrivance.

After some years, Brindley entered upon business on his own account; and the first performance by which he particularly signalized himself was the erection of a water-engine for draining a coal-mine at Clifton, in Lancashire. The chief difficulty in the case was to obtain a supply of water for working the machine. This, however, he conquered by one of those bold schemes which were so characteristic of him, bringing the water through a tunnel six hundred yards in length, cut in the solid rock. After a few more performances of a similar character, which gave comparatively little scope to that comprehensiveness and grandeur of conception for which he was so remarkable, he suddenly entered upon a department of labour which brought these characteristics fully to light, and applied them to their most appropriate purpose. The occasion of this was, the commencement of a series of undertakings, which have been said "deservedly to rank among the highest achievements of modern enterprise and mechanical skill." This was the introduction into England of the system of internal navigation by canals. It need hardly be said, that so far from having any claim to praise for the invention of these public accommodations, it is matter of surprise that England should have been so tardy in imitating the example which had been set her for ages by various and very inferior nations, especially as such an accommodation was imperatively required by the extent of her internal commerce. Not that this subject had never been entertained. As early as the age of Charles II. a scheme was in agitation for cutting a canal between the Forth and the Clyde; but the idea was abandoned at that time, from despair of collecting adequate funds, though it has since been carried into execution. It was not, however, until the year 1755 that the first canal actually constructed in this country, called the Sankey Canal, was commenced; and even this was so accidentally projected, that it had not been contemplated when the operations which immediately led to it were undertaken. It is situated in Lancashire, where it was constructed on account of the valuable coal-beds in its vicinity, and was eventually extended to the length of about twelve miles. This occurred but a short time previously to the commencement of that extraordinary work, by association with which, the subject of this sketch is

best known to posterity; and as the progress of that achievement has been accurately and concisely described in a modern memoir of this extraordinary engineer, we will avail ourselves of that account.

" It is probable that the Sankey canal, although it did not give birth to the first idea of the great work we are now about to describe, had at least the honour of prompting the first decided step towards its execution. Francis, Duke of Bridgewater, who, while yet much under age, had succeeded, in the year 1748, by the death of his elder brothers, to the family estates, (and to the title, which had been first borne by his father,) had a property at Worsley, about seven miles west from Manchester, extremely rich in coal-mines, which, however, had hitherto been unproductive, owing to the want of any sufficiently economical means of transport. The object of supplying this defect had for some time strongly engaged the attention of the young Duke, as it had indeed done that of his father; who, in the year 1732, had obtained an act of parliament enabling him to cut a canal to Manchester, but had been deterred from commencing the work, both by the immense pecuniary outlay which it would have demanded, and the formidable natural difficulties against which at that time there was probably no engineer in the country able to contend. When the idea, however, was now revived, the extraordinary mechanical genius of Brindley had already acquired for him an extensive reputation, and he was applied to by the Duke to survey the ground through which the proposed canal would have to be carried, and to make his report upon the practicability of the scheme. New as he was to this species of engineering, Brindley, confident in his own powers, at once undertook to make the desired examination, and, having finished it, expressed his conviction that the ground presented no difficulties which might not be surmounted. On receiving this assurance, the Duke at once determined upon commencing the undertaking; and an act of parliament having been obtained in 1758, the powers of which were considerably extended by succeeding acts, the formation of the canal was begun that year.

" From the first, the Duke resolved that, without regard to expense, every part of the work should be executed in the most perfect manner. One of the chief difficulties to be surmounted was, that of procuring a sufficient supply of water; and, therefore, that there might be as little of it as possible wasted, it was determined that the canal should be of uniform level throughout, and of course without locks. It had consequently to be carried in various parts of its course both under hills and over wide and deep valleys. The point, indeed, from which it took its commencement, was the heart of the coal-mountain at Worsley. Here

a large basin was formed, in the first place, from which a tunnel of three-quarters of a mile in length had to be cut through the hill. We may just mention, in passing, that the subterraneous course of the water beyond this basin has since been extended in various directions for about thirty miles. After emerging from under ground, the line of the canal was carried forward, as we have stated, by the intrepid engineer, on the same undeviating level; every obstacle that presented itself being triumphed over by his admirable ingenuity, which the difficulties seemed only to render more fertile in happy inventions. Nor did his comprehensive mind ever neglect even the most subordinate departments of the enterprise. The operations of the workmen were every where facilitated by new machines, of his contrivance; and whatever could contribute to the economy with which the work was carried on, was attended to only less anxiously than what was deemed essential to its completeness. No part of his task, indeed, seemed to meet this great engineer unprepared. He made no blunders, and never had either to undo any thing, or to wish it undone; on the contrary, when any new difficulty occurred, it appeared almost as if he had been all along providing for it—as if his other operations had been directed from the first by his anticipations of the one now about to be undertaken.

"In order to bring the canal to Manchester, it was necessary to carry it across the Irwell. That river is, and was then, navigable for a considerable way above the place at which the canal comes up to it; and this circumstance interposed an additional difficulty, as, of course, in establishing the one navigation, it was indispensable that the other should not be destroyed or interfered with. But nothing could dismay the daring genius of Brindley. Thinking it, however, due to his noble employer to give him the most satisfying evidence in his power, of the practicability of his design, he requested that another engineer might be called in, to give his opinion before its execution should be determined on. This person Brindley carried to the spot where he proposed to rear his aqueduct, and endeavoured to explain to him how he meant to carry on the work. But the man only shook his head, and remarked, that 'he had often heard of castles in the air, but never before was shewn where any of them were to be erected.' The Duke, nevertheless, retained his confidence in his own engineer, and it was resolved that the work should proceed. The erection of the aqueduct, accordingly, was begun in September, 1760, and on the 17th of July following the first boat passed over it, the whole structure forming a bridge of above two hundred yards in length, supported upon three arches, of which the centre one rose nearly forty feet above the surface

of the river; on which might be frequently beheld a vessel passing along, while another, with all its masts and sails standing, was holding its undisturbed way directly under its keel.

"In 1762 an act of parliament was, after much opposition, obtained by the Duke, for carrying a branch of his canal to communicate with Liverpool, and so uniting that town, by this method of communication, to Manchester. This portion of the canal, which is more than twenty-nine miles in length, is, like the former, without locks, and is carried by an aqueduct over the Mersey; the arch of which, however, is less lofty than that of the one over the Irwell, as the river is not navigable at the place where it crosses. It passes also over several valleys of considerable width and depth. Before this, the usual price of the carriage of goods between Liverpool and Manchester had been twelve shillings per ton by water, and forty shillings by land; they were now conveyed by the canal at a charge of six shillings per ton, and with all the regularity of land carriage."

The execution of this masterly work reflects equal honour upon Brindley and his noble patron. The enterprise of the one, and the grandeur of conception and energy of execution displayed by the other, lay almost equal claim to the admiration of posterity. Above all, these distinguished men afforded throughout the execution of this daring project a most notable example of true decision of character. The novelty, no less than the vastness and apparent impracticability of their undertaking, drew upon the Duke of Bridgewater the frequent remonstrances of his friends, and on Brindley the ridicule of almost all who came to witness his labours. But the laboriousness of the work they had imposed on themselves, did not allow them leisure either to be teazed with the advice, or to listen to the laughter, of others; and, utterly unmoved by both, they addressed themselves with confidence to their labours, and shamed all opponents by their entire and triumphant success.

The splendid result of this enterprise incited others to undertakings of a similar kind; and even before the Bridgewater canal was completed, Mr. Brindley was engaged by Lord Gower, and some other of the principal landed proprietors of Staffordshire, to survey a line for another canal, which it was proposed should pass through that county, and, by uniting the Trent and the Mersey, open for it a communication by water with both the east and west coasts. This was a plan which had frequently been suggested before, but had never been seriously entertained for a moment, owing to the supposed impossibility of carrying the canal across the elevated tract of country which stretches along

the central region of England. At length, however, the extraordinary talents of Brindley induced those who were most deeply interested in the construction of such a canal, to take his opinion as to its practicability; and, with his usual confidence, he pronounced the project to be feasible. The difficulty offered by the high land which lay in its course, he overcame by carrying a tunnel through Harecastle Hill, of two thousand eight hundred and eighty yards in length, at a depth in some places of more than two hundred feet below the surface of the earth. This was only one of five tunnels excavated in different parts of the canal, which extends to the length of ninety-three miles, and passes in its course over numerous aqueducts. From its greatest elevation at Harecastle, the fall of water, on the northern side, is 326 feet, and on the southern 316 feet. The former part is furnished with thirty-five locks, and the latter with forty. The common breadth of the canal is twenty-nine feet at the top, and sixteen at the bottom, and the usual depth is four feet and a half. In the part from Wilden to Bourton, however, and from Middlewich to Preston-on-the-Hill, it is thirty-one feet broad at the top, eighteen at the bottom, and five feet and a half in depth.

This stupendous work was called by Brindley the Grand Trunk Navigation, and by means of its various branches unites the three ports of Bristol, Liverpool, and Hull. The extraordinary character of the project, and the vast scale on which it was executed, excited the utmost curiosity and interest, and strangers came from all quarters to witness the progress of the work, and to gratify themselves with a sight of the wonderful man who seemed to make all the elements of nature subservient to his will. One of these visitors has penned a curious account of his observations on Brindley, and of his operations in the construction of the Harecastle tunnel. "He is as plain a looking man," says he, "as one of the boors of the Peak, or one of his own carters; but when he speaks, all ears listen, and every mind is filled with wonder at the things he pronounces to be practicable. He has cut a mile through bogs, which he binds up, embanking them with stones which he gets out of other parts of the navigation; besides about a quarter of a mile into the hill Yelden, on the side of which he has a pump which is worked by water, and a stove, the fire of which sucks through a pipe the damps that would annoy the men who are cutting towards the centre of the hill. The clay he carts out serves for bricks to arch the subterraneous part." By such ingenuity as this, which made the most of all its most accidental and trifling resources, and by a degree of perseverance which nothing could damp or inter-

rupt, did this extraordinary man bring his vast design to a successful termination. That such astonishing success could not be obtained without an enthusiastic interest in his pursuit, will be readily supposed; but we think there are few things which more singularly illustrate the degree of this enthusiasm, than an anecdote respecting his examination before the House of Commons. Having been called to give evidence before a parliamentary committee, touching some point connected with his profession, he expressed himself with so much contempt of rivers, as means of internal navigation, that an honourable member was tempted to ask him, for what purpose he conceived rivers to have been created? Brindley replied, with the utmost gravity, "To feed canals!"

Indeed, no man was ever more entirely absorbed by a pursuit than was Brindley by his. He had no sources of enjoyment, except in his profession. Upon this, therefore, his mind was incessantly occupied; and to such a degree did he possess the faculty of abstraction, that he would prosecute the entire construction of a complicated machine by a process purely mental, and, without drawing or model, would execute it on the design of which he had thus possessed himself. Even the extended numerical calculations which were required in the execution of his prodigious schemes, were all mentally performed, the results only being set down at particular stages of the operation.

The unexampled benefits resulting from his former schemes prompted numerous other enterprises of a similar kind. A number of canals were formed in various parts of the kingdom, in the planning or execution of almost all of which Brindley's services were employed. One of the most ingenious and important of his contrivances is an inclined plane, of about 160 yards long, near Bolton in Lancashire, by which empty boats are removed from a lower canal, by the weight of others descending from one forty yards above it. They are placed in a large cradle or platform, having strong cast-iron wheels, moving on a railway. Had the work been completed at the present time, it would have done honour to the most experienced engineer of the day. So much was effected by the untaught genius of a Brindley, when fostered and encouraged by the liberality and boldness of a Bridgewater! Without specifying in their order the labours of his subsequent life, which were mainly similar to those already detailed, we will close with a quotation from the memoir already referred to, which gives a comprehensive view of the great national improvements which he effected.

We shall the more clearly appreciate the impulse given to inland navigation in this country by the achievements of Brindley, and the

extent of the new accommodation which our commerce has hence obtained within the last sixty or seventy years, if we cast our eye for a moment over the map of Great Britain, and note a few of the principal canals by which the island is now intersected in all directions. First, there is the Trent and Mersey Canal, which we have already mentioned, and which was denominated by Brindley the Grand Trunk Navigation, as, in fact, uniting one side of the kingdom to the other, and therefore especially adapted to serve, as it has since actually done, by way of stem, from which other similar lines might proceed as branches to different points. By this canal, a complete water communication was established, though by a somewhat circuitous sweep, between the great ports of Liverpool on the west coast, and Hull on the east. A branch from it, the Staffordshire and Worcestershire canal, was afterwards carried to the river Severn; and thus a union was effected between the port of Bristol and the two already mentioned. This branch, being about forty-six miles long, was also executed by Brindley, and was completed in 1772. Similar communications were subsequently formed from other points on the south coast to the central counties. But the most important line of English canals is that which extends from the centre of the kingdom to the metropolis, and, by falling into the Grand Trunk Navigation, forms in fact a continued communication by water all the way from London to Liverpool. Of this line, the principal part is formed by what is called the Grand Junction Canal, which, commencing at Brentford, stretches north-west till it falls into a branch of the Oxford Canal, at Braunston, in Northamptonshire, passing at one place (Blisworth) through a tunnel three thousand and eighty yards in length, eighteen feet high, and sixteen and a half wide. The Regent and Paddington canals have since formed communications between the Grand Junction Canal, and the eastern, western, and northern parts of the metropolis. The whole length of the direct water-way thus established between Liverpool and London is about two hundred and sixty-four miles; but if the different canals which contribute to form the line be all of them measured in their entire length, the aggregate amount of the inland navigation, in this connexion alone, will be found to extend to above one thousand four hundred miles.

The entire length of the canal navigation already formed in Great Britain and Ireland is about three thousand miles. The whole of this is the creation of the last seventy years, during which period, therefore, considerably above forty miles of canal may be said to have been produced every year,—a truly extraordinary evidence of the spirit and resources of a country, which has been able to continue

so large an expenditure, for so long a time, on a single object; and which has in a single year, during that period, spent almost as much money upon war as all those canals together have cost for three quarters of a century. If Brindley had never lived, we should undoubtedly ere now have been in possession of much of this accommodation; for the time was ripe for its introduction, and an increasing commerce, every where seeking vent, could not have failed, ere long, to have struck out for itself, to a certain extent, these new facilities. But had it not been for the example set by his adventurous genius, the progress of artificial navigation among us would probably have been timid and slow, compared to what it has been. For a long time, in all likelihood, our only canals would have been a few small ones, cut in the more level parts of the country, like that substituted in 1755 for the Sankey Brook, the benefit of each of which would have been extremely insignificant, and confined to a very narrow neighbourhood. He did, in the very infancy of the art, what has not yet been outdone; struggling, indeed, with such difficulties, and triumphing over them, as could be scarcely exceeded by any his successors might have to encounter. By the boldness and success with which, in particular, he carried the Grand Trunk Navigation across the elevated ground of the midland counties, he demonstrated that there was hardly any part of the island where a canal might not be formed; and, accordingly, this very central ridge, which used to be deemed so insurmountable an obstacle to the junction of our opposite coasts, is now intersected by more than twenty canals, beside the one which he first drove through the barrier.—How far the advantages of these works may be superseded by the general introduction of railways and steam-engines, time alone can determine.

Brindley died at Turnhurst, in Staffordshire, on the 27th of September, 1772, in the fifty-sixth year of his age.

Painted by Mrs C Pearson. Engraved by J Jenkins.

GENL STAPLETON COTTON, VISCOUNT & BARON COMBERMERE, G.C.B &c

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THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

STAPLETON STAPLETON-COTTON,

VISCOUNT COMBERMERE,

OF BHURTPORE, IN THE EAST INDIES, AND COMBERMERE ABBEY, COUNTY OF CHESTER; BARON COMBERMERE; AND A BARONET; G. C. B. G. C. H. G. T. S. and K. S. F.

&c. &c. &c.

THIS nobleman is one of a very ancient family, who derive their name from the village of Cotton, or Coton, in Shropshire, and were seated there antecedently to the Norman Conquest. His Lordship is the second son of Sir ROBERT-SALUSBURY COTTON, Bart., and was born in 1775. His education was chiefly obtained at Westminster School, and, while there, he commenced his military career, at the opening of the revolutionary war, as a second Lieutenant in the Royal Welsh Fusileers. In 1791 we find him Lieutenant in that regiment, from which post he was, after two years, promoted to that of Captain in the 6th Dragoon Guards. In this rank he served with much credit in the years 1793 and 1794, under the Duke of York, in the campaigns in Flanders, and, in the latter year, was promoted to the rank of Major of the 59th regiment, and, subsequently, to that of Lieutenant-Colonel of Gwyn's Hussars, a newly-raised regiment, which subsequently became the 25th Light Dragoons. In 1796 Colonel Cotton went to the Cape of Good Hope, in command of this regiment; whence he took it to India, and served during the Mysore war. He distinguished himself particularly at the battle of Mallavelly, a few days previous to the arrival of the army before Seringapatam, and was thanked for his conduct on this occasion by General Harris. Upon the death of his elder brother, the Lieutenant-Colonel was exchanged into the 16th Light Dragoons, and returned to England in 1800. Two years afterwards, Colonel Cotton commanded the 16th regiment of Light Dragoons, in Ireland, and was shortly made a Brigadier-General, and a Major-General in 1805, when he was appointed to the command of a brigade of Light Cavalry in England.

In October, 1808, Major-General Cotton was sent with the 14th and 16th Light Dragoons to Portugal: he commanded the advanced guard when Soult was driven from Oporto, &c., into Galicia; fought at the battle of Talavera; and in the following year received the local rank of Lieutenant-General, and the command of the cavalry of Lord

Wellington's army. From this time, he was engaged in the most honourable service till the close of the war. He covered the retreat of Lord Wellington's army from Almeida to the lines near Torres Vedras, and received the thanks of Lord Wellington for the masterly manner in which that arduous duty was performed. This was but one of many important services which, as commander of the cavalry, this very able officer rendered to the great hero of that war. He received the thanks of the Commander of the forces, &c. for his judicious and gallant conduct at Castiglion, where, with two brigades of cavalry, and Cole's and Alton's divisions of infantry, he kept in check the whole of Marmont's forces, whilst Lord Wellington was getting his army into position on the river Alcran. We find the Lieutenant-General, in April, 1811, defeating the whole of Soult's cavalry, near Llerena, with General Le Marchand's and General Anson's brigades—taking about three hundred men and horses prisoners.

At the memorable battle of Salamanca, Sir Stapleton Cotton, (who had now succeeded to the baronetage,) particularly signalized himself, and even decided the fortune of the day. He afforded the most important support to Major-General Pakenham, who commanded the third division, and who, perhaps, might have been considered too young a soldier to undertake so critical a post as was on that occasion assigned to him, had he not, as Lord Bathurst declared of him, united to the enterprising spirit of youth the wisdom and experience of maturer years. It was to the cavalry, under the command of Sir Stapleton Cotton, that he owed his success. It was when the sixth and seventh divisions came to his assistance, that the fortune of the day, which was before uncertain, decided against the enemy: they were borne away by the impetuous attack of the cavalry, and sought safety in flight, which would have been unavailing, had not night fallen opportunely, and covered their retreat. Upon this occasion, nearly 3000 of the enemy's infantry were made prisoners by the cavalry.

The darkness, however, while it favoured the enemy, was exceedingly disadvantageous to our own troops. Nor was it one of the least considerable misfortunes occasioned by it, that Sir Stapleton Cotton, who had passed through all the perils of the conflict in safety, was fired at by a Portuguese piquet, and was severely wounded.

It cannot escape the observation of one who but cursorily peruses the history of those wars in which England has been engaged, that much of her success is attributable to the honours and rewards which invariably accompany real merit, and which stimulate the endeavours of all, by enlisting their ambition in the service of their patriotism. In

the instance of the gallant officer whose achievements form the subject of these pages, we have already had opportunity of verifying this remark, by stating the rapidity of his promotions; but it was his admirable conduct at the battle of Salamanca which was most fully appreciated and rewarded by his country. He was immediately presented with the Order of the Bath, and was appointed Colonel of the 20th Light Dragoons; he received the repeated and unanimous thanks of both Houses of Parliament, in conjunction with Lord Wellington, and other eminent officers; and, on his return to England for a short interval, he was again thanked, in his place in the House of Commons. He also received the Grand Cross of the Tower and Sword, the Grand Cross of Ferdinand, and, in 1814, the Grand Cross of the Guelphic Order.

During the following campaign, in 1814, he fully sustained in France the high character which his exploits in the Peninsula had gained him. At the battle of Orthies, the cavalry under the command of Sir Stapleton Cotton contributed materially to the success of that brilliant achievement. On this occasion, he was directed to support Sir Lowry Cole's division, in his attack upon the heights on which Soult had posted his centre and left. These heights shortly became the chief point of attack, and were thought by Soult to be impregnable. They were however forced, and Soult retired from them in excellent order, and availed himself of the many favourable positions which the country afforded. He was driven from each successively by the irresistible gallantry of the allied troops, until their continued and severe attacks changed his retreat into a rapid flight, in which the whole of his troops were thrown into the utmost confusion. In the course of this very rapid manœuvre, the position of Sir Stapleton Cotton only allowed of his making one charge, but of this he availed himself in a most masterly manner; his troops eminently distinguished themselves, and brought in a number of prisoners. At Toulouse the cavalry under Sir Stapleton Cotton again distinguished themselves, and were successful also in taking many prisoners during the enemy's retreat from that place. On the 17th May, 1814, he was elevated to the peerage. In 1815, he was appointed to the command of the cavalry in the Duke of Wellington's army in France. In 1817, he was made Governor of Barbadoes, and Commander of the Forces in the Leeward Islands, during which period he spent three years in the West Indies.

In 1822 Lord Combermere was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the forces in Ireland; but after three years was again removed from domestic service to India, which he made the theatre at once of his

most brilliant and most beneficial services. His Lordship here held the high and responsible office of Commander-in-Chief, and second in council. It will be recollected that the object of this interposition on the part of the British government, was to protect a native prince against an usurper. The late rajah of Bhurtpore had died in strict alliance with the East India Company, by the terms of which they were obliged to assist each other against all enemies. Apprehensive, however, of the consequences which might ensue upon his death, he had during his life-time declared his son Bulwunt Singh, his successor, and had obtained for him from the Company the guarantee of his succession in the usual form. From that time the young rajah was under the protection of the British government. On the death of the father, his nephew, Doorjun Sal, gained a party in the army, excited a successful rebellion, obtained possession of Bhurtpore itself, and seated himself on his cousin's throne. To expel this usurper, and to reinstate the son of our ancient ally, was the design with which Lord Combermere took the field shortly after his arrival in Bengal, with an army of 28,000 men, composed of King's and Company's troops. His first and chief object was the reduction of Bhurtpore itself, a fortress of immense strength and resources, which had already signalized itself by its successful resistance to the British troops when besieged in 1805 by Lord Lake, and by the natives was confidently considered to be impregnable. The termination of the attack in 1805 without its actual surrender, although it had been four times stormed, produced an exaggerated opinion of its strength, and of the courage of its defenders; and no doubt can be entertained that a second failure would have occasioned the most unfavourable state of public opinion, and rekindled all the dormant elements of restlessness and disaffection. The expected failure at Bhurtpore was to have been the signal for the invasion of the Honourable Company's territories by some of the most powerful chiefs, as well as by all the petty states of Hindoostan. It has also been ascertained, that the Burmese would not have made peace, had it not been for Lord Combermere's success at Bhurtpore, the fall of which place was known at Ava four days before the treaty was signed. To appreciate the merits of this splendid undertaking, it will be necessary to be acquainted with the chief difficulties he had to surmount; in stating which, we avail ourselves of his Lordship's despatches, and the information communicated by various modern writers of credit.

Bhurtpore is a town of considerable extent, strongly fortified on every side, being surrounded with a mud wall of great height and

thickness, with a very wide and deep ditch. The citadel stands at its eastern extremity, and is of a square figure. It occupies a situation that appears more elevated than the town, and is guarded by higher walls, and a wet ditch of great width and depth. The circumference of the fort and citadel together is about seven miles, and their walls, in all that extent, are flanked with bastions at short distances, on which is mounted a numerous artillery. The place derives additional strength from the quantity of water which its locality enables the garrison to command; and, when filled, the ditch presents a most formidable obstacle to an invader. There are two chief considerations specified by an intelligent eye-witness in relation to Indian fortresses, and to Bhurtpore in particular, which strikingly exhibit the character of the task which Lord Combermere proposed to himself. "The first," says he, "is the stupendous nature of the works themselves. To look at the fortifications of Bhurtpore, you would think they had been erected in those days of unlimited command over life and labour which produced the pyramids of Egypt, or the Chinese wall: they are so lofty, that the place has all the advantages of one situated upon a moderate eminence, without the inequality of form and contracted interior space, which are the inconveniences commonly experienced in such cases; and so thick, that I doubt whether a breach made in them with cannon would ever be assailed with effect, if well defended. The other point is the nature of their guns. I saw a piece, the ball of which, I am sure, must have weighed at least a hundred pounds. It carried, the engineers told me, more than two miles and a quarter; and yet, such was the quantity of metal in it, that it had no sensible recoil; and, so nicely was it poised on its carriage, that a child might have directed it. It is clear, that a gun of this kind might be so placed as to be quite out of the reach of our fire; and that, moreover, instead of requiring the broad rampart that ours do, it might be perched up on the loftiest tower, and fire away, unmolested by any thing but shells, a thousand of which might be directed towards it without effect." This gun was presented by Lord Combermere and the army to his late Majesty, by whose command it was mounted in front of the artillery barracks at Woolwich.

Before this apparently impregnable fortress did His Lordship appear, on the 10th of December, 1825, with his army, and a field of more than one hundred pieces of artillery. During the night, the enemy had cut the embankment of a lake to the northward, for the purpose of filling the ditch which has been described; a precaution which most essentially contributed to the successful resistance offered

to the besiegers in 1805. But this measure had fortunately been conducted too tardily, and the British troops arrived in time to make themselves masters of the embankment, and repair the breach, before sufficient water had flowed into the fosse to render it impracticable. He then occupied a few days in reconnoitering the works, and determining the points of attack, until his battering train and appurtenances arrived.

It is with great pleasure that we postpone, for a moment, the details of this formidable siege, to record an instance of humane consideration, on the part of Lord Combermere, which highly enhances the glory of the achievement. Being desirous to save the women and children from the horrors of such a bombardment as he knew would ensue on the employment of such a battering train as he had in readiness, he addressed a letter to Doorjun Sal, calling upon him to send them out of the fort, promising them a safe-conduct through the British camp, and allowing twenty-four hours for that purpose. Having received an evasive answer, his Lordship repeated his request, allowing a further extension of the time for twelve hours: his honourable offer, however, was not accepted. On the 23d of December, therefore, every thing being in readiness, and the north-eastern angle of the works having been fixed on as the point of attack, the besiegers, under a heavy fire, took possession of a ruined village and of Buldeo Singh's garden, and completed their first parallel at the distance of about eight hundred yards from the fort. On the following morning, two batteries, situated at these points, and one more advanced between them, opened on the town with tremendous effect, and the rest of the month was spent in such vigorous firing from these and other batteries, erected in different situations, as left scarcely a roof in the city uninjured. Such, however, was the tenacity of the mud walls, that they resisted the effects of shot much better than masonry would have done, and recourse was had to mining on the 3d of January, 1826. The first attempt comparatively failed, owing to the fear of discovery on the part of the engineers, who sprung it before it was sufficiently advanced to have any material effect on the wall. A second attempt was made, but the miners were driven away, having been countermined from the interior before they had entered many feet. On the 14th, another mine, under one of the bastions, was exploded too precipitately, and failed of its effect. This event occasioned some delay. Lord Combermere, however, directed two more mines to be driven into the same bastion, which were blown on the 16th, and, with the aid of a day's battering, an excellent breach

was made. The result of this splendid undertaking was now decided, and it only remained to exert the same gallantry in striking the last blow, as had been exhibited in the earlier stages of the siege. The particulars of the fall of Bhurtpore are given in one very detailed and authentic account, as follows :—

" Early in the morning of the 18th, the troops destined for the assault established themselves in the advanced trenches, unperceived by the enemy. The left breach was to be mounted by the brigade of General Nicolls, headed by the 59th regiment; that on the right, by General Reynell's brigade, headed by the 14th regiment; the explosion of the mine under the north-east angle was to be the signal for the attack. At eight o'clock the mine was exploded with terrific effect; the whole of the salient angle, and part of the stone cavalier in the rear were lifted into the air, which for some time was in total darkness; but, from the mine having exploded in an unexpected direction, or from the troops having been stationed, in consequence of miscalculation, too near it, the ejected stones and masses of earth killed in their fall several men of his Majesty's 14th regiment of foot, at the head of the column of attack, and severely wounded three officers; they fell so thickly about Lord Combermere himself, that Brigadier-General M'Combe, who was standing next him, was knocked down, and two sepoys, who were within a few feet of him, were killed on the spot. The troops immediately mounted to the assault with the greatest order and steadiness, and, notwithstanding a determined opposition, carried the breaches. The left breach was the more difficult of the two; and, at one moment, where the ascent was steepest, the 59th regiment, which led the attack, halted for an instant; but, at a cheer from their comrades behind, they pressed on, and quickly surmounted it; the grenadiers, moving up it slowly and resolutely, without yet drawing a trigger in return for the volleys of round shot, grape, and musketry, which were poured upon them.

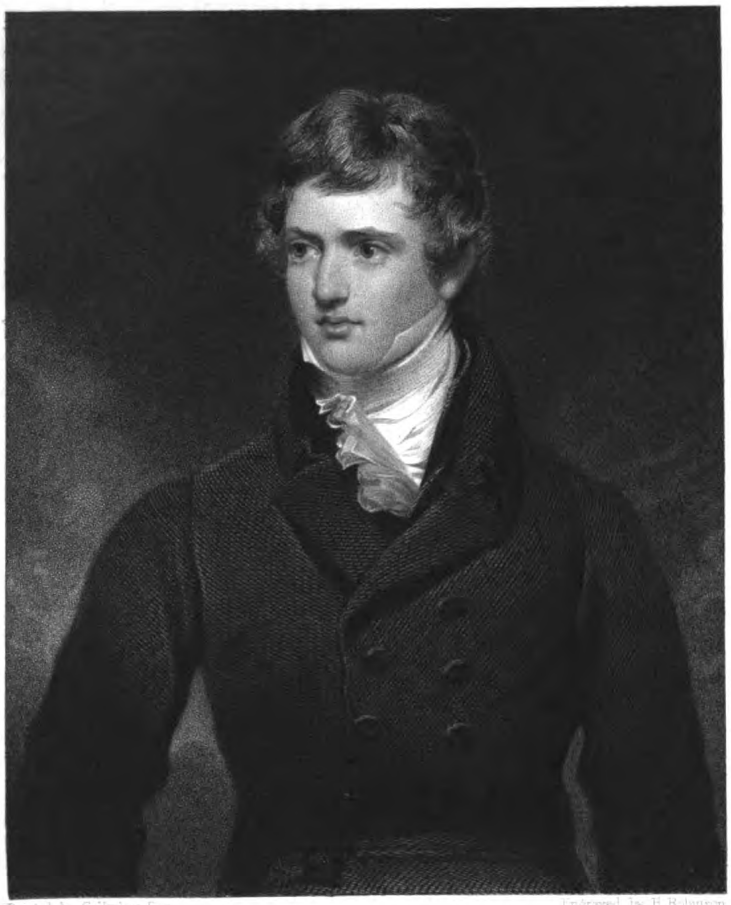
" Some of the foremost of the enemy defended the right breach for a few minutes with great resolution, but, as the explosion of the mine had blown up three hundred of their companions, they were soon compelled to give way, and were pursued along the ramparts. Whenever they came to a gun which they could move, they turned it upon their pursuers, but they were immediately killed by the grenadiers, and the gun upset. In two hours the whole rampart surrounding the town, although bravely defended at every gateway and bastion, along with the command of the gates of the citadel, were in possession of the besiegers, and early in the afternoon the citadel itself sur-

rendered. Brigadier-General Sleigh commanding the cavalry, having been entrusted with preventing the escape of the enemy's troops after the assault, made such a disposition of his forces, that he succeeded in securing Doorjun Sal, who, with his wife, two sons, and a hundred and sixty chosen horse, attempted to force a passage through the 8th light cavalry. The garrison consisted of about 36,000 men, of all arms; of whom nearly 10,000 fell during the siege and storming: the loss of the besiegers did not exceed 1200 men. Thus, as by the surrender of the town all the stores, arms, and ammunition fell into the possession of the victor, the whole military power of the Bhurtpore state might be considered as annihilated. The fortifications were demolished, by orders from the supreme government; the principal bastions, and parts of several curtains, were blown up on the 6th of February; and it was left to the rains to complete the ruin. The Futty Bourg or "Bastion of Victory," built, as the Bhurtporeans vaunted, with the bones and blood of the British soldiers who fell in the assault under Lord Lake, was now laid low; and among its destroyers were some of those very men who, twenty years before, "had been permitted," in the boasting language of the natives, "to fly from its eternal walls." All the other fortresses within the rajah's dominions immediately surrendered—the inhabitants returned to their abodes—and the prince was re-instated in his authority."

By this extraordinary achievement, India was saved, and, in consideration of these important services, his Lordship was raised to the rank of Viscount, with the title of Viscount Combermere of Bhurtpore in India, and of Combermere Abbey, in the county of Chester; and was afterwards made Colonel of the 1st Life Guards.

It deserves mention as a very singular coincidence, that the inhabitants of Bhurtpore had depended for the security of their fortress on an ancient prophecy, that it should never be taken until an alligator should swallow up the water in the ditch which surrounds it. The name of Lord Combermere is pronounced by the natives *Kaummeer*, which in their language signifies alligator; and from this correspondence of sound, they considered that his Lordship's act of turning off the water realized the prophecy, and thus the fall of their city confirmed their confidence in their prophet.

His Lordship married in 1801 Lady Anne Marian Pelham Clinton, eldest daughter of Thomas, third Duke of Newcastle, by whom he has no surviving issue. Her ladyship died in 1807. In 1814 Lord Combermere married Caroline, second daughter of William Fulke Greville, cousin of the Earl of Warwick, by whom he has issue one son and two daughters.



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EDWARD GEOFFREY STANLEY,

Secretary of State for the Colonial Department.

AN abstract view of the present age would lead to the supposition, that it was an age of great men. Change, which precipitates opinion from its old foundations, and inquiry, not less diligent than speculative, have hewn out broad and deep channels for every species of thought and ability. In the bold cry for improvement, genius hears a new summons for the exercise of its highest endowments; the necessities of the times are an appeal to its generosity and sympathies; and the power with which all the forces of civilization seem suddenly invested may be regarded, by a not extravagant analogy, as the effect of the generous responses of high and noble minds, who, mingling with the common stream of life and thought, have given it a portion of their own vitality. But we do not in reality see what might theoretically be expected. The age is neither so rife in the production of talent, nor so peculiarly indebted to its exertion, as some which have preceded it. Of the many names which history will recognize as the ornaments of the present era, the greater number will be those of men who have rather benefited the nation by their industry or their virtuous honesty, than enlightened it, or made it a debtor to their genius—of men distinguished by their acquirements, rather than their endowments—by the extent of their united influence, rather than by the force of their natural ability. Talent, therefore, of a high order still retains its conspicuous pre-eminence; is still the rare production of the Father of spirits; and has still the peculiar tasks to perform, which the generality of minds, however powerful in numbers and union, seem incapable of originating or executing.

EDWARD GEOFFREY STANLEY was born at Knowsley-Park, March 29, 1799, and was the first son of Edward Lord Stanley, eldest son of the Earl of Derby, by Charlotte-Margaret, daughter of the Rev. Geoffrey Hornby. When about nine years of age, he was sent to a school kept by the late Rev. Richard Roberts of Mitcham, where he remained three years, and then removed to Eton, whither he was accompanied by Mr. James, one of the sons of the late master of Rugby school, as his private tutor. At Eton he continued till 1816, when the serious

and eventually fatal illness of his uncle and fellow-student, the second son of the Earl of Derby, led to his returning home, and finishing his preparatory studies under the parental roof. In October, 1817, he proceeded to Oxford, still accompanied by Mr. James, and continued at Christ Church till 1820, towards the end of which year he proceeded with his uncle, the Rev. Mr. Hornby, on a tour to the continent. From this tour he returned in July, 1822, well prepared, both by cultivation and disposition, for that active sphere of exertion in which he was about to move. A mind like his could not have failed to derive the most important benefits from the care taken in its culture; and it will be a pleasing task for future biographers, when time has somewhat loosened the restraint on private anecdote, to particularize the means and the steps by which its powers were so well developed and balanced. It was for the borough of Stockbridge that, thus prepared for public life, he first took his seat in the House of Commons; but the following Parliament he was returned for Preston, which place he continued to represent till the year 1830.

It is a fact in parliamentary history not unworthy of observation, that some of the most distinguished speakers of the House of Commons were far from successful in the commencement of their career. Such was the case with Sheridan; such was the case with Brougham himself; while a long list might be made out, of less remarkable, but still highly accomplished debaters, who have required all the experience of years, and the practice of many sessions, to become what they are. Mr. Stanley can scarcely come under our judgment in this respect. His first speech was made on a subject of mere local, or individual interest, the Manchester Gas-light Bill; and he was contented simply to state facts in that clear, nervous style for which he has continued to be conspicuous. Sir James Mackintosh, however, a man whose judgment could be as little influenced as possible on matters of intellect by private feeling, expressed himself in terms of strong approbation on the speech. "He had listened," he said, "with great pleasure to the address of his young friend, who had afforded so convincing a proof of the ability with which he could advocate not only the local, but the general interests of his constituents."

This commencement of Mr. Stanley's parliamentary labours was made on the 30th of March, 1824; but it was on the 6th of the following May that he delivered the speech from which the powers of his mind, and his capacity for public business, could be first fairly estimated, as well by the nation at large as by his private connexions. Mr. Hume moved a resolution, "that it was expedient to inquire whether the

present Church Establishment of Ireland be not more than commensurate to the services to be performed, both as regards the number of persons employed, and the incomes they receive." On the question being put from the chair, Mr. Stanley rose to oppose it. He began by stating, that he regretted being obliged to do so. "His regret was increased by the very temperate nature of the motion, and the manner in which it was made. Agreeing, as he did, in many points with the honourable mover, and not having any objections that the church should be before the house, in its moral, political, and pecuniary relations, he could not think that the mode proposed by the honourable member could be pursued with advantage, or without danger. The time chosen for this was most unfortunate, and he thought the motion itself calculated to lower the character of the established church. Prejudice to the established church in Ireland, he had none; and in disposition to relieve Ireland, he would yield to no man. It was but too well known, that within the last few years attempts had been made by the press, and through the more dangerous channels of private insinuation, to cast odium on the established church, by maliciously aspersing the character of the clergy. He would assert, that, had one half the zeal which had been exerted against the church been used to bring forth the high character, the many virtues and amiable qualities, the unostentatious discharge of their sacred duties, of the great body of its members, that church would now stand above the reach of all that malice and calumny could invent; but this was not done. On the contrary, the vices of some individuals, and the failings of others, were put forth in a most prominent manner; and, being contrasted with the unassuming virtues of the great body, served to shew the contrast still more clearly."

He then proceeded to contend, that "in a matter of such vital importance to the nation, the utmost care and caution should be used, lest by our indiscreet zeal for doing good, we might inflict an irreparable injury. He would not assert that there might not be circumstances which would justify our interference with the property of the church, but he would maintain that no such circumstances could exist, which would not equally justify an interference with landed, funded, and commercial property. Such circumstances did not exist now, nor was there any probability of their existence at any future period. He contended, that, as a measure of finance, the inquiry would be unjust and unnecessary, and that, as a measure of conciliation, it would be worse than useless. The motion either went too far, or not far enough. The established church of Ireland should be supported, or given up altogether." After a careful examination of the statements made

respecting the revenues of the Irish clergy, he concluded by saying, " he admitted that Ireland had suffered from that species of corruption in her institutions, which was in a degree more or less inseparable from human frailty; and he knew, that the prelates of the established church were anxious to have a fair and full inquiry made into the nature of their system; but, however desirable it might be to issue a a commission for such a purpose, he could never give his support to that species of inquiry which prejudged institutions before they were investigated, and which at once stamped with injustice our establishment, on the faith of exaggerated and unfounded misstatements, before a syllable of evidence was offered to substantiate such severe allegations."

Mr. Plunket, in his answer to the mover of the resolution, remarked, that " he was unwilling to enter upon that part of the subject which had been so amply and so ably discussed by Mr. Stanley: he could not allude to that honourable member, without congratulating him and the house, on the proofs he had so recently evinced of sound intelligence and manly eloquence, and on the resources which he had exhibited in manifesting his capability of drawing upon them during the inquiry of a long debate, for answers to objections that had been incidentally taken. It was therefore, that he begged to offer his congratulations to the honourable gentleman and the country, and the cause which he had advocated, and the noble stock from which he had sprung, and which now had received a most gratifying accession to its family honours."

At the close of the session, which terminated in the month of June, Mr. Stanley, in company with his friends, Mr. Labouchere, Mr. Denison, and the eldest son of Lord Wharncliffe, embarked at Liverpool, on board an American packet, bound for New York. The party continued their excursions till the month of April, 1825, when they returned to England. In the May following, Mr. Stanley was united to Emma Caroline, second daughter of Edward Bootle Wilbraham, Esq. the present Lord Skelmersdale. Soon after this event he received an appointment in the colonial office, in which, it is said, he was remarkable for diligence, and careful attention to all the details of business. But a desire to make himself acquainted with the state of Ireland, by actual personal observation, and a wish, worthy of still higher praise, to improve the condition of the poor of that country, induced him to build a house in the neighbourhood of Limerick or Tipperary, and take up his residence there with his family. Report says, that the mode of life he pursued in this retirement was singularly unsocial; that he was accustomed to take every day his solitary walks of ten or fifteen miles,

and was known by his slouched hat, and as "the strange gentleman from England." He had, however, no doubt, his object in those long unsocial walks; and the future secretary of Ireland then gained, it is probable, much of that knowledge, and power of steady reflection, which he has since so eminently displayed.

Mr. Stanley re-commenced his parliamentary exertions in April, 1826, when we find him employing his eloquence and ingenuity in resisting the third reading of the Bill for the Liverpool and Manchester Rail-road. It is already not a little remarkable, and it will be still more so to posterity, to retrace the arguments which a speaker of so much acuteness and intelligence could bring forward to retard the progress of a great commercial improvement. "He was prepared to shew," he said, "that the present means for the conveyance of goods were amply sufficient for every purpose. The present bill was brought forward with the most extravagant pretensions. First, it was said, that goods were to be conveyed at the rate of twelve miles an hour, and afterwards the rate of ten miles an hour was spoken of. Now, however, it appeared that the plan was changed, and, instead of doing the thirty miles in three hours, at the rate of ten miles an hour, the journey was to be performed in ten hours, at the rate of three miles an hour. The conveyance, too, was not to be effected by steam, but it was to be effected by what had been called the old exploded system of horse-labour. This plan would materially interfere with the Canal. .... Many had already suffered by it. When it was first projected, the shares were at forty per cent. premium; but since the publication of the evidence, they had fallen to one per cent. discount. .... Gentlemen might say, 'Oh, let us have the Rail-road by all means, and the Canal also: let each take its chance for success.' In answer to this, he would say, that if, should the experiment fail, they could undo all the mischief which must be perpetrated in making the trial, he would not object to it; but if they could not undo that mischief, then it was the duty of Parliament to proceed very cautiously. They ought to take care, before the scheme was entered into, that the public would be benefited by it, in a much greater proportion than individuals would be injured by it."

When the change of Ministry took place, Mr. Stanley was appointed Secretary for Ireland, and thereby found himself in a situation which would leave none of his energies or acquirements unemployed. At the period when he took up his residence in Dublin, the excrescencies of liberalism and pseudo-patriotism were increasing with so rapid a growth, that there was no alternative but to remove them, or await without resistance the reign of license and terror. The new Secre-

tary had the resolution to attempt the former, and in his place in the House of Commons he supported his measures, and the general proceedings of Government, with a fulness and readiness of argument which established his right, in every respect, to the confidence of his party. In the introduction of the Reform Bill for Ireland, and in that of the Bill for the Commutation of Tithes in that country, he had opponents to contend with, whose united ability, party-zeal, and experience, rendered them formidable antagonists to the most skilful and the most powerful. But he was always prepared both for attack and defence. His strength increased with the calls for its exertion; and when, in the March of the present year, he succeeded Lord Goderich as Secretary for the Colonies, he manifested the same command of his subject, the same ready attention to its details, and power of eloquent exposition, as he had shewn in the debates on Ireland.

On the 14th of May, he brought forward his motion on Colonial Slavery; a subject as interesting to the nation at large, as it is closely connected with every principle of right reason, and every claim of humanity. His speech on the occasion defies compression, but in its noble and fervent conclusion, the man, the politician, the orator, and the Christian appear equally engaged in the same holy cause.

They were now, he said, going to emancipate the old negro upon certain conditions, after the lapse of a certain fixed period of time; but they were also going to emancipate the young negro immediately, and without any conditions. "From the present moment, then," continued Mr. Stanley, "your responsibility begins. Into their minds you must implant wholesome principles, as the basis of wholesome habits. You are placing them in the rank of freemen; it is your duty to qualify them for holding that rank honourably, virtuously, and beneficially. You are bound not to throw them upon the world impressed with the idea that the lot of man is labour from his cradle to his grave, and that he must die with no other hope and with no other consolation than that he has come to the end of a weary and laborious pilgrimage. You must embue them with such principles as will insure the performance of their duty here,—as will teach them the necessity of moral restraint to secure their happiness hereafter,—as will instil into them the purest motives of action,—as will fit them for freedom in this world, and as will enable them to leave it, not as the brutes, who perish without hope of immortality.

"I have now gone through the details of the proposition which His Majesty's government have deemed it their duty to submit to your consideration. I know the difficulties, the almost insurmountable

difficulties, which it will have to encounter in carrying it into practice. I know the disadvantages under which I bring it forward at this particular crisis; but I still bring it forward, in the confident hope that in these resolutions the germ is sown which will soon ripen into perfect fruit, which, when matured by the fostering care and protection of persons wiser and better qualified than myself, will secure to the country, to the colonies, and to all ranks and classes and colours of his Majesty's subjects, that from this day forth there will be a virtual extinction, in the dominions of Britain, of all the horrors of slavery; and that, in no distant period, by no uncertain operation, but by the action of this machinery, every trace which mars the face of freedom will be erased, and blotted for ever from our laws and institutions. There are those who first started this mighty question, and broached its godlike principles, who have not lived to see the triumph which is reserved for it in these our days. They laboured in their generation strenuously and vigorously for that fulfilment which we are now about to accomplish,—they were satisfied with the foundation which it was their fortune to lay, and they trusted that it would be strong enough to support the glorious superstructure which is now about to be reared upon it. Like the prophets of old, they hailed the day-star from on high, and exulted in that prospect, which they saw through a glass darkly, and not, as we do, face to face. It is not, however, without feelings of the deepest and most heartfelt satisfaction that I recall to your recollection the fact that one man, the most religiously inspired, the most conscientiously influenced of all who laboured in the dawn and the rising of this great and glorious cause—Wilberforce,—still remains, to witness the final consummation of that important triumph to which his last energies were devoted, and to exclaim, like the last of the prophets to whom I have before alluded, 'Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace.'

"I have now only to offer to the house my humble apology for having detained them so long on this subject. I will conclude, after thanking them once more for the patient attention with which they have listened to me, by expressing my sincere and earnest hope that the counsels of the house, under God's gracious providence, will be so guided and directed, that England may now, a second time, set to the world the bright and glorious example of a commercial nation holding commercial advantages light in the balance, when compared with the dictates of humanity, and justice, and religion,—that we may see the extinction of slavery gradually and safely, but completely and entirely accomplished; and that by moderation of language, and

reconciliation of conflicting opinions, we may be induced to forget the extreme wishes we may have formed on either side, and thus shew to the world the proud example of a deliberative assembly vindicating its character for moderation and decision in the line which it adopts,—a line which, in my conscience, I believe to be honourable to the nation to which this assembly belongs, and which I consider is the surest pledge of the successful issue of the experiment on which we are now about to enter."

The distinguishing features of Mr. Stanley's character, both as a politician and an orator, are decision and promptitude. Clear in his views, and little influenced by the clamour of a party, he has hitherto sought to support that species of legislation which, though the theory of liberal politics might not enable him to uphold, yet the necessity of the times and the state of the country have pointed out as safe and expedient. With a boldness which belongs to few, he has more than once ventured to propose measures which in appearance strongly militated against the principles that formed the data of his party, and the propriety of which he knew it would depend on him to justify. In his speaking, Mr. Stanley owes little to the graces which spring from warmth of sentiment, or from views extending beyond the immediate subject of debate; but his energy supplies the place of discursiveness of thought: he gives his subject importance by the clearness with which he sets it forth; and renders it interesting by the closely connected facts and illustrations which he accumulates around it. When engaged in argument, he contends with the force which the possession of knowledge and the consciousness of ability never fail to give. He is thus in every respect qualified to fulfil the most important stations in the government of the country, which may look with some anxiety, but with equal confidence, for his standing forth, in all times of trial and difficulty, as the firm, consistent, and enlightened supporter of its highest interests.

The Publishers have to acknowledge the kindness of Baron Stanley, in the loan of the original Portrait: it is the only one painted, and was taken at an early age.

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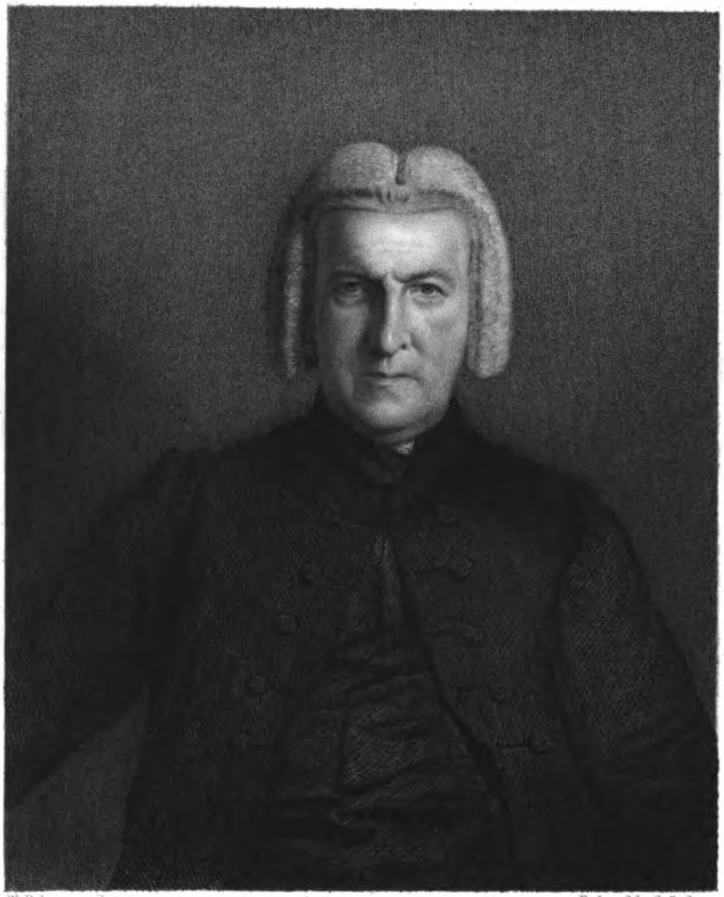


W. Behnes, sculptor. Engraved by J. Cochran.

THE HONBLE & RT REVD SHUTE BARRINGTON, L.L.D. LORD BISHOP OF DURHAM.

S. Durelmr

LONDON, JOHN B. DE LONGUEVILLE, 1834.

THE HON. AND RIGHT REV.

SHUTE BARRINGTON, D.C.L.

LATE LORD BISHOP OF DURHAM.

THE Honourable SHUTE BARRINGTON was one of six sons of John Shute, first Viscount Barrington, (the friend and disciple of Locke, and author of "Miscellanea Sacra," &c.) by Anne, daughter and co-heiress of Sir W. Daines, Knight. Of the other sons of Lord Barrington, all were more or less distinguished in life—in particular, Daines, the fourth son, who became an eminent King's Council, and one of the Welsh Judges, and wrote "Observations on the Ancient Statutes," besides several curious and valuable papers published in the Archæologia, and in the Philosophical Transactions. Shute, the youngest, was born in May, 1734, within six months of which period his father died.

He was educated at Eton, and in 1752 was entered a gentleman-commoner of Merton College, Oxford. He took his first degree in 1755, obtained a fellowship, and received ordination from the hands of Bishop Secker, in the following year, and in 1757 was made a Master of Arts. By the appointment of the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Randolph, he delivered in this year a public oration, on the presentation of the Pembroke marbles to the University. In the year 1760, he was appointed one of the King's chaplains. In 1761, he was made Canon of Christ Church; an appointment which was followed, some years afterwards, by his promotion to be a Canon-residentiary of St. Paul's. In the interval, in 1762, he took the degree of Doctor of Laws; and in 1768, exchanged his preferment in London for a stall at Windsor.

On the death of Bishop Newcombe, in the year 1769, Dr. Barrington was consecrated Bishop of Llandaff, in the room of Dr. Shipley, who was translated to St. Asaph. In 1783, he succeeded

Dr. Hume in the Bishopric of Salisbury; and finally, Dr. Thurlow, Bishop of Durham, dying in 1791, he was, greatly to the satisfaction of all who were acquainted with his worth, and anxious for the welfare of the Establishment, transferred to that opulent see. The elevation of Dr. Barrington to the episcopal bench, in the first instance, was owing to the influence of his brother, Viscount Barrington, at that period a member of the administration; but for his subsequent preferment he was indebted to the sound judgment and personal regard of George the Third. That indefatigable friend to the Church of England, knowing his valuable qualifications, determined not to relax his endeavours for the advancement of *his Bishop*,—for by that title he was accustomed to distinguish Bishop Barrington—until he had seen him placed in a sphere where his eminent virtues might have the fullest scope for beneficial exercise. The Sovereign was not disappointed in the result; for, throughout the long period during which Dr. Barrington presided over the dioceses successively committed to him, his conduct was invariably marked by a degree of zeal, benevolence, and discretion, which reflected honour upon the royal patronage.

The Bishop of Durham was more remarkable for the exemplary discharge of his duties, for piety and benevolence, than for the extent of his knowledge or the greatness of his talents; yet his writings are uniformly distinguished by a sound understanding, a correct judgment, and a pure and perspicuous style. With the exception of his first publication,—an edition in 3 vols 8vo. of his father's "Miscellanea Sacra,"—they consist entirely of charges, sermons, and controversial tracts.

His charges to his clergy are numerous. They abound in just views and admirable advice, peculiarly applicable to the state of religious affairs at the respective periods when they were delivered, but worthy at all times of attentive perusal by the members of the sacred profession.

Of his published sermons, three especially deserve attention: they are all occasional, two of them having been preached before the House of Lords, and the third before the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. In the first of the two former, which was preached in the year 1772, on the anniversary of King Charles's martyrdom, he gives a striking sketch of the errors and excesses of the various political parties, into which this country was divided in the reign of that ill-fated monarch, and in the time of the commonwealth; and traces the successive downfall of each to

the pride, indiscretion, and other vices, which had marked the periods of their ascendency.

The second sermon preached before the Lords, was intended to demonstrate, that the principal cause of the French revolution was the total indifference to, and contempt of, the Christian religion, consequent upon the corruptions of Popery, and the popular identification of those corruptions with Christianity itself.

In the third discourse, on modern missionary undertakings, he attempts to prove that the moral weight and importance of the truths of the Gospel, and the zeal and discretion of its teachers and professors, were intended to be more efficient instruments in promoting its success, than even the miracles of the apostolic times.

To the important subject treated in the second of these compositions, Bishop Barrington returned, in a charge addressed to the clergy of his diocese, at the ordinary visitation in 1806; in which he discussed the original grounds of our separation from the Romish communion. Much controversy was then going on between the respective advocates of the two Churches; the impulse imparted to these discussions by the last publication, brought his Lordship once more into the field. He now laid before the public his celebrated tract, "The Grounds on which the Church of England separated from the Church of Rome, reconsidered, in a view of the Romish doctrine of the Eucharist, with an explanation of the antepenultimate answer in the Church Catechism." This performance is justly esteemed among the most valuable of the numerous polemical writings which have been called forth, by the great questions still agitated between Papist and Protestant. It contains such an able refutation of the tenet of transubstantiation, as entitles the work to a place by the side of the writings of Cranmer and Jewel, on that critical point, —at all times regarded as the test of orthodoxy by both parties. So plain and bold in language, so just in its views of Scripture, and rich in historical knowledge, is it, that we seem to see "one of the old prophets" of the Reformation "risen again," once more to combat the corruptions of Popery, but with the more polished weapons, and the milder and more tolerant demeanour, which distinguish the controversial encounters of the nineteenth century.

He successfully repels, and retorts upon themselves the favourite charge of his opponents, that Protestantism is "a modern religion." "We maintain," writes the Bishop, "that the Church has the best claim to antiquity, which approaches nearest to the faith and discipline of the gospel; and, therefore, that Popery is the modern religion:—

Popery, as it is distinguished from other churches by its innovations of rites and ceremonies, by its deviations from the rule of Scripture, and from the usages of the primitive ages of the Church. Its prostration before images, its suppression of the second commandment, its invocation of saints and angels, its transubstantiated bread and wine, its adoration of the host, *its suppression of half the eucharist*, are corruptions of the latter days, and evidences of a modern church. The religion of Protestants, in as far as it succeeded in the removal of innovations and abuses, so much has it recovered of its primitive antiquity."

The last-named work was published in 1809; and, in the ensuing year, was followed by, "Grounds of Union between the Churches of England and Rome considered; a Charge delivered to the Clergy of the diocese of Durham." In 1811, the Bishop's Sermons, Charges, and Tracts were collected, and published in an octavo volume. He afterwards published, "Vigilance a Counterbalance to past Concessions, and a Preventive to future Prodigality, recommended, in two Charges, 1813;" and, two years later, he brought before the world his last literary production, a sketch of the political life of his brother, William, Viscount Barrington. In this fraternal labour he was assisted by Sir Thomas Bernard.

Some notes were contributed by him to the third edition of Bowyer's "Critical Conjectures on the New Testament," which are valuable in themselves, and denote a sound and cautious method of criticism. No alterations are proposed in the received text, but such only as arose from a change in the punctuation, or from transferring a word from the end of one sentence to the beginning of the next, or from the beginning of a period back to the end of the preceding. This plan was suggested to the Bishop's mind by his custom of reading the New Testament, as every student must have read it before the invention of printing, without regard to the modern method of pointing, or to the arbitrary and injurious division of our printed copies into chapters and verses.

Although in the opinion of the Bishop of Durham—an opinion conscientiously and deliberately formed—the religious principles and conduct of the Church of Rome were such as rendered any further political concessions to the members of that community fraught with danger to our national institutions; yet he never allowed his convictions of the truth, or his zeal for those institutions over the welfare of which he was appointed to watch, to betray him into intolerance. His language and behaviour were uniformly in accordance

with the sentiments expressed by him in his tract "On the Grounds of Separation," &c. "I do not," he says, "by any means, grudge them the toleration with which they are by law indulged. I wish them, as our fellow-christians, every degree of toleration short of political power and establishment." The kindness of his heart, and the hospitalities of his table, were open to deserving individuals of every religious persuasion. To the French emigrants, both clergy and laity, his pecuniary assistance was largely extended; and the more distinguished among them he freely admitted to his society, and introduced them to his friends. "We have seen at his table," says a writer long honoured with his condescending intimacy,* "Presbyterian divines and respectable Quakers; and it is well known, that his confidential conveyancer for many years, and down to the time of his death, was the distinguished Roman Catholic barrister, Mr. Charles Butler, of Lincoln's Inn, a gentleman celebrated for the alacrity and ability with which he has at all times maintained the cause of Catholicism against the doctrines, policy, and interests of the Reformation, and who never forfeited the friendship of the Bishop, though engaged in a controversy with his own chaplains, Dr. Philpotts and Mr. Townshend."

In that most solemn and responsible part of the episcopal charge, the exercise of patronage, Bishop Barrington was distinguished by judgment, integrity, and an entire and unbiassed view to the interests of religion, and the welfare of the Church of England. In no instance, perhaps, have the preferments in the power of the Bishop of Durham, or of any other see, been disposed of with a purer regard to the claims of merit, or a more discriminating appreciation of usefulness. In several cases, the most valuable dignities and benefices in his gift were conferred by him on individuals in no other way known to him than by their public character and literary or professional labours. Hence, to enumerate those clergymen who have received preferment at his hands, would be to furnish a list, containing the names of many of the most celebrated and exemplary characters, whose lives and labours have adorned and benefited the church in our times. The learned and venerable Bishop Burgess was his chaplain, when at Salisbury, and was indebted for his subsequent deserved advancement to his care. The illustrious Paley, though then personally unknown to Bishop Barrington, was presented by his Lordship to the valuable rectory of Bishop Wearmouth. Among others, who have stamped a high character of discernment and disin-

* J. Nicholls, Esq.

terestedness upon the patronage of this excellent prelate, are the following eminent divines:—Dr. Gray, Bishop of Bristol; Dr. J. B. Sumner, Bishop of Chester; Dr. Philpotts, Bishop of Exeter; Dr. A. Bell; Archdeacons Thorpe and Hollingsworth; Dr. Zouch; the profound and ingenious Faber, &c. Among the latest, and most distinguished, on the roll of his preferments, are also the names of the Rev. George Townshend, whose useful work, the "Arrangement of the Old Testament," was the means of first introducing him to his Lordship's notice; and the Rev. W. Gilly, so well known to the world by his interesting works relating to the Vaudois.*

An instance of the Bishop of Durham's resistance to the claims of consanguinity and mere personal favour, to which too many in similar stations, of more easiness of disposition than strictness of principle, are avowedly in bondage, has been related. A gentleman, it is said, nearly connected with his family, who held a commission in the army, having fallen into some embarrassments in his affairs, bethought himself of obtaining relief from his difficulties by entering into holy orders, not doubting that the prelate would take ample care of his future fortunes. "What preferment in the Church would content you?" inquired the Bishop, on application being made to him by the military candidate. "About £500 a year would satisfy my utmost wishes," was the answer. "You shall have it," replied his Lordship, "but not out of the patrimony of the Church. I will not deprive a worthy and regular divine, to provide for a necessitous relation. You shall have the sum you mention yearly out of my own income."

Nor was it only in the character of a patron, that Bishop Barrington was known and venerated among the members of his profession. He not only chose, for the objects of clerical provision and advancement, the most pious, learned, and exemplary of his brethren —for in that affectionate character he regarded his clergy—but it was his delight to associate with them in the dignified familiarity of his daily intercourse; to cultivate, in the younger, those talents and virtues, fitted for the service of the altar, which, in the riper and more experienced, he took care to reward.

In him was presented an instance of the great advantage which the Church Establishment possesses, in being able, not only by means of the emulation called forth by the hope of obtaining some of its

* The patronage of the bishopric of Durham, like that of most other sees, is much less extensive than is frequently represented. It comprises two archdeaconries, twelve prebends, and forty-five livings, of various value.

prizes of wealth or dignity, to draw out from the middle ranks the finest intellects, but also to offer inducements to the higher gentry, and members of noble families, to engage in the learned labours of the ministry. He exhibited a gratifying combination of the favourable accompaniments of birth with the acquirements of the scholar, and the virtues of the sincere Christian. In maintaining the state of the princely see of Durham," observes Mr. Nicholls, "he displayed a sober magnificence, a decent splendour, which singularly befitted that solitary and graceful instance of a Protestant ecclesiastical lord. Those who have seen him preside at the assizes at Durham, cannot fail to have been struck with the happy union of the Bishop and the nobleman, in the whole of his dignified deportment. But the same union, joined to the charms of the most winning courtesy, shed a grace and lustre over his ordinary manners, which secured to him the respect of all who approached him."

Even while his professional income was confined to the comparatively moderate receipts of the bishopric of Salisbury, this excellent prelate's munificence, both public and private, had been exercised upon no ordinary scale He distinguished himself by his liberality in promoting the repairs of the beautiful cathedral; upon the improvement of the episcopal palace, he expended not less than £7000. A legacy of £6000, bequeathed to him, he appropriated to augmenting the income of the alms-houses, or college, of St. Nicholas; and he likewise established a fund of £2000 for the poor clergy and their families, the interest of which is annually distributed among them by the bishop of the diocese. On his being raised to Durham, the enlargement of his bounty so entirely kept pace with the increase in his revenues, that only a wise order and exact economy in his affairs, aided by a natural love of simplicity and comparative retirement, could have enabled him, notwithstanding the extent of his means, to perform so many acts of liberality. It is not among the lowest of his praises, that he had a most accurate and just estimation of the value of money, as the instrument of happiness and virtue. During a long course of years, the name of the Bishop of Durham was always to be found as one of the most liberal contributors to every design of useful charity; and there were few institutions, for the advancement of any object of general utility, which failed to receive his generous support. Numerous, however, as were the instances of his public liberality, the stream of his private beneficence flowed, without ceasing, in a not less ample, though less observed current. His deeds of unobtrusive charity were the daily occupations of his life. It is

mentioned by Mr. Butler, in one of his publications, that in the course of the long period during which he was intimately concerned in his Lordship's pecuniary affairs, a sum, exceeding one hundred thousand pounds was expended by the Bishop, in those instances alone of his exemplary and well-regulated munificence, in the arrangement of which that gentleman was professionally employed. The number of applications, from all quarters, to this exuberant source of relief to the poor and destitute, may, in some degree, be estimated by the fact, mentioned in the newspapers at the time, that, in the year 1825, no less than six hundred and seventy-four begging letters were sent by him to the Mendicity Society's office for investigation.

The following eloquent summary of the Bishop's character, is from the pen of one who knew him well:*—"For many years before his death, he was respected by the public as the munificent patron of the arts, the friend of good men, the promoter of every useful object. He was venerated for his blameless character; his well-regulated life; his unostentatious hospitality; his attention to every petition; his unaffected humility; his unbounded liberality. He was justly esteemed the great ornament of the bench, of which he was the father. All sects, all classes, acknowledged the influence of his virtues, and the consistency of his conduct. All mentioned his name with a respect and affection, which are seldom granted in a censorious and fastidious age to unobtrusive goodness alone; and thus, for many successive years, his valuable life was prolonged for the benefit of the poor, and the happiness of his friends—a memorable instance of the homage offered to the milder virtues, without one attempt to obtain the popular applause, or an effort to attract the public attention. It was the triumph of Christian piety, extorting deference, even where it failed to excite imitation."

We extract, from the testimony of the same faithful and affectionate witness, another passage, the perusal of which, we are sure, will interest and gratify our readers. It presents one of those authentic pictures of the life of a good and great man, which are so precious to posterity, but of which the records of biography contain too few examples. Mr. Townshend was appointed chaplain to the Bishop, in October, 1824.—"From this period," he says, "personal observation and experience assured me, that the universal estimation in which the Bishop of Durham was held by his contemporaries, was established upon the only solid foundation of permanent eminence—regard to the will of God in every action of his life.

* The Rev. George Townshend.

"The strictest regularity prevailed in his household. At seven in the morning, he was awoke by his valet; and after the time allotted to dressing, he devoted to private prayer, and devotional reading, the time which remained before the assembling of the family, for morning worship, at a quarter past nine. Breakfast was then served up. The conversation which had originated at breakfast, (and which generally arose from our informing each other of some remark, or incident, which appeared worthy of remembrance, in the reading of the morning,) sometimes continued till post-time, when the Bishop retired to read and answer his letters. He was attentive to business to the last; and generally wrote from two to nine letters daily, answering every letter, if possible, by return of post. . . . After finishing his letters, he received his morning visitors, or read, till one o'clock. He then walked, or was driven out, for about two hours.

"He dined at five. Small parties, never exceeding, with ourselves, eight in number, dined at his house about twice a week. It was at his own table that he particularly excelled in conversation, at once varied, intellectual, and useful. He never permitted the subject, on which we had begun to converse, so entirely to drop, that there should be any awkward or embarrassing pause in the conversation. He carefully watched the moment in which a new turn might be given to the dialogue, if there was the least discontinuance of animated and cheerful discussion. It generally happened, that at every party one of the guests had been distinguished by some enterprise or pursuit, or excelled in some department of literature, or branch of art. Whatever might be the subject, the Bishop would imperceptibly lead the conversation to some matter connected with the pursuit, or department, in which his guest had attained eminence; and he so used to proceed with questions, remarks, or hints, that the enthusiasm of the traveller, the artist, the author, or the professor, was gradually kindled. The more eminent guest became the principal speaker: curiosity was excited, attention fixed, and information was elicited, without pedantry in the speaker, or fatigue to the hearer. When we dined alone, we generally talked over the various controversies which were engaging the attention of the public, the debates in parliament, or the literature of the day. . . . . He had none of that apathy which is too frequently the misfortune of the aged, when they have not devoted their minds to intellectual pursuits. Literary curiosity, the comfort and refreshment of age, was an active principle in him to the last; and the love of literary novelty, next to devotion and benevolence, his ruling passion.

"Tea was brought in at half past seven, and at eight the Bishop ended the day as he had begun it, by the perusal of devotional books, or by private meditation and prayer. He considered it to be a part of his duty to God to devote to Him the remaining strength of his intellect, by dedicating to His service those hours in which the faculties of his mind were most active: and for that reason he never gave his restless and sleepless hours, which at his advanced age were unavoidably numerous, to prayer and to devotional exercises. He preferred giving up the prime of his day, and the remnant of his intellect, to the Almighty; and he surrendered *the dross of his time*, such was his own forcible expression, to inferior subjects, to literary recollections, or to soothing remembrances of the friends he had lost, whose conversation he recollected with pleasure.

"At a quarter before ten, the family were summoned to evening prayer. A slight supper was then served, and at eleven the Bishop retired for the night. The pleasantest hours which I passed with my lamented friend, were those which elapsed between the removal of supper, and the entrance of the servant who attended him to his room. He was now ninety years of age, and he had long been accustomed to live in the constant anticipation of death. Every night he composed himself to rest, not expecting to live till the morning. The conversations, therefore, which we were accustomed to hold at this hour were always grave and serious, though uniformly cheerful. He regarded death, as a man of sound judgment, and Christian principles, will ever do—without fear, and without rapture; with well-founded hope, though with undefinable awe—as a punishment decreed by the Almighty, yet as the introduction to a higher state of happiness than he could possibly experience (though he possessed every worldly enjoyment) in this state of his being. . . . . The most frequent topics of our conversation were derived from the possible or probable approach of the period when the body should be committed to the ground, and the spirit return to its Maker. He delighted to dwell on these subjects. The questions which appeared to interest him more than any others, were—whether the soul slept in the grave, with the suspension of its faculties, till it awoke, with the reanimated body, in the morning of the resurrection—or whether (as he stedfastly believed) it passed, in some mysterious manner, into the more manifested presence of God immediately upon the dissolution of the body—the nature of the future happiness, and future misery—the continuance of the existence of the mental habits which are formed in this state, and which constitute in some manner our

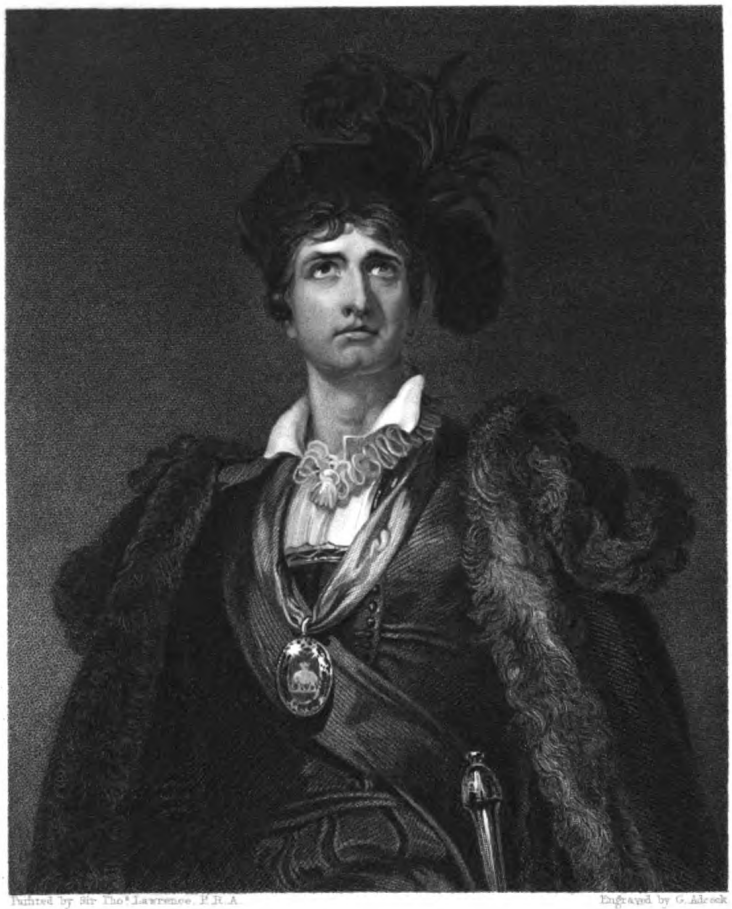
future condition—the extent of redemption—and the opposite opinions of Christians respecting the invisible state; these, and similar considerations, were alternately discussed in these calm and silent hours; and he uniformly concluded these discussions by observing, 'I know not, and I care not, what may be the real solution of these questions; I am in the hands of a merciful God, and I resign myself to His will with hope and patience.'

"All our inquiries upon these subjects," continues Mr. Townshend, "though they may be very interesting, are merely speculative, and are always unsatisfactory. We cannot raise the veil which conceals the future. We must die, before we can understand death; yet the sight of an old man, full of days, riches, and honours, at the close of a religious and well-spent life, patiently expecting his end, abounding in every virtue which can adorn mankind—in humility, in patience, in kindness, in charity to all, in serene submission to expected death, in implicit dependence upon the mercy of a God, whom he believed to be his Friend and Father, by the atonement which had been accomplished by the Mediator of the new testament—the image of such a man can never be obliterated from my memory; and the continued enjoyment of his conversation, till within a few weeks of his death, while the strength of his body was gradually declining, and the intellectual, though not the spiritual powers, were decaying; that is, while he was beginning to be more averse to worldly business, and more intent upon devotional exercises, was a privilege which I cannot too much appreciate, and which may be justly envied by all who can delight in the society of the wise and good; or who would contemplate the triumph of the spirit of man over the weakness of the mind and the infirmities of the body."

In our desire to lay this beautiful tribute before our readers, as slightly injured as possible by abridgment, we have left ourselves but little space to notice the closing scene, to which the writer describes the venerable prelate as looking forward with such becoming and enviable calmness. In the month of February, 1826, after his return from Worthing, where he had passed several months, to his residence in Cavendish Square, a stroke of paralysis obliged him to take to his bed; his bodily suffering, however, was not such as to prevent his attending in some degree to the customary occupations of his well-spent life, and his mental faculties remained unclouded till within four days of his decease, which took place on the 25th of the following month, in the 92d year of his age, and the 57th of his episcopal functions. The peaceful enjoyment and exten-

sive usefulness of his protracted career, afforded evidences not always so manifest in the lives of men in eminent stations, that in placing this excellent person in so conspicuous a charge, the Providence of God had been equally careful for the good of society, and for the happiness of one of the most blameless and benevolent of his creatures.

The person of Bishop Barrington was tall and majestic; but his constitution, in his earlier years, by no means gave promise, by any great degree of vigour, of his attaining to extreme old age.—He was twice married; first, in the year 1761, to Lady Diana Beauclerk, only daughter of Charles, Duke of St. Alban's, who died without issue, in the following year. His second wife, to whom he was married in 1770, was Jane, only daughter of Sir J. Guise, of Rencombe, Gloucestershire: by her he had a son, who died in infancy. Mrs. Barrington's death took place in 1808.



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JOHN PHILIP KEMBLE, ESQ.

FISHER, SON & CO. LONDON & PARIS.

JOHN PHILIP KEMBLE, ESQ.

THIS eminent actor was born at Prescot, in Lancashire, on the 1st of February, 1757. His father, Mr. Roger Kemble, was manager of a company of comedians, in which young Kemble, when only ten years of age, made his first appearance on the stage. Indeed, there seems to have been, and still to continue, in the Kemble family, a singular tendency to theatrical pursuits, and as singular a talent for them. Not only were his father and mother engaged in this profession, but his sister, the celebrated Mrs. Siddons, his brother, the present Mr. Kemble, and his niece, Miss Fanny Kemble, have all distinguished themselves above their contemporaries, by dramatic talent, as well as by that which is of a more general character. The subject of this memoir, after one or two other appearances upon the stage, was sent to a Roman Catholic seminary at Sedgeley Park, in Staffordshire, where he evinced considerable taste for literature. He was therefore removed in the year 1770 to the university of Douay, in order to qualify him for one of the learned professions; and while there, not only fitted himself for his future career by classical attainment, but also discovered great elocutionary talents in particular.

Having completed his education, he returned to England before he was twenty years of age; and being at that time possessed with an unconquerable desire for the profession of the drama, he made what may be considered as his actual *debut* in Chamberlain's company at Wolverhampton. His first appearance produced no great hopes of his future eminence. He, however, rapidly improved; and after acting successively at Worcester, Manchester, and Liverpool, joined himself to Tate Wilkinson at York. Here he had the enterprise to attempt a new species of entertainment, consisting of a recitation of the most admired odes of Collins, Gray, &c. with various other pieces in prose and verse.

In this novel undertaking he met with a high degree of success; as may readily be inferred from the crowds who have subsequently followed his example with various degrees of merit and reputation.

About this time, Mr. Wilkinson having taken the Edinburgh theatre, Mr. Kemble accompanied him to that city, and there established a high reputation among its literati by the composition and delivery of a highly elaborate lecture on sacred and profane oratory. In 1782, he went to Dublin, where he may be said almost to have commenced a new era in his dramatic life, by first performing the part of Hamlet, which was ever after his best and most favourite character. Indeed, no one could be more perfectly adapted to it, both in person and manners, than Mr. Kemble; to say nothing of his profound acquaintance with his subject. In his best days, his countenance combined in its expression all the pensiveness, majesty, and determination which we naturally associate with that marvellous character. "The beauty of Kemble's performance of Hamlet," says one of his biographers, "was its retrospective air—its intensity and abstraction. His youth seemed delivered over to sorrow, and memory was indeed with him 'the warder of the brain.' Other actors have played the part with more energy, have walked more 'i'the sun,' but Kemble's sensible, lonely Hamlet has never been surpassed."

From the successes which had crowned Mr. Kemble's exertions hitherto, it was to be expected that he would not long continue a provincial actor. A London audience seemed to be the proper tribunal before which he should urge his claims to fame, and, accordingly, at the expiration of two seasons he left Dublin and repaired to town. On the 30th of September, 1783, he made his first appearance on the boards of Drury-Lane, in Hamlet; but was prevented from the full exhibition of his great talents by the predominance of Mr. Smith in tragedy, which occasioned somewhat subordinate parts to be assigned to Mr. Kemble. After five years, however, Mr. Smith retired, and left him without a rival; and at the same time, Mr. King, the manager, having quitted the duties of that office, Mr. Kemble succeeded to them. During this interval, Mr. Kemble contracted a matrimonial alliance with Mrs. Brereton, daughter of Mr. Hopkins, the prompter of Drury-Lane theatre. In the office of manager, which he retained till the year 1801, he amply justified the wisdom of those by whom he had been selected. He not only performed the functions appertaining to it with impartiality and general acceptance, but made the most beneficial alterations in the general conduct of the preparatory business of the stage, introducing a degree of propriety into the English drama, which it had heretofore never exhibited. In this respect he manifested the most perfect and classical taste. "His groupings and processions," says a writer, who has already been quoted, "while they were in the highest degree

conducive to theatrical effect, were yet so chaste and free from glare, that they appeared rather historical than dramatic, and might have been safely transferred by the artist to the canvass, almost without alteration." Nor were these the only services which he rendered to the English stage. He revised, altered, and suited to the tastes of the present day many obsolete, but sterling dramatic compositions, and produced some from his own pen, which shew that his literary acquisitions were scarcely inferior to his professional excellence.

In 1801 he quitted the situation of manager of Drury-lane Theatre, having held it for thirteen years, with great honour to himself and perfect satisfaction to the public. The following year he devoted to travelling on the Continent, and visited France, Spain, &c., where he was received with all the respect which was due to his talents and character. In 1803 he returned to England, and immediately purchased a share in Covent-Garden Theatre, of which he also became the manager. On the 24th of September he made his first appearance on those boards, in the character of Hamlet, and was received with great enthusiasm. Here he continued during five years, introducing the most select compositions of Shakspeare, until the fatal fire, which occurred in September, 1808, destroyed the theatre, and involved the proprietors in the most serious pecuniary loss.

From the effects of this melancholy accident, Mr. Kemble was relieved by the munificence of the late Duke of Northumberland; and as the circumstance not only forms a distinguishing feature in the history of Mr. Kemble, but is so highly honourable to the character of the illustrious Nobleman whom it concerns, we must give the circumstance in detail. So long ago as when Mr. Kemble was at the York Theatre, he was in need, on a certain occasion, of a few soldiers to give éclat to certain processions, and therefore applied to an officer of a regiment stationed in that city, for permission to engage some of the men. The officer rudely refused, observing, that his men had better things to learn than the duties of a theatre. Mr. Kemble, unwilling to relinquish his point, made his application to the Duke of Northumberland, then Earl Percy, who had higher authority; and his Lordship immediately granted the permission requested, and directed that the men should assist Mr. Kemble in any way in which they could be made serviceable. Several years past, and Mr. Kemble had become the reigning favourite in London, when one morning Dr. Raine, the head-master of the Charter-House, called upon him, and stated, that he was commissioned to request, on the behalf of a Nobleman, Mr. Kemble's assistance in the education of his

son. Mr. Kemble replied, that he was compelled, from want of leisure, and on other accounts, to decline all such occupation, and, therefore, that, much as he regretted it, he was under the necessity of refusing the application of his friend. Dr. Raine observed, as he was leaving the room, that he lamented the refusal, as the Duke of Northumberland would be greatly disappointed. On hearing the name of the Nobleman, Mr. Kemble desired the Doctor to stay, and immediately said, "the Duke has a right to command me." Accordingly he attended the present Duke for some time, giving him lessons on elocution. But no satisfactory return for his superintendence was made, or seemed to be contemplated, by the noble family. On the day, however, on which the theatre was burnt down, his Grace wrote to Mr. Kemble, and offered him the loan of £10,000, upon his personal security, if it would be a convenience to him. It *was* a convenience. Mr. Kemble accepted the offer with readiness and gratitude, and paid the interest as the quarters became due, to the steward. At length, on the day on which the first stone of the new Covent-Garden Theatre was laid, the Duke wrote again to Mr. Kemble, and observing in his letter, that he had no doubt that day was one of the proudest of Mr. Kemble's life, and that his Grace was anxious to make it one of the happiest, enclosed the cancelled bond! At a subsequent period his Grace delicately remarked, that Mr. Kemble had taught him how to return an act of kindness. Nor did Mr. Kemble ever lose the recollection of that princely act. In the dedication of his Essay on Macbeth and Richard, published in 1817, he conveys an allusion to his Grace's conduct, in the following words:—

"To the Duke of Northumberland.

"My Lord Duke,

"Be pleased to accept this tribute of my gratitude; that it is the constant character of your Grace's nature to conceal the benefits it confers, I well know; and I am fearful lest this offering should offend, when I most anxiously wish it to be received with favour: yet when a whole happy tenantry are voting public monuments to perpetuate the memory of your Grace's paternal benevolence to them, I hope, my Lord, that I am not any longer forbidden to acknowledge my own great obligations to your munificence.

"Your Grace has thought me worthy of your bountiful patronage; and I may not presume to say how little I deserve it.

"I have, &c.

"John Philip Kemble."

The new theatre, however, had scarcely risen, when its proprietors, and especially Mr. Kemble, were called upon to act in a situation of considerable delicacy and difficulty. This was on occasion of the O. P. riot, as it was called, from the initials of the words "Old Prices," which arose from an attempt on the part of the managers to make some considerable alterations in their arrangements, in order to reimburse themselves in some degree for their recent loss. A compromise between the managers and the public was at length effected; but while the riots lasted, scenes of the utmost violence were nightly witnessed, and amply confirmed the justice of Sir Vicary Gibbs' admirable witticism—

"Effodiuntur OPES irritamenta malorum."

Towards the end of the season, 1811-12, Mr. Kemble quitted the London stage, for the purpose of making a professional tour in the country. On the 11th of January, 1814, being re-engaged for a term of three years, he appeared at Covent Garden theatre, in the character of Coriolanus, and was received with the greatest applause and the most flattering honours. Here he continued to the end of his public career. His last appearance in Edinburgh was in the character of Macbeth, on Saturday the 29th of March, 1817; on which occasion he delivered an address to the audience, from the pen of his friend the late Sir Walter Scott. On the 23d of June, in the same year, he took his final leave of the stage, at Covent Garden, in the character of Coriolanus. On this interesting occasion he was importuned by the audience to appear again occasionally, as his health might allow; but with this request he never complied.

Among many marks of high admiration shewn to Mr. Kemble on his retirement, one, and perhaps the most signal, was the dinner given him four days after his last appearance. On that occasion Lord Holland was in the chair; and all the most distinguished men for wealth, for taste, and for eminence in the fine arts, attended. A magnificent Vase was presented to him, and at the close of the noble chairman's address on the occasion, an Ode, from the pen of Mr. Campbell, was delivered by Mr. Young. The three following stanzas afford the most favourable specimen of this elegant composition, and are equally characteristic of the author and the subject.

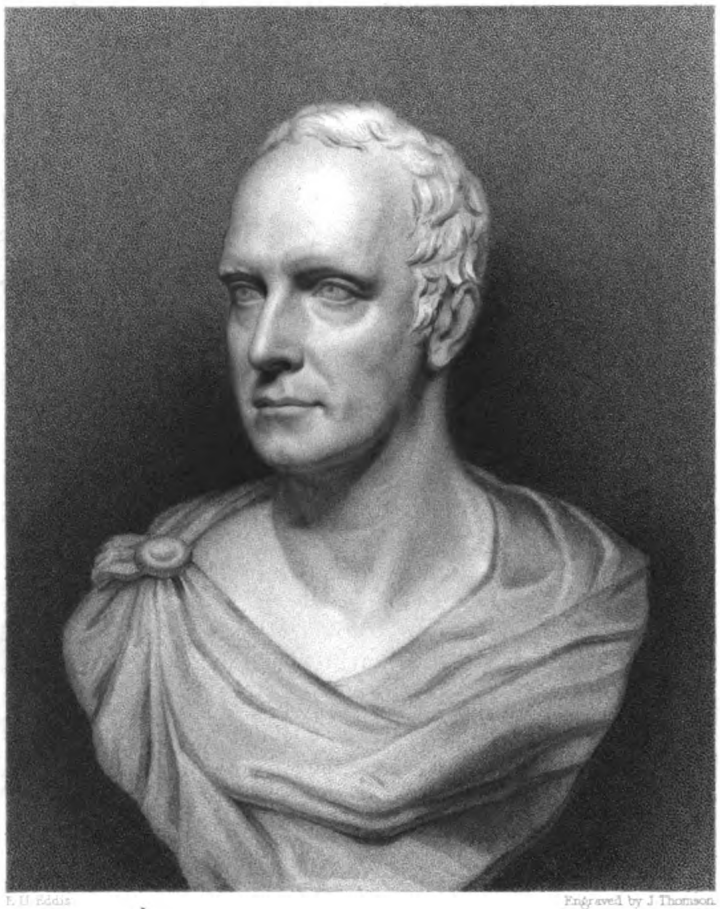
"His was the spell o'er hearts,
That only acting lends,
The youngest of the sister arts,
Where all their beauty blends.

For Poetry can ill express
Full many a tone of thought sublime;
And Painting, mute and motionless,
Steals but one partial glance from Time.
But by the mighty actor brought,
Illusion's wedded triumphs come,
Verse ceases to be airy thought,
And Sculpture to be dumb!

" Time may again revive,
But ne'er efface the charm,
When Cato spoke in him alive,
Or Hotspur kindled warm;
What soul was not resigned entire
To the deep sorrows of the Moor;
What English heart was not on fire
With him at Azincour?
And yet a majesty possessed
His transport's most impetuous tone,
And to each passion of his breast
The Graces gave their zone.

" These were his traits of worth—
And must we lose them now,
And must the scene no more shew forth
His sternly pleasing brow?
Alas! the moral brings a tear—
'Tis all a transient hour below,
And we that would detain thee here,
Ourselves as fleetly go.
Yet shall our latest age
This parting scene review—
Pride of the British stage,
A long, and last adieu!"

The climate of England not agreeing with a severe asthma with which Mr. Kemble had long been afflicted, he retired to a warmer air, and fixed his abode at Lausanne, where he occupied a delightful residence called Beauside, from its picturesque situation. Unhappily, however, curiosity led him to visit Rome, where he became ill, and was, by his physician, ordered back to Switzerland. He returned immediately, but his constitution had received its death-blow, and, after repeated attacks of apoplexy, he expired on the 26th of February, 1823.



R. H. Eddis. Engraved by J. Thomson.

GENL THE RT HONBLE SIR DAVID BAIRD, BART. G C B K C &c

D Baird

GENERAL, THE RT. HON.

SIR DAVID BAIRD, BART.

G.C.B., K.C., ETC. ETC.

SIR DAVID BAIRD was the fifth son of William Baird, Esq. of Newbyth, North Britain, and was born at that place in December, 1757. His father died when he was only eight years old; but his mother had the penetration to discover, and the wisdom to cherish, the dawning talent of her favourite son. The natural bent of his inclination being towards a military life, he was permitted, on completing his fifteenth year, to enter the service as an ensign in the 2nd regiment of foot, of which he became Lieutenant in 1778, and, after having spent a few months at Locie's academy in Chelsea, in the study of military tactics, he joined his regiment at Gibraltar.

In 1776 he returned to England, and, having leave of absence, visited his mother in Scotland. In 1777, he received a Captain's commission in Lord Macleod's Highlanders. This regiment became celebrated as the 73d, and was afterwards the 71st. Its destination was to India; but circumstances occurring to delay the ships which were to convey it thither, it was ordered to Guernsey: in March, 1779, however, it sailed from Portsmouth, in company with other troops, under the command of Governor Wall. Leaving that ill-fated man and his equally ill-fated troops on the wretched island of Goree, which the French evacuated on their approach, the 73d proceeded on their voyage, and landed at Madras in January, 1780.

Captain Baird was second in command of the detachment sent by Sir Hector Munro to assist Colonel Baillie, after his memorable repulse of Tippoo Saib, and consequently bore a share in the still more memorable, though unsuccessful, engagement of the 10th of September, 1780, at Perambaukum. Had not an accident, by which they were deprived of all ammunition, compelled the English, after bravely sustaining a most unequal contest, to ask for quarter, the day would probably have been their own; but though quarter was granted, the conquered had no sooner laid down their arms, than the enemy's cavalry, commanded by Tippoo Saib in person, fell upon them, and cut them to pieces; when Captain Baird himself, having received two cuts on the head, a ball in his thigh, and a pike-wound in his arm, fell senseless to the ground.

By an accident, which, viewed in connection with subsequent events, assumes the character of a special interposition of Providence, the life of our hero was preserved. He had recovered from his swoon, when one of the enemy, attracted by some signs of life, raised his spear to despatch him; but his purpose was suspended, and another wounded man, whose motions had caught his eye, became his victim. Another of the conquerors, stimulated, not by humanity, but by the hope of reward, gave Captain Baird water to drink, and conducted him towards Hyder's camp; but, though it was only six miles from the field of battle, the prisoner had lost too much blood, to reach it without frequently fainting; and his guard, grown impatient of trouble and delay, left him to perish. In this state he was found by a sergeant and a private of his own company; with whom, they also being wounded, he endeavoured to reach the camp of the English commander-in-chief, not knowing that his Excellency's untimely retreat had rendered this, to him at least, impossible, (for the wounds of his companions were slight.) Having carried this vain pursuit as far as their fatigue and loss of blood allowed them, they desisted, and lay down in despair. By and by, having reason to conclude that the enemy lay between them and Sir Hector Munro, Captain Baird resolved, to seek the head-quarters of the French general acting under Hyder Ali; since, if captivity must be their lot, to be made prisoners by the French was better than to fall into the hands of their relentless foe.

All that the French could do for Captain Baird and his companions was, to administer to their immediate necessities; for they had peremptory orders to deliver up all prisoners to Hyder himself. After remaining a fortnight in a condition of extreme misery, Captain Baird and some of his companions were marched to Seringapatam. In the prison of this place, they were incarcerated for upwards of three years; being at different times joined by other captives. After a few months they were put in heavy irons, for the purpose of destroying them without violence; when Captain Lucas generously consented to be doubly fettered, rather than Captain Baird, from whose right leg a ball had but just been extracted, should be exposed to inevitable destruction. The officer charged with the imposition of the fetters was induced to yield to the request of Captain Lucas, on finding from "the book of fate," that Captain Baird's "fate was good." "Could they really have looked into the volume of futurity," observes the gallant Captain's biographer, "Baird would undoubtedly have been the last man to be spared." He was eventually ironed, and continued

in that state from November, 1781, to April, 1782, when, on account of sickness, his fetters were removed.

While the rest were despairing, Captain Baird persisted, against all probability, in the hope of revisiting his native country. The death of Hyder Ali revived hope in other breasts than his; but Tippoo Saib, so far from realizing their favourable opinion of him, not satisfied with killing his prisoners by means of famine, adopted the speedy process of poisoning their food. At length, when the prisoners, having heard of the death by poison of a great number of English officers confined in other places, expected every moment to share the same fate, news came that commissioners had set out for Madras to require a treaty of peace.

This intelligence was speedily confirmed by the release of Captain Baird and the other prisoners, after a horrid captivity of three years and eight months. The first use which the captain made of his own liberty was to claim that of his men, who had been compelled to become Mussulmans; but this humane design was defeated. On arriving at Madras, his pleasure at having regained freedom received a further alloy, from finding that a junior captain, from the half-pay, had been promoted to the majority of his regiment; but, his brother officers having represented the injustice of the case in the proper quarter, the appointment was rescinded, and, in 1787, he himself received it.

In this year, Major Baird visited his friends in Great Britain, and, during his absence from his regiment, he received intelligence which prompted him to apply for the lieutenant-colonelcy. He hastened to London; but the vacancy had been heard of, and filled up before his arrival at the Horse Guards. However, an arrangement was effected with the more fortunate officer, by which, after much expense, delay, and inconvenience, Major Baird attained the object of his ambition in 1790.

In 1791 he returned to India, and, arriving at Madras in the month of June, joined his regiment, which had taken the field with the army under Lord Cornwallis, who appointed Lieut.-Colonel Baird to the command of a brigade of Sepoys. The first exploit in which he signalized himself on this occasion was the capture of Savendroog. This was a fort in which Tippoo placed great reliance; indeed, so strong were its natural defences, that it was believed to be impregnable. It was, nevertheless, taken by storm in open day, without the loss of one individual, and only one soldier being wounded in the attack. The other forts, that it was expedient to obtain before laying siege to the tyrant's capital, fell an easy prey to the English arms; which, after the fall of Savendroog, the enemy began to deem irresistible; and, on the fifth of February, 1792, the allied army arrived before Seringapatam.

The feelings with which Colonel Baird saw himself in the attitude of a besieger of the very city within which he had endured so long and cruel a captivity, may be easily conceived. In the first of the two sieges which followed, he acted a most distinguished part, as second in command of the left wing of the army; discovering, under circumstances of extreme difficulty and danger, a valour equally characterized by coolness and energy. The result of this brilliant campaign is well known.

In 1793, Colonel Baird was appointed to the command of the European brigade of the army formed for the capture of Pondicherry; on the surrender of which place, the 71st were ordered to Tanjore. While commanding at this station, the strict integrity of Colonel Baird brought him into collision with the less scrupulous agents of the East India Company. The consequence of this exhibition of principle, was his sudden removal from Tanjore, by an order which appointed him to Wallagabad, where he remained till the autumn of 1797, having been appointed to the Colonelcy of his regiment two years prior to that time.

In the beginning of that year, the 71st were reviewed by Major-General, (now Field-Marshal Sir Alured Clark,) who, in a general order, spoke in the highest terms of the perfect discipline of the corps. Not long after this gratifying circumstance, Colonel Baird had the inexpressible mortification to receive an order immediately to break up his regiment; and, after having drafted the men fit for service into the 73d and 74th, to proceed with the skeleton to Madras. An order for the destruction of a regiment which had just received the marked approbation of the commander-in-chief in the Madras presidency, and with which Colonel Baird had served ever since he had entered the army, affected him so deeply, that, after having begun to read to the men the directions for their dispersion, he was unable to complete the melancholy announcement. On arriving at Madras, Colonel Baird and the skeleton of his regiment were ordered for Europe; and they embarked on the 17th of October, 1797, on board an East Indiaman, for the Cape of Good Hope, where they arrived in December. Colonel Baird was received in the kindest manner by Lord Macartney the governor, who requested him to remain at the Cape, with the rank and command of Brigadier-General; which he assumed, as much to the improvement as to the gratification of the troops placed under him.

A short time after the government of India had been assumed by Lord Mornington, (now Marquis Wellesley,) who, on touching at

the Cape, had conversed largely with Brigadier-General Baird, the latter was promoted to the rank of Major-General, and was ordered to proceed with certain troops to India. Arriving at Madras in January, 1799, he found the Governor-General making preparations for the second and final siege of Seringpatam, and was appointed to the command of the first European brigade in the army assembled at Vellora, under the command of Lieutenant-General Harris. Lieutenant-Colonel the Honourable Arthur Wellesley (now Duke of Wellington) being shortly after appointed to a much higher command than that which had been conferred on Major-General Baird, the latter could not suppress the feelings of disappointment which were occasioned by seeing a junior officer preferred before him; although he did not allow those feelings to diminish his high opinion of his more favoured companion in arms.

Tippoo having failed to comply with the terms of peace offered to him, the siege of his capital became inevitable; and General Baird, ever forward when danger was to be encountered and glory won, volunteered to command the storming party. Being told by the Deputy Adjutant-General, on the 3d of May, that if the army did not succeed on the morrow, it must retire, there being but ten days' rice in camp for the fighting men; he gallantly replied, "Either we succeed to-morrow, or you will never see me more;" and instantly prepared for action. The glorious result is well known. The tyrant was saved the humiliation of surviving the loss of his kingdom, and of seeing the man who, fifteen years before, had been his prisoner, commanding in his palace; this was on the 4th of May, 1799. The bravery with which General Baird achieved this victory, was only equalled by the moderation with which he used it, and the promptitude and firmness with which he restrained the attempts of some of his troops to pillage.

On the fifth of May, General Harris issued an order, in which he highly praised the conduct of the troops in general, and of many of the commanding officers in particular; strangely observing, that "*he could not omit* to return his thanks in the warmest manner to General Baird;" to whom, as we have seen, the credit of the victory was principally due. On this very day, however, Colonel Wellesley arrived at the palace, with an order from General Harris to General Baird directing him to deliver over to him (Colonel Wellesley) the command of Seringapatam; and, to use the words of the hero himself, "before the sweat was dry on his brow, he was superseded by an inferior officer." The order, just mentioned, was issued before

General Baird had made his report. Besides the irregularity of this proceeding, one consequence of it was, that no mention had been made of several officers, who had distinguished themselves as much as many of those who received the marked commendations of the Commander-in-Chief.

General Baird made his report on the 6th of May, the day after his return to the camp; and, on the 8th, an extract from that report was published to the army. Having fulfilled his duty to his superior officer, he then performed a duty to himself, by sending a written protest to General Harris against the manner in which he had been superseded. He expected, he said, to have had the honour of delivering to General Harris the keys of Seringapatam in the palace of the Sultaun, and of congratulating him on the most brilliant victory that ever graced the British arms in India. He also contradicted a rumour to the effect that he had been superseded at his own request; a rumour invented, probably, to account for a proceeding, unaccountable and unjustifiable on any other ground.

While this unpleasant correspondence was in progress, Major-General Baird received a handsome note from Colonel Wellesley, accompanied by Tippoo Sultaun's state-sword, requesting the General's acceptance of it, as having the best right to it. This circumstance, so gratifying to him, and so honourable to Colonel Wellesley, had scarcely occurred, when General Harris was required, by the prize committee, to desire that the sword might be immediately returned to them, as it was theirs, and not Colonel Wellesley's, to give; but, as if to instruct the Commander-in-Chief how he might act a worthy part towards General Baird, it was added by the President of the prize committee, that their only object in pressing the immediate restitution of the sword, was, that they themselves, by the hand of his Excellency, might forthwith present it to General Baird. Accordingly, the general and field officers assembled in General Harris's tent, when he "had the pleasure" of publicly presenting the sword to that officer, whom so lately he had privately dismissed. But this was not the only honour which awaited the hero of Seringapatam: the field-officers who had served under him at the storming of that place, also presented him with a valuable sword. These, however, were his only rewards.

The thanks of both Houses of Parliament were voted, on the 4th of October, 1799, to Major-General Baird, and the other officers who commanded at Seringapatam; on which occasion, Mr. Dundas, in eulogizing the conduct of General Baird, observed, "This heroic officer was upwards of three years in imprisonment, by order of the

very tyrant whose barbarity he was the instrument of Providence to avenge." As for the East India Company, the parties most benefited by the subversion of the throne of the Sultaun, they did not think the exploit, and those by whom it was achieved, worthy of so much distinction as the mention of the leading officers would have implied; they therefore disposed of the whole affair in one brief resolution, in which their thanks were "given to the officers of the King's and Company's forces *employed in the assault of Seringpatam*," leaving future historians to collect from other sources the fact, that that assault very speedily terminated in a capture.

The general officers being directed to return to their several stations and presidencies, General Baird left Colonel Wellesley, his rival, in the command of the whole Mysore country, and went to Madras. Here he experienced the most flattering reception from the Governor-General, who went so far as to beg him to state frankly what command he should like to have. He accordingly made choice of the southern division; General Floyd, who commanded it, being on the point of returning to England. But the southern district was in the patronage of Lord Clive; to whom, however, Lord Wellesley advised him to apply, promising to support that application; at the same time assuring him, that if he would accompany him (Lord Wellesley) to Bengal, he should have any command that he might select in that presidency. As Madras, however, was likely to continue the seat of war, and as he was a stranger to Bengal, he resolved to apply to Lord Clive; who, being aware of the Governor-General's desire that General Baird might not remain long in Madras, gave the latter no hope of success. Under these circumstances, he resolved upon following Lord Wellesley to Calcutta; where, though he was received by his Excellency with every mark of friendship, he found that, instead of several commands, from which he might select that which he preferred, one only—that of Dinapore—was actually vacant; and this, as he had no other choice, he, of course, accepted.

Having been about a year at Dinapore, General Baird applied to Sir Alured Clark, the commander-in-chief in the Madras presidency, for the command of an expedition which, he had heard, was fitting out for the capture of Batavia and Mauritius. He was referred by Sir Alured to the Governor-General, to whom he made a personal application at Calcutta. Again he found Colonel Wellesley destined to be his rival; but, by respectful, though firm remonstrances on the injustice of preferring a regimental officer to a major-general, he

attained his object; though not without having produced "a more violent effect upon the noble marquis," than he had formerly produced, in similar circumstances, upon General Harris. As the expedition in question was set aside by orders from England, it is unnecessary to say any thing further concerning it, than that General Baird had been appointed to the chief command, Colonel Wellesley being the second in command. Here his officers retained the same relative positions in the new arrangements, which had for their object the expulsion of the French from Egypt. Colonel Wellesley, however, was prevented by illness from taking part in this difficult and glorious enterprise.

"It was one," says his biographer, "which had been hitherto unattempted; and which presented, besides the ordinary array of military, naval, and political difficulties, the awful responsibility of conducting a considerable army through an arid and (by him) untrodden desert." Every thing, however, yielded to the skill, the perseverance, and the prudence of this admirable officer. He arrived at Kossin on the 8th of June, 1801.

Nor, when the desert had been traversed, was every hinderance overcome: disappointed at not hearing from General Hutchinson,* who, on the death of the gallant Abercrombie, had succeeded to the command of the English army in Lower Egypt, General Baird, on the 9th of July, addressed a letter to the Duke of York, expressive of his anxiety to know whether his continuance in Egypt was likely to be beneficial to the service; and shortly afterwards receiving, by a circuitous route, intelligence of the surrender of Cairo to General Hutchinson, he prepared, under the condition that his farther advance was no longer necessary, for returning, and re-embarking at Kossair; for he had never lost sight of the expedition against Batavia and the Isle of France, from which he had been diverted. At length, however, he heard from General Hutchinson himself, who earnestly desired his co-operation. He, consequently, changed his plan, and pushed forward with all possible speed. But the rising of the Nile impeded his march, and rendered it much more difficult, perilous, and fatiguing.

Major-General Baird embarked for Lower Egypt on the 31st of July. In his progress towards Alexandria, he encountered fresh impediments, from the bad faith of the Grand Vizier; but notwithstanding this, he pushed forward with great vigour, in the hope of participating in the glory acquired by the British arms; but when he had reached

* Afterwards Earl of Donoughmore.

Rosetta, he heard that a treaty had been opened for the surrender of Alexandria.

Upon this event, General Hutchinson had determined to quit Egypt, leaving the Indian army, with a regiment of dragoons, under the command of General Baird; but, on the 18th of September, despatches arrived from England, ordering him (General Hutchinson) to leave 6,000 troops, besides the Indian army, giving him the option of either remaining in his command, or of returning to Europe; and directing that, in the event of his choosing the latter alternative, Lord Cavan should take the command of the whole of the forces. So decidedly was General Baird opposed to the amalgamation of the troops which were under his command with those which he found in Lower Egypt, that he strongly remonstrated against it; but, not succeeding, he expressed to Sir John Hutchinson a desire to give up his command. Sir John, while he coincided with him in opinion concerning the union of the two armies, declared it to be impossible for him to permit General Baird to leave Egypt without further instructions. The latter was, therefore, obliged to remain in a junior command in a country which he had entered as a commander-in-chief, although his name had not been mentioned among those general officers whom, in the orders from home, General Hutchinson had been directed to retain. In addition to these personal annoyances, the plague broke out among his men, and involved him in fresh perplexities, from which he was not relieved, until despatches from Lord Wellesley desired his speedy return to India.

He arrived at Calcutta on the last day of July, and was received with the highest marks of public esteem. At his own request, however, he was speedily removed to the Madras establishment, which he had no sooner joined than he was again called into active service; being appointed to the command of a division of the army sent against the Mahrattas. He proceeded as far as the banks of the Toombudra, where General Wellesley joined the army, and considerably reduced by drafts the detachment under General Baird. The latter, feeling that he was destined to be thwarted and neglected, remonstrated with the government of Madras; and in the end, such was his disgust, applied for leave of absence. Shortly after he quitted India for ever, accompanied by several officers of his staff. On reaching St. Helena, they heard of the renewal of hostilities between England and France, and the vessel in which they had sailed, being detained for convoy, General Baird, in hopes of service and distinction, engaged a South Sea whaler, in which, with his staff, he

proceeded for England. In crossing the Bay of Biscay, however, they were captured by a French privateer; but they were allowed to remain in the prize, which had nearly reached Corunna, the place of its altered destination, when it was recaptured by an English man-of-war. At length, and after having narrowly escaped death from a shot fired from a French battery, General Baird reached England, and was immediately appointed to the staff of the eastern district of the kingdom.

In the autumn of 1805, he had once more the gratification of being employed in active service, in commanding an expedition against the Cape of Good Hope, which surrendered after the Dutch forces had been beaten in the field. This achievement, like his former exploits, reflected great credit on the General, who had to cope with difficulties of no ordinary magnitude, in effecting the landing, and the advance of his troops. The terms which he made with the vanquished proved his humanity and generosity to be equal to his valour and his prudence. During the short time that he held the government of the Cape, his conduct was marked by the same unbending firmness, strict impartiality, and love of justice, which distinguished him on all occasions, and his removal was deeply regretted both by the garrison and the inhabitants. It was in October, 1805, that he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-General.

In the mean time, Mr. Pitt died; and Lieut.-Gen. Baird, who had been but a few months in possession of the government of the Cape, was recalled. He had consented to the expedition undertaken by Sir Home Popham against the Spaniards in Buenos Ayres; an expedition which was certainly not authorised by the King's ministers, though, so long as it promised to be successful, they were not unwilling to reap the advantages which might accrue from it. General Baird's conduct on this occasion, though in reason and fairness perfectly justifiable, and perhaps commendable, was yet liable to the objection of irregularity, and consequently afforded an opportunity to the Whig administration to supersede him by the appointment of their own friends. On leaving the Cape, he was accompanied to the beach by all the principal inhabitants of the colony, who sufficiently evinced their opinion of his civil administration, by expressing the strongest wish that they might shortly again be placed under his care and protection.

General Baird arrived in England in March, 1807, and in August accompanied the expedition sent out to compel the Danes to accede to a demand, which, though extraordinary, it was deemed expedient to make, in consequence of the apprehended alliance between the

Emperors Napoleon and Alexander. In this service General Baird highly distinguished himself, and received two slight wounds by musket balls, by one of which his finger was broken, and by the other his collar-bone was struck, the ball falling within his dress.

On the completion of this undertaking, he was appointed to superintend a camp of instruction, on the Curragh of Kildare, comprising a collection of 13,000 men; a species of service for which he had often proved himself to be pre-eminently fitted, and which, if we may judge from the admirable conduct of the soldiers who went forth to battle from that school, he discharged with pre-eminent fidelity and success. From this post he was removed to one more congenial with his ardent and enterprising disposition. He was sent with a reinforcement to Sir John Moore, or, rather, had been appointed to proceed to Spain, just before Sir Harry Burrard was succeeded by that gallant officer. In this expedition, the melancholy history of which is well known, though variously related, he had to contend with many difficulties, none of which, however, were of his own creation, or owing to his incompetency. In the glorious action with which the British forces terminated their sad and eventful retreat, and a short time before the fall of Sir John Moore, General Baird received a grape-shot in his left arm. He would fain have remained upon the field; but being unable to remount his horse, he permitted himself to be conveyed on board the Ville de Paris, after having *walked* into Corunna. It being found necessary to take the arm entirely out of the socket of the shoulder, the General submitted to the operation immediately, and sustained it with heroic fortitude. Besides the wound which rendered this painful and then unusual operation necessary, another was inflicted in the side, from which he suffered severely for many years.

On the 25th of January, 1808, General Baird arrived at Portsmouth, and was carried by sailors on a litter to his lodgings, amidst the sympathies of the populace. As soon as the state of his wound permitted, he removed to London, where the advice and attendance of the most skilful surgeons hastened his recovery. His first public duty, on being able to quit his house, was to attend the levee of George III., when he kissed hands upon being appointed a Knight of the Bath.

On the day of landing in England, the thanks of both Houses of Parliament were unanimously voted to him, and to the officers and troops under his command, " for their gallant conduct in repulsing a superior French force before Corunna." When he had made due acknowledgment of these honours, he retired to a small estate in

Hertfordshire, on which, with the exception of occasional visits to London, he constantly resided till the spring of 1810.

On the 13th of April, 1809, he was created a Baronet; a distinction which, considering it inadequate to his services, he reluctantly accepted. On a subsequent period, when the honours of the peerage with pensions were freely distributed among military commanders, he was induced to make a representation of his claims to equal distinction; but he did not live to obtain a title, with which, indeed, a man of his lofty and unsullied character might well dispense.

On the 4th of August, 1810, he was united in marriage to Miss Campbell Preston, niece of Sir Robert Preston, of Valleyfield, Baronet. With this amiable lady he enjoyed all the pleasures of domestic life, residing generally upon an estate of hers in Perthshire. He was raised to the rank of General in June, 1814.

On the removal of Lord Cathcart from the command in Scotland, Sir David Baird requested that he might succeed to that post; but, as it had been determined to reduce the command to that of a major-general, he was ineligible. In 1820, he was more successful in applying for the command of the forces in Ireland, and was one of the most popular generals that ever held the appointment. He held this post till June 1822, when he again retired into private life. In the autumn of 1823, through the fall of his horse, he sustained an injury, from the effects of which, although relieved, he never wholly recovered. He was appointed Governor of Fort St. George in December, 1827, and of Kinsale fifteen months afterwards, when he proceeded to London, to present himself at the King's levee, and kiss hands on the occasion. From thence he went to Leamington, where his disorder, which was attended with violent pains in the head, became worse. He finally removed to Fern Town in Scotland, his favourite home, where, with the composure of a hero and the hopes of a Christian, he breathed his last on the 18th of August, 1829. The inhabitants of Crieff testified their esteem of him by inscribing a tablet to his memory, and his afflicted widow caused an obelisk of exactly the dimensions of Cleopatra's needle to be erected on one of her estates, to commemorate the virtues and achievements of her distinguished husband. The foundation of this column was laid on the anniversary of the day on which General Baird had stormed Seringapatam.

The Engraving prefixed to this Memoir is from a Drawing, for the loan of which the Publishers are indebted to the obliging kindness of Lady Baird.

ANNA-MARIA PORTER

anna Maria Porter

MISS ANNA-MARIA PORTER.

"Minist'ring angel! O tell me where
Is your home, so bright and blest?
Your home, ineffably glad and fair,
Your home, of delight and rest!"

M. S. BEEVOR.

THOUGH the youngest of the two distinguished sisters of the name of Porter, yet as the earliest "gathered from us," the lamented subject, Anna-Maria, has the first place in this memorial of the good and great—a landmark, we may honestly call it, for the talented rising generations of both sexes to steer their course by! And, in registering the worth of the departed sister before the one yet present with us, we pay a kind of monumental tribute, not less a debt of our hearts, than, we feel, it must be acceptable to that of the survivor.

The father of Miss ANNA-MARIA PORTER was an officer of Dragoons, and, moreover, a younger brother, who, dying in the prime of life, left his widow, with five almost infant children, in slender circumstances. Three of the orphans were sons: the two eldest early entered professions, which they filled in a manner honourable to their name: the third is Sir Robert Ker Porter, whose celebrity in the arts and in literature has long been before the public. The two daughters were, Jane and Anna-Maria; on whose education their exemplary mother bestowed the most careful attention. "A mother's part in such duty," she always said, "was the heart and soul of her child." And to the culture of these "in the way they should go," she ever applied her parent hand. Indeed, the last words she breathed was an injunction of piety. Immediately after her husband's death, Mrs. Porter settled in Edinburgh; it having been his wish that the foundation of his children's education should be laid there. Anna-Maria was not five years old, when she had attained the highest place in the classes of the well-known George Fulton's* school, where there were many pupils above twelve years of age; and, indeed, her surprising talents, in every way, made the aged folks about her often presage, that "the luxuriant harvest promised, would soon come, and soon be gathered!" An intimate friend has given us the following sketch of her childhood:—

* He was the author of several excellent school-books, and was a very learned man.

"When little more than a baby, she read aloud passages from Shakspeare, with a precision which understanding the author could alone direct; and the delighted energy with which she pronounced some of his noblest sentiments, was quite wonderful in a child. She repeated, with a similar pleasure, the best speeches in Home's Douglas; and Ramsay's Gentle Shepherd was another of her favourites: the pastoral simplicity it describes, and the simple innocence of its affections, being quite in unison with the opening taste of her mind and heart. Her little voice often sung its sweet songs, while climbing the green banks behind her mother's house; and she prattled away about scenes like its 'burns and braes,' when rambling the Calton Craigs, to gather blue-bells for that dear parent. In truth, it might be said, with our poet, of this young lover of nature—

'———— Full true the infant knew
Recesses, where the wild flower grew,
Or honeysuckle; loved to crawl
Up the low crag, and ruined wall!—
She deemed such nooks the sweetest shade
The sun in all his rounds surveyed!'

"The 'gowen'd paths' of the meadows near Holyrood House were the children's frequent evening walk; and the moon-lit mouldering tower of the roofless chapel, often arrested the gay sparkle of Maria's eye, and drew from her reflections on the memorable dead within, which called answering happy tears on her mother's cheek, while listening to such extraordinary thought in so young a creature. Pious and tender as this almost infant's mind shewed itself in all she said and did, her temperament was not the less elastic and jocund. But there never was any thing boisterous in her mirth; nor could she bear clamour nor violence, nor any species of frolicsome liberties, in her playmates. Delicacy of disposition, and gentleness of manners, with an inborn gaiety of heart, that shone ever in her bright blue eyes, and glittered on the pearly teeth of her gladsome smile, might well be said to have been her natural gifts from God. These lovely endowments guided her amusements, directed her studies, and finally stamped her literary and social character. Lively, and kind, and frank in her demeanour, every body approached her with confidence; and, quick in observation, she read minds and manners with a readiness and a clearness of deduction, that gave to her youth a precocious experience; peopling, I might say, her imagination with a variety of subjects, and perfecting that presiding judgment over those tenants of the brain, which afterwards gradually but rapidly 'gave to them a local habitation and a name,' in the estimation of an approving world."

MISS ANNA-MARIA PORTER.

Our young authoress's first essays were very early—Tales, both in prose and verse; but intended only for her sister's ear, or, at most, for the little family work-table. However, the usual persuasives which too often turn juvenile aspirants into published authors, prematurely brought her lyre into light, when her own genuine timidity would rather have hid it for ever in the shade. But we may fairly consider those youthful poesies as no weak "impings of the Muse's callow wings." She, however, in her maturer years, never acknowledged either "song or say" of those novice days, without a sincere lament that such mere exercises of a childish mind should ever have escaped beyond the region of a nursery story. But there is one little volume of that period, the offspring of the unaffected distress of her feelings at sight of any living thing suffering, that we must except from this sweeping oblivion: it is entitled "Tales of Pity;" and was published (without her name) by Messrs Longman: its subject is, *Sport at the Expense of poor Animals;* and its aim, to inculcate a more generous treatment of them, by the young at least.

Mrs. Porter had become a resident in London, when Anna-Maria brought out the first work really sanctioned by herself; namely, "The Hungarian Brothers." Though still in age a mere girl, genius and her surprising observation gave her a foresight now into character, and a felicity in portraying it, with an elegant fluency of language, which few ever attain; and being in a rarely composed, though small society, which her respected mother daily drew around her children, the young authoress had only to look from side to side for attractive manners and high-toned motives of action; and putting them together in the pure crucible of her own principles, produce that beautiful gem, of a bright promise, which we have just named. It rapidly ran through several editions, and has been a stock work ever since. The narrative is founded on the fraternal affections. For a lesson of virtue was always the motive of her authorship. The scene of "The Hungarian Brothers" is laid in Hungary, Germany, and the adjacent wilder countries. In one of the latter, she gives a peculiarly interesting account of the terrific mines of Istria. The brothers are young military men, who served under the command of the justly renowned Archduke Charles, during his famous campaigns against republican France. General Moreau, the great antagonist of the Archduke in those hard-fought fields, chanced to meet Miss Anna-Maria Porter's romance in a French translation; and was so delighted with its extraordinary fidelity to the real facts, added to the deep interest of the domestic tale she had con-

nected with his battles, that he ever after gave it a place in his travelling library. His lovely widow told this circumstance to the writer of our memoir, when she was in England some years ago.

The next work of the successful authoress was the historic tale of "Don Sebastian, or the House of Braganza." Her preface tells us that "history and tradition supplied her with ample materials." And we find her making good use of them; conducting her reader with her hero over more than half the world; namely, Portugal, Spain, Africa, Syria, Arabia, Persia, and then to South America, the then newly discovered hemisphere. The accuracy of her information with regard to all these countries, preserves truth in every detail of their natural or moral qualities: hence the book is one of a very wide instruction, as well as a delightful amusement. And amidst the crowd of romantic and interesting circumstances which produce the weal or woe of Don Sebastian, there are two examples of unshakeable attachment—that of a servant to his master, under the most appalling events; and that of a wife clinging to her husband through the most trying destinies. We know several fair brides, to whom their nearest relatives presented this work as a marriage gift.

"The Recluse of Norway" succeeded the above. Its drama is laid in Norway and Spain. The prominent characteristics of the hero are impregnable probity, and gratitude for past benefits. And in two sisters, Anastasia and Ellesif,—who, in point of their natural and contrasted graces of grave and gay, are like the soft shadow and the gentle light to each other,—we find a beautiful picture of mutual affection. Though no human being ever had a more modest estimation of herself in every respect, than the young historian of this charming twain, and herself would have been the last of all models in her own eyes; yet none who knew her well, and who read the character of Ellesif—its simplicity, its truth, its *unselfing* delight in all that made her sister be deemed "first and fairest!" its joy in her happiness, and in promoting that of all around her; its balmy, gladdening spirit, diffusing comfort when needed, and smiles every where, whenever she appeared;—none can read this lovely picture, and not say, "Out of the fulness of the heart, the pen hath indeed spoken; and in Ellesif, the authoress has unconsciously drawn her own sweet and engaging character."

Three years after this publication, she wrote "The Knights of St. John;" a romance of the sixteenth century, in which she introduces the famous siege of Malta. The theme of the story is the friendship of the knight Giovanni with Cesario Adimosi, a noble

Genoese;—a friendship like that between Jonathan and David. The animation and style of the language were so after the heart of our late lamented Princess Charlotte, that she made it her choice book when reading English with her husband Prince Leopold. They were thus occupied in one of the volumes, on the very evening before she was taken ill; and her illustrious widower has preserved it, ever since, turned down at the page where they had left off reading together.

Miss Anna-Maria Porter's next work was "The Fast of St. Magdalen:" the scene lies chiefly at Florence, amid "Vallombrosa's multitude of leaves;" and the elysian wildernesses of *Il bel Deserto.* The family of Medici are the principal personages of the story, and the domestic virtues the subject; amongst which, an instance of love and meekness mutually triumphing over a very distressing personal defect, is most affectingly and impressively portrayed.

To this justly popular work, "The Village of Mariendorpt" succeeded, in 1821. Holland, and far-stretching Germany, are its countries; filial piety its subject, in the persons of Rupert Roselheim to a virtuous but unfortunate mother, and of Meeta Muhldenore to a venerable and persecuted father. The maternal character is finely drawn in Madame Roselheim; and, in truth, the authoress could not have had a more admirable model than in that of her own estimable parent. In the sweet Meeta, who afterwards becomes the bride of Rupert, all the captivating graces of a young, retiring, bashful love, are exquisitively painted. Modesty and tenderness! woman's perfection of character.

"Roche Blanche, or the Hunter of the Pyrenees," (from which a popular play was taken by an accomplished dramatist, and performed at one of the London theatres,) followed the preceding novel in the course of the next year. Its sublime scenery, and events, belong to the magnanimous struggle of the Hugonots, during the oppressive influence of the Guises against them in every part of Europe; bringing both public and private virtues into full action, fraught with all the Christian graces. And so livingly are the creatures of the author's imagination wrought up with the personages who actually existed at the time, we have some difficulty in distinguishing between the children of her fancy, and the children of fact. Amongst the former are two sisters, Aigline and Lolotte: the first, all that can be devoted, in such a relationship; the last, a beauteous being, with an estranged intellect, but of a most absorbing interest. We may here remark an extraordinary coinciding, yet contrasted power of imaginative influence, in our authoress, and the great and lamented Sir Walter Scott. He has been celebrated for rendering "the self-willed imp"—"the goblin page"—

and his other urchin-spirits of frolic mischief, the most entertaining, and sometimes the most striking personages in his all-fascinating tales. And how is this, but by his magical genius casting the spell of its own rays around each otherwise repellent deformity? In like manner, the "milder light" of his young friend's all-pitying mind, diffused its own attractive tenderness over the nature-afflicted objects she brought before us, bestowing an ineffable interest on the sightless Rosalba of her Florentine tale—on the heart's fond throbs of the never mind-awakened Lolotte. We mention Sir Walter Scott in terms of intimacy with Miss Anna-Maria Porter, for their mothers were friends in Scotland; and when "a reckless youth" himself, he often nursed the little future poetess on his knee.

About the time of this last work's publication, the writer's health became more than usually delicate; which her anxious parent ascribing to the low situation of her cottage, (a pretty ivy-mantled spot, on the banks of the Thames at Ditton, where she had been living with her daughters for several years;) she hastened to quit it for another little abode of a similar description, but on a hill, at Esher; a neighbouring village, about two miles from their former long-endeared home.

At Esher, in the autumn of 1826, the sisters together published two volumes, entitled "Tales round a Winter's Hearth." Anna Maria's quota were three: "Miss Mackay," a border tradition; "Lord Howth's Rat," an Irish legend; and "Jeannie Halliday," a Scottish fact: which latter sweet tale has never been surpassed, in simple pathos, purity of feeling, and nature of effect. Like the ballad of "Auld Robin Gray," it goes direct to the heart. Miss Wilkinson, the accomplished singer, set Jeannie Halliday's touching song, "That anely Star," to her own fine voice, and often sung it with answering sympathy.

Our authoress's next work was one on modern manners; those of the country parlour, and the town drawing-room. In which, solicitous to discriminate between the safe and the dangerous in the gay dance of our fashionable societies, she strove to draw the just line before the steps of her young contemporaries; shewing them at which points in such society the laws of feminine reserve restrain enjoyment; and where the license of ungoverned passions, or the negligence of a careless following the multitude, trenches on propriety, leads to error after error, and too often finally plunges into vice and misery. This was the aim of "Honor O'Hara;" whose grave lessons, given with smiles and "sweet minstrelsy," rather than with the denouncing authority of a rebuking sage, beguiles into attention and delight the amused and gently admonished reader. The same design, and animating spirit,

pervades her succeeding novel of "Coming Out;" which, in a most impressive and engaging manner, portrays the triumph of principle over passion, in the character of her youthful heroine Alicia; a young Irish beauty, who made her perilous *debut* in the court of fashion in England. It was in this novel that Miss Anna-Maria Porter, by the vividness of her description of such a scene, gave the idea, that the *tableau vivant*, so long a part of courtly and tasteful entertainment on the Continent, might be introduced for the same purpose into our elegant circles; and from that time there is scarcely a house of rank and fashion in England that has not its "living pictures." She observes, while speaking of one she saw—"Nothing could transcend it, for *it was the work of a Divine hand!*" Persons who have not seen the effect of such picturesque grouping of actually living beings, can have no conception of its incomparable excellence and beauty.

In the spring of 1830, our authoress published her last, and, we would say, her best work—"The Barony," a novel of the times of James II. It may fairly be called, her profession of faith—of her principles as a Christian—of her sentiments as a woman—of her duties as a daughter, sister, friend—of her feelings of tender charities to all that lives. It was "the last notes of the dying swan,"—oh! rather, the last strain of the future seraph passing to her heavenly sphere. The year after it was written, she lost her justly prized mother; who died at Esher in the month of June 1831. This bereavement so deeply affected the health of the devotedly attached daughter, that her no less mourning sister, Miss Jane Porter, determined to take her on a short travel for change of air, and to cheer her general spirits by a succession of visits to valued friends. To this end, they left their home in March, 1832. Their first sojourn was in London, where they divided a few weeks' stay between their friends Mr. and Mrs. Mackinnon, of Hyde Park Place, and Mr. and Mrs. Skinner of Portland Place. We need only mention these two names, so well known and respected in the best society of our capital, to shew the ground the sisters came upon was that of taste and sympathy. While with them, many former intimate acquaintances of Anna-Maria, who had not seen her for years, (her attachment to the country having long made her a stranger to London,) now eagerly drew around her, to renew their delight in her often-wished society. We will quote a few words from one of those visitors, which paints her truly:—"In private life she was distinguished for the purity of her moral character, and the elevating religion of the soul that inspired it; while the simplicity of her manners, the affability of her temper, the generosity of her judgments,

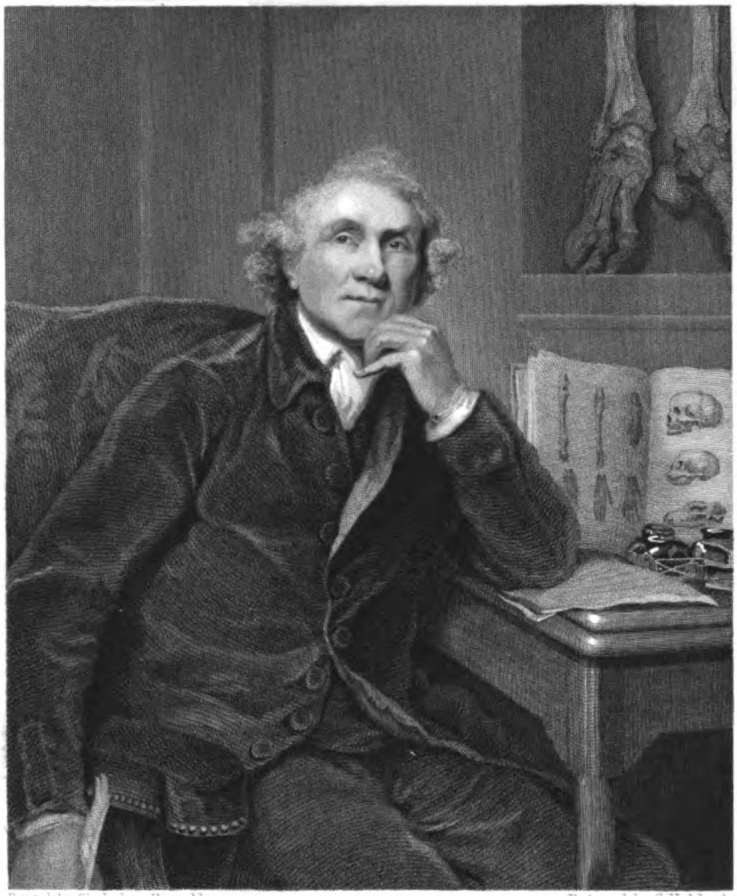
and the extraordinary pleasing powers of her conversation, ever eloquent but never garrulous, won for her the admiration, nay, the affection, of all who approached her." A few months, nay, a few weeks, made these past renewed enjoyments of her friends, "*a tale that is told,*" a cherished memory, to be her monument; for, after leaving London early in the May of 1832, and passing that month at another time-endeared friend's house, on Bannerdown, near Bath, the sisters proceeded to Bristol, to abide awhile with their brother, Dr. Porter, who had for some years been settled as a physician in that town. There, on the 6th of June, Anna-Maria was suddenly attacked by a typhus fever, which terminated her mortal life on the 21st of the same month, just one year after both sisters were deprived of her who had seemed to be the bond of their earthly happiness—their honoured mother. One was now left alone. But she does not mourn with the desolation that has no comforter. She saw her sister resign her soul, on so instant a summons, with the fulness of faith, into the hands of that Saviour who called her, and by whose grace she had "kept it unspotted from the world." Her remains were interred in the churchyard of St. Paul's, Bristol, in a vault made by the direction of her brother, Dr. Porter: who had watched over her in illness with an unceasing care; and when medical skill proved vain to arrest the mortal stroke, his votive affection planted, with his own hands, her last earthly bed with rose-trees and laurels, emblematic of the character of her he lamented; and placed over it a monumental stone, with the following inscription—

Here sleeps in Christ,
ANNA MARIA PORTER,
(late of Esher, in Surrey:
Who departed this life, June 21st, 1832.

She was blessed with high mental endowments.
"Her pen indited a good matter."
She was still more blessed,
"She sat at the feet of Jesus."

May they from whom thou art taken,
Blessed, and beloved sister,
Be so found of their LORD!

On the Sunday after her interment, sermons were preached to her memory, in the churches of three different places in which she had resided during her brief but well-spent life.



Painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds. Engraved by G. H. Adcock.

JOHN HUNTER.

John Hunter

HODDER AND STOUGHTON, E.C.

JOHN HUNTER, ESQ.

F.R.S. ETC. ETC.

In the history of this extraordinary man, are found nearly all the elements and conditions of interesting and profitable biography. If health is the most precious of temporal blessings, and the advancement of medical science consequently a matter of universal concern; then the life of John Hunter, on the ground of its usefulness, claims the interest of all. If, again, it is instructive to follow, with a retrospective eye, the career of such as have successfully combated the disadvantages of their external condition, and, in occupying a lofty eminence in society, have to acknowledge no obligations to fortune or to birth, in this respect also we shall recur with pleasure to the life of John Hunter.

He was the son of John and Agnes Hunter, of Kilbride, in Lanarkshire, and was born at Long Calderwood, a small estate belonging to the family, on the 13th of February, 1728. John was the youngest of their ten children, and was not the only one who attained to a station in life far above the level of his birth. William Hunter, who was the seventh of the family, and ten years older than John, had entered the medical profession long before him, and was, as we shall see, the principal means of introducing his younger brother to the same studies which he himself was prosecuting with such splendid success.

Being the youngest of the family, John was, as is frequently the case, brought up with the most foolish and unfortunate indulgence, and, having lost his father when ten years old, he had arrived at his twentieth year before he evinced any disposition to improve himself by study. The consequence of this was, his utter destitution of all literary attainments, at the time when the small resources of his family obliged him to adopt some means of maintaining himself. A mechanical business was the only one for which he appeared suited; and one of his sisters having married a cabinet-maker, or carpenter, at Glasgow, he is said to have been bound apprentice to

his brother-in-law. Happily, however, for Hunter and the world, his master failed, and he was consequently left without any obvious means of pursuing the humble line of life in which he had embarked. The rumour of his brother's rising eminence as a medical practitioner, and as an anatomical demonstrator and lecturer, had probably created some more ambitious feelings in his mind, and he accordingly wrote to his brother, offering him his services in any department in which he thought fit to employ him. The offer was accepted, and John Hunter arrived in London, and entered abruptly on the practical pursuit of his future profession.

Dr. Hunter began by giving him an arm, with the necessary directions to dissect for the muscles; which task he completed far beyond the expectations of his brother. He was then intrusted with an arm with the arteries injected. In this more delicate undertaking, in which the vessels were to be preserved as well as the muscles, he was equally successful; so that the Doctor did not scruple to prophesy that "he would become a good anatomist, and never want employment." The temperate language of this prophecy sufficiently shews how very inadequately John Hunter's powers of mind, and philosophical character, were at that time appreciated, even by his elder brother.

In the following summer, the celebrated Cheselden, at the request of Dr. Hunter, permitted John to attend at Chelsea hospital; and such was the diligence with which he availed himself of the ample opportunities of observation which this institution supplied, that, in the succeeding season, he was sufficiently advanced in the knowledge of anatomy, to preside over the pupils in the dissecting-room. In the course of the year 1751, his advantages were still further increased, by his entering himself as a pupil at St. Bartholomew's hospital.

Hitherto Hunter's progress had been almost exclusively professional; but the time now arrived, at which he still more effectually prepared himself for the part he was destined to perform, by devoting some attention to literature, and, for that purpose, entering as a gentleman commoner at St. Mary's Hall, Oxford.

In 1755, Dr. Hunter admitted his brother into a partnership in his Lectures: a certain portion of the course was allotted to him, and he was expected to supply the Doctor's place, when professional engagements prevented his personal attendance. "This," says one of his biographers, "must have been a painful task for John. Anatomical lectures, to be rendered interesting, must be given extempore: a talent in which Dr. Hunter can never be excelled, any more than

in an easy and perspicuous mode of demonstration. Unfortunately, few men were less suited than his brother, to be placed in competition with him."

From this period, John Hunter continued to increase his experience, and to exercise his sagacity on the most recondite and important medical subjects, until the year 1760, when his constitution began to exhibit some morbid symptoms, which were thought to indicate a pulmonary disease, and to render the residence in a milder climate advisable, as well as some relaxation from those excessive studies which had occasioned the danger. He was accordingly appointed surgeon on the staff, and, in the spring of the following year, embarked with the army for Belleisle. To this event we owe the improvements effected upon the barbarous military surgery of former times. This was owing to his continuance abroad during the war, and thus acquiring such a complete knowledge of *gun-shot wounds*, as can only be obtained from personal observation and experience. He also availed himself of the opportunities before him, for settling many physiological difficulties; the number of subjects recently killed, and previously in good health, enabling him to trace the healthy structure of every part, and the secretions of some, with peculiar accuracy. Three years after this appointment, he returned to England, and gave to the world his unrivalled "Treatise on the Blood, Inflammation, and Gun-shot Wounds;" a work which has done more, perhaps, than any other extant, towards the advancement of medical science.

"On his return to England," says Sir Everard Home, his biographer, "he settled in London, where, not finding the emoluments from his half-pay and private practice sufficient to support him, he taught practical anatomy and surgery for several winters. He returned also, with unabated ardour, to comparative anatomy; and as his experiments could not be carried on in a large town, he purchased for that purpose, above two miles from London, a piece of ground, near Brompton, at a place called Earl's Court, on which he built a house." The space around it was laid out as a Zoological garden, for such curious animals as he kept alive.

Among other ingenious experiments which he made on these animals, was one by which he demonstrated the mode in which a bone retains its shape during growth, by burying two small leaden shots in the leg of a pig. Examining the bone when the animal was considerably grown, he found the shots remained at their original distance from each other. By this means he clearly proved,

that the elongation of the bone must depend on the apposition of new matter at the extremities, and not by an elongation of every part.

It is somewhat singular, that he was most partial to the more ferocious of the animals which he kept, and his intrepidity in playing with them, sometimes exposed him to imminent danger. On one occasion, a beautiful small bull, which he had received from the queen, and of which he was very fond, having overpowered him in a wrestling match, got him down, and would probably have killed him, but for the accidental arrival of a servant. On another occasion, Sir E. Home relates, that two leopards that were kept chained in an out-house, had broken from their confinement, and had got into the yard among some dogs, which they immediately attacked. The howling this produced, alarmed the whole neighbourhood. Mr. Hunter ran into the yard to see what was the matter, and found one of them scaling the wall to make his escape, and the other surrounded by the dogs. He immediately laid hold of them both, and carried them back to their den; but as soon as they were secured, and he had time to reflect on the danger he had incurred, he was so much affected that he nearly fainted.

In the year 1768, we find Mr. Hunter again residing in town, in a house which had been formerly inhabited by his brother, Dr. Hunter, and situated in Jermyn-street. Here he resided ten years, during which time he became a Fellow of the Royal Society, a member of the College of Surgeons, and one of the surgeons of St. George's hospital.

Having now a settled mode of life, Mr. Hunter devoted himself, with increased ardour, to his favourite studies of physiology and pathology, dissecting continually, and vastly increasing the number of his preparations. The boldness with which he pursued his experiments and broached his theories, may be in some degree appreciated by his remarks in his lectures, on the maintenance of life by the process of freezing animals, which at one time he confidently believed to be possible in the case of fishes and snakes. His experiment, however, failed in the case of some carp, which he could not freeze till they died. In detailing this failure in a lecture, he adds the following most singular observation: "Till this, I fancied that if a man would give up the last ten years of his life to this alternate oblivion and action, I might prolong it for a thousand years, by thawing him every hundredth anniversary, when he might learn

what had happened during his frozen condition; being thawed to precisely the same condition at which I froze him."

In 1771, Mr. Hunter had married Miss Home, sister of Sir Everard; and in 1783, purchased the lease of a house in Leicester-square, and erected a building adjoining it, as a receptacle for that large collection which his dwelling-house in Jermyn-street was too small to contain. In its subsequent and immense increase "he was materially assisted," says one of his biographers, "by the friendship of Sir Joseph Banks, who not only allowed him to take any of his own specimens, but procured him every curious animal production in his power, and afterwards divided between him and the British Museum all the specimens of animals which he had collected in his voyage round the world. To his friends, the Hon. Mr. Charles Greville and Mr. Walsh, he was also under particular obligations. Drawing materials from such ample sources, standing alone in this branch of science, and high in the public estimation, he had so much attention paid him, that no new animal was brought to this country, which was not shewn him. Many were given to him, and of those that were for sale, he commonly had the refusal: under these circumstances, his collection made a progress which would otherwise have been impossible."

In March, 1783, Mr. Hunter suffered a severe loss from the death of his brother, Dr. Hunter. Unhappily a considerable degree of coldness had existed between them for three years prior to this event, and had almost put a stop to their intercourse. On hearing, however, of the dangerous illness of his brother, Mr. Hunter immediately forgot all former variance, and with great manliness came forward himself to request that he might be permitted to administer his professional services. This request was complied with; and the devotion of his experience and sagacity to the comfort of his dying relative, no doubt, contributed largely to occasion the remarkable words which he addressed to his friend, Dr. Coombe, and which were the last he ever uttered—"If I had strength to hold a pen, I would write, how easy and pleasant a thing it is to die."

At a period considerably prior to this, Mr. Hunter had received intimation of the insecurity of his own life, from repeated attacks of illness, chiefly inflammatory disorders, which seized him in the spring, but one of which (which occurred in the spring of 1773) is so remarkable, as to deserve mention here. It is described as follows, by Sir Everard Home:—

"In the spring of 1769, in his forty-first year, he had a regular

fit of the gout, which returned the three following springs, but not in the fourth; and in the spring of 1773, having met with something which very forcibly affected his mind, he was attacked, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, with a pain in the stomach, about the pylorus: it was the sensation peculiar to those parts, and became so violent, that he tried change of position to procure ease; he sat down, then walked, laid himself down on the carpet, then upon chairs, but could find no relief. He took a spoonful of tincture of rhubarb, with thirty drops of laudanum, without the smallest benefit. While he was walking about the room, he cast his eyes on the looking-glass, and observed his countenance to be pale, his lips white, giving the appearance of a dead man: this alarmed him, and led him to feel for his pulse; but he found none in either arm. He now thought his complaint serious. Several physicians of his acquaintance were then sent for: Dr. William Hunter, Sir George Baker, Dr. Huck Saunders, and Sir William Fordyce, all came, but could find no pulse; the pain still continued, and he found himself at times not breathing. Being afraid of death soon taking place if he did not breathe, he produced the voluntary act of breathing, by working the lungs by the power of the will; the sensitive principle, with all its effects on the machine, not being in the least affected by the complaint. In this state he continued for three quarters of an hour, in which time frequent attempts were made to feel the pulse, but in vain; however, at last, the pain lessened, and the pulse returned, although at first but faintly, and the involuntary breathing began to take place. While in this state, he took Madeira, brandy, ginger, &c., but did not believe them of any service, as the return of health was very gradual; in two hours he was perfectly recovered.

"In this attack there was a suspension of the most material involuntary actions; even involuntary breathing was stopped, while sensation, with its consequences, as thinking and acting, with the will, were perfect, and all the voluntary actions were as strong as before." In commenting on this occurrence, Dr. Mason Good declares, in his Book of Nature, that in the whole history of man, he did not know of so extraordinary a case.

This affection, which appears to have been an inflammation of the heart, laid the foundation, or at least was the first indication, of that disease which manifested itself distinctly throughout the remainder of his life, and which at last brought it to a sudden close. This was *angina pectoris;* and its subsequent symptoms were of an equally painful, and some of them almost of an equally singular description.

He suffered much from spasms of the most painful and distressing kind. These were induced by any emotion of mind, as anger, anxiety, or sorrow; and as his complaint generated a high degree of susceptibility, these causes were incessantly presented.

About the beginning of December, 1789, while spending an evening on a visit to a friend, he was suddenly seized with a total loss of memory. He did not know in what part of the town he was, nor did he recollect the name of the street when it was mentioned to him, nor where his own house was; he had not a conception of any place existing, beyond the room he was in, and yet was perfectly conscious of the loss of memory. He was still conscious of impressions of all kinds from the senses, and therefore looked out of the window, although it was rather dark, in order to gain a notion of the situation of the house. This affection gradually went off, and in half an hour his memory was perfectly recovered. About a fortnight after, while visiting his patients, he was seized with giddiness, accompanied by singular symptoms. Light became offensive, and every object assumed a yellow tint. Sounds were more acute than usual, and objects apparently lost their true direction; a perpendicular, for instance, seeming to lean to the left at an angle of about fifty or sixty degrees; objects also appeared much smaller to his vision than usual, so that he could only realize his own figure as being four feet high.

With all these symptoms, his reason was in no degree affected; and, on his recovery, in about three weeks' time, he actually employed himself with diligence, in reconciling these obliquities with the known physiology of the organs.

In the autumn of 1790, and in the spring and autumn of 1791, he had unusually severe attacks of spasm, and in the beginning of October, 1792, he had one so violent, that Sir Everard Home, who was present, thought he would have died under it. Twelve months after this affection, on the 16th of October, 1793, he went to St. George's Hospital in his usual state of health, in order to take part in a discussion, in which he was vehemently opposed by his colleagues. He had previously expressed a hope, that no unpleasant rencontre would ensue; adding, that should that be the case, it would occasion his death.

His fears were unfortunately realized. He left the room in a state of great excitement, and, turning round to Dr. Robinson, uttered a deep groan, and expired instantaneously, in the 66th year of his age

Such was the end of John Hunter, a man of great powers of mind, which were singularly adapted to the study of physical science, and which were most successfully applied to that purpose; a man, whose diligence is exhibited to posterity by a collection so large and so admirable, as to strike all with wonder, who consider it the work of one man; a man who has exercised a more commanding influence on his profession, than, perhaps, any other individual who can be mentioned, and whose influence and fame have progressively increased ever since his decease. His temper was quick, but generous; his disposition candid, and free from reserve, even to a fault, and his heart remarkable for tenderness and sensibility. Indeed, his whole character, manners, and history indicated the great and the amiable man.

A very accurate idea of his person is conveyed by the engraving prefixed to this sketch. It is from the portrait by Sir Joshua Reynolds, which drew from Lavater, after he had attentively examined it, the very happy remark, which we may quote as a summary of John Hunter's scientific character,—"This man thought for himself."

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

Painted by himself

Engraved by J. Cochran

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS.

Joshua Reynolds

HARPER & BROTHERS 1833.

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS, KNT.

LL. D. F. R. S. F. S. A.

PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY, ETC. ETC.

FROM the period of the Commonwealth to the reign of George the Third, the fine arts appear to have been esteemed in England as unworthy of the time and labour required for their successful prosecution. The nation had more important affairs to engage its attention. The achievement of its liberty, the purification and spread of its religion, the conduct of its rising commerce, and the practical working out of those great systems of philosophy which had been originated by Newton, Bacon, and Locke. During this long period, we find the names of but few native artists. Dodson and Riley, Hoskins and Cooper, (the two latter, miniature painters,) Henry, Highmore, Jervas, Richardson, and Hudson are the only painters whose names are remembered in the present day; while those who monopolized the patronage of this country were Lely and Kneller. It is, therefore, with justice that Walpole remarks, that, in the commencement of the reign of George the First, about the year 1714, the arts in England were sunk almost to their lowest ebb.

A very few years after this period, however, arose the founder of the English school of painting. This was SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS. He was born at Plympton, in Devonshire, on the 16th of July, 1723, and was the tenth of eleven children of the Rev. Samuel Reynolds. It is a singular circumstance, that he is registered as having been baptized on the 30th of July, in the name of Joseph; so that "the Joshua of all the rest of the world, is a Joseph at Plympton."

His father, who performed the duties of a clergyman, and presided over the public school at Plympton with the reputation of a scholar, appears to have early designed Joshua for the profession of physic. The inclinations of the latter, however, led him to neglect those severer studies which would have qualified him for that station, and to devote much of his time to drawing. There is now in the possession of the family, on the back of a Latin exercise, a perspective view of a book-case, upon which the father has written, "Done by Joshua out of pure idleness."

It has been alleged, more to the reproach of the father than the son, that the education of the latter was much neglected, and that he consequently laboured through life under a great deficiency of classical knowledge. This, however, it appears difficult to substantiate. His literary productions give no evidence of that rudeness of taste and style which such a statement would lead us to expect; and some anecdotes are related of him, which seem to involve the contrary. One of these is given by a writer in the Library of Fine Arts, that in a copy of Felibien's "Tent of Darius explained," &c. the authority for a curious anecdote of ancient art not being given in the text, is supplied in the margin by Sir Joshua—"Apelles; vide Clemens Alexandrinus, lib. 2. Pædag. cap. 12."—an author very little familiar to those of the highest classical attainment.

His taste for drawing was developed in a remarkable manner at eight years old, when he drew likenesses of his sisters, and of various friends of the family. By these efforts he obtained much praise among his immediate circle of acquaintance, and was stimulated to the attainment of further excellence. The profession of physic was therefore abandoned for that of painting, and he was sent to London to study, under the care of Mr. Hudson, who was then at the head of his profession, although possessed of very moderate talents.

His engagement with Mr. Hudson commenced on the 14th of October, 1751, when he was not quite eighteen years of age: but the rising eminence of the pupil was too much for the jealous disposition of the master; and, on much admiration being paid to a portrait by Reynolds, of a female servant in the house, the rival painters parted, after a connexion of only two years. He now returned to Devonshire, where he passed the three following years. During this interval, he produced many portraits; among others, one of a boy reading by a reflected light, which was, fifty years afterwards, sold by auction for thirty-five guineas; and, even in the days of his highest eminence, he looked back to the productions of this time with deep regret, that he had but little improved upon them.

He appears at this time to have studied, with much advantage, the portraits of William Gandy, of Exeter, a painter little known out of that county, but some of whose portraits Reynolds considered equal to Rembrandt's. Northcote remarks, that, in Sir Joshua's early practice he adopted Gandy's manner in regard to painting the head, and retained it in some degree ever after. In 1746 he removed to the town of Plymouth-Dock, with two of his unmarried sisters, and there painted a number of portraits; among which was that of Miss Chud-

leigh, afterwards Duchess of Kingston. On the 25th of December, in this year, his father died, leaving behind him a high estimation for solid learning, simplicity of disposition, and purity of conduct.

On the appointment of Captain, afterwards Lord Keppel, to be Commodore in the Mediterranean, he invited Reynolds to accompany him, and the offer was cheerfully accepted. Accordingly, he sailed in May, 1749; visited Lisbon, Gibraltar, Algiers, and Minorca. In this island he was detained three months; during which time, he painted the portraits of most of the officers of the garrison. From Minorca he proceeded to Leghorn, and thence to Rome, where, as may readily be supposed, he pursued his studies with new and unwearied vigour.

It appears, however, that either his previous progress had not been such as to render him competent to judge of the unrivalled beauties of Raphael, or, that it requires more knowledge of his art than is to be gained out of Italy. "It has frequently happened," he writes, "as I was informed by the keeper of the Vatican, that many of those whom he had conducted through the various apartments of that edifice, when about to be dismissed, have asked for the works of Raphael, and would not believe that they had already passed through the rooms where they were preserved; so little impression had their performances made on them. One of the first painters in France once told me, that this circumstance happened to himself, though he now looks on Raphael with that veneration which he deserves from all painters and lovers of the art. I remember well my own disappointment, when I first visited the Vatican; but, on confessing my feelings to a brother student, of whose ingenuousness I had a high opinion, he acknowledged that the works of Raphael had the same effect on him, or, rather, that they did not produce the effect which he expected. This was a great relief to my mind; and, on inquiring further, of other students, I found that those persons only, who, from natural inability, appeared to be incapable of relishing those divine performances, made pretensions to instantaneous raptures on first beholding them. In justice to myself, however, I must add, that, though disappointed and mortified at not finding myself enraptured with the works of this great master, I did not for a moment conceive or suppose that the name of Raphael, and those admirable paintings in particular, owed their reputation to the ignorance and prejudice of mankind; on the contrary, my not relishing them as I was conscious I ought to have done, was one of the most humiliating circumstances that ever happened to me; I found myself in the midst of works executed upon principles with which I was unacquainted: I felt my ignorance, and stood abashed."

He remained in Italy about three years, visiting most of the principal cities, returning to England in October, 1752. In Paris he met with Sir William Chambers, accompanied by his wife, on their way to Rome; he here painted the portrait of this lady, who was extremely beautiful, representing her in a hat shading part of her face. This picture was greatly admired.

Shortly after his arrival in London, he settled himself in St. Martin's-lane, then the favourite residence of artists; he did not, however, remain here long, but removed in 1753 to a large house on the north side of Great Newport-street, where he resided for eight or nine years: from this period business flowed in upon him in abundance; commissions increased, and with them his fortune. His genius and talents soon gained him sitters of the highest rank, the second portrait he painted in London being that of the Duke of Devonshire. About this time, he also painted his celebrated portrait of Captain Keppel; and, soon after, he added to his celebrity by his picture of Miss Greville and her Brother, as Cupid and Psyche. He was now universally acknowledged to be at the head of his profession.

Shortly after his return from Italy, in the year 1754, Reynolds became acquainted with Dr. Johnson; and the commencement of this acquaintance forms an epoch in the painter's life. Boswell relates the circumstances which gave rise to it as follows. While visiting in Devonshire, Reynolds, during a short interval of leisure, opened, for the first time, Johnson's Life of Savage. He began to read it when standing with his arm leaning against the chimney-piece, and was so engrossed by it that he did not change his attitude until it was finished. On attempting to move, he found his arm totally benumbed. He naturally became anxious to know something of a contemporary author, one of whose works had so enchanted him; and, on his return to town, was fortunate enough to meet him at the Miss Cotteralls' in Newport-street. Here Reynolds impressed the Doctor with a high opinion of his independent habits of thinking, by a remark which he made respecting gratitude, but which, to most persons, could have appeared to indicate little of the excellence, either intellectual or moral, by which the artist was usually distinguished: from this time they were intimate friends, and each frequently expressed the highest opinion of the other. On one occasion, Dr. Johnson observed, "I know no man who has passed through life with more observation than Sir Joshua Reynolds." On another occasion, on Sir Joshua's leaving the room, Johnson said, "There goes a man not to be spoiled by prosperity:" and, again, "A story is a specimen of human manners;

and derives its sole merit from its truth: when Foote has told me something, I dismiss it from my mind, like a passing shadow; when Reynolds tells me something, I consider myself as possessed of an idea the more."

Nor was Reynolds more backward to acknowledge the vast intellectual powers of his friend, nor the degree in which he himself was indebted to them. In one of his discourses on Art he states, in the following amiable terms, the advantages he had derived from his intercourse with Johnson—

"Whatever merit these discourses may have, must be imputed, in a great degree, to the education which I may be said to have had under Dr. Johnson. I do not mean to say, though it certainly would be to the credit of these discourses if I could say it with truth, that he contributed even a single sentiment to them; but he qualified my mind to think justly. No man had, like him, the art of teaching inferior minds the art of thinking. Perhaps other men might have equal knowledge, but few were so communicative. His great pleasure was to talk to those who looked up to him. It was here he exhibited his wonderful powers. The observations which he made on poetry, on life, and on every thing about us, I applied to our art—with what success, others must judge."

In 1755, the fame of Reynolds was still on the increase. His price, at this time, was twelve guineas for a head only, and a proportionate charge for half and whole lengths. Three years after, however, he raised his price to twenty guineas. In the year 1759, between September and November, he spared time from his numerous occupations to write three papers for the Idler, on subjects connected with his art. These are Nos. 76, 79, and 82. They are distinguished for much clearness of conception, variety of knowledge, and elegance of diction, and certainly indicated nothing of that deficiency which has been attributed to the literary department of his education. "Indeed," says Northcote, "these papers may be considered as a kind of syllabus of all his future discourses, and certainly occasioned him some thinking in their composition. I have heard Sir Joshua say, that Johnson required them from him on a sudden emergency, and on that account he sat up the whole night to complete them in time; and by it he was so much disordered, that it produced a vertigo in his head."

In 1760 he again raised his price to twenty-five guineas, and, making his style keep pace with his reputation, removed to a house on the west side of Leicester-square, to which he added a splendid gallery for the exhibition of his works, and an elegant apartment for his sitters.

He also purchased a carriage, the extreme gaudiness of which appears, from all accounts, to have been inconsistent with the good taste for which he was so remarkable.

In 1762 was produced the celebrated picture of Garrick between Tragedy and Comedy, for which the Earl of Halifax paid three hundred guineas. This period may be fixed on as dating the zenith of the painter's reputation; and, if we may credit Johnson, his fortune had increased with his fame. "Reynolds," says he, in a letter to Baretti, "still continues to increase in reputation and riches; he gets £6000 a year."

Six years after this period, the Royal Academy was established, under the immediate patronage of the King. The funds for the support of this institution were to be supplied from the proceeds of the annual exhibition, and what further might be required was given from His Majesty's privy purse. Reynolds was elected its first President, and His Majesty, to give dignity to the situation, conferred on him the honour of Knighthood. In consequence of this appointment, he voluntarily undertook the task of delivering discourses in the Academy, that labour forming no part of the prescribed duty of his office. These discourses were delivered, during many years, to the most select audiences, and met with very general admiration. It is unfortunate, however, that, owing to Sir Joshua's aversion to every species of ostentation, they were very badly delivered. Northcote relates a characteristic anecdote of him, in connexion with this fact. A nobleman, who had been present at the delivery of one of these discourses, came to him at the close of it, and said, "Sir Joshua, you delivered your discourse in so low a tone, that I could not distinguish a single word." To which the President replied, with great good humour, "That was to my advantage."

The Exhibition of the Royal Academy was opened, for the first time, on the 26th of April, 1769; and from that time he contributed to its success, no less by the splendid works with which he embellished it, than by the excellent principles laid down in his discourses. From this time, to the year 1790, inclusive, he sent as many as two hundred and forty-four pictures to the various exhibitions. It will readily be supposed, that such works as Sir Joshua's would engross the attention of all spectators, to the exclusion of those of all other artists; and, to this effect, the extraordinary beauty of his colour contributed in no small degree.* As an instance of this, it is recorded, in the Library of

* Sir Joshua was so singularly anxious for this particular merit, that he even purchased pictures by Titian and his pupils, the paint of which he scraped off and analyzed, to discover the secret of its composition.

the Fine Arts, that, when his picture of the Sleeping Girl was placed leaning against the wall of the great room of the Royal Academy, on the morning for arranging the respective pictures for exhibition, every painter who was present seized his own portable works, and removed them to a distant part of the room, conscious of the general eclipse which its splendour would occasion around it.

In the year 1773, Sir Joshua visited Oxford, and was admitted to the degree of Doctor of Laws; and, in 1781, repaired to Holland and the Netherlands, for the sake of inspecting the best productions of the Flemish and Dutch schools of painting. On his return, he wrote a very interesting account of his journey, with critical observations on the pictures he had seen, and a character of Rubens.

Three years after this, he succeeded to Ramsay, as the King's painter; and, in the same year, lost his friend Dr. Johnson.

In 1786, he painted his celebrated picture of the Infant Hercules, for the Empress of Russia, by whom he was honoured with the present of a gold box enriched with diamonds.

Sir Joshua's career was now drawing to a close. One day, in the month of July, 1789, it is related by Cunningham, that, "while finishing the portrait of the Marchioness of Hertford, he felt a sudden decay of sight in his left eye. He laid down his pencil; sat a little while in mute consideration, and never lifted it more." He had already suffered a paralytic stroke, and from this time his health gradually sunk, until the 23d of February, 1792, when he expired, in the 69th year of his age. He was buried in one of the crypts of St. Paul's cathedral, and, on the day following his death, the event was announced from the pen of his illustrious friend, Edmund Burke, who accompanied the notice with the following characteristic eulogy:—

"He had, from the beginning of his malady, a distinct view of his dissolution; and he contemplated it with that entire composure, which nothing but the innocence, integrity, and usefulness of his life, and an unaffected submission to the will of Providence, could bestow. In this situation, he had every consolation from family tenderness, which his own kindness had, indeed, well deserved.

"Sir Joshua Reynolds was, on very many accounts, one of the most memorable men of his time. He was the first Englishman who added the praise of the elegant arts to the other glories of his country. In taste, in grace, in facility, in happy invention, and in the richness and harmony of colouring, he was equal to the great masters of the renowned ages. In portrait, he went beyond them; for he commu-

nicated to that description of the art, in which English artists are the most engaged, a variety, a fancy, and a dignity, derived from the highest branches, which, even those who professed them in a superior manner, did not always preserve, when they delineated individual nature. His portraits remind the spectator of the invention of history, and the amenity of landscape. In painting portraits, he appeared not to be raised upon that platform, but to descend to it from a higher sphere. His paintings illustrate his lessons, and his lessons seem to be derived from his paintings.

"He possessed the theory as perfectly as the practice of his art. To be such a painter, he was a profound and penetrating philosopher.

"In full affluence of foreign and domestic fame, admired by the expert in art and by the learned in science, courted by the great, caressed by sovereign powers, and celebrated by distinguished poets, his native humility, modesty, and candour never forsook him, even on surprise or provocation; nor was the least degree of arrogance or assumption visible to the most scrutinizing eye, in any part of his conduct or discourse.

"His talents of every kind, powerful from nature, and not meanly cultivated by letters; his social virtues, in all the relations and all the habitudes of life, rendered him the centre of a very great and unparalleled variety of agreeable societies, which will be dissipated by his death. He had too much merit, not to excite some jealousy; too much innocence, to provoke any enmity.

"The loss of no man of his time can be felt with more sincere, general, and unmixed sorrow.

"HAIL! AND FAREWELL!"

It is now forty-one years since the death of Sir Joshua Reynolds; yet, during the present year, there has been offered abundant evidence that his fame has gone on increasing in the interval. Many of his finest works have been recently exhibited at the British Institution, together with those of his successors, West and Lawrence. From this test, Sir Joshua has reaped new honours, and still retains, in the opinion of the most competent judges, an unrivalled supremacy.

Painted by H.W. Pickersgill Esq. R.A.

Engraved by J. Cochran.

MICHAEL FARADAY. ESQ F.R.S. M.R.I. F.G.S. &c

Faraday

MICHAEL FARADAY, ESQ.

D.C.L. F.R.S. M.R.I. ETC. ETC.

In every view which can be taken of the character of the natural and experimental philosopher, Mr. Faraday well deserves that title. He has brought to the study of nature the whole energies of a mind equally fitted for the minute observation of facts, and the masterly deduction of principles; and the pre-eminent success with which he has employed these endowments in the study of physical science, ranks him as one of the most distinguished ornaments of his country and his age. He is the son of James and Margaret Faraday, and was born at Newington Butts, on the 22d of September, 1791. Having been early designed for business, he received such an education as fitted him for such pursuits, and entered upon them in London, at the age of thirteen, in the establishment of Mr. Riebau, the bookseller.

During the time in which he was engaged in business, he appears to have been ardent in the pursuit of science. Not long before his appointment to the office of Assistant in the Royal Institution, he was accustomed to meet in a small scientific society, to which Mr. Woodward, (the gentleman who first applied the oxy-hydrogen blow-pipe to the microscope,) and other friends to science, belonged. It was in this little association, we are informed, that he delivered his first public lecture, the subject of which was the physical properties of heat; and here, as in the remembrance of many of his early friends, first displayed those talents for experiment which have contributed to raise him so high in the estimation of the scientific world.

In 1813, Mr. Faraday received the appointment of laboratory assistant at the Royal Institution. The feelings which at this time influenced his mind, and the circumstances which led him to this engagement, will be best told in his own words. The following statement is an extract from a letter addressed to Dr. Paris, and inserted in his life of Sir Humphrey Davy.

" When I was a bookseller's apprentice, I was very fond of experiment, and very averse to trade. It happened that a gentleman, a member of the Royal Institution, took me to hear some of Sir Humphrey Davy's lectures in Albemarle Street. I took notes, and afterwards wrote them out more fairly in a quarto volume.

" My desire to escape from trade, which I thought vicious and selfish, and to enter into the service of science, which I imagined made its pursuers amiable and liberal, induced me at last to take the bold and simple step of writing to Sir H. Davy, expressing my wishes, and a hope that, if an opportunity came in his way, he would favour my views; at the same time I sent the notes I had taken of his lectures.

" This took place at the end of the year 1812, and early in 1813 he requested to see me, and told me of the situation of assistant in the laboratory of the Royal Institution, then just vacant. At the same time he thus gratified my desires as to scientific employment, he still advised me not to give up the prospects I had before me; telling me, that science was a harsh mistress, and, in a pecuniary point of view, but poorly rewarding those who devoted themselves to her service. He smiled at the notion of the superior moral feelings of philosophic men, and said he would leave me to the experience of a few years to set me right on that matter."

Davy was now interested in Faraday, and his efforts in the behalf of the young philosopher were attended with success. Early in March 1813, Faraday received his appointment, and entered upon his duties as assistant in the laboratory. In October of the same year, Davy received permission from Napoleon to travel through France, in order to visit the volcanoes of Auvergne, and Faraday accompanied him as his amanuensis, and assistant in experiment. We cannot perhaps consider the character of Napoleon in a more interesting point of view than that of a patron of science. At this time France was waging a bitter war with this country, and several of the most distinguished English nobility had sought in vain for permission to travel on the continent; but no sooner was it known that the discoverer of the metallic bases of the earths and alkalies was anxious to pursue his inquiries in France, than the permission was granted and the passports obtained.

On the 13th of October, 1813, Sir H. and Lady Davy, and Mr. Faraday, proceeded to Plymouth, where they embarked in a cartel for Morlaix in Brittany. But immediately upon their landing, they were arrested; the authorities having some suspicion as to the genuineness of their passports, and were confined for six or seven days. The pass-

ports being then acknowledged by the Parisian authorities, they were permitted to proceed on their journey, and arrived at the capital on the evening of the 27th of the same month.

This journey, so memorable in the life of Davy, more particularly for the investigation of the nature of iodine, a substance which had long puzzled the French chemists, was, no doubt, hardly less important to the subject of our biographical sketch. He was now thrown into the society of all the great continental philosophers, a circumstance which could not fail to inspire a mind so ardently attached to scientific pursuits.

In 1815 Sir Humphrey returned to England, and Faraday then resumed his station in the Royal Institution. It has often been remarked, that the lives of philosophers generally furnish no variation of scene, after they have once attained an opportunity of pursuing their inquiries. This is remarkably true in the case before us; and our notice must now be confined to Mr. Faraday's literary and scientific pursuits. From that time to the present, he has been engaged in the Royal Institution; at first as an assistant, and afterwards as a Lecturer.

It would be highly interesting to take a general view of Mr. Faraday's entire career since his connexion with the Royal Institution, as illustrating the gradual advancement of his mind, and his progressive acquaintance with science. But our limits entirely forbid our entering upon this pleasing task. Almost every number of the "Journal of Science and Art," since the year 1817, is a monument to his industry and talent; and it is impossible to review the papers which he has published in that work, and in the Philosophical Transactions, without being deeply impressed with the versatility of his powers of mind, and the ardour with which he has conducted his pursuits.

It is difficult to say which of Mr. Faraday's communications are most interesting, and we feel that we cannot do justice to his merits by a mere enumeration of their titles. We must therefore, perhaps, select one or two as examples of all, and present the reader with an outline of the general character which pervades his writings and experiments.

The discovery of the condensation of the gases is one of the most interesting that modern investigation has revealed. There had long been an opinion among philosophers, that the gases were incapable of reduction into any other than what may be called their natural elastic state. There are elastic fluids which, under certain conditions, may be compelled to assume the liquid, and even the solid state; this is the

case with steam, which is equally known to us as water and as ice. No diminution of temperature, however, could effect a change in the gases, and hence they were called the permanently elastic fluids.

Mr. Faraday was fortunate enough to be led to the discovery, and he did not fail to appreciate the results to which he had been unexpectedly directed. Dr. Paris, the author of the "Life of Davy," has given us an interesting account of the circumstances which led Mr. Faraday to the discovery; and although he would justify Sir Humphrey in the part which he took in the matter, he is quite ready to give the merit of the discovery to the subject of our remarks.

By exposing chlorine to a low temperature, a solid substance is obtained, which, before the year 1810, was supposed to be chlorine in a solid state. Davy removed the erroneous impression, proved it to be a hydrate of chlorine, and shewed that the gas was not capable of condensation, even at a temperature of 40° F.

In the early part of 1823, Mr. Faraday, taking advantage of the season, had obtained some crystals of this hydrate of chlorine, and commenced a series of experiments upon it. After he had pursued an extended course of observations, Sir Humphrey appears to have suggested the propriety of examining it in closed tubes, a circumstance which Dr. Paris thinks could not have failed to have struck the experimenter himself.

On the 25th of March, 1823, Dr. Paris was invited to dine at Davy's, but, being rather early, he called at the Royal Institution, and found Faraday in the laboratory, experimenting on chlorine and its hydrate in closed tubes. While he stood over the experimenter, he observed an oily-looking substance covering the interior of the tube, and, referring him to the circumstance, joked with him for using soiled vessels. Faraday looked at the tube, and proceeded to file off the end of it, when the contents exploded, and the oily matter vanished.

Dr. Paris then left the Institution, and after dinner informed Davy of what he had seen, who, after a few moments of abstraction, replied, "I shall inquire about this experiment to-morrow."

In the mean time, Faraday was continuing his investigations. He found, that by exposing the hydrate, in a tube hermetically sealed, to a temperature of 100°, the substance was fused, and the tube filled with a bright yellow atmosphere. Upon examination, this atmosphere was found to consist of two fluid substances: the one was of a faint yellow colour, filling about three-fourths of the tube; the other a bright heavy fluid, lying at the bottom of the former. The yellow

fluid he distilled to one end of the tube, and entirely separated it from the heavier fluid. When he cut the tube in the middle, the parts flew asunder with an explosion, the whole of the yellow portion disappeared, and a powerful atmosphere of chlorine was produced. The pale portion remained in the tube, and was found to be a weak solution of chlorine in water, with a little muriatic acid.

Mr. Faraday was at first unable to account for the phenomena, but was afterwards led to suppose that the chlorine had been separated from the water by heat, and then condensed into the liquid form by the mere pressure of its own superabundant vapour.

On the following morning, Dr. Paris received this note from Mr. Faraday, announcing his discovery :—

"Dear Sir,

"The oil you noticed yesterday turns out to be liquid chlorine."

The same morning Sir Humphrey came to the Institution, and, after having witnessed the result, called for a strong tube, and, having placed in it a quantity of muriate of ammonia and sulphuric acid, sealed the tube, and, causing the substances to act on each other, muriatic acid was evolved, and condensed in the same manner as the chlorine.

Mr. Faraday's discovery was afterwards recorded in the Philosophical Transactions for the year 1823; and to that paper, Davy appended one of his own, which he designated "Notes on the Condensation of Muriatic Acid Gas into the Liquid Form." It is not for us now to inquire whether Davy was justified in thus taking so obvious an experiment out of the hands of his successful protegé. The discovery was Faraday's, and he must necessarily have felt anxious to extend his observations by experiments on the other gases. If one is capable of condensation why not all? is a question which could not have failed to strike the mind of any experimenter; and it is certainly an invasion upon the rightful territories of an experimental philosopher, thus to deprive him of the results of a noble discovery.

Eight of the gases have now been condensed; one of them, the nitrous oxide gas, under a pressure equal to that of fifty atmospheres.

Another era in the life of Faraday was the publication of his chemical manipulations, which made its appearance in the year 1828. This work is designed to instruct the student in the use of chemical apparatus, and to suggest the means by which experiments may be made in the readiest and most successful manner. No man was so capable of performing this task as Faraday, who has been long

known as the most elegant and successful manipulator of his day. Considering the character of the work, it was attended with great success, and has passed into the second edition. It may be considered as a testimony of his accuracy and minuteness of observation, and has filled an important space in the scientific works of our country.

But we must now refer to his last and most important series of observations and experiment, in which we find blended an extreme minuteness of detail and generality of deduction, which stamps his papers as the most important contribution to the electrical sciences which the present age has witnessed. We here refer to those which he has so properly denominated Experimental Researches in Electricity. The first of these was read before the Royal Society on the 24th of November, 1831, and the second on the 12th of January, 1832, and are printed in the 122d volume of the Philosophical Transactions. They have given to the science of electricity a new character. We are no longer compelled to view it as a series of unconnected facts, but as a harmonious system of truths dependent on general and known laws. For an account of his discoveries, we must refer the reader to the Philosophical Transactions, as our limits are much too contracted to allow our giving even a syllabus of them.

Mr. Faraday's last paper was the third series of his Experimental Researches on Electricity, and was read before the Royal Society on the 17th of January, of the year 1833. The object of the paper is, to prove the identity of the electricities derived from various sources. It is well known, that some philosophers have doubted the identity of voltaic and common electricities, and, although they have admitted a unity of principle, have imagined some modification of action and of power. In considering the subject, Mr. Faraday arranges the phenomena under two general heads: those resulting from electricity, in a condition of tension or equilibrium, and those which result from electricity in motion. Under electricity in equilibrium, we have the phenomenon of attraction and repulsion. The phenomena of electricity in motion are, the evolution of heat, the production of magnetism, chemical decompositions, physiological effects, and the evolution of light in the form of sparks.

There are five sources of electricity: 1. Ordinary electricity, or that which is obtained from the electrifying machine, the cleavage of crystals and other mechanical means. 2. Voltaic electricity, or that obtained by the contact of metals and fluid substances. 3. Magneto-electricity, which is that obtained from magnets. 4. Thermo-electricity, or that which is procured by an application of heat to metallic

bodies; and, fifthly, animal electricity, produced by an excitement of certain muscular powers in some of the fishes.

It has been maintained by some electricians, that the voltaic and ordinary electricities are not identical, because attraction and repulsion are peculiar to the latter, that it produces no magnetic effects, and is incapable of accomplishing chemical decompositions. But Mr. Faraday shews that common electricity may be made to assume much of the character of voltaic electricity by the introduction of imperfect conductors into the electric current. He entirely succeeded in producing the deflection of the needle by a stream of common electricity, and was equally fortunate in obtaining decisive proofs of chemical decomposition. M. Colladon was the only philosopher who had succeeded in deflecting the needle by common electricity, and there was no decisive proofs of the production of chemical decomposition by ordinary electricity. The usual method of decomposing water by the machine, is no proof of the chemical effect of common electricity, for in no case, previous to the experiments of Mr. Faraday, had the elements of water, hydrogen, and oxygen been obtained at opposite poles. Mr. Barry indeed professed to have done so by atmospheric electricity, but the slightest examination of his apparatus* will be sufficient to shew that there must have been some error in his observations.

Mr. Faraday then shews how chemical decomposition, and the effects on the magnet, may be produced by ordinary electricity, thus proving the identity of ordinary and voltaic electricity, for we can only judge of causes by their effects. There is certainly a difference as to the quantity and tension of the fluid; but the fluid is the same, if any deduction can be formed from the character of results.

The author then proceeds to an examination of the effects produced by magneto-electricity, and shews that they, as far as they have been examined, are the same, and are therefore referrible to the same agency. Animal electricity produces all the results of voltaic electricity, except the evolution of light and heat; and thermo-electricity will produce muscular contraction and magnetic effects. It can, therefore, be scarcely denied that electricity, from whatever source it may be derived, is always the same as to its nature; and this is Mr. Faraday's conclusion. The minor differences of action that are observed, and the non-production of certain effects, are to be traced to some particular condition of the electricity.

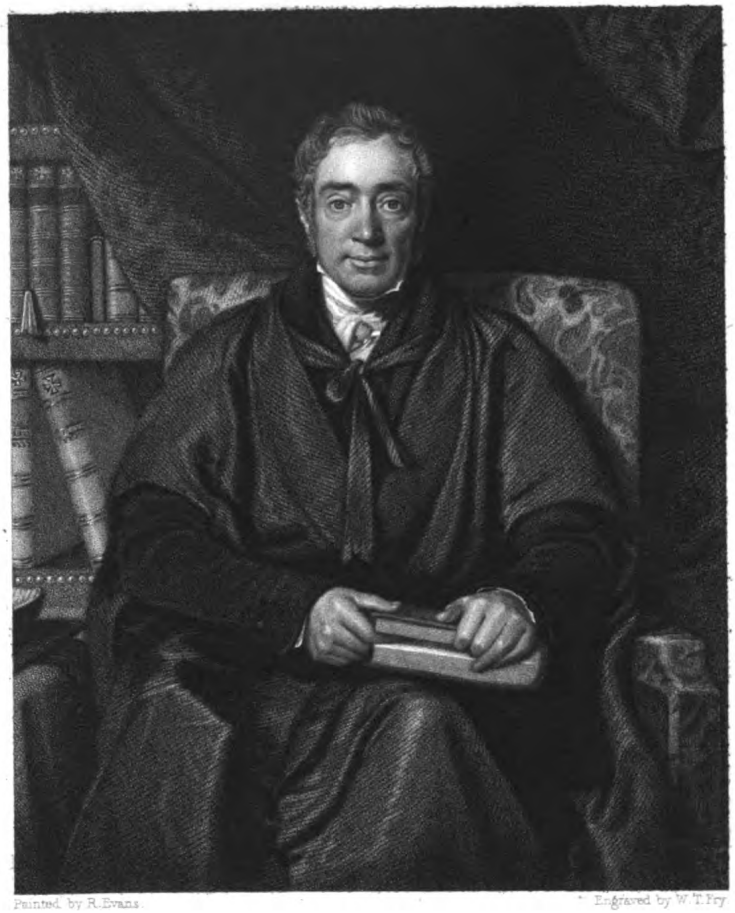
A fourth series has been since read before the Royal Society, but

* Phil. Trans. 1831.

the world has not yet been put into possession of the results of that communication.

At the last meeting of the British Association at Oxford, the University conferred upon Mr. Faraday, as well as upon Sir David Brewster, Mr. Dalton, and Mr. Brown, the degree of D.C.L.; and subsequently to that time, he has been raised to a Professorship at the Royal Institution, being appointed to the Chair of Chemistry recently constituted by the munificence of John Fuller, Esq.

From a candid review of Mr. Faraday's scientific progress, we feel justified in affirming, that there has seldom arisen a man who possessed the same facilities for investigation as himself, and none have used their talents with more advantage to science. It is seldom that he indulges in those bold theories which characterized Sir Humphrey, but he is nothing behind him, in the examination of phenomena and in the generalization of causes. He has done much to sustain the scientific glory of this nation, and has secured the best wishes of his country that he may long live to extend his inquiries and enjoy his honours.



Painted by R. Evans. Engraved by W. T. Fry

THE REVD SAMUEL LEE, B D &c.

Samuel Lee

F. ORME, SON, & Co LONDON. 1830

THE

REV. SAMUEL LEE, D.D.

D. D. of the University of Halle; Honorary Member of the Asiatic Society of Paris; Honorary Associate and F.R.S.L., and M.R.A.S. &c.; Prebendary of Bristol; Vicar of Banwell; and Regius Professor of Arabic in the University of Cambridge;

&c. &c. &c.

We believe Professor Lee to be the most astonishing living instance of successful self-education—of great powers of mind contending with vast difficulties, fortifying themselves with substantial and most extensive learning, and progressively rising from obscurity to the first rank in the literary world. Some account of the process by which those extraordinary results were realized, cannot fail to be both interesting and instructive.

Samuel Lee was born at the village of Longnor, which is situated on the Hereford road, about eight miles from Shrewsbury on the 14th of May, 1783. In this village a charity-school had been founded and endowed by the family of Corbett, ancestors of Archdeacon Corbett, who afterwards became Mr. Lee's patron and friend. In this school he received the first rudiments of his education, remaining in it until he was twelve years of age; but acquiring nothing more than a general knowledge of reading, writing, and arithmetic, and without distinguishing himself in any respect by those developments of genius, which occasionally give, in early life, such strong indications of future greatness.

Having attained the age of twelve, Mr. Lee was put apprentice to a mechanical business, and, though quite unfit for, and indisposed to such an occupation, he yet submitted to it for a time, and pursued it with diligence. Advancing, however, towards maturity, Mr. Lee felt an attachment to reading, and perused with attention such books as happened to fall in his way, in the house where he lodged. In the pages of these, he occasionally found quotations from Latin authors, and felt no small degree of mortification, in not being able to understand them. This circumstance suggested to him the first idea of making an attempt to learn the Latin language. Another incident occurring nearly about this time, tended in no small degree to confirm the resolution which he had thus formed. Being employed in

business by Sir Edward Smith, of Acton-Burnel, he had an opportunity of seeing many Latin books, and, not unfrequently, of hearing them read, accompanied with the painful reflection, that their treasures were concealed from him.

Having fixed his resolution to attempt the Latin language, when he had attained the age of seventeen, Mr. Lee obtained "Ruddiman's Latin Grammar," and some other elementary books; of which he made himself master. But, notwithstanding the information which they afforded him, the difficulties with which he was compelled to struggle, still appeared formidable. To obviate some of these, he one day ventured to solicit information from a Catholic priest, who frequently visited the scene of his labours. But, unhappily, instead of finding that assistance with which he had flattered himself, he was dismissed with an unexpected repulse.

Mr. Lee, however, was not to be intimidated by this cold refusal. He was mortified at the unkindness he had received, but this indignity only furnished a new stimulus to exertion; and he determined, if possible, to excel, in his knowledge of the language, the man who had dismissed him with such frigid indifference.

His circumstances, moreover, at this time, underwent a slight improvement, and he was thus furnished with the means of reading the Latin Bible, Florus, some of Cicero's Orations, Cæsar's Commentaries, Justin, Sallust, Virgil, the Odes of Horace, and the Epistles of Ovid.

On being liberated from his indenture, he formed a determination to make himself acquainted with the Greek. He accordingly purchased a Westminster Greek Grammar; and not long afterwards a Greek Testament; which, with the assistance of Schrevelius' Lexicon, he was soon able to read. Having made this proficiency, he next procured "Huntingford's Greek Exercises," which he wrote throughout; and then, agreeably to the plan recommended in these Exercises read, Xenophon's Cyropædia, and, shortly afterwards, Plato's Dialogues. Some parts of the Iliad and Odyssey of Homer, the Golden Verses of Pythagoras, with the Commentary of Hierocles, Lucian's Dialogues of the Dead, some of the Poetæ Minores, and the Antigone of Sophocles. Having surmounted these difficulties, Mr. Lee next resolved to attempt the Hebrew; and, with this design, he procured Bythner's Grammar, with his Lyra Prophetica, by the help of which he was enabled in a short time to read the Hebrew Psalter, a copy of which he procured. Advancing in the study of this language, he next purchased Buxtorf's Grammar and Lexicon, together with a Hebrew Bible, with which he soon made himself acquainted.

It was much about this time, that a kind of accident threw in his way the Targum of Onkelos, which, with the assistance of a Chaldee Grammar he already possessed in Bythner's Lyra, and Schindler's Lexicon, he was soon able to read. His next step was to undertake the Syriac, in which also his efforts were crowned with success. By the assistance which he derived from Otho's Synopsis and Schindler's Lexicon, he was soon enabled to read some of Gattir's Testament. He next turned his attention to the Samaritan, in which he found less difficulty than in several of his former attempts. For as the Samaritan Pentateuch differs but little from the Hebrew, except in the variation of character, he found few obstacles to his reading it. In this, however, he was compelled to confine himself to such quotations as books supplied; as works in that language did not lie within his reach.

During the whole of this astonishing career, Mr. Lee was unaided by any instructor, uncheered by any literary companion, and uninfluenced by the hope either of profit or of praise. The difficulties which he had to surmount, arising from his situation in life, were more than sufficient to depress any spirit less active and energetic than his own. But in addition to these, his incessant application to study brought on an inflammation in his eyes, with which, at times, he was severely afflicted; and this induced those with whom he was surrounded, to use every effort to dissuade him from his pursuits, and to oppose his progress with every discouragement in their power. These circumstances united, presented to his view an accumulation of opposition, the aspect of which was truly formidable. But habit, and a fixed determination to proceed, had now made study his principal solace; so that when the business of the day was finished, he renewed his application, and found it rather a source of rest from manual labour, than a mental exertion which augmented his bodily toils. And although, in his prosecution of these arduous studies, he suffered many privations; yet the solitary satisfaction which he derived from his successful efforts, imparted a recompense, which a mind actuated by similar principles alone could feel.

But while Mr. Lee made these rapid advances in the acquirement of languages, he was not inattentive to the business upon which his livelihood depended. Considering his trade as his only support, and receiving some intimations and promises of a favourable nature in the line of his occupation, his prospects in life now fully engrossed his attention; and under these views he married, in 1811. The changes which had thus taken place, soon induced him to think, that, how pleasing soever his acquisitions might appear, they were entirely use-

less in the situation that seemed to be allotted him: and under these impressions, he thought it prudent to relinquish the study of languages altogether. His books were accordingly sold, and new resolutions were formed, that were suited to his station, if they were not conformable to his inclination.

But the issues of human life frequently depend upon incidents which we can neither anticipate nor command. Just at this time, Mr. Lee lost almost every thing that he posscssed, by a destructive fire; and being thus almost incapacitated, for the time, to pursue his previous avocations, he began seriously to think of adopting some new course, in which he might derive advantages from his former studies. At this time, nothing appeared so eligible to him as that of becoming a country schoolmaster; and to qualify himself more fully for this office, he applied himself with assiduity to acquire some branches of education which he had hitherto neglected.

Providentially, while he was in this state of depression, solicitude, and embarrassment, the Rev. Archdeacon Corbett, having heard of his singular attachment to study, and of his being at that time in Langnor, requested an interview; that he might learn from his own statement, the genuine particulars of a rumour, in which, from its singularity, he hesitated to place implicit confidence. A little conversation soon convinced him, that report had by no means exaggerated his acquisitions; and an inquiry into his mode of life, soon led to a development of his present calamities.

Pleased with having such an opportunity of fostering genius, of relieving distress, and of rewarding application, this worthy gentleman soon adopted measures, through which Mr. Lee was appointed to the superintendence of a charity-school in Shrewsbury, and at the same time, introduced to the notice of Dr Jonathan Scott, who had been Persian secretary to Mr. Hastings in India, and who is well known and highly respected as an Oriental scholar. It was with this gentleman, that Mr. Lee had, for the first time in his life, either an opportunity or the pleasure of conversing upon those arduous studies in which he had been so long engaged; but which, under all the disadvantages arising from solitude and poverty, he had prosecuted with so much success.

Astonished at Mr. Lee's acquisitions, and finding him possessed of almost unexampled facilities for the acquirement of language, Dr. Scott put into his hand some books, through the assistance of which he has made himself acquainted with the Arabic, Persian, and Hindustanee languages. The loan of these books,

and some instruction in pronunciation, included all that Mr. Lee received of foreign aid. His own mind furnished every other resource. And such was his progress in these hitherto untrodden paths, that, in the course of a few months, he was not only able to read and translate from any Arabic or Persian manuscript, but to compose in these languages. To his friend and patron, Dr. Scott, Mr. Lee sent Arabic and Persian translations of several Oriental apologues, taken from Dr. Johnson's Rambler; and also Addison's Vision of Mirza, in the Spectator; which translations, in the opinion of Dr. Scott, were "wonderfully well done."

"When I first had the pleasure of conversing with Mr. Lee upon books," says Archdeacon Corbett, "I found he had read the Latin poets usually introduced into schools, as Ovid, Virgil, Horace, &c., that he had read part of the Odyssey, as well as the Iliad, of Homer; some of the Greek minor poets, and some of the plays of Sophocles. Before we parted, I lent him the memoirs of that interesting and extraordinary young man, Mr. Kirke White, then lately printed. Mr. Lee returned it to me very shortly, with a Latin poem in praise of Kirke White; a dialogue in Greek, on the Christian religion; and a pious effusion in Hebrew; all compiled by himself, when, as I believe, he had not any access to books, for he was, during the time, upon permanent duty at Ludlow, as a member of the South Local Militia for this county. And I believe, the first prose composition of any length, Mr. Lee turned his attention to, was the History of the Syrian Churches in India;—a memoir which would do credit to the pen of any historian."

From the knowledge which Mr. Lee had obtained of the Oriental languages, through his acquaintance with Dr. Scott, he was introduced into a few private houses, as instructor in Persic and Hindustanee, to the sons of gentlemen, who were expecting appointments either in the civil or military department of the Honourable East India Company's service. This engagement, the superintendence of his own school, and his occasional attendance on two other seminaries as teacher of arithmetic, constituted his employment during his residence at Shrewsbury; and from the proficiency made by his pupils, it may be fairly inferred, that his talent of conveying knowledge to others corresponded with the facility with which he made his personal acquisitions.

But the period was at hand, in which, through the order of an over-ruling Providence, Mr. Lee was to be transplanted to a region more congenial to his natural feelings, and the bent of his genius.

His acquaintance with Dr. Scott, which knew no interruption, was soon matured into a serious friendship; and this, in conjunction with his constantly accumulating attainments, led to the splendid advance ment by which his subsequent career has been distinguished.

He entered Queen's College, Cambridge, in December, 1813, and for the first two years followed the ordinary studies of that university; the mathematics especially, with as remarkable success, as if it had been the sole or favourite object of his pursuit. After Mr. Lee had resided at Cambridge two years, Dr. Buchanan died, and he was consequently requested, by the Bible Society, to complete an edition of the Syriac New Testament, which the Doctor had commenced, for the use of the Syrian churches in Travancore. It was finally determined, however, that he should begin the work *de novo*, and having collated several Syriac MSS. for the purpose, it appeared in 1816. For this, the university of Halle, in Saxony, presented him with the degree of D.D., through the hands of Dr. Gesenius, the Hebrew Professor of that University. He next superintended an edition of the Syriac Scriptures of the Old Testament, for the same churches, which appeared in 1823. After this, he superintended a complete edition of the Malay Scriptures, of the Arabic and Coptic Psalter and Gospels, and a new translation of the Book of Genesis into the Persic; as also a reprint of Mr. Martyn's Persian and Hindustanee Testaments; the text of the former of which underwent very considerable improvements.

For the Prayer Book and Homily Society, Mr. Lee superintended the printing and improvement of the Hindustanee Prayer Book, and the Morning and Evening Prayers, translated into the Persic. Some tracts, too, were translated and printed under his directions, for the Church Missionary Society, and the Society for the Instruction of the Lascars, and some Malayan Tracts prepared for the press. During this time, he also instructed the missionaries sent out by the Church Missionary Society, in Hebrew, Arabic, Persic, Hindustanee, Sanscrit, Bengalee, Ethiopic, Coptic, &c. &c.

In 1817, Mr. Lee took his bachelor's degree, and in the same year published, in the Annual Report of the Church Missionary Society, a brief history of the Syrian churches of Travancore. In the report of the following year, he also published a similar history of the churches in Abyssinia. The university now began to acknowledge his pre-eminent learning; and, in the year 1819, demonstrated their high sense of it by electing him to the vacant professorship of Arabic. In this instance, Government also concurred to promote his

advancement; for, as Bachelor of Arts, he was incapacitated for the situation, and no alternative was left him, except that of petitioning the Crown, through the university, to be made M.A. by royal mandate. This was not only most willingly granted, but, in consideration of the immediate urgency of the case, the Government made every effort to expedite the business, so that Mr. Lee was enabled to return to Cambridge with the royal letter, just in time to be elected by a large majority.

This success only served to increase the ardour with which Professor Lee prosecuted his studies; and while his learning increased in extent and variety, his labours increased in number and usefulness. In 1820, he prepared a Grammar and Vocabulary of the New Zealand language, in which undertaking he received the assistance of the missionary Kendal, and of two New Zealand chiefs then visiting this country. In the following year, the Professor published a little work in Latin, under the title of "Sylloge Librorum Orientalum quibus Linguarum Biblicarum Studiosi maximo cum fructu uti queant," &c. and also, a letter to Mr. Bellamy, against his new translation of the Bible. This letter led to a controversy with Dr. Laurence, the present Archbishop of Cashel, in consequence of some remarks which it contained on one of the Doctor's works, in which, indeed, he had attacked Mr. Bellamy's translation, but in which Professor Lee considered, that he had put forth certain false principles of scriptural interpretation. In 1824, also, the Professor became involved in another controversy, with Dr. Henderson, the Theological Tutor at Highbury college, which was not concluded until the year 1826, and was warmly participated by various periodicals.

In the course of this controversy, Professor Lee prepared an enlarged edition of Sir William Jones's Persian Grammar. Into this he introduced, for the first time, a skeleton of the Arabic Grammar, and added the vowels to the Persic text. This work was generally received with great admiration, but was most violently attacked in a publication which issued from Glasgow, in 1824, under the name of "Critical Researches." Professor Lee replied to it in the Asiatic Journal, and (while, with characteristic, but very unnecessary modesty, he admitted the defective nature of his own work,) succeeded most fully in demonstrating the total incompetency of the reviewer to pronounce upon it. When the first edition was exhausted, the Professor altered its entire form and complexion, by such emendations and enlargements, as leave but little of Sir W. Jones's matter now remaining in it. In 1824, appeared Professor Lee's translation of a work by the

excellent Henry Martyn, entitled "Controversial Tracts on Christianity and Mohammedanism." The work was very favourably received, but never paid the expenses of its publication.

The year 1827, in which Professor Lee took his degree of B.D., was signalized in his life by still more extraordinary proofs of his unconquerable industry and mental energy, as it witnessed the publication of two works on which his fame will doubtless principally rest. These were his Hebrew Grammar, which went into a new and much improved edition, in 1832, and his volume of Sermons, Dissertations on certain Theological Questions, and an original Exposition of the Book of Revelation. In the following year, also, appeared his translation of the Travels of Ibu Batuta, which was published by the Translation Committee of the Royal Asiatic Society, a committee which was first instituted in consequence of suggestions from himself to the Earl of Munster, Sir Alexander Johnston, and some other influential persons. The translation obtained one of the king's golden medals.

Every reader will inquire with interest, after perusing the above extraordinary record of Professor Lee's literary labours, What substantial rewards has he received from the University and the country? and it is to be regretted, that no more satisfactory answer can be given to the question. In 1823, the Professor was made chaplain to the town gaol of Cambridge, with a stipend of £40 a year. He also derived the same sum from his Arabic Professorship, though the Earl of Liverpool added to it, during his administration, an annual grant of £100 a year. In 1831, he was elected into the Regius professorship of Hebrew, an appointment which also affords a stipend of £40 a year. In the month of June, however, in that year, Professor Lee received a most flattering letter from Lord Brougham,—at once the most noble patron, and the most illustrious example of genius and learning which the present times afford — presenting him with a stall in the cathedral of Bristol; on which occasion he received, from the Dean and Chapter, the vicarage of Banwell, in Somersetshire.

During the commencement of the present year, Professor Lee was created Doctor of Divinity, by the Regius Professor, Dr. Turton, who, in an elegant Latin oration, delivered on the occasion, did ample justice to his almost unexampled labours.

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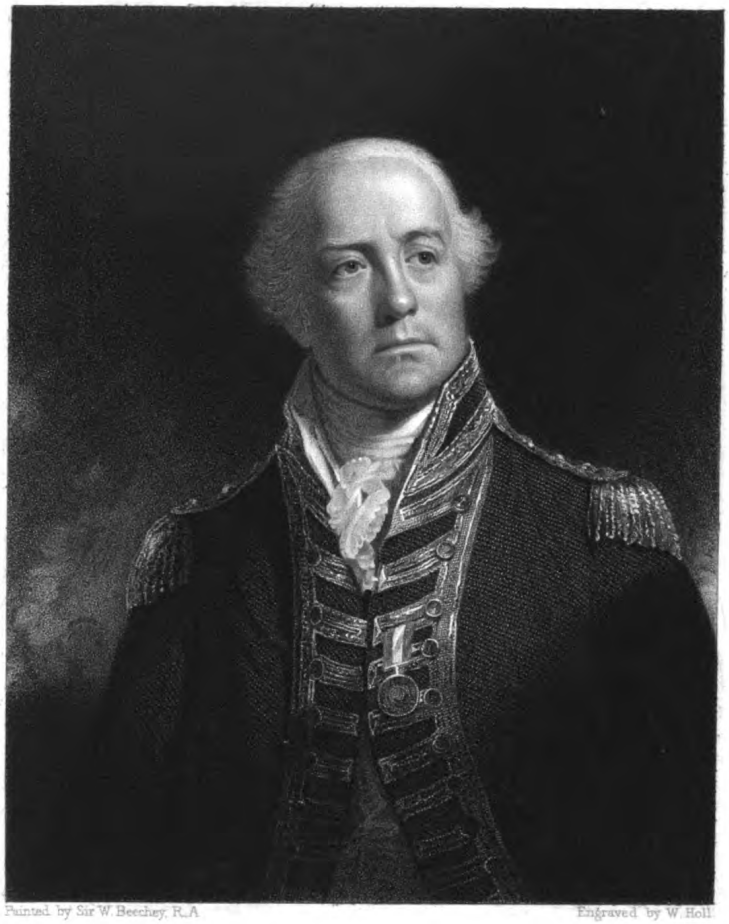

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JAMES GAMBIER, BARON GAMBIER, G C B

Gambier

London, Published by Longman & Co. Paternoster Row, 1833

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

JAMES GAMBIER, BARON GAMBIER,

ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET; G.C.B.

&c. &c.

It is not a little to the credit of the Christian religion, that it equally benefits and graces the character of individuals of every grade in society and of every diversity of pursuit. It is not merely available to the relief of poverty, and the useful employment of a private life, but is associated, with equal advantage, with rank and riches, and equally qualifies for the discharge of the most important public functions. If, indeed, the Christian religion could derive honour from any class of mankind, it would be from those whose exalted rank and station are perpetually opening before them avenues to secular pleasure, and presenting temptations to entire devotion to the world; and, if its value could possibly be enhanced, it would be by its association with that elevation and power which are adapted conspicuously to exhibit its influence and widely to extend its blessings.

A remarkable example of this auspicious union of Christian excellence with rank and power, is offered by the subject of this sketch; and we may affirm, without hesitation, that, in no instance, have its beneficial effects been more signally experienced than in that of Lord Gambier.

Lord Gambier was a member of a French refugee family; his grandfather, Nicholas, having migrated from Caen to this country, on the revocation of the edict of Nantes. His uncle, of his own christian name, was a vice-admiral in the royal navy, and was father of Sir James Gambier, F.R.S. consul-general in the Netherlands, and grandfather of William Gambier, Esq., who married the late Countess dowager of Athlone. His aunt Margaret was the wife of the first Lord Barham, first lord of the admiralty in 1805-6.

His Lordship was born in the Bahama Islands, Oct. 13, 1756, the younger son of Samuel Gambier, Esq., then lieutenant-governor of the Bahamas, by Deborah Styles, of Bermuda. He went to sea at an early age; and in 1778 was commander of the Thunder bomb, in which he had the misfortune to be captured by the French fleet under Count d'Estaing. On his release from captivity, he was promoted to the rank of Post-Captain, Oct. 9, in the same year, and appointed to the command of the Raleigh 32. In this frigate he was engaged in repelling the French attempt upon Jersey, Jan. 6, 1781, and afterwards proceeded to the coast of America; where, at the reduction of Charlestown, in South Carolina, he served on shore with the brigade of seamen and marines. In 1781, he captured the General Mifflin, an American ship of war, mounting 20 guns.

At the commencement of the war with France, in 1793, Captain Gambier was appointed to the Defence 74, in which he took an active share in the glorious victory of the 1st of June, 1794. The Defence was, on that memorable day, the first vessel that cut through the enemy's line, passing between the seventh and eighth ships. She had successively three or four ships engaging her; her men being, almost from the first, divided at their quarters, to fight both sides at once. Her masts were all shot away; the main-mast fell in-board, and the whole of the quarter-deck and forecastle guns were rendered useless. The loss she sustained on that and the preceding days amounted to 18 men killed and 39 wounded. At the general promotion which followed this important victory, Captain Gambier was nominated a colonel of marines; and, on the 1st of June, 1795, he was advanced to the rank of rear-admiral. On the 2d of March, in the same year, he was appointed to a seat among the commissioners of the admiralty, which he retained until February, 1801.

At the latter period, (having attained the rank of vice-admiral in 1799,) he was appointed third in command of the channel fleet, and hoisted his flag on board the Neptune of 98 guns. In the spring of 1802, he proceeded to Newfoundland as governor of that island, and Commander-in-chief of the squadron employed for its protection.

In May, 1804, he was re-appointed to a seat at the admiralty board; and he continued there during the two naval administrations of Viscount Melville and Lord Barham, until the change of ministry that took place on the death of Mr. Pitt in Feb. 1806. On the 4th of April, 1807, (having become full admiral in 1805,) he was again appointed to assist in the direction of naval affairs, under Lord Mulgrave; and in the following summer he was entrusted with the

command of the fleet sent to demand possession of the Danish navy, a measure which, in conjunction with Lieut.-General Lord Cathcart, he successfully accomplished, to the great mortification and frustration of the designs of the Emperor Napoleon.

On arriving before Copenhagen, he issued, in conjunction with Lord Cathcart, commander of the land forces, a proclamation setting forth the causes which had led to this proceeding on the part of the British Government—a document drawn up with much ability, and, in its regulations respecting the intercourse of the hostile forces with the peaceable inhabitants, evincing as much humanity as the spirit of war will admit. The Danish Government having refused to surrender their fleet, hostilities commenced; the city of Copenhagen was closely invested by the army on the land side, while the fleet formed an impenetrable blockade by sea. On the 2d of September, the British commanders summoned the Danish general, for the last time, to surrender the ships of war, on the conditions previously offered; repeating, that the horrors of a bombardment would be the immediate consequence of a refusal, and that it must fall on those who had power, by a single word, to avert the evil. General Peymann persisting in his refusal, the mortar batteries, which had been erected by the army around Copenhagen, together with the bomb-vessels, which were placed in convenient situations, opened their fire with such power and effect, that in a short time the town was set on fire, and was kept in flames, in different places, till the evening of the 5th; when a considerable part of it being consumed, and the conflagration having arrived at a great height, threatening the speedy destruction of the whole city, the Danes sent out a flag of truce, desiring an armistice, to afford time to treat for a capitulation. After some correspondence between General Peymann, Admiral Gambier, and Lord Cathcart, certain articles were agreed upon, by which all the Danish ships and vessels of war, with the stores in the arsenal, were to be delivered up. This object was attained, on the part of the British, with the comparatively small loss of 259 men. Admiral Gambier immediately began fitting up the ships that filled the spacious basins where they were laid up in ordinary; which, together with the naval stores, were safely conveyed to England, with the exception of one line-of-battle ship, that grounded on the Isle of Huen.

For his able conduct in this affair, Admiral Gambier was rewarded with a peerage, by patent, dated November 9, 1807; and at the same time was offered a pension of £2000, which, with characteristic generosity, he declined

In the month of May, 1808, Lord Gambier finally retired from his seat at the admiralty, on being appointed to the command of the channel fleet. During his seasons of office, he had applied himself with great assiduity to the duties of his situation. He compiled, with much labour and close attention, a code of signals, which superseded one which had been established in the reign of Charles II.; and also drew up general instructions for the direction of officers in the internal discipline and government of the king's ships, in the place of some which had become obsolete. The Plantagenet 74, a finely proportioned ship, launched at Woolwich in 1801, was built after his suggestions; being without a poop, she passed at a distance for a large frigate.

Nothing material occurred in the channel fleet when under his Lordship's command, until the month of April, 1809, when a detachment attacked a French squadron in the Aix Roads, and destroyed la Ville de Varsovie 80, Tonnere 74, Aquilon 74, and Calcutta 56, besides driving several others on shore. A difference of opinion respecting the practicability of destroying the remainder of the enemy's squadron, was productive of a misunderstanding between the commander-in-chief and Lord Cochrane, who had the command of the fire-ships; and Lord Gambier, in consequence, requested a court martial to investigate into his conduct. A court was accordingly assembled at Portsmouth, July 29, 1809, and continued by adjournments until Aug. 9, when the charge of "neglect, or delay," was pronounced "not proved;" but that his conduct had been "marked by zeal, judgment, and ability, and an anxious attention to the welfare of his majesty's service." His Lordship was consequently "most honourably acquitted."

Notwithstanding this decision, however, Lord Cochrane rose in his place in the House of Commons, on the 29th of January in the following year, and moved for the minutes of the court-martial which had been held on Lord Gambier—contending that he had been acquitted on insufficient grounds; and added, that even if his Lordship's "zeal, ability, and anxiety for the benefit of his Majesty's service" could be proved, he should still oppose a vote of thanks, as being entirely uncalled for, and calculated to lower and diminish the value of that signal honour. This motion provoked an extended discussion. It was contended by Captain Beresford, Sir John Orde, General Loft, Mr. Lyttleton, Mr. Yorke, Mr. Wilberforce, Mr. Croker, and others, that the motion cast an unmerited stigma upon the members of the court-martial, and that the evidence adduced on that occasion was

sufficient and satisfactory. The assertion of Lord Cochrane, that the chart of the position of the enemy's ships produced before the court-martial was false and fabricated, they pointedly denied; and it was even hinted that the accuser had himself formed his charts and log-books in favour of his own evidence. The Chancellor of the Exchequer therefore moved as an amendment, that the word "sentence" should be substituted for "minutes" in the motion. In his reply, Lord Cochrane took notice of the recrimination, and made it an additional reason why the conduct of the affair in Basque Roads should be again investigated, and concluded in the following words, "If, Sir, there were no reasons for the production of the minutes which I have called for, but that I am now put on my defence; that accusations have been made, which in justice to my feelings and character, I must refute; I humbly submit to the House, that, in justice to me, they ought now to be produced; and I trust, that, for reasons more important to the country, they will not be refused. Sir, I shall not detain the House longer than to re-assert all that I have pledged myself to prove, and to stake every thing that is valuable to man on the issue. If the minutes are produced, I shall expose such a scene as will, perhaps, make my country tremble for its safety. I entreat the House well to consider, that there is a tribunal to which it is answerable—that of posterity, which will try our actions, and judge impartially." When the House divided, there appeared for the amendment proposed by Mr. Percival, 171; against it, 19: so that Lord Cochrane's motion was lost by a majority of 152.

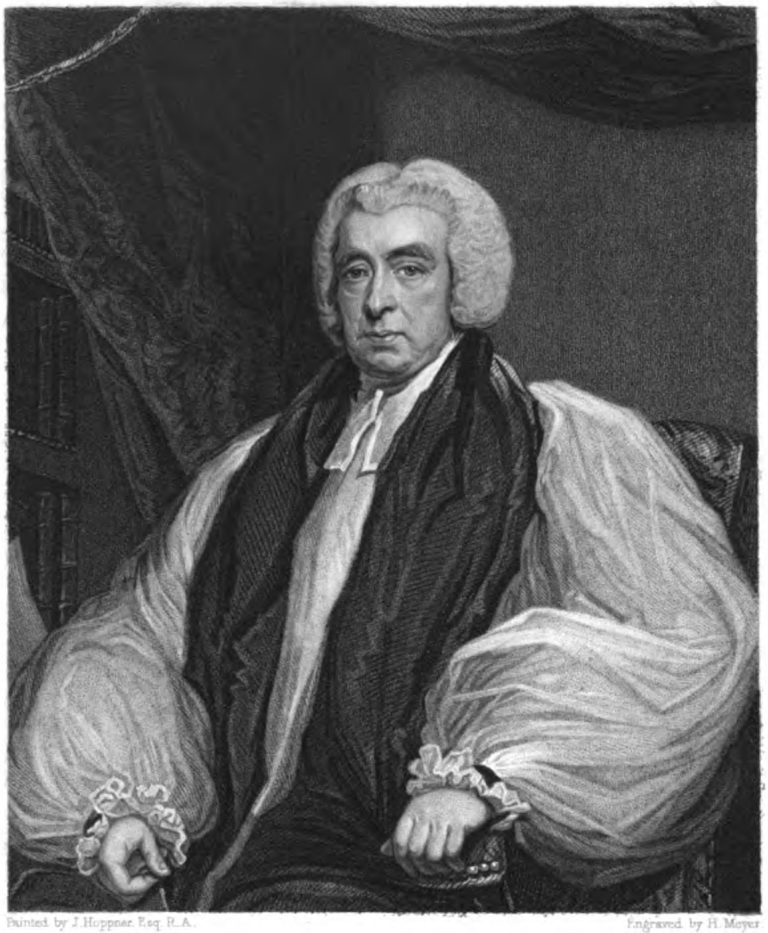
As soon as this business was disposed of, the Chancellor of the Exchequer concluded a speech, in which he highly eulogized the conduct of Lord Gambier, by proposing a vote of thanks; the first clause of which was in the following terms; "that the thanks of this House be given to Admiral, the right honourable Lord Gambier, for the zeal, judgment, ability, and anxious attention to the welfare of his Majesty's service, which marked his Lordship's conduct as commander-in-chief of the fleet in Basque Roads, by which the French fleet, which had taken refuge under the protection of their own batteries, were driven on shore and disabled, and a considerable part of them destroyed, on the 11th and 12th of April, 1809." This motion was opposed by Lord Cochrane and Sir Francis Burdett, but was carried by a large majority; there appearing for it 161, against it only 39.

Lord Gambier retained the command of the channel fleet until 1811, when he was required to resign it by the expiration of the three years to which its tenure is limited. In 1814, he was placed at

the head of the commissioners for concluding a peace with the United States of America; the first meeting for which took place at Ghent, on the 8th of August; the preliminaries were signed at the same place on the 24th of December, and ratified at Washington, February 17, 1815. His Lordship was nominated a Grand Cross of the Bath, on the 7th of June following. At the accession of his present Majesty, he was, with the late Admiral Peere-Williams, advanced to the rank of admiral of the fleet; and this he held till his death, which took place at his house at Iver, near Uxbridge, on the 19th of April, 1833.

His Lordship married in 1788, Louisa, second daughter of Daniel Mathew, of Felix Hall, in Essex, Esq., and sister to Jane, the wife of Samuel Gambier, Esq., his Lordship's eldest brother. By this marriage he had no issue, and the peerage has consequently become extinct.

Of Lord Gambier's character, it is scarcely possible to speak in terms of too high commendation. We have already alluded to his eminent piety; and we may add, that its genuineness was proved at once by its influence in correcting the excesses of an irascible temper, and by its general activity. He was a staunch friend of the Bible Society, and, when on his death-bed, expressed his deep interest in its welfare. He was also President of the Church Missionary Society; and his name will be identified by posterity with the first efforts for the moral and religious improvement of the British navy.



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BEILBY PORTEUS, D.D.

LATE BISHOP OF LONDON, ETC. ETC.

THIS eminent prelate was born at York, on the 8th of May, 1731, and was the youngest but one of nineteen children. His parents were natives of Virginia, in North America, but removed to England, in order to give their children greater advantages of education, though at considerable injury to their fortune—an instance of disinterestedness, which was amply repaid to them by the future elevation of the subject of this memoir. After having been for several years at a small school at York, Mr. Porteus was placed at Ripon, under the care of Mr. Hyde, of whose character he has often spoken in terms of great respect. At an earlier age than is common in the present day, he was removed to the University of Cambridge, and entered as a sizer at Christ's College, where he applied with such diligence to mathematical studies, as to obtain the honour of tenth wrangler in 1752, when he took his Bachelor of Arts degree. His attention, however, was not directed solely to these pursuits; for having shortly after become a candidate for one of the gold medals instituted by the Duke of Newcastle, to reward eminence in classical literature, he obtained the second, after a long and severe examination.

In the spring of the same year, Mr. Porteus was elected fellow of his college, and shortly afterwards succeeded Mr., (afterwards Sir James) Burroughs, as esquire beadle. This office he kept but for two years, preferring to increase his income by means more agreeable to himself; namely, that of taking private pupils, whom his rising eminence easily obtained for him. Among them was Lord Grantham, who was afterwards Secretary of State and Ambassador to Spain.

Having deliberately chosen the profession of the church, he was ordained at the age of twenty-six by the Bishop of Lincoln, and

afterwards by Archbishop Hutton, at York, where he preached the ordination sermon. In the midst of these engagements, however, he was not negligent of politer studies, and gave some attention to the cultivation of poetry. Of his success in this latter pursuit he soon after gave ample evidence, by obtaining Seaton's prize for the best English poem on a sacred subject. The subject selected was Death; and it was one which was the more consonant with his feelings, from the fact of his having but lately lost his respected and excellent father. "Undoubtedly," says his biographer, "as a private performance there are few superior; for it displays a correctness of taste, combined with a sublimity of thought, and a power and justness of expression, which have seldom been exhibited in the first effusions of poetry."

Mr. Porteus's reputation was now rapidly increasing, and was still further promoted by the publication of an excellent sermon, preached at the University church, as a reply to a profane pamphlet which had recently appeared, entitled, "The History of the Man after God's own Heart." Its object was to bring discredit upon the Christian religion by ridiculing the character of the Jews, and of David in particular. It is scarcely necessary to add, that Mr. Porteus succeeded not only in controverting the particular statements of the work, but also in exposing the utter fallacy of the principles upon which its arguments proceeded.

In 1762, he was appointed, by Archbishop Secker, one of his domestic chaplains, and quitted college to reside at Lambeth. The associations into which he was led by this preferment had a most important influence on his future character, as appears from his own words. He describes the Archbishop as a man "endowed with superior talents, which he had highly cultivated; of a strong and sound understanding; of extensive and profound erudition, more particularly in Hebrew literature, and every branch of theology; an admired and useful preacher; of unblemished purity of manners, unaffected piety, unbounded benevolence, and exemplary in the discharge of all his various functions, as a parochial clergyman, a bishop, and a metropolitan." "He was," he adds, "to me a most kind friend, and a bountiful benefactor: but, far beyond all the other benefits I derived, was that invaluable one of enjoying his conversation, of being honoured with his direction and advice, and of living under the influence of his example: these were advantages indeed; and although I did not profit by them so much as I ought, yet, to them, under Providence, I ascribe whatever little

credit I have attained in the world, and the high situation I have since arrived at in the church."

On the 13th of May, 1765, Mr. Porteus married Margaret, eldest daughter of Brian Hodgson, Esq. of Ashbourne, in Derbyshire, and in the course of the same year was presented by the Archbishop to the two small livings of Rucking and Wittersham in Kent: these however, he soon resigned for the rectory of Hunton, in the same county, which he enjoyed in addition to a prebend at Peterborough, that had been previously given him by his Grace. Upon the death of Dr. Denne, in 1767, he obtained the rectory of Lambeth, and soon after this took his degree as Doctor in Divinity, on which occasion he preached his commencement sermon.

In 1768, Archbishop Secker died, after a severe illness; and Dr. Porteus, in accordance with the feelings which had possessed him during the life of his excellent patron, paid a last tribute to his memory in a "Review of the Archbishop's Life and Character," a masterly performance, and a very happy specimen of biographical composition. In the following year he was appointed chaplain to his Majesty, and master of the hospital of St. Cross, near Winchester.

In the year 1763, Dr. Porteus entered on an undertaking which, whatever may be thought of its policy, certainly reflects upon him infinite credit for manly integrity and independence of mind. His own account of it is as follows:—"At the close of the year 1772, and the beginning of the next, an attempt was made by myself and a few other clergymen, among whom were Mr. Francis Woolaston, Dr. Percy, now Bishop of Dromore, and Dr. Yorke, now Bishop of Ely, to induce the Bishops to promote a review of the Liturgy and Articles, in order to amend in both, but particularly the latter, those parts which all reasonable people agreed stood in need of amendment. The plan was not in the smallest degree connected with the petitioners at the Feather's Tavern, but, on the contrary, was meant to counteract that and all similar extravagant projects; to strengthen and confirm our ecclesiastical establishment; to repel the attacks which were at that time continually made upon it by its avowed enemies; to render the 17th article on predestination more clear and conspicuous, and less likely to be wrested by our adversaries to a Calvinistic sense, which has been so unjustly affixed to it; to improve true Christian piety amongst those of our own communion, and to diminish schism and separation, by bringing over to the national church all the moderate and well-disposed of other persuasions. On these grounds we applied to Archbishop

Cornwallis, requesting him to signify our wishes, (which we conceived to be the wishes of a very large proportion of the clergy and laity,) to the rest of the Bishops, that every thing might be done, which could be prudently and safely done, to promote these important and salutary purposes."

But these were not the days of reformation, and the only answer that they received from the Archbishop was as follows: "I have consulted severally my brethren the Bishops; and it is the opinion of the bench in general, that nothing can in prudence be done in the matter submitted to our consideration."

On the 20th of December, 1776, Dr. Porteus kissed the King's hand on his appointment to the see of Chester; a preferment, on his own part unsolicited, and entirely unexpected. In consequence of it, he immediately resigned the living of Lambeth, which he was permitted to retain, though from various causes of delay it was not until July in the following year, that he entered upon the functions of his new office. In addition to the sedulous discharge of his official duties, Dr. Porteus employed himself in various affairs of general interest at the time. The principal of these were the Protestant Association against Popery; the civilization of the Negroes, and the establishment of Sunday-schools. With respect to the alleged increase of Popery, from which the Protestant Association had its origin, the Bishop's own words are indicative at once of his high estimation of what he conscientiously believed to be the truth, and of his enlightened liberality towards those who differed with him. "Undoubtedly," he says, "we ought to be on our guard against the arts and industry of those who profess to teach the tenets of popery; we ought to combat their manifold errors as occasions offer, both in the pulpit and from the press; and we should in an especial manner instil carefully into the minds of the young the true principles of Protestantism. But, on the other hand, admitting the fact, as represented, to be true; if it appears that the schools and mass-houses, so much complained of, are frequented only by persons of the Roman Catholic persuasion; if the priests and their congregations take the prescribed oath; if no undue endeavours are used to make proselytes, and no doctrines are taught hostile to the government of the country; I do not see how, on the principles of toleration and Christianity, any other opposition can be made to them than that of argument and persuasion, and increased activity and zeal on our part in guarding those intrusted to our care against the superstition and error of the church of Rome.

THE RIGHT REV. BEILBY PORTEUS, D.D.

In 1787, on the death of Bishop Lowth, Mr. Pitt recommended Dr. Porteus to his Majesty as a fit person to succeed to the diocese of London; and his Majesty having expressed his entire concurrence, he was accordingly installed. Here he prosecuted with augmented zeal the same order of labour to which he had devoted himself in his former stations. On the breaking out of the first French revolution, he examined with a most vigilant eye the development of those new principles and opinions to which that great event gave rise; and wisely avoiding that whirlpool of party spirit and turbid political feeling into which many less cautious minds were attracted, and in which they made shipwreck, he fixed upon the infidel principles which marked the revolutionists, as the appropriate point of his attack; and in the charge which he addressed to his clergy in 1794, he delineated with admirable fidelity the traits of the French school, and called upon the natural defenders of the faith, not only to contend for it with more than usual earnestness, and to fortify themselves in its various evidences, but also to strive with especial assiduity to recommend it by exhibiting its influence both in their official and their private capacity. "Draw out," said he, "from the whole body of the Christian evidences the principal and most striking arguments, and bring them down to the understandings of the common people. If this or any thing of a similar nature were thrown into a regular course of sermons or lectures, and delivered in an easy, intelligible, and familiar language to your respective congregations, I know nothing that would, in these philosophic times, render a more essential service to religion." Moreover, to shew that he was willing himself to take his full share of the burden which he imposed on others, he undertook in 1795 to prepare and deliver at St. James's church, his justly celebrated Lent lectures, which were received by the public with marked demonstration of gratitude, both from the pulpit, in which they were repeated for some succeeding years, and from the press, where they went through several editions.

The later conduct of his life was in perfect accordance with its previous tenor. He expended its diminished energies on works of religious and political usefulness, and of general benevolence, and chiefly on the support of the British and Foreign Bible Society, and of the triumphant efforts for the abolition of the slave-trade. At length, after some years of ill health, he sunk under the pressure of complicated disease, on the 14th of May, 1808, in the 78th year of his age.

After what has already been said, it is hardly necessary to delineate in detail the character of this excellent prelate; and we will therefore conclude this sketch with the words in which that character is summed up by his friend and biographer, the Rev. Robert Hodgson.

"Upon the whole," says he, "the Bishop was, and so at least posterity will consider him, a light in his generation, an ornament to the times in which he lived. Firm and fixed in his own principles; candid and liberal in his sentiments of others; unalterable in his attachments; unbounded in his acts of charity; meek and humble in his disposition; affable and courteous in his manner and deportment; ardent in his piety; devoted to his God;—surely such a man well maintained the Christian character.

"That all men indeed should think of him as I do, is hardly to be expected. When the heart overflows with gratitude, such as, I trust, I shall ever feel for a long course of uninterrupted kindness, friendship, and protection, it is perhaps impossible to divest the mind altogether of partiality; I am not, however, aware that I have over-stated a single fact, or ascribed to him a single quality which he did not possess. All, therefore, I can say, is—and they are his own words as applied to Archbishop Secker—that "if he really so lived and acted, that the most faithful delineation of his conduct must necessarily have the air of panegyric, the fault is not in the copy, but in the original."

Painted by T Phillips R.A. Engraved by H.Cook.

JOSHUA BROOKES, ESQ F R S F L S F Z S &c &c.

Joshua Brookes

W. F. S. N. & Co. LONDON 1833

JOSHUA BROOKES, ESQ.,

F.R.S. F.L.S. F.Z.S. ETC.

THE great importance of the study of human anatomy, as the foundation of all knowledge in the various departments of medicine and surgery, is now, in these enlightened times, so duly appreciated by all ranks of the community, that we conceive we shall fulfil a duty we owe to society, in laying before our readers a biographical memoir of one of the greatest men in this department, next to the late John Hunter, this country ever had the honour to produce.

The subject of our memoir, JOSHUA BROOKES, was born on the 24th of November, 1761; but, as regards his parentage, we have no correct means of obtaining any information. He was one of a numerous family, and commenced his professional studies at the early age of sixteen, (after having obtained an excellent classical education,) under the care of Mr. Magnus Falconer, and subsequently from the lectures on anatomy and surgery by Dr. Marshall, Mr. Hewson, Mr. Sheldon, and Dr. William Hunter. After attending the practice of the surgeons of the principal hospitals and public institutions in London, he received his diploma as a surgeon, from the worshipful Company of Surgeons.*

As it was his intention to become a Professor of Anatomy in the metropolis, he went over to Paris in order to improve himself in the study of practical anatomy, as well as the most important operations in surgery; for this purpose, he was a constant attendant at the Hotel Dieu, and the other Parisian hospitals, then under the superintendence of the most eminent surgeons who existed prior to the

* This company was dissolved when the charter was granted for the Royal College of Surgeons, in 1800, by his late Majesty, George the Third. All the members of the late company were incorporated as members of the College.

first French revolution, among whom we may mention the late Baron Portal.

His passion for anatomical pursuits was developed at a very early period of his professional career: having witnessed the anatomical museums of Dr. Hunter, and those on the continent, he was anxious to form one of a similar nature; and it is well known to the scientific public, to what perfection he brought the object of his ambition. As a proof of his zeal on this subject, we may mention an anecdote, which we have frequently heard him relate:—

A negro had died of some disease within the brain, the nature of which was somewhat obscure. The friends objected to a post-mortem examination to ascertain the cause. Mr. Brookes was exceedingly interested to obtain some information on this subject, which it appeared impossible to effect. The old proverb, *Necessitas non habet leges*, appeared to actuate him on this occasion, for, the day after the burial, he got up at four o'clock in the morning, with the greatest secrecy, and, with his servant, set off in a gig, with the necessary implements, and exhumed the body of the negro, which he deposited in his study,* and appeared as usual with the family at breakfast, as if nothing of the kind had occurred.

We do not relate this with the view of justifying an illegal act, which met his father's disapprobation, but merely to shew, that nothing, that could be overcome by personal labour, proved an obstacle to his studies. This occurred in his seventeenth year.

Every part that he dissected was executed with such care and precision, that it could be preserved with a view to subsequent reference; and oftentimes when his pupils, in after life, have praised the beauty of his specimens, he has exclaimed, "That preparation is extremely valuable; for, gentlemen, it was made by me in my sixteenth year." It is to be borne in mind, that this was not uttered with any view of ostentatious display, but as a stimulus to his students to imitate his example; which in many instances succeeded. During the formation of his museum, which may be justly said to have occupied him during forty years of his valuable life, as well as in the period of his pupilage, he neither regarded pleasure or health, in order to accomplish the object of his wishes, and enjoyed but a few hours of repose, to recruit his exhausted frame, even during the latter years of his anatomical teaching.

* Preparations from this subject formed frequent illustrations of his Lectures.

On commencing this laborious task, he engaged in the performance of a series of important and interesting experiments, the object of which was, to discover the means of preserving dead bodies for the purposes of dissection, in order to obviate their decomposition, and to avoid any danger to which the student might be exposed, should he wound himself; he therefore injected the blood-vessels of subjects (generally the arterial system) with saturated solutions of the oxymuriate of mercury, (corrosive sublimate,) muriate of soda, or common salt, sugar of lead, and nitrate of potassa: the latter was the only one, he found, after many trials, to answer the purpose, inasmuch as it not only preserved the subject from putrefaction, but likewise allowed the muscles, blood-vessels, &c., to retain their original florid colour, and in some instances increased it; a circumstance of the highest importance in minute anatomical pursuits. This antiseptic process, as Mr. Brookes very properly denominated it, was of such utility, that the writer of this memoir has known a subject to remain in Mr. Brookes's dissecting-room for a period of four months, during a hot summer, and the students engaged in the dissection of it almost the whole time.

In the long period during which Mr. Brookes publicly taught anatomy, he never lost a single student from a dissection wound, an event which has several times occurred in other schools; and in 1822-23, no less than three pupils died from this cause, (and one, we believe, was the son of Dr. Babington,) who were studying at St. Thomas's Hospital. About the year 1774, he made a communication on this subject to the Royal Society; in consequence of which, he was shortly after rewarded by being unanimously elected a Fellow of that learned body.

He commenced his career as a professor of anatomy, pathology, and surgery, when about twenty-six years of age; and it is worthy of remark, that the house which contained his museum, theatre, &c., had been previously tenanted by the Hon. Mr. Cavendish, the philosopher; and it was in Blenheim-street, Great Marlborough street, that this gentleman made his important discovery of hydrogen gas. The building, thus successively devoted to the purposes of practical science, is now degraded into a pewterer's and brush-maker's workshops.

In consequence of Mr. Brookes having reduced the fee for a perpetual admittance to his anatomical instructions, from twenty guineas (the usual sum charged by his contemporary professors) to ten, he was looked upon as an innovator on the established

rule; which caused his school, like the late Mr. Edward Grainger's in the Borough, to be viewed with a jealous feeling; and this was increased, on his determining to deliver a summer course of lectures, justly conceiving, that the science of anatomy could be as well taught in the summer as during the winter season. From the hour of the lecture being seven in the morning, his class was in general composed, at this period, of apprentices and medical assistants, who were by their avocations prevented from attending the three-o'clock or afternoon course. Hence Mr. Brookes may justly be considered as the founder of the cheap schools of anatomy and medicine, which are now so prevalent in London and the principal provincial towns.

By the plan he adopted, of describing the muscular, ligamentous, and vascular systems, in conjunction with that of the osseous or bony fabric composing the human skeleton, he rendered these portions of the minute structure of man extremely easy of study to his pupils—so that it became a by-word, even among the classes of other schools, "that if a pupil was well grounded in Brookes's osteology, he had but little more to learn." The nomenclature of the arterial and nervous systems, which he adopted, was extremely simple, classical, and scientific; assimilated more to the language applied by the French and other continental anatomists, and consequently much easier of remembrance.

As a lecturer, Mr. Brookes was extremely minute in his description of the various organs under demonstration; and was considered by some students as rather tedious, in consequence. His minuteness was a general proverb throughout the medical profession; and to his credit be it spoken, that he rarely had a student rejected by the court of examiners at the Royal College of Surgeons, for lack of anatomical information. Sir Astley Cooper* has on more than one occasion complimented Mr. Brookes by stating, that his pupils were by far the best anatomists of any school in London. And Mr. B., who frequently examined his pupils prior to their college examination, used to observe, "that if a pupil passed his last examination, he could stand the test before any court of examiners in the kingdom." The reason of our worthy professor being so minute, arose from the notion, that no man can become an excellent practitioner unless he be well acquainted with the most delicate ramification of an artery or nerve; well

* Sir Astley Cooper is one of the court of examiners of the Royal College of Surgeons.

knowing, from experience, that disease frequently increases the diameter of the former, so that, if wounded, it would, being enlarged, probably occasion serious consequences; and that a morbid change in the almost mysterious functions of the nervous system, might cause the true condition of the disease to lie in obscurity, unless the course of the nerves were accurately known.

As a lecturer, Mr. Brookes was easy and familiar in his style, and, from his possessing an intimate acquaintance with the languages of France, Greece, and ancient Rome, his expressions were chaste, and in many instances elegant. From his knowledge of the contents of the principal ancient classical and medical writers, he frequently alluded to them in appropriate portions of his lectures. The dry details of descriptive anatomy were relieved by physiological observations, by remarks on the morbid alterations of structure which frequently take place in the human frame, and illustrated by numerous specimens from his magnificent museum. Pleasing and interesting anecdotes enlivened his discourses. Their value was enhanced by his introduction of zoological anatomy, which formed a valuable adjunct to the student, who was thus not only instructed in the anatomy of man, but likewise in those of the various classes and orders of animals: thus he infused into the minds of his auditors a partiality for the study of zoological anatomy and natural history. Hence his lectures on the formation of bone, the anatomy and functions of the eye, ear, the circulatory, respiratory, and digestive organs, formed the most interesting portions of his courses of lectures. In general, a course of anatomical instruction occupied the lecturer seldom more than three months; but in consequence of the extent to which Mr. Brookes followed his descriptions of every part of the human frame, they generally required between five and six months for their delivery. From this cause, his summer course, (as already stated,) which generally began about the first week in June, at seven in the morning, was seldom concluded until the month of December, and we have known it extend to January; whilst his winter afternoon course commenced about the first of October, which in London forms the commencement of the *Annus Medicus:* so that the professor was in the constant habit of delivering two lectures daily for six months in the year. In addition to these, his forenoon labours in the dissecting-room occupied about three hours of his time. During which period, he demonstrated to each pupil the parts he had dissected; and this alone, particularly in the winter season, was any thing but a sinecure; in fact, it was a far more laborious task than the mere

delivery of a lecture. Besides which, he injected and prepared the subjects for dissection. The preservation and preparation of the specimens of his museum, likewise occupied a great share of his time, as he was almost daily adding to its valuable contents; he kept an ingenious artist, of the name of Guichard, solely for the purpose of articulating the skeletons of the various creatures which adorned his collection. It is to be observed, that he preserved this portion as artificial skeletons, i. e. the bones of which were connected in their respective positions by means of wire in lieu of their original ligaments. He preferred this mode of artificially articulating these specimens, from their neat and cleanly appearance; and when he purchased the skeleton of the hippopotamus, in 1823, he purposely removed the ligaments, the animal having been originally dissected with a view to its preservation as a natural skeleton. It is worthy of remark, that he always had the skeletons placed in the postures which the animal assumed in its living state; thus contributing, as far as this extended, to give an idea of some of its zoological peculiarities. This is extremely deserving of imitation, but is unfortunately generally omitted by preservers of specimens of this nature.

His museum may be justly ranked as second only to that of the late John Hunter, (now in the Royal College of Surgeons, in London,) in its number of specimens; but the osteological preparations far outnumbered those in the Hunterian collection. Among these, we may mention those of the camel, elephant, rhinoceros, hippopotamus, grampus, arctic walrus, monodon monoceros or narwhale; all the equine genus; the emu, ostrich, and cassowary; with almost every species of animals existing between the creatures already named, and the mus messorius, (the harvest mouse,) and the humming-bird. His collection of intestinal worms, both from man and the domesticated animals—of serpents and snakes of the most perfect and exquisite hues—were in many instances unique. His room of casts contained choice representations of health and disease; and among them were those purchased by the late Emperor Napoleon, for the Parisian Academy, from the Florentine artists; but the vessel sent for them by the Emperor being captured by a British privateer, they were put up for sale by order of the commissioner of His Majesty's customs, when, after a spirited competition, Mr. Brookes became their purchaser at an enormous price; for it is to be observed, that until Dr. Tabrich and the illustrious Laumonier discovered the difficult and delicate art of anatomical modelling in wax, the secret

of which was for a long time confined to the Florentine artists; they were very scarce and expensive. We may also mention that in this department of the museum there was a cast of the head and hand of O'Brien, the Irish giant, taken during life, and whose skeleton is preserved in the Hunterian museum of the Royal College of Surgeons.

An anecdote, illustrative of the respect paid to our subject as a naturalist, is worth relating here :—

In the catalogue of the property announced for sale at Wanstead House, Essex, the property of the Honourable Mr. Wellesley, the late member for that county, Mr. Brookes observed the *os femoris*, or thigh-bone, of the mammoth, and went to Wanstead expressly to purchase the lot: it was knocked down to him; but as soon as Mr. Wellesley heard the name of the purchaser, he immediately came forward, and requested Mr. Brookes's acceptance of the curiosity; which he thankfully received, and valued more, in all probability, than any other lot that splendid mansion contained. The picture room (in which was placed the skeleton and stuffed specimen of the hippopotamus) contained a series of splendid drawings illustrative of health and disease, as also the collection of oil paintings, the size of nature, executed by the late Mr. Sheldon (for his anatomical lectures at the Royal Academy,) of the whole muscular system, from the celebrated tables of Albinus, together with representations of the circulatory, respiratory apparatus, &c.; and which were purchased of his widow by Mr. Brookes. His series of stuffed birds were choice, but not uncommon. The skeleton and stuffed specimen of the hippopotamus, after its preparation, was exhibited for a short time during the summer season of 1823-4, at the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, by its previous proprietors; Mr. Brookes binding the exhibitor, in a bond for the sum of one hundred pounds, to return it at a specified period, without injury, at which time it was deposited as already stated. There was scarcely a single disease to which the human frame is subject, but at least one, and frequently several preparations of it were to be found in this repository of science. His connexions enabled him to procure specimens from every part of the globe; scarcely a student that went abroad, failed to bring him subjects either in anatomy, pathology, or natural history, which were placed in the collection, with the zoological classification of the specimen, and the name of its donor recorded. His late Majesty, the Duke of Devonshire, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Earl of Darnley, Lord Rivers; together with many members of parliament and private gentlemen, including Mr. ex-Sheriff Parkins, (who presented him with a very fine quagga,) contributed by

their donations to increase this collection with rare and choice specimens of the animal kingdom; the most important peculiarities of which were carefully preserved, and their skeletons cleaned and articulated. In fact, this magnificent museum was the admiration of all who beheld it; it was always open to scientific foreigners, and on certain days in the year (generally one Saturday in a month) to the public at large; while private gentlemen were frequently granted admission on other occasions. Yet, to the eternal disgrace of the British nation, this admirable monument of his industry was, in his declining years, disposed of and dispersed by the hammer of the auctioneer; and that collection, which had cost him so much labour and anxiety, and upwards of thirty thousand pounds, was sold for a mere trifle.

To his old and partial pupils it was an afflicting spectacle to witness their distinguished and respected tutor in the auctioneer's box, at the sale, pointing out to his audience the nature and professional value of those preparations, by which, but a short time previous, thousands of pupils, now distributed throughout the British empire, had been instructed.

The following letter, which he addressed to the writer of this memoir, may be not inappropriately inserted here.

"*Blenheim Street, Great Marlborough Street,*
"*17th February*, 1828.

"DEAR SIR,

"In answer to your application, the classification of my animals is taken from Cuvier, Temninck, Mac Leay, Doctor Leach, Horsfield, Vigors,* Bell, Gray, and all the most esteemed modern naturalists: in many instances, I have applied my own nomenclature, which has been adopted in some specimens by contemporary zoologists. I have established one new class, and several orders and genera.

"At this time I am engaged in making out a catalogue of the collection, which will be published as soon as possible.

"With regard to the museum, the whole of its contents will be sold for £10,000. "I remain, dear Sir,

"Yours very truly,

"JOSHUA BROOKES."

* This gentleman is the secretary of the London Zoological Society, and representative in parliament for Carlow.

His new genus, *Lagostomos*, formed the subject of an excellent paper, inserted in the Transactions of the Linnean Society, for the year 1829, (of which he was, at a very early period, elected a Fellow,) wherein he particularly considers the osteology and dentition of the animals composing it. When Mr. Frost founded the Medico-Botanical Society, Mr. Brookes was one of its warmest friends, and frequently took the chair as vice-president. He likewise was a Fellow of many learned Societies on the continent, and occasionally presided at the meetings of the zoological committee of the Linnæan Society, and the scientific committee of the Zoological Society; and thereby contributed much information on natural history and zoological anatomy.

Mr. Brookes was somewhat of an eccentric character. On the occasion of Baron Cuvier dining with him, together with a select party of eminent men, he had prepared, as a portion of the repast, a dish of Gibraltar rats, which were enjoyed as one of the greatest delicacies: they had been just before presented to him by one of his former pupils.

In 1823, when Mr. Charles Reid brought him home the skeletons of the monodon monoceros, or narwhale, and the trichecus rosmarus, from the Greenland seas, he accompanied it with a present of the tongue of the narwhale salted; and, on a party being given to Mr. Reid, and several of his pupils, he had the tongue boiled and served up. Again, in 1826, when Mr. Cross was compelled to destroy his elephant at Exeter 'Change, some rump steaks were cut off the animal, and presented for dinner by Mr. Brookes, to a party of friends.

In 1826, in consequence of ill health, he was compelled to retire from his duties as a teacher of anatomy, and transferred his pupils to Mr. Carpue, of Dean-street, Soho, an event that has ever since been deplored: his successor, as yet, remains to be discovered. As a teacher, his perseverance, kindness, and zeal for the welfare of his pupils rendered him universally beloved by them; and his acuteness never failed to distinguish those students who were the most sedulous, as they were constantly rewarded by tokens of his regard and esteem.

The authorities of the Royal College of Surgeons, and the Royal Veterinary College, were attached with such strict formality to the rules of their Institutions, as to exclude him from being either a member of their councils, their board of examiners, or of their establishments, notwithstanding the pupils of the latter institution were yearly admitted to all the privileges of his school and museum.

This conduct was very justly censured by his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, at an anniversary dinner given to Mr. Brookes, by his pupils and friends, on his birthday in 1826. On this occasion, a marble bust (excellently executed by Mr. Sievier) was presented to him.

In 1821, his portrait, painted by Mr. Phillips, R.A., was presented by his class, as also, on a subsequent occasion, a piece of plate, as proofs of their affection.

In 1823, he addressed a memoir to Sir Astley Cooper, as to the propriety of applying to the Government to permit the importation of dead bodies for dissection, from the continent: this document he produced before the select committee of the House of Commons, on being examined relative to the introduction of a bill legalizing dissection. It will be found published in the report of the committee for 1828. During the scarcity of dead bodies, he has been frequently known to have given, in the winter season, sixteen guineas for a single subject, charging his pupils but eight, and presenting them with his trouble and expense of preparation and injection.

With the exception of Professor Blumenbach,* of Göttingen, we are unacquainted with the name of any teacher, who, for the long space of forty years, solely devoted his attention to anatomical instruction. In the summer season, he was engaged from five in the morning until a late hour in the evening, during which time his dissecting rooms were open, and himself easy of access, whenever his pupils required his presence.

The last appearance of Mr. Brookes as a lecturer was in 1827, when he delivered an exceedingly interesting course of lectures at the rooms of the Zoological Society, in Bruton-street, Bond-street, on the anatomy of a magnificent ostrich, which had been the property of his late Majesty, George the Fourth, and who, on its decease, presented it to the Society. His discourses were attended by a crowded and fashionable auditory, and were illustrated, not only by the dissected portions of the bird, but by beautiful prepared specimens from his then existing museum.

On the 25th of June, 1831, Mr. Brookes took an affectionate farewell of his former students and friends, at a public dinner, to which they had invited him. On this occasion, he boasted, with a becoming pride, the rank which many of his former pupils

* This venerable zoologist has long since passed the jubilee of his professorship.

now held in society, not only in their professional vocations, but for their great success in cultivating the different branches of the collateral sciences. Among whom he mentioned, as the most distinguished, Mr. Bransby Cooper, Mr. Morley, and Mr. Dermott, as anatomists; Dr. Bissett Hawkins, the learned professor of medicine in King's College, London; Mr. Bell, as the best existing erpetologist, and whose magnificent work on the Testudinata, or Tortoises, justly entitle him to this rank; Mr. E. T. Bennett, as the greatest English ichthyologist; as chemists, Dr. Anderson, Mr. Wood of Oxford, and the late lamented Mr. George Hume, of Long Acre; as botanists, Dr. Emmerson, Mr. Joseph Bennett, and Mr. Frost; as minute physiologists, Mr. Searle, and Professor Youatt, of the University of London. And, to conclude the series, he stated the names of his pupils who had chiefly distinguished themselves by their knowledge in natural history and zoological anatomy; and these were, Dr. Gamble, Mr. Martin, (of the Zoological Society,) Mr. Cox, Mr. Riadore, Professor Dewhurst, *cum multis aliis.*

Mr. Brookes was not known as a literary character; and although frequently solicited by his pupils to publish his nomenclature for their use, he continually delayed doing so. With the exception of the communications already alluded to, he published only a small tract during the prevalence of the cholera; and a letter in 1827, in the Lancet, proposing a remedy to be used in cases of poisoning by oxalic acid: we may add, that the catalogues of his museum are highly valuable to the naturalist, from the manner in which they are zoologically arranged.

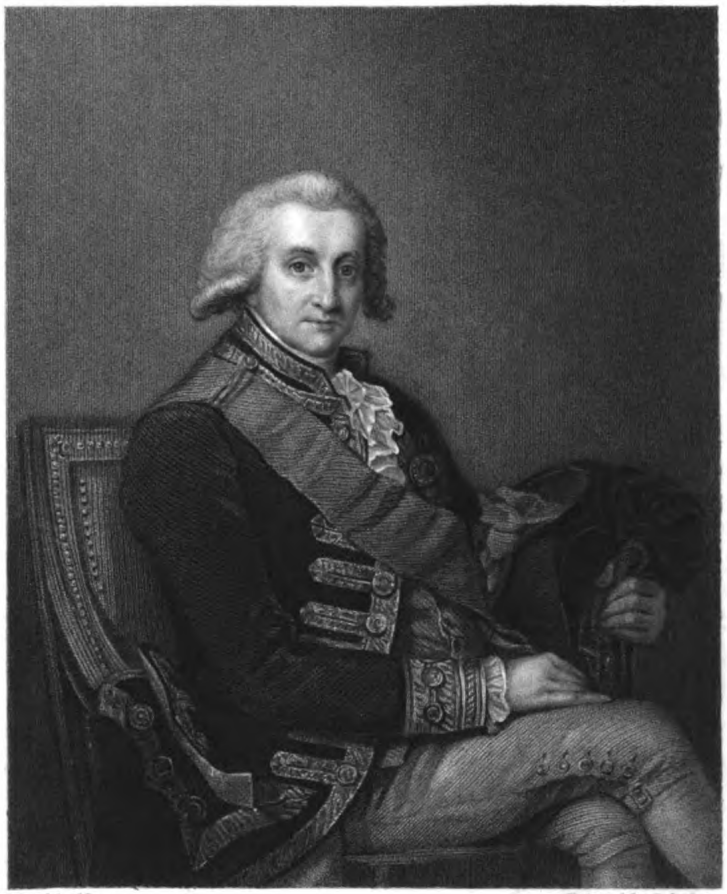
Since his retirement, and the sale of his library and museum, he has been chiefly consulted in his professional character as a surgeon; and on the resignation of Sir Anthony Carlisle, of the professorship of anatomy to the Royal Academy, he was one of the unsuccessful candidates; as also on a vacancy for the office of surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital. Thus were the talents of the man who had educated upwards of 7000 pupils, and through whom mankind is at the present hour enjoying important advantages, unrewarded by his fellow-citizens, who had daily opportunities of witnessing them.

During his long professional career, no zoologist, or foreigner of distinction, ever came to this kingdom, without paying him a visit. And on more than one occasion, he received the thanks of our late Sovereign, when his Majesty inspected the contents of his museum.

He would have received the honour of knighthood, had not the lord in waiting at a levee mistook another individual for Mr. Brookes, after he retired from the presence-chamber. So much esteemed were his talents by Sir Astley Cooper, that when the worthy baronet concluded his spring lectures at Saint Thomas's Hospital, he made it a frequent practice to exclaim to his pupils, "Now, gentlemen, if you want to learn anatomy, go to Joshua Brookes." Many of them acted on this advice, and became his pupils for the summer course.

Mr. Brookes was, we understand, married rather towards the middle of his life, and had several children, who died in their infancy, with the exception of one son, to whom he was tenderly attached, and who is now a surgeon in the royal navy.

On the Friday preceding his death, the author of this brief memoir met him in the shop of a foreign bookseller, when, notwithstanding he stated his health to be good, yet there was evidently a visible alteration for the worse in his features, walk, and handwriting, arising from the effects of advanced age. He suddenly expired on the tenth day of January, 1833, at his residence in Great Portland Street, aged 72 years. And his remains have been interred in Saint James's Church, Piccadilly. Ere long, we hope to see a monument erected to his memory by his grateful pupils and friends.



Painted by Monnoyer. Engraved by J. Cochran.

ADMIRAL GEORGE BRYDGES RODNEY, BARON RODNEY

G B Rodney

GEORGE BRYDGES,

ADMIRAL LORD RODNEY,

ETC. ETC. ETC.

"NON GENERANT AQUILÆ COLUMBAS," has, from time immemorial, been the motto of the Rodney family; and although it may be considered fanciful as a general principle, yet in the case of this family it would seem to be confirmed by the valour, which from their earliest ancestors appears to have been hereditary.

GEORGE BRYDGES RODNEY, the most celebrated of his name, and the subject of our present memoir, was born, as appears from his Life, by Major-General Mundy, on the 19th of February, 1718. His father, Henry Rodney, Esquire, had obtained the command of the Royal yacht, through the interest of his relative, the Duke of Chandos, who usually attended his Majesty, George the First, on his journeys to and from Hanover; and having on one of these occasions been asked what mark of kindness he would wish his Majesty to confer on him, he replied, "that his Majesty would stand sponsor for his son." To this the King acceded; and from his royal god-father, and the Duke of Chandos, the hero derived his name.

From an early age, his education was obtained at Harrow school; in his thirteenth year, however, he received from the King a letter of service, (the last ever granted,) went to sea, and served for six years with Admiral Medley, on the Newfoundland station. On the 15th of February, 1739, he was made lieutenant in the Dolphin, by Admiral Haddock, in the Mediterranean, and served successively in the Essex, Royal Sovereign, and Namur.

In 1742, Admiral Mathews appointed him to the Plymouth man-of-war, of sixty-four guns, in which he brought home three hundred sail of the Lisbon trade, through the midst of the French fleet, then cruising in the chops of the channel, to intercept them; for

which he received the warmest thanks of the merchants. Captain Rodney was confirmed in his rank by the Lords of the Admiralty, and appointed to the command of the Sheerness, in which he continued eighteen months, and whence he was removed, in 1744, to the Ludlow Castle, of forty guns, in which ship he fought and took the great St. Maloes privateer, of forty guns, and one hundred men more than the Ludlow Castle.

From this period until December, 1745, he was employed under various orders, conveying troops to the siege of Ostend, convoy to the King from Harwich, &c. Being appointed to the Centurion, he cruised in the North Sea for two years, and commanded on that station while the Pretender was at Edinburgh, until the arrival of Admiral Byng; and for the many important services which he performed there, he was rewarded with the command of the Eagle, of sixty-four guns; in proceeding to join which ship at Harwich, he struck upon the Whiting, a quicksand off Orfordness, and lay for nearly four hours, six feet in the sand, and escaped with the loss of his rudder, and about thirty feet of his false keel, after throwing every thing overboard but his guns, and cutting away part of his masts. He was continued in the Eagle during the remainder of the war, and was one of the commanders under the orders of Rear-Admiral Hawke, when, in 1747, he defeated L'Etendiere's squadron. On this occasion, Captain Rodney behaved with so much spirit, that he may be said to have then laid the foundation of his future fame and eminence.

Upon Captain Rodney's return to England, the Eagle was paid off, and, on his arrival in London, Lord Anson presented him to the King, when his Majesty said to Lord Anson, that he had not before supposed that he had so young a man a captain in his navy; to which Lord Anson replied, "Sire, young Rodney has been six years a captain in your Majesty's navy; and, without reflection, I most heartily wish your Majesty had one hundred more such captains, to the terror of your Majesty's enemies."

In March, 1748, Captain Rodney was appointed to the Rainbow, and within two months after was sent out Governor and Commander-in-Chief on the Newfoundland station, which was his first appearance in the rank of Commodore. Here he continued until October, 1752, when he returned home to take his seat in parliament, having been elected member for Saltash.

In February, 1753, he married Lady Jane Compton, sister to Spencer, the eighth earl of Northampton. In 1757, he was engaged

under the command of Admirals Hawke and Boscawen, to attempt a descent on the coast of France, near Rochefort. This, however, at the suggestion of Commodore Rodney, offered in a council of war, was abandoned as impracticable, and they contented themselves with a successful attempt on the small island of Aix.

In 1759, he was advanced rear-admiral of the blue. In the same year, he was sent to bombard Havre de Grace, where a large force was collected for the purpose of attempting an invasion of this country. He executed the trust committed to him so completely, that the town itself was several times on fire; and the magazines of stores and ammunition burnt with the utmost fury for upwards of six hours, notwithstanding all the attempts which were made to extinguish them.

During these hostile proceedings, a correspondence ensued between Admiral Rodney and the Marquess de Brassac, the French Commander, which affords a characteristic specimen of the style in which the former conducted his negotiations, and which, as it explains itself, we will insert here :—

"*To the Marquess de Brassac.*

"SIR,

"I have received your letter, of last night's date, demanding the four officers detained on board the ships of the King, my master, and at the same time complaining how contrary my proceedings are to the rules of war.

"In my answer, Sir, I shall only relate plain facts, and leave the world to judge whether you or I have acted the most contrary to those rules.

"Part of the squadron I have the honour to command, pursued and drove on shore, at Port Bassin, five French vessels, loaded with military stores. They immediately attacked and destroyed the battery that defended the port; when the senior officer, perceiving that the destruction of the vessels would be attended with that of the town, out of compassion to the poor inhabitants, caused the fire from the ships to cease, and gave the commanding officer of the French troops in the place, to understand, that if he would immediately burn the boats, the town should be spared. The officer desiring a truce for a few hours, till he could send to you, it was granted. Some time after, two officers from you came with a written message, that you consented to burn the boats on the conditions offered, and desired an English officer might go on shore

to see it executed, which officer you detained nearly two hours on frivolous pretences, and sent him back with another message, that you would not perform the agreement, and that we might do our worst. Such chicanery authorizes the step I have taken; and, notwithstanding the warm cannonade that succeeded has effectually destroyed the vessels, yet, as a just punishment for so notorious a breach of faith, I shall persist in detaining the said officers, unless, as a public atonement, you cause the remains of the said vessels to be burnt this day. You see, Sir, I shall do my duty, as you say you shall do yours."

The result of Admiral Rodney's efforts, was the total frustration of the designs of the French court, and the ruin, not only of the preparations, but of the port itself, as a naval arsenal, to such an extent, that it was no longer in a state to annoy Great Britain during the continuance of the war.

In 1761, Admiral Rodney was elected member of parliament for Penrhyn; and, on the 6th of October, hoisted his flag on board the Marlborough, having been appointed Commander-in-Chief at Barbadoes and the Leeward Islands, and to conduct the naval operations of the grand armament designed to attack Martinique, in conjunction with the land forces under the command of Major-General Monckton.

It is pleasing to observe the perfect harmony and good feeling which subsisted, until nearly the close of this expedition, between the two Commanders. In their despatches, they reciprocally speak of each other's services, in the highest terms; and the only feeling of rivalry which seemed to subsist between them, was as to which should best execute the service of his King, and promote the honour of his country. Unhappily, however, the conduct of Monckton, after the conquests had been made, was such as to render their further agreement impossible. In this war, Admiral Rodney was instrumental in the capture of the islands of St. Pierre, Grenada, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent, when the whole Caribbees came into possession of the English.

Admiral Rodney returned to England, on the 12th of August, 1763, and struck his flag on the 16th of the same month. He had, on the 21st of October, in the preceding year, been made Vice-Admiral of the Blue.

On the 21st of January, 1764, the Admiral was raised to the dignity of a Baronet of Great Britain, in consideration of the emi-

nent services he had rendered his country; and in this year he married Henrietta, daughter of John Clies, Esq. By this lady he had several children, of whom four survive, namely, the Hon. John Rodney, the Hon. Mrs. Chambers, the Hon. Anne Rodney, and the Hon. Mrs. Mundy.

On the 23d of November, 1765, Sir George Rodney was appointed Governor of the Royal Hospital, at Greenwich, over which he presided for a period of four years. After seeing so much of his valour, it will not be an unwarrantable digression, if we stop to relate an anecdote illustrating his humanity, while in possession of this post. It is thus given by his biographer, Major-General Mundy:

"At that period, few if any of the pensioners were allowed great coats, and then only in consequence of a petition approved by the weekly board, or an order from the Governor, who had authority to grant that indulgence. Sir George, the first winter of his government there, had applications made as usual, but required no better pretension, or greater eloquence, than an old sailor and a cold day, to grant an order. The consequence of this was, that great coats became so general, and the demand increased so much, that the Lieutenant-Governor, Mr. Boys, at the next board, took upon him to represent the Governor's conduct as extremely reprehensible. Sir George, who was present, got up; and after expressing his surprise at the Lieutenant-Governor's conduct, very calmly said to him, "I have the greatest respect for you as a man who, by the greatest merit, has raised himself from the station of a foremast man to the rank of an Admiral—a circumstance which not only does you the highest honour, but would have led me to expect you as an advocate, instead of an opposer, of such a necessary indulgence. Many of the poor men at the door have been your ship-mates, and once your companions. Never hurt a brother sailor; and let me warn you against two things more: the first is, in future not to interfere between me and my duty as Governor; and the second is, not to object to these brave men having great coats, whilst you are so fond of one as to wear it by the side of as good a fire as you are sitting by at present. There are very few young sailors that come to London without paying Greenwich Hospital a visit; and it shall be the rule of my conduct, as far as my authority extends, to render the old men's lives so comfortable, that the younger shall say, when he goes away, 'Who would not be a sailor, to live as happy as a prince in his old age!' And Sir George kept his word, for from that time every man was allowed a great coat."

On the 18th of October, 1770, Sir George was made Vice-Admiral of the White, and on the 24th of October, in the year following, Vice-Admiral of the Red. On the 23d of January, 1771, he was appointed Commander-in-Chief at Jamaica, and, having hoisted his flag a few months after in the Princess Amelia, he set sail, and arrived in Jamaica on the 7th of August.

The three years' term of Sir George Rodney's service in Jamaica is not marked by those striking events which occur in a state of warfare. That interval was, however, occupied with actions equal in usefulness, if not in brilliancy, to those referred to. His mind was perpetually busy in projecting some schemes of improvement in matters relating to his profession, or to national policy, or with unceasing vigilance and firmness of purpose upholding the dignity of the British flag. It is said, that the command in India was offered him, but that he declined it, in the hope of succeeding to the government of Jamaica. At all events, this latter post was one which he ardently desired to occupy, but in this wish he was disappointed; for upon the demise of the governor, Sir William Trelawney, in 1773, Sir Basil Keith was appointed to succeed him.

Having been recalled, Sir George returned to England, oppressed with chagrin and disappointment, and struck his flag at Portsmouth, on the 4th of September, 1774. For some years after this period his was a life of gloom and pecuniary embarrassment. Always inattentive to his finances, and being now received into the highest circles, he soon found himself in difficulties. This was, however, less owing to extravagance than to generosity; for it may be truly said of him in the words of Burns,

> " He ne'er was gi'en to much misguiding,
> Yet coin his pouches wad na bide in;
> He dealt it free."

The principal cause of these embarrassments was the expense of his various elections for seats in parliament, more especially the last one for Northampton, in 1768, which nearly effected the ruin of three noble families concerned in it.

Sir George did not remain long in England after his return, but, on the increase of his pecuniary difficulties, repaired to Paris, for the purpose of retrenchment. While residing here, and enjoying much attention from the Parisians generally, the French king is said to have wished to take advantage of the state of his finances, through the Maréchal Biron, to have made him offers of boundless emolument, if he would engage in the French service. To this proposal he made the

following noble reply: "My distresses, Sir, it is true, have driven me from the bosom of my country, but no temptation can estrange me from her service. Had this offer been voluntary on your part, I should have deemed it an insult; but I am glad to learn that it proceeds from a source which can do no wrong." The Maréchal was so struck with the patriotism of the sailor, that he became attached to him as a friend, and advanced him a thousand louis to enable him to return to England, and solicit a command.

On Sir George's arrival in England, he was immediately enabled, through the noble munificence of the house of Drummonds, who advanced the money, to remit the amount to his illustrious friend the Maréchal, and to arrange his affairs satisfactorily to his creditors; and the French at this time having united with the Americans in a war against this country, Sir George was again employed in active service, having received, on the 1st of October, 1779, the office of Commander-in-Chief of his Majesty's Leeward Islands and Barbadoes, and immediately hoisted his flag on board the Sandwich. Five days after he was under sail, he had the satisfaction to meet the enemy. The result of that meeting is described in the first sentence of his despatch, dated off Cape Finisterre, January 9, 1780:—

"Yesterday, at day-light, the squadron of ships under my command descried twenty-two sail in the north-east quarter. We immediately gave chase, and in a few hours the whole were taken. They proved to be a Spanish convoy," &c.

Again, on the 27th of the same month, another despatch announces the capture or destruction of another Spanish squadron, consisting of fourteen sail of the line. The news of these victories was received in England with every demonstration of joy, and raised Rodney's popularity to the highest degree. Of these effects some idea may be formed, from a passage in a letter addressed to the Admiral by one of his daughters, then a little girl of thirteen, the amusing simplicity of which claims for it a place here: "Every body almost adores you; and every mouth is full of your praise. Both your letters are reckoned exceeding good ones. The Tower and the Park guns were fired last Monday; that night and the next there were illuminations; and on Thursday night the northern lights were seen!"

On the 15th of February following Sir George writes, "I am now at sea, and on my way to the West Indies." Exactly a month after his reaching Barbadoes, he encountered the French fleet of twenty-three ships of the line, his own amounting to twenty-one. In the

action that followed, although an undecisive one, owing to the misconduct of his inferior officers, his own conduct was conspicuously meritorious.

But we must pass over the minor but still glorious successes which attended the flag of Sir George Rodney during two years of active warfare, and confine ourselves to that signal triumph gained on the 12th of April, 1781, over the French fleet under the Comte de Grasse.

Coming up with the French fleet at break of day, Admiral Rodney gave the signal for close action, and every vessel obeyed it most scrupulously. The British line was formed at the distance of one cable's length between each ship. As the ships came up separately, they ranged themselves close alongside their opponents, passing alone the enemy for that purpose, and giving and receiving, while thus taking their stations, a most fearful fire. After the most vigorous and awfully destructive fighting, during which the victory was long held in suspense, the Admiral determined to put into practice a manœuvre hitherto without a precedent in naval tactics. In his own ship, the Formidable, supported by the Namur, the Duke, and the Canada, he bore down with all the sail set on the enemy's line, within three ships of the centre, and succeeded in breaking through it in a most masterly style. "In the act of doing so," says Sir Gilbert Blane, "we passed within pistol-shot of the Glorieux, which was so completely handled, that, being shorn of all her masts, bowsprit, and ensign-staff, but with the white flag nailed to the stump of one of the masts, breathing defiance as it were in her last moments, she lay a motionless hulk, presenting a spectacle which struck our Admiral's fancy as not unlike the remains of a fallen hero; for, being an indefatigable reader of Homer, he exclaimed, that now was to be the contest for the body of Patroclus."

As soon as he had accomplished this manœuvre, the other ships of his division followed him, wore round, and doubled on the enemy, thus placing between a double fire those ships which this masterly action had separated from the rest of the fleet. As soon as Admiral Rodney and the vessels with him wore, he made the signal for the van to tack, by which means they gained the windward of the French, and completed the confusion into which the breaking of the line had thrown them. A total rout now ensued, and victory was no longer doubtful. The loss of the enemy amounted to eight ships; one had been sunk, another blew up after she had been taken, and six remained in possession of the conquerors. One of these was the Admiral's ship, the Ville

de Paris, of 106 guns, and the only first-rate man-of-war that had at that time ever been taken into port by any commander of any nation. This ship was a present to Louis the Fifteenth from the city of Paris, and is said to have cost £176,000 in building and fitting her for sea. The intelligence of these events created the utmost exultation at home. Admiral Rodney received the unanimous thanks of both Houses of Parliament, and was called to the dignity of the peerage by the title of Baron Rodney, of Rodney Stoke, in the county of Somerset; to which title was added a pension of £2,000, to descend to his heirs. Thus closed Lord Rodney's professional career. He died in London on the 24th of May, 1792.

A contemporary biographer of the noble Admiral has described him as an officer whose nautical abilities were equalled by few, and surpassed by none; whose intellectual views were bold, vigorous, and direct; and whose intellectual discipline had been so successful, that he had been known to be writing private letters, and dictating to three secretaries, at the same time. As a man he was benevolent, social, and generous. "In private life he displayed the manners of an accomplished gentleman; and he who, when called by his country, could hurl its thunder against the foes, and lead its navies to almost undeviating victory, was, in peace, the ornament of domestic society, and a pattern of that elegant and polished behaviour which almost always distinguishes the higher orders amongst us."

As Lord Rodney was for many years of his life connected with politics as a member of the House of Commons, and subsequently as a peer of the realm; it may be inquired, what were the principles by which, in this character, his conduct was regulated? At no part of his life was his lordship a warm supporter of any party; and from the period of his return home in 1782, he lived chiefly in retirement, and interfered but little in public concerns, until the session of parliament in 1788-9, when, in conjunction with several other peers, some of whom were members of the Royal Family, he signed the protest against the resolutions of the Houses of Lords and Commons, which resolutions had for their object the limitation of the power to be granted to the Prince of Wales for the administration of the Regency. This step awakened against his lordship much political animosity, which was exhibited in no very creditable manner, it would appear, by the Earl of Chatham. This drew from Lord Rodney a letter, which, as it develops his political opinions, and is characteristic of the writer in other respects, we will introduce, in closing this sketch.

"*To the Earl of Chatham.*

"London, March 18th, 1789.

"My son, Captain Rodney, who had the honour of waiting upon you yesterday, and to whom you had been so obliging as to promise a guardship at Portsmouth, informs me that he is likely to be deprived of that favour, owing to the part I have lately taken in parliament by supporting the royal authority, which I thought was in danger, but, thank God, is again restored with the health of the King; which I hope he will long continue to enjoy, and England never again feel the dreadful crisis she has lately experienced.

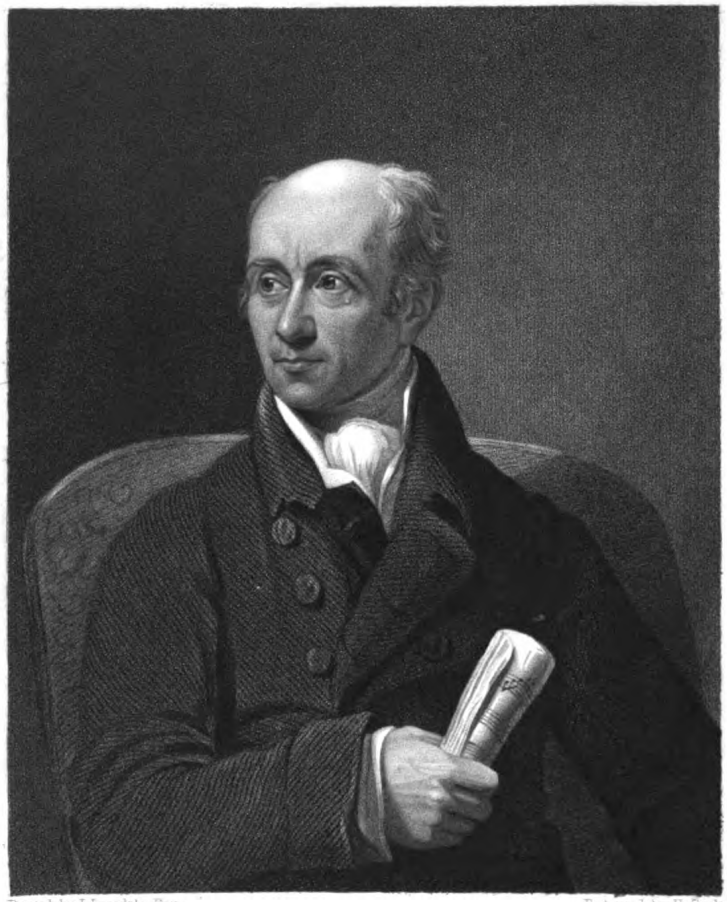
"I was bred, my Lord, a royalist. My heart and my family are firmly attached to the House of Hanover, and to the constitution of the state as settled at the Revolution. I have ever endeavoured to prove myself a faithful servant to the king and state; and I may venture to call on your Lordship to prove, that, when entrusted with high authority, I did not suffer my mind to be warped by party prejudices; and though I then knew that your Lordship, and all your connexions, were in strong opposition to Administration, I risked the resentment of that Administration, by promoting your brother (the son of that great man whose name will ever be dear to this country) to a command, and was on the point of adding thereto by a post-ship, when his death deprived me of the pleasure of rewarding him agreeably to his merits.

"Could I then, my Lord, have imagined, that, on a future day, my conduct in parliament, upon a point the most interesting to the nation, and upon which the greatest peers of the kingdom were divided in opinion, should be made an object of resentment against me, or any of my family, and by that very great minister's eldest son?

"I have, my Lord, always endeavoured to shew you every mark of my friendship, and am sorry you have withdrawn yours from me.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"G. B. Rodney."



Painted by J. Lonsdale, Esq.

Engraved by H. Cook

MUZIO CLEMENTI, ESQ.

Muzio Clementi

FISHER, SON, & Co. LONDON, 1833

MUZIO CLEMENTI.

"CLEMENTI," says Dr. Crotch in his lectures, "may be considered as the father of pianoforte music." The most distinguished pianists of the present day are proud to boast of Clementi as their master; while men as celebrated as Woelff, Dussek, Steibelt, and even Beethoven, have acknowledged that they owed to his works, what circumstances did not permit them to derive from his personal instructions. He was born at Rome, in the year 1752, where his father followed the occupation of a chaser and embosser of silver vases and figures for the church service. He was also related to Buroni, afterwards principal composer at St. Peter's, from whom he received his first lessons in music. He entered on the practice of his favourite pursuit as early as six years of age; and, at seven, was placed under an organist of the name of Cordicelli, for instruction in thorough bass: under his tuition he succeeded so rapidly, that at nine years of age we find him passing his examination, and admitted to an organist's place in his native city. His next masters were Santarelli and Carpini. While studying under the latter, and but little more than twelve years old, Clementi wrote, without the knowledge of his master, a mass for four voices; which was so much admired, that Carpini desired to hear it, and, though not much disposed to praise, was unable to withhold his applause.

About this time a change took place, which constitutes an epoch in the life now under review. In addition to his other studies, it appears that young Clementi had devoted much time and labour to the harpsichord, and, by the excellence of his performance on that instrument, attracted the notice and admiration of Mr. Peter Beckford, who was then on his travels in Italy. Struck with the precocity of his musical talents, and probably pleased with the general indications of genius and character which the youth exhibited, Mr. Beckford prevailed on his parents to consign to his care the future education of their son; and he was accordingly removed to the family seat in Dorsetshire.

This was an important event, as it introduced him to a family who were remarkable for their literary taste, and for that general elegance of intellectual character, which must have contributed to prepare the young musician for the society he was destined to keep, and led the way to his general and extensive acquirements in literature and science. Here he entered upon, and prosecuted with singular assiduity, a most judicious plan of study. "The works of Corelli," says one of his biographers,* "Alessandro, Scarlatti, Paradies, and Handel, were the sources from which he derived instruction, and the examples on which he formed his taste; while, at the same time, he was indefatigable in the practice of the instrument to which he had devoted himself. But his ruling principle was that steady and regular appointment of every moment of his time to its own pre-arranged occupation, which affords the surest promise of success, whatever may be our pursuits, and without which no great results were ever achieved, either in study or action. To this, Clementi, young as he was, adhered strictly; his sleep, his meals, his relaxation, and his studies, had each their appointed time and their fixed duration; and if, by the demands of his patron on his society, or his powers of contributing to the amusement of the family or guests, or any other accidental circumstance, the order was broken, and that proportion of time which he had set apart for the study of his own profession, curtailed, he drew upon the allotted hours of rest for the arrears; and would even rise in the cheerless cold of mid-winter, to read if he had light to command, or to practise on his harpsichord if light as well as fire were unattainable. His success was equal to his zeal and assiduity. At eighteen he not only surpassed all his contemporaries in execution, taste, and expression, but had already composed, (though it was not published till three years after,) his celebrated Opera Two; a work which, by the common consent of all musicians, is entitled to the credit of being the basis on which the whole fabric of modern pianoforte sonatas has been founded; and which, though it is now, from the immense progress which manual dexterity has made in the last sixty years, within the powers of even second-rate performers, was, at the period of its production, the despair of such pianists as J. C. Bach and Schroeter, who were content to admire it, but declined the attempt to play it."

As soon as the time arranged for his stay with Mr. Beckford had expired, Clementi's public life commenced with an engagement to preside at the harpsichord at the King's Theatre; and so speedily

* Annual Biography, for 1833, from which the materials for this sketch have been chiefly drawn.

were his talents appreciated, that he soon received as high a remuneration as the most popular of his contemporaries. In 1780, he determined to make a tour of the continent, whither his fame, both as a composer and a performer, had long preceded him. In Paris, which was the first capital he visited, he remained till the summer of 1781, when he proceeded to Vienna, enjoying every where the patronage of sovereigns, the admiration of professional men, and the enthusiastic applause of the public.

In this latter respect, indeed, he appears to have been far more successful on the Continent than in this country; and he has been known to say, in allusion to the very flattering manner in which the Parisians received him, that he could scarcely believe himself the same Clementi in Paris as in London. "In Vienna," says the writer from whom we have already quoted, "he became acquainted with Haydn, Mozart, Salieri, and many other celebrated musicians, then resident in that city; and played alternately with Mozart before the Emperor Joseph II., and the Grand Duke (afterwards Emperor) Paul of Russia, and his Consort. On one occasion, when the imperial trio alone were present, Clementi and Mozart were desired to play: some question of etiquette arising, as to who should make the first display of his powers, the Emperor decided it by motioning Clementi to the instrument, saying at the same time, in allusion to his Roman birth, "tocca all' eglese di dar l'essempio." Clementi having preluded for some time, played a sonata; and was followed by Mozart, who, without any further exordium than striking the chord of the key, also performed a sonata. The Grand Duchess then said, that one of her masters had written some pieces for her which were beyond her powers, but she should very much like to hear their effect; and producing two, Clementi immediately played one, and Mozart the other, at sight. She next proposed a theme, on which these two great masters extemporized alternately, to the astonishment, as well as delight, of their imperial audience. The plan was evidently premeditated, and hardly fair towards the eminent professors, who were thus surprised into an immediate competition and comparison of abilities. The result was equally honourable to them as men, between whom there was no unworthy feeling of jealousy, and creditable to them as artists, on whose talents no demand, however unexpected or unusual, could be too great."

At Paris, Clementi composed his operas Five and Six, and in Vienna his Operas Seven, Eight, Nine, and Ten. On his return to England he published the two following ones, and in 1783 returned for a short time

to Paris. In the following year, however, he again arrived in London, and continued there, exercising all the branches of his profession with extraordinary success, until the year 1802. His operas Fifteen to Forty, which were given to the world during this interval, as well as his excellent "Introduction to the Art of Playing the Pianoforte," are sufficient indications of his abilities and industry.

About the year 1800, Mr. Clementi suffered a considerable pecuniary loss by the failure of the house of Longman and Broderip, and was recommended, by way of retrieving his circumstances, to commence business as a pianoforte-manufacturer and music publisher. From that time he declined taking pupils, and devoted the leisure left to him from his professional studies and commercial engagements, to the perfecting of the instrument whose popularity he had done so much to promote.

The interval between the autumn of 1802 and the summer of 1810, he spent in his third visit to the Continent. In this tour he was accompanied by his favourite pupil, Mr. Field, whose distinguished talents excited at Paris and Vienna a degree of applause only inferior to that which was bestowed upon his master. From thence they proceeded to the Russian metropolis, when Clementi introduced his protegé to such a circle of connexions as laid the foundation of his fortune; and his master had the high satisfaction of finding him, on a subsequent visit to Petersburg, at the head of his profession in that capital.

From Petersburg Mr. Clementi travelled to Berlin, and thence to Dresden; and in the following year made a tour through Switzerland, and back to Berlin. There he married his first wife, and with her set out to Rome and Naples. On her return to Berlin, she died, after having given birth to the son, whose promising talents and character were the source of so much pride and pleasure to his father in his declining years, and who accidentally met with his death by the discharge of his pistol. After the loss of his wife, Mr. Clementi resumed his travels to Petersburg and Vienna, whence the death of his brother obliged him to depart for Rome. Having arranged his family affairs, he was desirous of returning to England; but was unable to do so for a time, owing to the interruption of intercourse occasioned by the war. Indeed, he has been known to declare, that his remittances from London had been so delayed, as to oblige him to live upon the rings and snuff-boxes which had been presented to him during his journey. In the summer of 1810, as has already been stated, he arrived in England, and in the following year married his second wife, then Miss Gisborne, a lady of accomplished and amiable character.

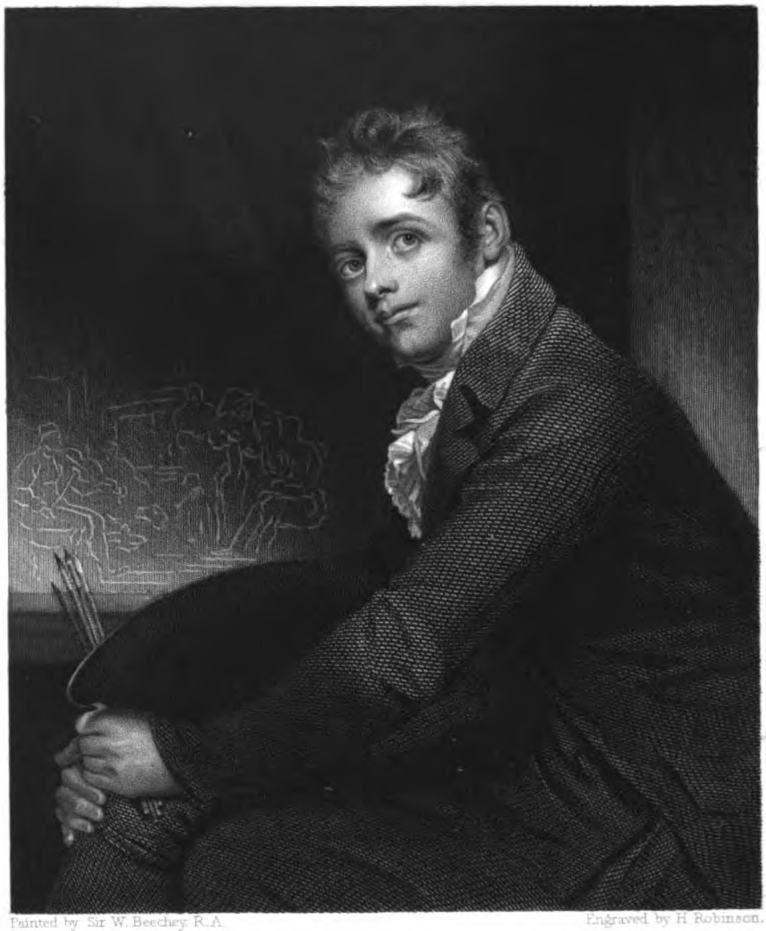
From this time his public performances may be said to have ceased, though he subsequently gave to the world various musical compositions, and two elementary works—his "Practical Harmony" in four, and his "Gradus ad Parnassum" in three volumes. He also presented two of his manuscript symphonies to the Philharmonic Society, of which he was one of the original founders.

The last public occasion on which Mr. Clementi's professional talents were witnessed, and signally honoured in public, is thus described in the memoir which we have already quoted.

At the suggestion of Messrs. Cramer and Moscheles it was proposed to call the veteran artist from his retirement to an entertainment, at which all the élite of the profession then in London, foreigners as well as English, should assemble, to receive and congratulate on his "frosty but kindly" age, the instructor of many, the admired and looked up to of all. A committee to regulate the arrangements was soon formed, and the entertainment took place on the 17th of December, 1827. After several glees and songs, and after Moscheles had performed one of Clementi's sonatas, and Mr. Potter one of his capricios, and Messrs. J. B. Cramer and Moscheles his duett, opera Fourteen, in a style worthy of their own talents, and the presence of the composer, the toast, "The immortal memory of Handel," was the signal for the veteran himself to approach the instrument, and, as the chairman, Sir George Smart, announced to the delighted company, "just touch the keys." Clementi had through life been celebrated for his powers of extemporaneous playing; when, drawing unpremeditatedly on the resources of his own mind, his fancy seemed as unbounded as his science, his delicacy as polished as his learning was profound. Early in his professional career, Dussek, when asked to play after Clementi had been extemporizing, replied, "To attempt any thing in the same style, would be presumption; and what sonata, what concerto, or what other regular composition, could a man play, that would not be insipid after what we have heard?" In his tours on the Continent, the most learned professors had been delighted by his feeling and invention, as much as they were astonished by his facility and resources. On this occasion he indulged his assembled friends with a last proof that his fancy was unfettered by age, and his finger unpalsied by years. Paying to the grand composer, whose immortal memory had just been drunk, the compliment which some future artist of equal eminence may pay to himself, Clementi chose a subject from the first organ concerto as the theme of his performance, and then proceeded to extemporize in a style, in which those who had been his contemporaries or pupils

immediately recognised the undiminished powers of their old friend and instructor; and all which those, who for the first time heard the more than septuagenarian artist, could hardly find terms to express their delight and surprise. The plaudits were long, loud, and to their object almost overpowering.

Mr. Clementi died at his cottage, in the Vale of Evesham, Worcestershire, on the 16th of April, 1832; and his remains were interred on the 28th of April, in the cloisters of Westminster Abbey, in the neighbourhood of Bartleman, Shield, and others, who have earned an honourable place in the musical history of their country.



Painted by Sir W. Beechey R.A. Engraved by H Robinson.

DAVID WILKIE, ESQ R A

David Wilkie

DAVID WILKIE, ESQ. R.A.

PRINCIPAL PAINTER IN ORDINARY TO HIS MAJESTY.

THERE are few more certain indications of the degree of civilization existing among any people than the degree of advancement they have made in the cultivation of the fine arts. An attentive observation of the history of any nation will attest the truth of this position. It will invariably be found that these arts have perished in the collisions of that early state of warfare and lawless violence, amidst which so many states have been founded, and by which they have been enlarged and strengthened; and that they have no less been suffered to fall into neglect, in that state of inactivity, voluptuousness and political subserviency, which has invariably marked the decline and fall of nations.

Nor is this position in any measure invalidated by a reference to some ancient tribes and sections of mankind, amongst whom, as among the ancient Brahmins, abstract science has been sedulously and successfully pursued, but whose modes of life were never improved by the refining influence of the fine arts. Among them, as amongst all other portions of mankind, civilization, strictly so called, has stagnated or kept pace with the movements of this infallible index; and the very name *Gymnosophi*, by which they were anciently known, and all the rude and comfortless habits of their life, are seen in connexion with a total barbarism as regards the fine arts, which strikingly contrasts with their ingenuity, subtlety, and dexterity in metaphysical speculation and dispute.

But it is not only by reference to history that we may assure ourselves of the truth of what has been stated of the fine arts; an examination of their natural tendency, and influence on the mind, will conduct us to the same conclusion. This tendency is, unquestionably, to promote and refine the taste; to give a more vivid perception and a keener relish for beauty; to render more close our observation of nature; and to increase indefinitely the pleasure which we derive from that observation. The taste, therefore, for these enjoyments and pursuits militates against, and supersedes the inclinations to grosser and more degrading

pleasures, and thus leaves men at leisure, and disposed, so to employ their minds as to improve their social condition, and to increase the general amount of happiness. So that the advantages by which the value of the fine arts is to be estimated, consist not merely in the pleasure immediately deriving from them, (though that should enter largely into our calculation,) but also in what we may call those moral advantages, which are as certainly, though more collaterally, associated with their cultivation.

In this point of view, the painter must be considered not as a private and isolated individual, occupied in an elegant pursuit, but sustaining no important relation to society; we must consider him as one who is promoting the advancement of an art, which, involving some important principles of philosophy, as respects the artist, is adapted to raise and refine the minds, and to multiply the intellectual pleasures, of his fellow-creatures. In this aspect, the artist assumes a public and influential character; and although his name is not found among the prime movers of those great changes which from time to time pass upon the face, or the constitution, of society; yet it is impossible to say how essential a part he may have acted, in guiding its under-currents, and in effectuating those moral results which are not less important, though they may come with less observation.

Although an equal influence of this moral kind, to which we have alluded, may, perhaps, be attributed to each of the respective departments of the art of painting, which the tastes of artists may lead them to prosecute, yet we imagine that these various styles differ materially as to the degree of intellectual talent which they require; and in this respect we should be disposed to yield the palm to that school, of which the subject of the present memoir is so distinguished an ornament. Whatever fancy, observation, and skill may be exhibited in representations of inanimate nature, we imagine that a much higher order of fancy, and a much more profound observation, are requisite, when the artist is required to arrest the passing shades of expression, and delineate the infinite varieties of human character, passion, and feeling. In this delicate and difficult branch of art, a Hogarth stands pre-eminently great. He moralizes with his pencil, and seems almost to have rescued his art from its chief restriction, that of describing only the scene and the events of a moment. There is a progress, not only in his successive productions, but even in each individually. Each leads the mind through a lengthened act of a drama, in which the scenes perpetually shift; new views are presented, and new lessons taught. The same remarks will apply, though in a different degree, to Mr. Wilkie's productions. As

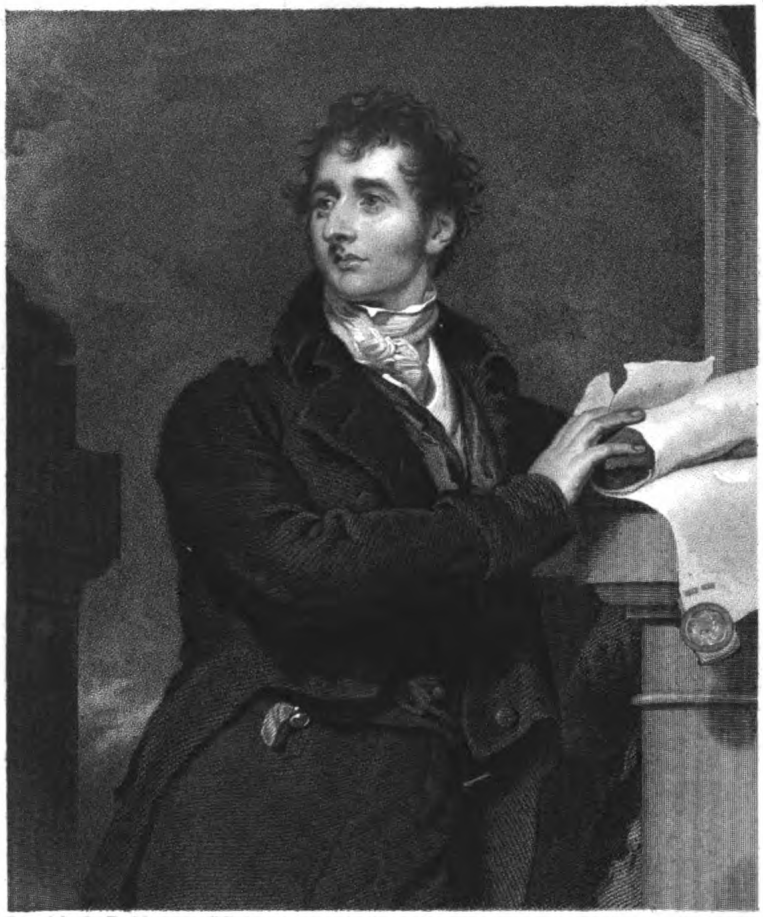
compositions, they are perfectly dramatic; they evince the utmost ingenuity; and, in some instances, a high degree of humour in representation, chastened by so correct a taste as never suffers it to degenerate into caricature. Such are the broad and general characteristics of Mr. Wilkie's style of painting; and it is this order of talent, together with a perfect knowledge of the principles of his art, and great skill and taste in execution, which have raised him to the very first rank of artists in the present day.

He was born on the 18th of November, 1785, at Cults, in the county of Fife, of which place his father, the Rev. David Wilkie, was minister. The early part of his education was obtained in his native county; but on his manifesting not only a remarkable predilection for drawing, but great proficiency in the art, he was removed to Edinburgh, for the purpose of obtaining further advantages in the prosecution of his favourite pursuit. After having studied there with great diligence, he removed to London, and manifested his precocious talent by producing and exhibiting in the succeeding year to that in which he arrived in the English metropolis, and when only twenty-one years of age, his first and celebrated picture, "The Village Politicians." This extraordinary painting at once fixed the public admiration; and the applause which it excited has been sustained ever since by a series of productions, of equal or greater merit. Of his first essay, a critic of that day speaks in the following terms:—

"Of this very surprising picture, it is difficult to speak in higher terms than it deserves; some of the diurnal critics have compared and indeed preferred it to Hogarth. This judgment (or rather the want of it) must have been pronounced upon it by those who did not know Hogarth's pictures; it is much more in the style of Teniers, but it is not an imitation of him. Mr. Wilkie may be said to have looked at Nature with the same spirit and eye that Teniers would have looked at it, and he has delineated the alehouse politicians of Scotland with the same fidelity that Teniers has represented the Dutch and Flemish boors. The interior of a country alehouse, and the general effect of the whole, are in the finest style, and lead us to rejoice at the appearance of so promising an artist, said to be not more than eighteen or nineteen years of age. We do not know him, but sincerely congratulate him on his first essay, which gives every promise of the painter being destined to rank very high in his profession, and that in a very short time."—These anticipations of the critic were very soon realized, for in the exhibition of the following year, appeared the "Blind Fiddler," which at once, and for ever, established the character of the artist.

In the first year of his residence in England, he became a student of the Royal Academy, of which he was elected an associate in 1809, and in 1811 was promoted to the rank of Royal Academician. In the same year he produced his "Village Festival," which was much and deservedly admired, though it has been complained of as wanting unity of design, and as presenting several pictures instead of one. In its details, however, it is certainly most masterly.—"The face of the sot who is holding up the bottle, is absolutely perfect. It is, unquestionably, superior in its way to any one face that has proceeded from the pencil of any artist, dead or living, with the exception of two or three others by Wilkie himself."

From this period until the year 1825, he laboured most indefatigably; and, from time to time, during that interval, produced pictures, which amply rewarded his toil by still further raising and confirming his already high reputation. At length, however, his health became impaired, owing to the closeness of his application, and he left England for the continent in July, 1825; passed two winters in Rome, the intermediate summer in Germany and Switzerland, and the third winter in Spain, where he painted a series of pictures commemorative of various events of the Peninsular war, which now enrich his Majesty's collection. In June, 1828, he returned to England, where his fame was so entirely established, that, on the death of Sir Thomas Lawrence, he was appointed, in January, 1830, by his late Majesty, George the Fourth, principal Painter in Ordinary to the King, which appointment was the same year confirmed by his present Majesty on his accession to the throne.



Painted by Sir Thos Lawrence. P R. A. Engraved by J. Morrison.

SIR FRANCIS BURDETT. BART M P.

F Burdett

FISHER, SON, & CO LONDON 1834

PROOF

SIR FRANCIS BURDETT, BART.

ETC. ETC. ETC.

In recording the history of such a man as Sir Francis Burdett, we should not think of alluding to the antiquity of his family, or the nobility of his ancestry, for the purpose of reflecting any eclat upon himself; on the contrary, we should rather give their names a place in such a sketch, lest the overwhelming interest connected with the present holder of the title should entirely intercept the view to his worthy but less distinguished progenitors. The family is traced in an uninterrupted succession, to the times of William the Conqueror. In the year 1618, Sir Francis Burdett, Knight, was created a Baronet, and from him the title has descended to the subject of this sketch, who succeeded to it and the family estates at the death of his grandfather Sir Robert Burdett, which occurred on the 22d of February 1797.

He was born on the 25th of January 1770, and was educated at Westminster School. From this seminary he removed to the University of Oxford, where having spent two years, he made the tour of Europe about the year 1790, under the care of Mr. Chevalier, who has acquired a distinguished place in the literary world, by his learned writings on the seat of ancient Troy. This tour must have exercised an important influence on his future character and conduct. He witnessed in France the most instructive experiment which was ever made in political science or on human nature, and doubless derived from the unparalleled events which then transpired, that love of liberty and that horror of despotism and political corruption, which has prompted all the measures which signalize his eventful parliamentary career. On his return to England, he married Sophia youngest daughter of Thomas Coutts, Esq., and three years afterwards, was returned, through the interest of the Duke of Newcastle, member of parliament for Boroughbridge in Yorkshire.

Immediately on entering the House of Commons, he took that resolution, the performance of which has occupied the whole of his life—to effect such a reform of that body, as should bring it back to its theoretic character and functions, as a representative of the people of

England. But this determination was, at the time of which we are writing, one which it was almost chimerical to entertain. The House was too utterly sunk into corruption and venality, to offer any reasonable hope of self-reformation; and the middle classes, which will always be the most influential portion of society, naturally dreaded any violent excitement, even in favour of liberty, after witnessing the enormities practised by the revolutionists of France, under the forged sanction of that name.

His first public appearance in the character of a parliamentary reformer, was as chairman of a very numerous and highly respectable meeting at the Crown and Anchor Tavern. There he boldly denounced the inefficient and degraded state of popular representation, and declared himself as the advocate for its entire reformation; and ever since that time, the history of Sir Francis Burdett may he said to have been identified with that of the cause, until its memorable triumph in the year 1832, which by that act is constituted the most important epoch in our national history since the Revolution.

One of the first occurrences which marked him out as the friend of liberty and humanity, and consequently as the enemy of the existing administration, was his inquiry into the conduct of ministers towards those persons who were submitted to their control by the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act. In consequence of this movement on the part of government, a number of persons were apprehended on suspicion, torn from their families, and thrown into the prison in Cold Bath Fields. Here, though untried, they were treated as delinquents, and with great difficulty made known their grievances to their friends. Some letters written by these unfortunate persons, were put into Sir Francis Burdett's hands at a dinner party, by a gentleman who was engaged in collecting subscriptions for their families, and made a deep impression on his mind.

He determined to go himself, and be an eye-witness of the state of the prison, and for this purpose procured the usual order of admission for himself and one or two friends. In order thoroughly to investigate the regulations of this establishment, he made three visits to it, and contemplated a fourth; but before he could execute his design, to his everlasting honour, an order was issued, which forbade his admission into that or any other prison in the kingdom. He had, however, furnished himself with ample information, which he resolved to present to the notice of parliament. In doing so, and in suggesting measures for the removal of these grievances, he was met with the most obstinate resistance. At length, however, a committee was formed,

in accordance with the general demonstrations of public opinion and feeling; and although the committee had every inducement to look as favourably as possible on the abuses complained of, yet the report was such as completely verified every statement of Sir Francis Burdett.

His views respecting the liberty of the press were no less manly, and equally opposed to the prevalent corruption of the times. On the introduction of the bill for the regulation of newspapers, he exposed with great force and clearness the genius of Mr. Pitt's system, and gave utterance to political principles and sentiments, which have never been improved upon amidst the increased light and liberty of more recent times. "A good and free government," said Sir Francis, "has nothing to apprehend, and every thing to hope, from the freedom of the press. But despotism courts shade and obscurity; it dreads the scrutinizing eye of liberty; and if an arbitrary prince, supported by an unprincipled minister, and backed by a corrupt parliament, were to cast about for means to secure such a triple tyranny, no better means could be devised than the bill on the table."

Such a degree of integrity and patriotic courage as his conduct evinced, soon made Sir Francis Burdett one of the most popular men in the country; and, accordingly, a few days before the dissolution of parliament in 1802, he received an invitation from a large body of the freeholders of Middlesex, to become a candidate for the representation of that county. To this request he acceded; and at the conclusion of the election, he appeared at the head of the poll. Upon a parliamentary examination of the votes, however, the balance turned against him, and a new election took place, in which the condidates were Sir Francis Burdett, and Mr. Mainwaring, junior, son of the late unsuccessful candidate, who was incapacitated by the decision of the house for coming forward again. The result was the loss of Sir Francis's election by a single disputed vote.

At the next election, which occurred after the death of Mr. Pitt and the consequent change of administration, Sir Francis again became a candidate for the representation of Middlesex; but his uncompromising resistance to every party who repudiated the great measure of parliamentary reform, ensured his rejection on this occasion also, and, after a long and languid election, Mr. Mellish was returned. At the following election, however, Sir Francis refused to come forward, and stated, in an address to the freeholders of Middlesex, his reasons for declining. He saw with indifference the preparations which were made for contested elections, and determined to waste no more of his fortune in attempting to secure a seat. At this

time, the city of Westminster had been left without a representative by the death of Mr. Fox, and Lord Percy was elected to fill the vacancy, until some fit successor to the illustrious statesman could be found. Mr. Sheridan stood as candidate for that honour, and was opposed by Mr. Paull, between whom and Sir Francis Burdett an intimate acquaintance subsisted. To this gentleman Sir Francis promised his support, of which promise Mr. Paull so far availed himself, as to announce his friend in an advertisement, as chairman of an electioneering dinner, without his consent or knowledge. Sir Francis absented himself from the dinner, and Mr. Paull was obliged to make a most mortifying and unsatisfactory explanation. Under all the vexation and annoyance of this event, Mr. Paull sought an interview with the baronet, and, after the interchange of a few messages, challenged him to fight on the following morning. With this absurd and unreasonable demand, Sir Francis so far forgot what was due to his own character, as to comply; and, on the parties meeting, both were severely wounded in the second discharge of the pistols—Mr. Paull in the leg, and his antagonist in the thigh. To throw an air of still more glaring folly upon the affair, no medical gentleman was present, and the wounded combatants were brought back in the same carriage to town. The necessity for entire repose to Sir Francis Burdett, prevented any communication with him on the subject of the Westminster election; and the business falling entirely into the hands of the committees, they resolved to put Sir Francis in nomination without his concurrence. Upon this, the most vigorous efforts were made in his favour, which, though conducted without expense, succeeded in placing him at the head of the poll.

Never was any private individual loaded with more signal and flattering honours than was Sir Francis Burdett on occasion of the success. On the 29th of June, before the baronet was able to walk, the ceremony of chairing him took place. A vehicle was constructed for this purpose, in imitation of the ancient triumphal car, which was raised on four wheels superbly ornamented. In front of the platform was the figure of Britannia with a spear, crowned with the cap of liberty, and at the other end of it was a pedestal, on which was placed a gothic chair for the hero of the day. Being carried from his house in the arms of his friends, and placed in this superb seat, he sat with his head uncovered, and his wounded limb rested on a purple cushion, while the other was supported on a kind of imperial footstool. The whole car was magnificently covered with ornamented draperies of crimson velvet and purple silk. He was thus drawn by four white

horses, and attended by one of the most imposing civil processions, and one of the vastest multitudes, which the metropolis ever witnessed.

On entering upon his political duties, Sir Francis Burdett lost no time in commencing that opposition to the corruptions of the representation, which have occupied all his subsequent years until they were crowned with triumphant success. But it was not long before he felt the effects of this conduct in the most serious personal sacrifices. Early in the year 1810, Sir Francis published a letter to his constituents, in which he denies the power of commitment for libel, which the House of Commons had recently assumed in the case of Mr. Gale Jones. These opinions the baronet had before announced in the course of the debate, which terminated in the resolution, that the offending party should be sent to Newgate. Sir Francis' letter was brought before the notice of the House by Mr. Lethbridge, who moved that it was a scandalous and libellous paper, and a breach of the privileges of the House. Those resolutions were agreed to without a division; on which Sir Robert Salusbury moved, that Sir Francis Burdett should be sent to the Tower. An amendment was moved, that he should be reprimanded in his place, which was lost by a majority of thirty-eight, and the motion for his committal was carried. The speaker immediately issued his warrant; but, as the principles in the support of which Sir Francis had thus engaged, led him to consider this instrument as illegal, he determined not to obey it; and after having refused to comply with the personal requisition of the Sergeant-at-arms, to surrender himself as a prisoner, he in the course of the next day addressed the following letter to the Speaker:—

"SIR.—When I was returned, in due form, by the electors of Westminster, they imagined that they had chosen me as their trustee in the House of Commons, to maintain the laws and liberties of the land. Having accepted the trust, I never will betray it.

"I have also, as a dutiful subject, taken an oath of allegiance to the king to obey his laws; and I never will consent, by any act of mine, to obey any set of men, who, contrary to those laws, shall, under any pretence whatever, assume the power of the king.

"Power and privilege are not the same things, and ought not at any time to be confounded together. Privilege is an exemption from power; and was, by law, secured to the third branch of the legislature, in order to protect them, that they might safely protect the people—not to give them power to destroy the people.

" Your warrant, Sir, I believe, you know to be illegal. I know it to be so. To superior force I must submit. I will not, and dare not, incur the danger of continuing voluntary to make one of any association, or set of men, who shall assume illegally the whole power of the realm, and who have no more right to take myself, or any of my constituents, by force, than I or they possess to take any of those who are now guilty of this usurpation; and I would condescend to accept the meanest office that would vacate my seat, being more desirous of getting out of my present association, than other men may be of getting profitably into it.

" Sir, this is not a letter in answer to a vote of thanks; it is an answer to a vote a very different kind. I know not what to call it; but since you have begun this correspondence with me, I must beg you to read this my answer to those under whose orders you have commenced it.

" I remain Sir, your obedient humble servant,

" Piccadilly, April, 6th 1810. " FRANCIS BURDETT."

For two days the officers were engaged in concerting measures for his apprehension, as he had expressed his intention of yielding to nothing but force. At length, on Mondy morning, the Sergeant-at-arms, accompanied by messengers, police-officers, and a military force, broke violently into the baronet's house, where they found him sitting with Lady Burdett and his family. On his refusal to surrender, except to force, they seized him, and led him through a file of soldiers, drawn up in his house, to a coach, in which they conveyed him to the Tower escorted by a large body of horse and foot. On the return of the military, some lives were lost by their firing upon the people, amongst whom the utmost excitement prevailed.

In consequence of these events, the electors of Westminster wrote to their representative, expressing their sympathy and respect in the strongest terms, and also made the late measures of the House of Commons the ground of more vigorous petitioning for Parliamentary Reform. Sir Francis replied to the address of his constituents from the Tower, in a letter which still more strongly urged on them the duty of adopting all constitutional means to remedy the grievances under which they laboured, and which concluded with the following words. " The question is now at issue; it must now be ultimately determined, whether we are henceforth to be slaves, or be free. Hold to the laws, and this great country may recover—forsake them, and it will certainly perish."

As soon as the prorogation of parliament took place, the power of the House over Sir Francis entirely ceased, and his liberation from the Tower immediately followed. It was intended by his friends and political supporters, that on his liberation he should be attended to his house by a procession, and with every demonstration of respect. Recollecting, however, the loss of life which was incurred by the popular excitement which his committal occasioned, he judged it wise to embark secretly from the Tower, instead of proceeding through the city. This occasioned great disappointment to the multitude, until he published a statement of his reasons for his conduct, which justified him in the eyes of his friends. On his liberation, his first step was to enter a prosecution against the Speaker, the Sergeant-at-arms, and the Earl of Moira, the constable of the Tower; which was decided by the judges in their favour. Meetings, however, were held, not only at Westminster, but in various parts of the kingdom, to congratulate him on his release, and to express their cordial concurrence in those principles for which he had suffered.

On the 23d of February, 1813, Sir Francis Burdett made a motion in the House of Commons, for a Regency Bill, and supported it with great ability and constitutional learning; but such political measures formed the exception to the ordinary character of his political course. The one object which he seems to have placed before him throughout his parliamentary life was the reform of the representation. That great remedial measure he promoted and watched with untiring assiduity; and of all the obloquy and repeated failures which its advocates encountered for a long series of years, he could say with truth,

—— quæque ipse miserrima vidi,
Et quorum pars magna fui.

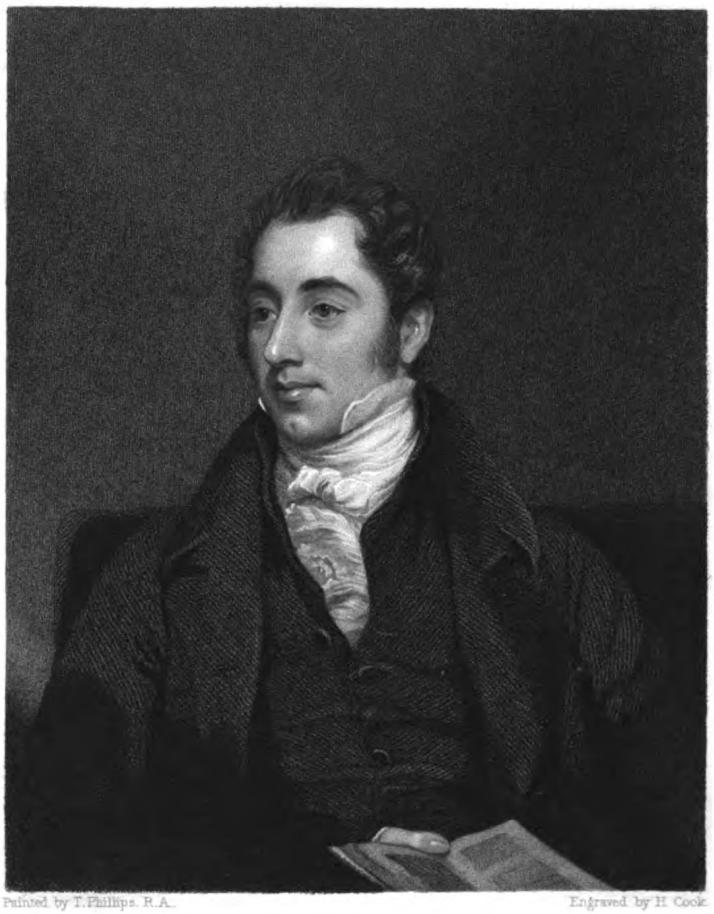
Indeed, if there is any individual who, from his influence upon the minds of the British Parliament, and of the British people, deserves the title of the father of reform, we do not hesitate to say that that individual is Sir Francis Burdett.

It would be impossible to particularize the occasions on which he exerted his manly and impassioned eloquence in this great cause, both within and without the walls of parliament: in the former instances, under the chilling influence of the most cheerless minorities; and in the latter, with the growing sympathy and applause of his countrymen. It must suffice to state, that he has been indefatigable "through evil report and through good report," and has probably amassed in his numerous speeches as large a body of information,

and as conclusive a weight of argument, as was ever adduced to the support of any parliamentary measure.

We cannot conclude without observing, that the great principles of civil and religious liberty which have actuated Sir Francis in legislating for his own countrymen, have, as in the instance of his illustrious predecessor in the representation of Westminster, radiated to other nations, and comprehended in their generous embrace the interests of the entire species. No longer ago than the year 1832, when Colonel Evans moved his resolution, calling for the strict performance of the treaties entered into by Russia, and other powers, respecting Poland, the Baronet pronounced a speech worthy of the best days of parliamentary eloquence. "There is not to be found," said he, "nor can there be one honest man in the civilized world who would hesitate for an instant to deprecate the conduct of Russia towards Poland. It has been, and still is, odious, tyrannical, and detestable. How far it is connected with the subject before the House, I will not stop to inquire, but it is impossible not to deprecate the crimes committed and now committing, after the hopes which were held out to the gallant Poles before Warsaw, and on its surrender, that some relief should be afforded them. From that period, there has been one continued series of tyranny exercised towards them, to which history records nothing parallel. It is true, that in early periods, there have been some instances in which great conquerors have adopted abominable practices, to exterminate a nation; but in the nineteenth century, it could scarcely be believed that such a line of conduct could be pursued by one nation towards another, had we not seen the attempt, and the object perfected before our own eyes, in the conduct of Russia to the Poles."

Sir Francis Burdett is still living, and in the enjoyment of a remarkable degree of health and activity, considering the intense excitement and labour which have marked the entire course of his disinterested and valuable life.



Painted by T. Phillips, R.A. Engraved by H. Cook.

WILLIAM JACKSON HOOKER. LL.D. F.R.A. & L.S.

REGIUS PROFESSOR OF BOTANY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW

W. J. Hooker.

PRINTED BY TAYLOR & FRANCIS, LONDON 1894.

WILLIAM JACKSON HOOKER,

LL. D. F. R. A. & L. S. &c.

REGIUS PROFESSOR OF BOTANY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW.

A WORK like the present should be, to use the language of a writer of the Elizabethan age, like a garden of pleasant flowers, in which not only the stately lily, the flaunting tulip, and the lovely rose will find their appropriate places, but admittance must also be granted to the pale primrose, the lowly violet, the more humble thyme, and every other herb and flower that can charm the senses of man, or can raise his mind to greater wonder at the works of the Almighty Creator.

In like manner, the old Roman adage, that "Art is long, but life is short," may find itself exemplified in the "National Portrait Gallery:" the stream of time has, from the commencement of the world, been rolling on its rapid course, sweeping away generation after generation, all teeming with those who have enlightened, or improved, or astonished their fellow-creatures; and, even in the few short years that have elapsed since the commencement of our publication, many of the individuals it records have already made their exit from the theatre of human existence; and yet there still remains abundance of unexhausted soil, to furnish an ample supply of eminent and illustrious characters for our own and many similar undertakings. To return to our first simile:—although kings, heroes, and statesmen, those on whom depend the destinies of mankind, the more conspicuous flowers of the garden, naturally claim the most conspicuous place in our pages, the names of those that stand forward in other less pretending departments, and, among these, in that of science, are not to be passed over in silence.

Of such we have already noticed some noble examples; and to these we have much pleasure in adding the subject of the following sketch.

The science of botany, to which Dr. HOOKER has almost exclusively devoted himself, is a study in the prosecution of which this country has been at all times so distinguished, as to stand, at least, upon a level with any other in Europe; excepting only during the short period of the life of the immortal Linnæus, when such a stream of light was poured upon Sweden as may justly be said to have eclipsed all other nations. But Linnæus was one of those master-minds, which nature seldom produces; which are not the fruit of a generation or a century; and which, strange to say, commonly stand alone, unpreceded and unfollowed, at least by those who may be supposed to have led the way, or who may be worthy to tread in their footsteps. Such was Homer, among poets; and, among painters, Raphael; and such, also, in natural history, was the great Swede. Before his time, the name of the English Ray might well be compared to that of the French Tournefort; and, with these, no third could be found to compete. The death of Linnæus was truly a new era for botany in England: from that period, it may confidently be affirmed that she has been without an equal. For this pre-eminence we are mainly indebted to the late Sir James Smith. A young man, equally unknown to fortune and to fame, he did not hesitate relinquishing his prospects in the medical profession, entirely to devote himself to his ruling passion for natural history, and to import into his native country, at an expense to him overwhelming, the herbarium and the library of Linnæus; thus constituting himself his heir and representative. These characters, too, he well supported throughout the course of a laborious life; and the respect, and the regard, and the honours he deserved, have been unanimously bestowed upon him by the learned, as well in his own as in other countries. To him we owe the existence of our Linnæan Society, by far the most distinguished body of that description in Europe; to him we likewise owe the being able to boast incomparably the best Flora that ever was published; and to him, in conjunction with the late Mr. Sowerby, we still further owe, what has, perhaps, been above all things efficacious towards the extension of botanical science in Britain, the work entitled "English Botany;" a work which, during the twenty-four years occupied in its publication, afforded every young botanist an opportunity of bringing forward the fruit of his researches, certain that they would neither be lost to the world, nor fail to contribute to his own legitimate fame. It were easy to enumerate a long

list of those who, originally indebted to "English Botany" for distinction, have, in their turn, conferred lasting obligations on science; and, in this list, Dr. Hooker would find his place: but, as the greater part of these are still happily living, to speak of them might be invidious. Such is, unfortunately, no longer the case with the more early friends and contemporaries of Sir James Smith, of whom the whole, or nearly so, have, like him, paid the debt of nature. But, though Hudson, Curtis, Lightfoot, Withering, Sibthorpe, Dickson, and many others, and, above all, the illustrious Banks, then just returned from his voyage round the globe, at the time when Linnæus was taken from the world, are now no longer among us, their names will not fail to live in the annals of their favourite science; and for them, conjointly with the possessor of the Linnæan Herbarium, has lately been raised a beautiful and a lasting monument, in the Sketch of the Biography of Sir James Smith, published by his amiable, intelligent, and affectionate widow.

Dr. Hooker is a native of Norwich, where he was born on the 6th of July, 1785, and where he received his education at the Grammar School, under the care of the Rev. Dr. Forster, well known as the successful opponent of Gilbert Wakefield in a contest for classical honours at Cambridge. His father was originally of Exeter, in which city the family has been long established, and boasts a kindred descent with one of the wisest and best men that Britain ever produced, the author of "Ecclesiastical Polity." His baptismal names he inherits from another relative, Mr. William Jackson, of Canterbury, a young man most honourably recorded in "Nichol's Literary Anecdotes," (viii. p. 279,) and, upon his death, Dr. Hooker succeeded to his property. From early youth, Dr. Hooker has had the most decided taste for the study of natural history in all its branches; and, to cultivate this with the greater success, he fixed himself for some years with a distinguished agriculturist, the late Mr. Robert Paul, of Starston; during his residence with whom, he principally applied himself to ornithology and entomology, and was admitted to the personal friendship, as well as to the correspondence, of Mr. Kirby, Mr. Spence, and Mr. Haworth.

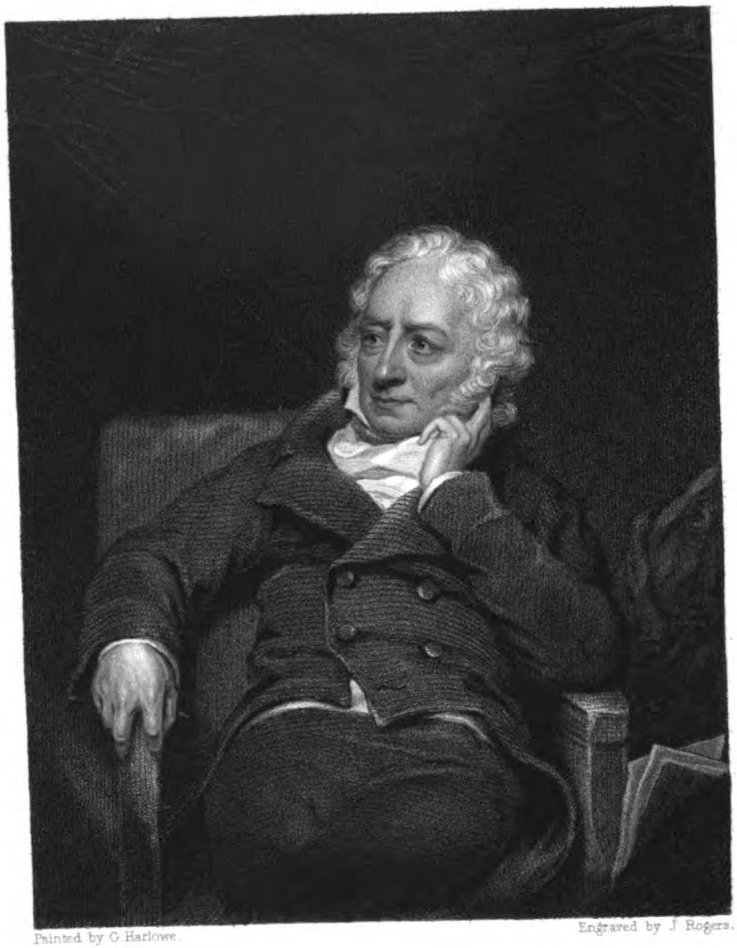
This exclusive devotion to botany took place shortly after he returned from Starston to Norwich, and is principally ascribable to his intimacy with the family of Mr. Dawson Turner, the eldest of whose daughters he married in the month of June 1815; and by her, who is still living, he has five children. Six years previously to his marriage, Dr. Hooker had, at the suggestion of Sir Joseph Banks,

cularly where microscopical dissections are required, are scarcely to be rivalled.

The following we believe to be well nigh an accurate catalogue of his publications :—

Tour in Iceland, 1811 ; 2d Edition.
British Jungermannia, 4to.
Flora Londinensis, a new edition, with a Continuation.
Muscologia Britannica, conjointly with Dr. Taylor.
Flora Scotica.
Musci Exotici.
Botanical Illustrations.
Flora Exotica.
British Flora.
Botanical Miscellany.
Flora Borealis Americana.
Continuation of Curtis' Botanical Magazine.
Fifth Volume of English Flora.
Icones Filicum, conjointly with Dr. Greville.

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA



Painted by G. Harlowe. Engraved by J. Rogers.

HENRY FUSELI, ESQ. R. A.

H. Fuseli.

FISHER, SON & Co. LONDON. 1834.

HENRY FUSELI, ESQ.

R. A.

HENRY FUSELI was born in the year 1741, at Zurich in Switzerland. Such at least is the general belief entertained, notwithstanding its variance with his own statements. He chose to alter the date to the year 1745. This, however, is currently supposed to have been only one of his innumerable whims; another of which, was the alteration of the name which his family and ancestors had always borne, and which was written Fuessli, to that by which he was known in this his adopted country. The distinctive elements of his character, or at least his prevailing tastes and pursuits, appear to have been inherited from his father John Gaspard Fuessli, who was a portrait and landscape painter, a man of considerable practical taste, and the historian of the artists of his country.

By him the subject of this memoir was early designed for the church, and in this proposition he for a long time persisted, notwithstanding the strong predilection which his son exhibited for the pursuit of the fine arts. The result of the father's determination, was a happy one for Fuseli, as it gave him an excellent education, and partially compelled his attention to those classical studies in which he, through life, delighted and excelled. But nothing could quench his ardent love of painting, and exerting his singularly quick faculty of perception, to outstrip his companions in the labours of the school, he devoted considerable leisure to the enjoyment of the works of Michael Angelo. A fine collection of the prints from this great master, was most improvidently left in his way by his father, which served at once to gratify and still further to excite the forbidden taste, and many of which he copied. We may also mention among his juvenile productions, a series of sketches in outline, illustrative of a wild German romance, called the Hour-Glass, representing imps and goblins engaged in all manner of mischievous sports. Thus early did the painter shew that decided bent of taste towards the wild and supernatural, which distinguished his style through life, and which obtained for him, among his brother artists, the title of "Painter in Ordinary to the Devil."

His father having designed him for the clerical profession, placed him, at what age is not known, in the college at Zurich, where he had

for a fellow-student John Gaspard Lavater, the celebrated physiognomist. An intimacy soon commenced between them, which ripened into a friendship that lasted through life.

About this time, a circumstance occurred which displayed in a remarkable manner the keen sensibility and elevated character of Fuseli and Lavater. A magistrate in one of the bailwicks of Zurich had rendered himself odious within his district by several acts of oppression and extortion. But though many felt indignation, none dared to impeach the village tyrant, especially as he was nearly related to the burgomaster of Zurich. Fuseli and Lavater took up the matter, by sending an anonymous letter of remonstrance to the magistrate. Finding that this made no impression, they next printed a small pamphlet, entitled, "The Unjust Magistrate; or, the Com plaint of a Patriot;" copies of which were distributed among the members of the municipal government. The affair was, in consequence, brought under the consideration of the council, who began by calling upon the authors of the tract to declare themselves. Lavater and his friend immediately came forward, and not only avowed what they had done, but offered to substantiate the charge by evidence. An inquiry then took place, but the magistrate eluded punishment by absconding; and his effects were seized, for the benefit of those who had suffered by his rapacity.

This generous conduct, instead of meeting with the reward which it merited, created enemies to these two noble-minded young men, who were, in consequence, under the necessity of quitting Zurich for some time. Previous to their departure, they completed their degrees in arts at the college, and then proceeded to Vienna; from whence they repaired to Berlin, and placed themselves under the learned professor Sulzer, the well-known author of a lexicon on the fine arts. The talent of Fuseli did not escape the observation of this able teacher, who, finding him already conversant with the English language, which he had studied so well as to read Shakspeare with ease, resolved to engage him in his favourite scheme of opening a literary intercourse between Germany and Britain. Besides this peculiar fitness for such an undertaking, Mr. Fuseli had distinguished himself at the Prussian capital by several drawings of scenes in Shakspeare's Macbeth and Lear, which procured him the friendship of Sir Robert Smith, the English ambassador, who strongly recommended him to visit London. This invitation he gladly accepted, and, on parting with Lavater, he received from him a card, on which was written in German, "Do but the tenth part of what you can do." This laconic monition was

framed, and, on presenting it, Lavater said, "Hang that up in your bed-room, and I know what will be the result."

It was about the year 1763, and before he had reached that which is commonly called the age of maturity, that our young adventurer entered the British metropolis. His first lodging was in Cranbourn Alley, and on taking up his residence there, he burst into tears, occasioned by the reflection that he was not only a stranger in the place, but inexperienced in the world. A trifling incident that occurred at the same time, served also to depress his spirits, and this, in after life, he often used to relate with much feeling. Having on his arrival written a letter to his mother, he sallied forth to put it into the post-office; but on asking his way of a man whom he met in the street, he was answered with a laugh and a vulgar joke. This treatment quite disconcerted him, till he was relieved by a gentleman who witnessed the circumstance, and kindly directed Mr. Fuseli to the place of which he was in search.

He did not, however, remain long in this situation. Having brought letters of recommendation from Sir Robert Smith, to Mr. Coutts the banker, and to Mr. Johnson and Mr. Cadell the booksellers, he was received by those gentlemen with the greatest cordiality, and, through their interest, soon after obtained the situation of tutor to the son of a nobleman, with whom he went to Paris. Such was his proficiency in English composition at this period, that in 1765, he published "Reflections on the Paintings and Sculpture of the Greeks, with Instructions for the Connoisseur; and an Essay on Grace in Works of Art; translated from the German of the Abbé Winckelmann."

About the same time happened the extraordinary dispute between Rousseau and Hume, in which the Genevan philosopher rendered himself an object of general ridicule by his extravagant conduct. Voltaire, on this occasion, assailed poor Jean Jacques with as much spleen as wit; in consequence of which, Mr. Fuseli undertook the defence of the latter, but anonymously; and soon after, the pamphlet was suppressed and destroyed, nor could the author ever after endure to hear it mentioned.

Mr. Fuseli had not been long in England before he was introduced to Sir Joshua Reynolds. On shewing some of his drawings to that great man, Sir Joshua asked him how long since he had returned from Italy, and was greatly surprised when told by Mr. Fuseli, that he had never passed the Alps. Sir Joshua then kindly inquired into his circumstances and prospects. Being informed that his friends were adverse to his pursuing painting as a profession, and wished him to

take orders, Sir Joshua said, "Young man, were I the author of those drawings, and were offered ten thousand a year not to practise as an artist, I would reject the proposal with contempt." This sentiment at once decided the judgment of Fuseli, and he no longer hesitated in the line of pursuit that he should adopt.

Having made up his mind to become a painter, he resolved to visit Italy. Accordingly, in the year 1770, he, together with his friend Dr. Armstrong the poet, embarked for Leghorn; but in the voyage, the vessel was driven ashore at Genoa, from whence the travellers proceeded by land to Rome. Here the young artist was in his element; but though the works of Raffaelle engaged much of his attention, and excited his admiration, those of Michael Angelo, the early object of his adoration, employed most of his study. From them he imbibed that spirit of daring grandeur, and romance of invention, which distinguished him through life, and placed him at the head of his class. At this time, so firm and bold was his pencil, that Piranesi, on seeing him sketch a figure, exclaimed, "This is not designing, but building a man."

During his residence in Italy, Mr. Fuseli kept a journal, the manuscript of which is still in being, and would, if published, prove highly interesting, especially to the lovers of the fine arts. He here also drew several designs, and painted some glowing pictures, chiefly on subjects in the works of Shakspeare and Milton. While abroad, he contracted an intimacy with several Englishmen of rank, particularly Lord Rivers, who proved his steady friend through life. He also associated with young artists of the same country, and amongst the rest, with Northcote, who painted his portrait at Rome.

After residing eight years abroad, he turned his attention towards England, and arrived in 1779. The first picture he exhibited at the Royal Academy, after his return, was the "Night Mare," which at once stamped his reputation, and elicited universal applause. This exquisite production was sold for no more than twenty-five guineas, to the late John Raphael Smith, who gained above five hundred by an engraving of it.

It has been said, but erroneously, that Mr. Fuseli, while at Rome, projected the scheme of the Shakspeare Gallery, which was subsequently carried into effect by Alderman Boydell. That undertaking, however, originated with the late Mr. George Nicol, bookseller to the King, who, at the table of Mr. Josiah Boydell, mentioned Shakspeare as furnishing the most copious supply of subjects for historic painting. The hint was not lost, and among the artists

employed was Mr. Fuseli, who painted eight fine pictures for the work, from the plays of the "Tempest," the "Midsummer Night's Dream," "Macbeth," "Henry IV.," "Henry V.," "Lear," and "Hamlet." The last was by far the best of these performances. The subject is that of the ghost on the platform; and of the illusory effect of the picture a curious circumstance is related: A celebrated metaphysician having been admitted to a private inspection of the gallery before its being opened to public view, first paid his attention to the pictures opposite to the side where Fuseli's Hamlet hung; but, on turning his head in that direction, he started, and with an expression of terror exclaimed, "Lord have mercy upon me, whatis that?"

In 1788, Mr. Fuseli was elected an Associate of the Royal Academy; on the 10th of February, 1790, he obtained the higher distinction of Academician; and in the same year married a young woman of the name of Sophia Rawlins.

Between that year and 1800, he produced his "Milton Gallery," being a series of forty-seven pictures taken from the greater works of the English epic poet. These representations were severely criticized at the time of their exhibition, and even the most enthusiastic admirer of the artist could not but allow that he had suffered his imagination to run into extravagance. As a speculation, the Milton Gallery disappointed the painter and the public. In a few months the exhibition closed finally, and the pictures passed into the hands of different persons.

During the exhibition of these paintings, he was one day walking in the gallery, when he was accosted by a visitor, who mistook him for the keeper. The following characteristic dialogue occurred:— "These paintings, Sir, are from Paradise Lost, I hear, and Paradise Lost was written by Milton." Fuseli assented. "I have never read the poem," continued the visitor, "but I shall read it now." "I would not advise you, Sir," replied the sarcastic artist, "*you* will find it an exceedingly tough job!"

On the removal of the eccentric Barry from the preceptorial chair of the Royal Academy, in 1799, Mr. Fuseli was appointed to that honourable station. Though in former cases he had evinced an uncommon facility in literary composition, he was now remarkably slow in preparing his lectures, the first of which, on ancient art, was delivered at Somerset House, in March, 1801, and was followed by two others, one on modern art, and another on invention. These were printed in the course of the same year, with a dedication to that emi-

nent patron of the arts, William Locke, Esq., of Norbury Park, in the county of Surrey.

Mr. Fuseli having held the office of professor of painting until the year 1804, was appointed, on the death of Mr. Wilton, keeper of the Royal Academy; but as there was a standing law, that no member should enjoy two offices in the institution at the same time, he resigned the professorship. However, on the death of Mr. Tresham, in 1810, he was unanimously re-elected; and the royal academicians repealed the law, in order to enable him to retain both situations. In consequence of this, he delivered three additional lectures; the first on the resumed subject of invention; the second on composition and expression; and the third on chiaro-oscura: but they were not published till the year 1820.

In the short interval of peace after the treaty of Amiens, Mr. Fuseli went over to Paris, where, however, he staid only six weeks, owing to the unsettled state of affairs, and the gloomy aspect of the political hemisphere. During his residence there, he paid a minute attention to the interesting collection at the Louvre.

In 1805, Mr. Fuseli was judiciously employed by the London booksellers in revising and continuing the Dictionary of Painters, by Pilkington, which work he considerably improved and enlarged by articles from his father's biographical works on the Swiss and German artists.

The oldest and most attached of Mr. Fuseli's friends, was the late worthy Joseph Johnson, of St. Paul's churchyard, at whose hospitable table he was a frequent and welcome guest.

Among other persons of talent and notoriety whom he met on these occasions, was the celebrated Mary Wolstonecraft, who, at their first interview, made him one of the numerous class on whom she is said to have conferred the honour of her love. The effect of the disgraceful indelicacy of this woman upon the mind of Fuseli, was such as to awaken the jealousy and rouse the indignation of his wife. This gave occasion to some singular exhibitions of the painter's character. On one occasion it is said, that while she was giving loose to her feelings in no very moderate terms, her husband addressed her with imperturbable calmness, "Sophia, my love, why don't you swear? you don't know how much it would ease your mind!" This propensity to sarcasm, which formed one of the most distinctive traits of Fuseli's character, was not only perceived in his more private life, but frequently shewed itself in the academy, and even towards rival artists.

Northcote in particular, was frequently the butt of his satirical sallies. On one occasion, Northcote shewed him his painting of the Angel meeting Balaam and the Ass, and inquired how he liked it. "Vastly," replied Fuseli, "you are an angel at an ass, but an ass at an angel." At another time, one of the students in the academy held up his drawing before the professor, and said with an air of confidence, "I have finished this, Sir, without using a crumb of bread." "So much the worse for your drawing," said Fuseli, "now buy a two-penny loaf, and rub it out."

While employed in the Milton Gallery, Mr. Fuseli was so fortunate as to commence an acquaintance with the poet Cowper, which subsequently grew into an intimate friendship. Apart from all those mental and moral graces which adorned the character of Cowper, he laid an especial claim to the admiration of Fuseli, by his undertaking the translation of Homer, who was the very god of the painter's idolatry. Fuseli, with his usual enthusiasm, offered to assist him in his work, by correcting some passages in which he imagined that his friend had mistaken the sense of the original, and by otherwise improving his version. To his perfect competency to the performance of all that he undertook, Cowper bears honourable testimony.

"I am very sensibly obliged,"—he writes to his bookseller—"by the remarks of Mr. Fuseli, and I beg that you will tell him so: they afford me opportunities of improvement which I shall not neglect. When he shall see the press copy, he will be convinced of this, and will be convinced, likewise, that, smart as he sometimes is, he spares me often when I have no mercy on myself."

In another letter, the poet bestows higher praise on his critic. "My translation, (he says,) fast as it proceeds, passes under the observation of a most accurate discerner of all blemishes. I know not whether I told you before or now tell you for the first time, that I am in the hands of a most extraordinary person. He is intimate with my bookseller, and voluntarily offered his service. I was at first doubtful whether to accept it or not; but finding that my friends were not to be satisfied on any other terms, though myself a perfect stranger to the man and his qualifications, except as he was recommended by Johnson, I at length consented, and have since found reason to rejoice that I did. I called him an extraordinary person, and such he is; for he is not only correct in Homer, and accurate in his knowledge of the Greek to a degree that entitles him to that appellation, but, though a foreigner, is a perfect master of our language, and has exquisite taste in English poetry."

"By his assistance," says Cowper, with his customary openness, "I have improved many passages, supplied many oversights, and corrected many mistakes—such as will of course escape the most diligent and attentive labourer in such a work. I ought to add, because it is the best assurance of his zeal and fidelity, that he does not toil for hire, nor will accept of any premium, but has entered upon the business merely for his amusement."

Mr. Fuseli's health remained unimpaired, and almost uninterrupted, until a very advanced age. His end, however, was remarkably sudden. While visiting the Countess of Guildford, at Putney Hill, and preparing for a ride to town, to dine with Mr. Rogers and Sir Thomas Lawrence, he felt slightly indisposed, and was with difficulty persuaded by Lady Guildford to break through his engagement. In a few days his state became exceedingly dangerous, of which he seemed perfectly aware, and expressed his assurance to a friend, that he was going to "that bourne whence no traveller returns." He died on the 16th of April, 1825.

His character, as indicated by his countenance, is drawn by his early friend Lavater in the following words. "The curve which describes the profile in whole is obviously one of the most remarkable: it indicates an energetic character, which spurns at the idea of trammels. The forehead, by its contours and position, is more suited to the poet than the thinker. I perceive in it more force than gentleness—the fire of imagination, rather than the coolness of reason. The nose seems to be the seat of an intrepid genius. The mouth promises a spirit of application and precision, and yet it costs the original the greatest effort to give the finishing touch to the smallest piece. Any one may see, without my telling it, that this character is not destitute of ambition, and that the sense of his own merit escapes him not. It may also be suspected that he is subject to impetuous emotions, but will any one say that he loves with tenderness—with warmth to excess? Though capable of the greatest actions, to him the slightest complaisance is an effort. His imagination is ever aiming at the sublime, and delighting itself with prodigies. Nature intended him for a great poet, a great painter, and a great orator—but, to borrow his own words, 'inexorable fate does not always proportion the will to our powers; it sometimes assigns a copious proportion of will to minds whose faculties are very contracted, and frequently associates with the greatest faculties a will feeble and impotent.'"

His style of composition, particularly upon subjects connected with

his art, was peculiarly nervous and graphic. A striking specimen of these features is found in his lecture on expression, published in 1820, with the citation of which we will conclude this sketch.

"The gradations of expression within, close to, and beyond its limits, cannot perhaps be elucidated with greater perspicuity than by comparison; and the different moments which Julio Romano, Vandyke, and Rembrandt, have selected to represent the subject of Samson betrayed by Delilah, offers one of the fairest specimens furnished by art. Considering it as a drama, we may say that Julio forms the plot, Vandyke unravels it, and Rembrandt shews the extreme of the catastrophe.

"In the composition of Julio, Samson, plunged into sleep, and stretched on the ground, rests his head, and presses with his arm the thigh of Delilah on one side, whilst on the other a nimble minion, busily but with timorous caution, fingers and clips his locks; such is his fear, that, to be firm, he rests one knee on a footstool, tremblingly watching the sleeper, and ready to escape at his least motion. Delilah, seated between both, fixed by the weight of Samson, warily turns her head toward a troop of warriors in the back ground; with the left arm stretched out, she beckons their leader, with the finger of the right hand she presses her lip to enjoin silence and noiseless approach. The Herculean make and lion port of Samson, his perturbed though ponderous sleep, the quivering agility of the curled favourite employed, the harlot graces and meretricious elegance contrasted by equal firmness and sense of danger in Delilah, the attitude and look of the grim veteran who heads the ambush, whilst they give us the clue to all that followed, keep us in anxious suspense—we palpitate in breathless expectation; this is the plot.

"The terrors which Julio made us forbode, Vandyke summons to our eyes. The mysterious lock is cut; the dreaded victim is roused from the lap of the harlot-priestess. Starting unconscious of his departed power, he attempts to spring forward, and with one effort of his mighty breast and expanded arms to dash his foes to the ground, and fling the alarmed traitress from him—in vain, shorn of his strength, he is borne down by the weight of the mailed chief that throws himself upon him, and overpowered by a throng of infuriate satellites. But though overpowered, less aghast than indignant, his eye flashes reproach on the perfidious female whose wheedling caresses drew the fatal secret from his breast; the plot is unfolded, and what succeeds, too horrible for the sense, is left to fancy to brood upon, or drop it.

"This moment of horror the gigantic but barbarous genius of Rembrandt chose, and, without a metaphor, *executed* a subject, which humanity, judgment, and taste taught his rivals only to *treat;* he displays a scene which no eye but that of Domitian or Nero could wish or bear to see. Samson, stretched on the ground, is held by one Philistine under him, whilst another chains his right arm, and a third, clenching his beard with one, drives a dagger into his eye with the other hand. The pain that blasts him, darts expression—from the contortions of the mouth and his gnashing teeth, to the crampy convulsions of the leg dashed high into the air. Some fiend-like features glare through the gloomy light which discovers Delilah, her work now done, sliding off, the shears in her left, the locks of Samson in her right hand. If her figure, elegant, attractive, such as Rembrandt never conceived before or after, deserve our wonder rather than our praise; no words can do justice to the expression that animates her face, and shews her less shrinking from the horrid scene, than exulting in being its cause. Such is the work, whose magic of colour, tone, and chiaro-scuro, irresistibly entrap the eye, whilst we detest the brutal choice of the moment."

Painted by Sir Tho.s Lawrence, P.R.A.

Engraved by H. Robinson.

SIR ROBERT PEEL, BART.

Robert Peel

SIR ROBERT PEEL, BART., M.P.

THE subject of this memoir was born at Peel's Cross, near Lancaster, on the 25th of April 1750. The ancestry of the family is not traced higher than Robert Peel, who died in 1736, and whose grandson, Robert, had a numerous family of sons, most of whom have been the progenitors of several branches, and of whom Sir Robert was the third.

He spent the earlier part of his life upon his father's property, and, at the age of fourteen, entertaining a strong presentiment that he should become the founder of a family, to the great entertainment of his brothers, frequently avowed his determination to raise himself to rank and consequence in society, declaring his conviction that any situation in this free country is accessible to a good capacity, aided by prudence and perseverance.

It is universally admitted that Mr. Peel gave early proofs of uncommon quickness of perception; and hence, probably, arose that spirit in his enterprises, and that perseverance in habits of industry, in which he seems never to have felt fatigue. Being brought up to the cotton trade, he eagerly devoted himself to explore the powers of mechanical combinations, particularly where they might be converted to the use of his own manufacture. He soon became sensible of the improvements of which machinery was susceptible, as applied to the purposes of commerce; and the success which has rewarded his labours, proves the correctness of his opinion, and is an encouraging instance of the power of talent when united with zeal and determination of purpose.

At the age of twenty-three he engaged with Mr. Yates of Bury in the establishment of an extensive cotton manufactory, and, after ten years of application to business and an uninterrupted success, married his partner's daughter, then little more than seventeen years of age. About the same period, he purchased a considerable estate in the county of Lancaster; and this was followed, in the course of a few years, by extensive acquisitions in Staffordshire and Warwickshire.

NATIONAL PORTRAITS.

It has frequently been a question of surprise, at what period, and by what means, Mr. Peel acquired those intellectual attainments, of which he has so frequently given proof; and the same answer, with equal truth, has been given in this, as in many other instances, that the powers of genius require not the plodding application of common capacities, but compass the acquisition of ideas and the comprehension of truth, with facility, eagerness, and despatch.

The contemporaries of his youth are unanimous in their testimony that he discovered a precocious attachment to books, and an ardent and insatiable thirst for knowledge. The hours which others dissipated under pretence of recreation, were employed by him in reading; and the midnight lamp incessantly witnessed the impatient labour with which he cultivated and exercised his mental faculties. The plan of reading which he early prescribed for himself, and which he continued till within the last few years of his death, was as judicious, as it was singularly adapted to the production of originality and quickness of perception: whenever he read a portion of a book, closing the volume, he immediately retraced the impressions which were made upon his memory, and thus implanting upon the mind the images presented to it, he was enabled to embrace them with avidity, and to retain them with more than common tenacity.

In 1780, he wrote a pamphlet on the National Debt, the inferences of which, maintained with ingenuity and fraught with novelty, excited considerable curiosity and attention. At the close of the American war, the fears of the nation were very powerfully called forth by the great increase of the funded debt: and the commercial part of the community suffered more than any other body, from the apprehension that our heavy burdens would eventually fetter our exertions, if not ultimately involve the nation in bankruptcy. Mr. Peel maintained that the national wealth was not diminished by the increase of the debt, and that statesmen had misconceived its operations, by confounding a public with a private engagement.

The correction of this error, and the removal of public apprehension, was his object in drawing up his pamphlet, under the title of "The National Debt productive of National Prosperity." He maintained that "a domestic public debt, owed by the community at large to a part of the same community, could not impair the aggregate wealth of that community; and that if a given sum, however large, were annually raised from the people, to pay the interest of the debt, the same sum being received by the public creditors, and laid out in the purchase of articles of necessity and comfort for themselves, pro-

vided by national industry, circulates at home, and, in its transit from one possessor to another, gives birth to new sources and modifications of wealth."

Having by this time realized a large landed property, he obtained that consideration in the country, which entitled him to a seat in its legislature; accordingly, at the following general election, in 1790, he was returned Member for the borough of Tamworth—for which place he was re-elected in 1796, 1802, 1806, 1807, 1812, and 1818, and resigned in 1820 in favour of his second son.

The borough of Tamworth, which had begun to decline, soon reared up its head, on the introduction of the cotton manufacture; and the interest of Mr. Peel, who had thus furnished employment to its inhabitants, acquired an influence paramount to that of the Townshend family. It is no small proof of the opulence and spirit of Mr. Peel and his partner, that, in the year 1797, they contributed the sum of £10,000 to the voluntary subscriptions for carrying on the war; and in the following year, besides the patronage which he extended to the Lancashire Fencibles and the Tamworth armed association, he placed himself at the head of six companies, mostly his own artificers, which were called the Bury Loyal Volunteers.

The conduct of Mr. Peel to his constituents was uniformly that of a manly and constitutional senator; trusting that the independence of his conduct in parliament, and his unremitting attention to their general interests, would secure the approbation of the wise and discerning, he seems never to have availed himself of that influence which his fortune enabled him to exert.

In 1799, he made a speech in the House of Commons in favour of the Union with Ireland, which was considered to express the sentiments of the manufacturing interest, and which had considerable influence in that country, where it was diligently circulated in the form of a pamphlet. In the debate on this question, on the 14th of February, after some observations which a regard to consistency obliged him to make, he thus continued:—

"In the year 1785, during the discussion of the Irish arrangements, as they were called, I was a petitioner at your bar against the question; and I am warranted in saying, that I carried with me the sentiments of a great proportion of the trading interests of England. The object of those arrangements was to open a freer intercourse between the two independent kingdoms; the one possessing great foreign dominions, and an universal commerce; the other possessing no foreign dominions, and very little trade;

and, consequently, enjoying separate interests, as they always must, while they have separate legislatures, because they may become separate in fact. It was apparent, then, that those arrangements, however well intended, would have been prejudicial to the manufactures of Great Britain. The support I have given the present measure, does not arise from a change of sentiments, but of circumstances. This plan embraces great advantages, both political and commercial, which, by uniting two countries into one, are calculated to add strength and security to the empire; and is so essentially necessary at this time, when a daring attempt has been made, both by intrigue and force, to separate the countries, that inferior considerations ought not to weigh against a plan which bids fair to frustrate such attempts, and to consolidate both the interest and affections of the sister kingdom.

"By an union we shall become one people; and though the benefits, in a commercial point of view, will be chiefly in favour of Ireland, yet, if an opinion may be formed of the sentiments of the trading body of this nation, from their patriotic and respectful silence, a disposition is manifested to reach out a friendly arm to their distressed brethren, to raise them from their present unhappy state, to a condition of ease and comfort similar to our own. This conduct does the British merchants and manufacturers so much honour, that I feel particular pleasure in classing myself among that highly valuable body of men.

"Though a friend to the principle of the measure, I think it my duty to draw the attention of the house to the sixth resolution. It must be the intention of every one to place both countries on an equal footing; and though nothing can be apprehended unfavourable to this country, during the present low circumstances of Ireland, it may have an operation, at a future time, highly prejudicial to our domestic industry. Each country is to provide for its own public debt; and that of Great Britain being infinitely larger than the debt of Ireland, heavy taxes are necessarily imposed on almost every article of consumption, which has so strong a tendency to enhance the price of labour, that goods manufactured under such a pressure, cannot be rendered on equally low terms with the produce of labour in places where similar burdens do not exist. Unless this objection be removed, the measure cannot be expected to have the concurrence of Great Britain. I feel it the more necessary to urge this point, having perceived a want of that liberality in the Irish government, which characterizes our own. The com-

mercial intercourse now subsisting between the two countries, has lost every feature of reciprocity; British manufactures being heavily taxed on their admission into Ireland, while the goods of that kingdom meet with every encouragement here. Whatever may be the conduct of Ireland respecting the proposition of an Union, I trust the firmness of administration will be such as to refuse all concession to menace and intrigue; and that the aid which may be deemed necessary to extend in future to that nation, will be received as the genuine offspring of affection: I always will oppose the giving much for nothing, when demanded as a matter of right.

"Having said thus much as a commercial man, I beg the further indulgence of the house as a member of parliament: Though it may be deemed presumption in me to speak on a subject which has engaged the first abilities in this house, and after a display of talents on both sides, which never were exceeded, I see, with satisfaction, distinguished members of opposition in their places; because I think that their attendance on great constitutional questions induces discussion highly useful and gratifying to the nation. I cannot, however, compliment them on the grounds they have taken in the present debate. The interests of Great Britain are so deeply involved in this question, that I did expect the nature and extent of the sacrifices to be made on our part would have been strongly laid down, and would have formed such a contrast to the imperial advantages so forcibly stated by the friends of administration, as to have enabled the house to come to a matured decision on the subject. Not having been so assisted, my first impressions are unaltered; and therefore I shall give the measure my continued support. The independence of the Irish legislature having been unequivocally acknowledged by ministers, as it had been by parliament, and strenuously insisted on by the other side of the house, I am the more surprised to find that the measure of the Union has been debated by the latter on Irish interest only, as if the question were finally to be disposed of here, without being argued elsewhere.

"There are scarcely two opinions in this house respecting the utility of an Union at a proper time, and on fair and equitable terms; though several gentlemen have expressed their marked disapprobation of the measure at this period. Considering the state of Ireland, with a weak government, a disunited people, and with the standard of rebellion erected in many parts of it, this plan is

calculated to remove such alarming disorders; and the sooner the remedy is applied the better.

"The manner of bringing forward the resolutions is objectionable. Several gentlemen are of opinion that they ought first to have been submitted to the Irish parliament, before they had experienced a discussion here. If the Union involved in it sacrifices to be made exclusively on the part of Ireland, the complaint would have been just; on the contrary, however, being the case, and the concessions confined to Great Britain, such a proceeding would have been highly disrespectful and injurious to this country.

"The feelings of pride and national consequence have been awakened in Ireland; they cannot reconcile themselves to the loss of their separate state and distinct legislature; these are valuable privileges, boasted to have been acquired by their own exertion and patriotism, aided by the liberality of the British parliament. But, let me ask, has not Great Britain likewise valuable privileges, purchased with the blood of our ancestors? A distinct kingdom, and an independent legislature? A people united, and removed from every danger, either foreign or domestic? In forming, therefore, an imperial legislature, Ireland loses no rights which are not likewise surrendered by Great Britain: the distinct kingdoms will be mixed into one compact body, and thereby derive additional strength and security: Ireland will gain, by the proposed Union, an *imperial* legislature, instead of a local legislature.

"The small proportion of Irish members forming a part of the imperial parliament, is considered by many as a surrender of their independence. That an opinion, so unfounded, should be entertained by a stranger to the character and constitution of the British parliament, does not excite much astonishment; but, that it should meet with the smallest countenance from those who have uniformly declared that any change in the Irish representation must be for the better, is, I own, a little extraordinary. Every member of this house is a representative of Great Britain, and does not consider his duties confined to the place for which he was chosen. Yorkshire and Lancashire are the most extensive and flourishing counties in England, though individually they are very inadequately represented. When, therefore, the two countries are incorporated, it will be both the duty and inclination of every member composing the imperial parliament, to promote the interests of Ireland equally with that of every other part of the United Kingdom. Instead, therefore, of Ireland losing two-thirds of her members, she will

increase the number from three hundred to six hundred and fifty-eight; and I shall not be contradicted in saying, that if an Union should take place, it will be one of their first duties to administer relief, and to ameliorate the condition of the people of Ireland, to communicate to them British comforts, and make them as flourishing and happy as the people of Great Britain are, from enjoying the benefits of a more liberal system.

"The remarks of the honourable Member who spoke first, (Mr. Hobhouse,) respecting the increase of absentees, merits particular notice. I am ready to admit to the fullest extent, the injury which has already resulted to the sister kingdom from this circumstance. In a country, however, governed by equal laws and a free constitution, I see no practicable means of compelling a residence, or removing the existing evil, under the present order of things. The proposed Union will have an effect the very reverse of that on which the honourable gentleman founds his opposition. Scotland and the parts of England most remote from London, sustain no injury on account of people of rank and property spending a great proportion of their time and income in the capital. Manufactures and other considerable objects of labour, generally flourish most at a distance from the seat of luxury, and the gay pursuits of genteel life. The want of access to the money circulating in England, keeps Ireland comparatively poor and unindustrious. When the British markets are, therefore, laid open, property sent from that kingdom will be returned through the medium of industry, by which an equilibrium will be restored.

"The mind, unaccustomed to embrace objects of immense magnitude, will be assisted by a commercial intercourse. Suppose two houses in business, one of which is of the first respectability, with an immense capital and extensive dealings with every part of the globe; the other in a comparatively low situation, with but little property, limited credit, and confined connexions, and a proposal is made by the former to take the latter into partnership on equal terms: such an offer never having been refused, we may easily suppose is eagerly accepted; in this case, each party will lose his distinct firm, and the two houses become one. It is unnecessary to ask here, on which side the advantage lies, though both may be benefited.

"The clamours raised against the Union by interested men in Ireland, may, for a time, mislead the judgment of many people; the delusion, however, cannot be of long continuance; and a pro-

position, the most liberal on the part of Great Britain, and on the acceptance of which the salvation of Ireland depends, must be received with sentiments of satisfaction and gratitude in the end, when reason shall take the place of passion; when policy shall prevail over prejudice; and wisdom shall govern, where enthusiasm misleads."

This speech, containing a body of plain and manly argument, came home "to the business and bosoms of the people," in both countries. It was circulated with much diligence in Ireland, and is said to have contributed, in a very considerable degree, to reconcile to the measure parties on both sides of the channel.

Mr. Peel was created a baronet on the 29th of Nov. 1800.

In 1802, he brought in a bill for "the Amelioration of the Condition of Apprentices in the Cotton and Woollen Trade." Although human labour has been so much abridged by ingenious machinery, in the former of these branches of our commerce, yet the unprecedented increase which it has experienced within the last fourteen years, arising from these improvements, has given increased employment to many thousands of poor persons, mostly children taken from workhouses in the capital, and other parts of the country.

These children were a burden to their respective parishes; and, in order to be relieved from the expense of supporting the needy part of them and their families, the overseers often forgot the tender offices of humanity, in their eagerness to exonerate themselves from the maintenance of the unfortunate infants. Accordingly, they were frequently sent to factories, where no accommodation was provided for them, no attention paid to their morals, and where they often contracted infectious disorders, the consequence of excessive labour, of unwholesome food, and of the want of cleanliness. Sir Robert Peel had long lamented the existence of these evils, and it was one of the highest satisfactions of his life, that he had been instrumental, in this respect, in lessening the sum of human misery.

Sir Robert was a steady supporter of Mr. Pitt's administration; and when a vote of censure was moved against that statesman, in 1802, he pronounced an able speech in his defence. "I believe," said he, "that to the measures of the late Chancellor of the Exchequer, I owe the liberty of delivering my sentiments in this house; that to him I owe the possession of that wealth and rise in the world, which my industry has acquired. I do not speak solely of myself; the same may be said of every individual whose industry

has succeeded, under his protection. He has been the benefactor of his country; he has neglected no one's interest but his own."

So extensive was Sir Robert's business, that, in 1803, the number of persons employed by him amounted to fifteen thousand, and he paid upwards of £40,000 annually to the Excise office, on printed goods alone.

Sir Robert was in person tall, manly, and well proportioned. His eye, when he spoke, lighted up his countenance with peculiar animation. His address was affable, unembarassed, and very engaging. Unaffected and unassuming himself, he possessed, in an eminent degree, the pleasing art of dispelling, unperceived, the diffidence of strangers; and, by adapting himself with great facility to the circumstances of others, rendered all pleased with his society, by making them pleased with themselves. He bore the character of a charitable master and patron towards his necessitous dependants and neighbours, and many instances are known of his exercising a most munificent liberality. He was a governor of Christ's Hospital, and a vice-president of the Literary Fund. He closed his career at a ripe old age, ennobled by a life of integrity and consistency, and carrying to the grave the reputation that his moral virtues and political principles were alike unsullied. He died on the 3d of May, 1830, and was interred at Drayton.

His first wife was, as has been before remarked, the daughter of William Yates, Esq. of Bury, his partner in his extensive concerns; by this lady he had a family of six sons and five daughters. 1. Mary, married to the right honourable George Robert Dawson, M.P., and late secretary to the treasury.—2. Elizabeth, to the Reverend William Cockburn, dean of York, and brother of Sir James Cockburn, Baronet, and Admiral Sir George Cockburn, Baronet.—3. The right honourable Sir Robert Peel, who has succeeded to the title, late secretary of state for the home department, and married to Julia, second daughter of the late General Sir John Floyd, Bart.—4. William Yates Peel, Esq. M.P. late under secretary of state for the home department, and married to the Lady Jane Moore, daughter of the Earl of Mount Cashel.—5. Edmund Peel, Esq., married to Emily, daughter of John Swinfen of Swinfen Hall, county Stafford.—6, and 7. Eleanora and Anne, who died young.—8. The Reverend John Peel, M.A., Prebendary of Canterbury and vicar of Stone, county Worcester, married to Augusta, another daughter of Mr. Swinfen.—9. Lieutenant-colonel Jonathan Peel, M.P. for Norwich, married to the Lady Alicia Jane Kennedy, daughter of the Marquis of Ailsa, K.T.—10. Lawrence, lately a com-

missioner for the affairs of India, and M.P. for Cockermouth, married the Lady Jane Lennox, daughter of Charles, Duke of Richmond: and 11. Harriet, married to the right honourable Lord Henley, a master in chancery.

Thus, the venerable baronet lived to see his children allied to some of the most noble families of the kingdom; and so numerous, it appears, are his descendants, that, on the anniversary of his seventy-eighth birth-day, in 1828, he presented a silver medal to each of his fifty children and grandchildren.

Having lost his first wife, he married, secondly, in October, 1805, Susannah, sister of the late Reverend Sir William Clarke, Baronet, rector of Bury, county Lancaster, by whom he had no issue. She died in September, 1824, in her 72d year.

The Will of Sir Robert Peel was proved on the 8th of June, 1830. After entailing Drayton Park, and other large estates in Warwickshire and Staffordshire, it proceeds to recite sums to the amount of more than £240,000, previously advanced to, or settled upon, his children, (independent of £9000 per annum, secured to his eldest son,) and then to bequeath £600,000 more, making the portions of his five younger sons £106,000 each, and those of his three daughters £53,000 each. He leaves to a chapel erected by himself at Fazeley, in Staffordshire, £1000, afterwards revoked in consequence of having endowed it with lands; and £6000 to a school established by him in this village; to the Royal Infirmary and Lunatic Hospital at Manchester, and the Lying-in-hospital in Salford, £100 each. The Will is dated 27th July, 1820. By a codicil of the 11th of February, 1825, the portions of his younger sons are increased to £135,000 each; and of the residue, (which will probably come very near, if it does not even exceed half a million,) four ninths are given to the present Baronet, and one ninth to each of his younger sons.

The personalty was sworn at what is technically called "upper value," which means that it exceeds £900,000; and is the only instance, it is believed, of such an occurrence since the scale of duties was extended to that sum. The probate stamp was £15,000, and the legacy duty will probably be ten thousand more.

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Painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds, P.R.A. Engraved by J. Cochran.

GEORGE AUGUSTUS ELIOTT, LORD HEATHFIELD, BARON GIBRALTAR

Heathfield

FISHER, SON & CO. LONDON, 1834.

GEORGE AUGUSTUS ELIOTT,

FIRST

LORD HEATHFIELD, K.B.

ETC. ETC. ETC

LORD HEATHFIELD, whose name illustrates the ancient Scotch family of the Eliotts, was the eighth and youngest son of Sir Gilbert Eliott, of Stobbs, in Tiviotdale, in the shire of Roxburgh, a baronet of Nova Scotia, by Eleanor, daughter of William Eliott, of Wells, in the same county, and was born on the 25th of December, 1717.

He received the first elements of his education from a private tutor, retained at the family seat. At an early age, he was sent to the university of Leyden, where he made a rapid progress in classical learning, and spoke with elegance and fluency the German and French languages. Being designed for a military life, he was removed from this seat of learning to the school of La Fere in Picardy, then the most celebrated in Europe, and under the care of Vauban, the father of the art of modern fortification. Here it was that the foundation was laid of that singular knowledge of tactics in all its branches, and particularly in the arts of engineering and fortification, which so greatly distinguished this officer in after life. He subsequently perfected his military course of study by a tour on the Continent, in which he had the opportunity of observing in practice what he had studied in theory. Prussia was at this time the model of military discipline, and he consequently embarked, and continued for some time a volunteer in the service of that country.

In 1735 he quitted these engagements, and returned to his native country. Here he was introduced by his father, Sir Gilbert, to Lieutenant-Colonel Peers, of the 23d regiment of infantry, or Royal Welch Fusileers, which was then at Edinburgh. In this regiment the young soldier was entered as a volunteer, and served in it for more

than twelve months. In the following year a commission was obtained for him in the engineer corps at Woolwich, where he prosecuted the study of fortification, until his uncle, Colonel Eliott, procured for him the post of adjutant in the second troop of horse grenadiers. In this situation he conducted himself with the most exemplary attention, and laid the foundation of that discipline which has rendered these two troops the finest corps of heavy cavalry in Europe. He formed a strong attachment to the corps, which increased during about twenty years which he served in it, purchasing from time to time the commissions of Captain, Major, and Lieutenant-Colonel, and fighting gallantly in all the battles in which it was engaged in the German war; in the course of which he was wounded at Dettingen. He was now appointed one of the aides-de-camp to George the Second, a sufficient proof of his reputation for military skill and conduct.

In the year 1759 he quitted the second troop of horse-grenadier guards, being selected to raise, form, and discipline that excellent regiment of light horse, called, after him, "Eliott's Light Horse." As soon as they were raised and formed, he was appointed to the command of the cavalry in the expedition on the coasts of France, with the rank of Brigadier-General. After this he passed into Germany, where he was employed on the staff, and greatly distinguished himself in a variety of movements; while his regiment displayed a strictness of discipline, an activity and enterprise, which has made them the model on which the English light dragoon troops have since been formed.

From Germany he was recalled in 1762, in order that his services might be employed as second in command in the Spanish West Indies. Here he equally shared the glory of the memorable conquest of the Havannah with General Keppel and Lord Albemarle. It must, however, be mentioned to his honour, that, though unsurpassed in the fortitude and energy with which he prosecuted the operations of war, he was nevertheless exemplary for the moderation and humanity with which he used his conquests. He uniformly displayed an entire freedom from the influence of mercenary motives, and would never even allow his quarter-master's place to be sold. "Not only," says he, "because I think it is the reward of an honest veteran soldier; but also because I could not so directly exercise my authority in his dismission, should he behave ill."

A characteristic anecdote is told of him, illustrative of his humanity and magnanimity after the conquest of the Havannah. His exertions in checking the horrors of indiscriminate plunder, made him a frequent

referee in cases in which injury had been suffered from this cause. On one occasion, a Frenchman, who had sustained considerable losses by the depredations of the soldiery, made application to him, and begged, in bad English, that he would interfere for the restoration of his property. The petitioner's wife was present, a woman of great spirit, and, enraged at her husband's intercession with the victor, exclaimed, "Comment pouvez vous demander de grace a un homme qui vient vous depouiller? N' en esperez pas." The husband persisting in his application, his wife grew more indignant, and exclaimed, "Vous n'etes pas Francois." The General, who was engaged in writing at the time, calmly turned his head, and said, with a smile, "Madame, ne vous echauffez pas; ce que votre mari demande lui sera accordé." "Oh faut-il pour surcroit de malheur," cried the woman with horror, "que le barbare, parle Francois?" The General was so pleased with the woman's spirit, that he not only procured them their property, but took some further measures for their accommodation.

On his return to England after the peace, his gallant regiment was reviewed by his Majesty in Hyde Park, when they presented to the King the standards they had captured from the enemy. The King, highly gratified with their excellent behaviour and triumphant exploits, asked General Eliott what mark of his favour he could bestow on this regiment equal to their merits. He answered, that his regiment would be proud if his Majesty should think that they deserved the additional epithet of "royal." They were accordingly made a royal regiment of light dragoons. His Majesty then expressed a desire to confer some special mark of his favour on the brave general; but he declared that the honour and satisfaction of his Majesty's approbation of his services, were his best and sufficient reward.

During the peace, he was not idle. His great talents in the various branches of military art gained him ample employment, and in the year 1775 he was appointed to succeed General A'Court as Commander-in-Chief of the forces in Ireland. But he did not continue long on this station; for, finding that interferences were made with the exercise of his authority, to which he had too much independence to submit, and not wishing to disturb the peace of the island on a matter personal to himself, he solicited to be recalled, and was accordingly removed to the command of Gibraltar, at a most fortunate time for the safety of that important fortress. The system of his life, as well as his early education, peculiarly qualified him for

this trust. He was, perhaps, the most abstemious man of his age. His food was vegetables, and his drink water. He neither indulged in animal food or wine. He never slept more than four hours at a time. Indeed, he had so inured himself to privations which would have been intolerable to most men, that they at length became agreeable to him.

With these extraordinary qualifications for the post he was called to occupy, he went to Gibraltar, and in the summer of 1779, commenced that memorable siege, in which the combined powers of France and Spain were kept at bay, defied, and frustrated, by the unexampled conduct of this admirable general and his brave soldiers. The latter, indeed, illustrated, in a remarkable manner, the influence of a general's example in circumstances of such special danger and privation. Like him, they came to regulate themselves by the strictest rules of discipline, and to inure themselves to severe exercise and short diet, until they attained a degree of indifference to comfort truly Spartan. Indeed, so remarkable was this abstinence in the governor, that during a time of scarcity, particularly of bread, in the beginning of the winter of 1779, he lived by way of example on four ounces of rice daily! So earnestly did he endeavour to administer to the slender comforts of his troops, that, on the arrival of a vessel laden with wood, he personally superintended the division of it into proper allotments; and, on the occasion of a private soldier having, at the risk of his own life, rescued an officer from the danger of a shell which fell near him, promoted and rewarded the soldier; telling him, however, that if the object of his care had been but his comrade, his humanity should have been equally acknowledged.

In a letter of the 23th of August, 1782, addressed by the Governor to the Duke de Crillon, who had then assumed the command of the besieging army, we find the following noble passage:—"I return a thousand thanks to your excellency for your handsome present of fruits, vegetables, and game. You will excuse me, however, I trust, when I assure you that in accepting it, I have broken through a rule to which I had faithfully adhered since the beginning of the war; and that was, never to receive or procure, by any means whatever, any provisions, or other commodity, for my own private use, so that, without any preference, every thing is sold publicly here; and the private soldier, if he have money, can become a purchaser as well as the governor. I confess I make it a point of honour to partake both of plenty and scarcity in common with the lowest of my brave fellow-soldiers. This furnishes me with an excuse for the liberty

I now take, of entreating your excellency not to heap any more favours of this kind on me, as in future I cannot convert your favours to my own private use."

The system of military discipline which he introduced, and the preparations which he made for his defence, were contrived with so much judgment, and executed with so much address, that he was able, with a handful of men, to preserve his post against the most constant and vigorous attacks. He never expended his ammunition in useless parade, or in unimportant attacks; he never relaxed from his discipline on the appearance of security; nor hazarded the lives of the garrison by rash experiments. By his cool and temperate, but brave demeanour, he maintained his station for three years of constant investment, in which all the powers of Spain were employed. All the eyes of Europe were on this garrison, and his conduct justly raised him to a most elevated place in the military annals of his age.

On the successful termination of the defence, his Majesty was pleased to confer upon the Governor the Order of the Bath; and having signified his pleasure that Lieutenant-General Boyd should act as his Majesty's representative in investing General Eliott with the insignia of the order, which ceremony was to be performed in as splendid a manner as the state of the garrison would permit, the engineers erected a colonnade upon the rampart of the King's bastion, that the honour might be conferred where the victory was gained. By the 23d of April, 1783, the colonnade was finished, and every preparation for the ceremony being completed, the Governor commenced by communicating to the troops the thanks of their King and Country for their Defence of Gibraltar. This he accompanied with an address to his companions in arms, which strongly exhibits that exemplary modesty which formed one of the most distinctive features of his character, and which all the honours of that proud day were unable to diminish. After this, the ceremony of investiture was performed by the King's commissioner, which was followed by a feu-de-joi, illuminations, fire-works, and every demonstration of joy. "Thus," says the historian of the siege, "with festivity and with honour ended the labours of the garrison of Gibraltar. During a period of three years, seven months, and twelve days, from the commencement of the blockade to the cessation of arms, we had experienced a continued series of watchfulness and fatigue, the horrors of famine, and every harassing and vexatious mode of attack which a powerful, obstinate, and revengeful enemy could devise."

In addition to this honour, the King rewarded him with a peerage, with the title of Lord Heathfield, Baron Gibraltar, on the 14th of June, 1787, and permitted his Lordship also to take the arms of the fortress he had so nobly defended. He died at his chateau at Aix-la-Chapelle, on the 6th of June, 1790, in the 73d year of his age.

Lord Heathfield married on the eighth of June, 1748, Anne, daughter of Sir Francis Drake, of Buckland, Devon., Baronet, by whom he had four children.

*** The materials of the above Memoir are chiefly derived from Collins's Peerage.

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

Painted by G. Hart. ws

Engraved by J. Thomson

JANE PORTER.

AS A LADY CADOGAN'S

Jane Porter

FISHER SON & Co LONDON 1834

MISS JANE PORTER.

Our present subject, as has been already told in our preceding memoirs of her lamented sister, the late Miss Anna Maria Porter, was the elder of the two; and, like her, received the rudiments of her education under the same excellent tutor, Fulton, of Edinburgh. Being a few years older than Anna Maria, she became very early the companion of her widowed parent; which circumstance gave a premature stamp to the character of her mind.—According to the sweet song in the now almost forgotten but charming play, "The Heiress,"

"A mother's soft sorrows, to her's led the way;"

at least, they cast over her childhood a shadow of grave pensiveness, which grew up with her into that air of nun-like abstraction, that was the characteristic of her youth. However, every thing around her in Scotland tended to foster this meditative constitution, whilst the character of her education no less contributed to the same result. While her schoolmaster's classical studies presented to her the stoic, devoted heroes of Greece and Rome; and her nearer and dearer instructress daily taught her into the sacred and simpler magnanimity of Bible heroism; a never-to-be-extinguished enthusiasm for the more recent, but great and memorable past, was also awakened in her young breast by the constant influence of certain spirits of "other days," who formed much of the society of her mother. In Edinburgh, where she resided, there still existed many of the celebrated persons who had distinguished themselves by a brave and devoted attachment to the cause of the unhappy race of royal Stuarts. Flora Macdonald, with the Camerons, the Drummonds, the Lockharts, and others of the like generous but unfortunate fidelity to a gallant but doomed line: many of these, then in "their storied old age," used to be frequent visitors to "the English widow and her bairns;" to whom, with a proud though melancholy delight, they over and over again related the history of a time, and particularly of a day, memorable to

both narrators and listeners; for in the year 1745, all the disasters of the narrators were consummated at the fatal battle of Culloden; and in that year, and at that very period, the honoured mother of the eagerly listening little auditors was born into the world. From these often-repeated heart-rending stories, Jane early imbibed her peculiarly ready sympathy for the brave and illustrious unfortunate; and whether the theme were the Bruce, the Wallace, or the Stuarts, it lit that flame in her young bosom, which, we have observed, no time nor circumstances have since been able to lower in its glow; a flame, which prepared her to be the future epic-historian (for so some of our contemporaries have denominated her style of writing) of the Wallace and the Bruce—and the Sobieski of Poland; proving in those works, that the principle of true disinterested devotedness to the real weal of a man's country, must be the same in every land. Indeed, to infuse this principle, "pure and undefiled" from the taint of personal ambition; and to guard it from the opposite plague-spot, a presumptuous abandonment of lawful restraints on the minds of any people; from the hour in which she first took a literary pen in her hand, has been her undeviating effort. Much of the accidental circumstances, or, we might more properly say, the occasional events of her early life, which tended to the gradual development of this unusual strain in a female bosom, may be traced in the notes she has lately appended to the new edition of her three leading romances—Thaddeus of Warsaw—The Scottish Chiefs—and The Pastor's Fire-side, recently published in the standard novels. We find there little descriptive sketches of her family's residence, first in one home and then in another, of enviable seclusion from the world's common whirl of bustle and amusement. The children of a younger brother, they all felt from childhood that they had a serious part to perform in life; and mere pleasure was never a word amongst them. Mrs. Porter's two eldest sons, even in their very boyhood, entered on the stage of their chosen professions; and her first-born, who was talented like the rest, going to a dangerous climate, soon closed in death his meritorious career. The second, Dr. Porter of Bristol, under more favourable circumstances, pursued the study of physic; which led him also into foreign countries, but with a happier result to his affectionate parent, for he eventually settled in the city above mentioned; where he is not less considered in the light of a travelled and accomplished man of letters, than valued for his skill in medicine.

The three younger children, meanwhile left alone with their mother, prosecuted their several acquirements with intense and joyous appli-

cation—for study to them was enjoyment; books, and objects of the fine arts, being in their eyes the best of possessions. Jane was so enamoured of reading, that of her own voluntary impulse she has often risen by four o'clock in the morning, to feast the sooner on some interesting work of history, or even on the graver page of some didactic sage. Anna Maria's taste assumed a more versatile character: history, poetry, music, drawing, sculpture—all owned her hand and heart. And the young Robert (her almost twin brother, for he was hardly a year older) shared with her in all these tastes. But that of the pencil was his favourite; and with a talent in the art, precocious as her own in literature, at the age of nineteen he displayed to the world that magnificent memorial of his country's glory in arms, the picture of the storming of Seringapatam, which must live in fame as long as England and India are one empire. During a few succeeding years, he painted several other historical commemoratives of the same kind, illustrative of our national military honour; one of which, the battle of Agincourt, he gave to the city of London, and for many years it decorated the higher end of the Egyptian Hall in the Mansion-house. We have missed it for some time, and can gather no tidings of where this noble picture may yet be seen. But all this distinguished reputation as a memorialist of deeds of arms, he soon quitted for the conflicts of the actual field itself; and in little more than five or six years after he had astonished the oldest professors of the art of painting, by five large and splendid historical pictures, dedicated to the country of his birth, he was serving the same in the battle-fields of the Peninsula; and was a sad spectator of the heroic death of his friend and commander, General Sir John Moore. We then find him in our other continental campaigns against the great enemy of the ancient dynasties of Europe. And in after years, when peace turned "the warrior's sword and shield" into diplomatic pens and desks, he became attached, successively, to several of our foreign embassies; which, affording him an opportunity of visiting distant countries, even from the shores of the Indus to those of the Mississippi and Orinoco: nor did he forget, while on them all, to indicate by his pencil as an artist, and to bring home written proofs that he had not neglected any of the objects worthy the attention of a judicious traveller.

But to return to the particular subject of this biographical sketch, his sister, Miss Jane Porter.

Though ardently devoted to reading, she never thought of being an author herself, until her emulation was excited to follow the delighted and delighting steps of her imaginative sister Anna Maria, into the same

fancy-created regions—the elysian world that genius paints, in imitative shadow of what man might have been in this, had he not lost "his first estate." This influence of the younger sister, having awakened the sleeping talent for such efforts in her senior, Jane soon after produced the Polish historical romance of "Thaddeus of Warsaw." A succession of years since its publication, have in no degree lessened the great popularity it attracted on its first appearance. Indeed, a contemporary critic bears a striking testimony to its peculiar character. "Our assertion (he observes) can hardly be disputed, that this work was probably the very first of the kind which, introducing history and fiction together, blends them into the same seeming veritable story. This was done by Miss Jane Porter in her Thaddeus of Warsaw, with such an air of simple reality and *vraisemblance* throughout, that we defy scrutiny to point out, in many parts, where the facts end and the fiction begins. General Gardiner, who was British minister at Warsaw during the calamitous period to Poland to which the tale relates, has been heard to express his surprise at how the fair authoress could have been a visitor at that time in the Polish capital, and he not know it! for he would not believe that any other than an eye-witness could have described what she has done in that spirited work."

Besides this suffrage from a British resident there, she has since received numerous tributes to the fidelity of her narrative, from Poland itself; and amongst them a ring, containing a portrait of the patriot Kosciusko, which used to be a rallying sign during the awful struggles of that crisis. To enhance the value of such a gift, it was sent to her by a nephew of that illustrious man; and another companion, of his fame and of his sorrows, presented her with a lock of his hair. Himself also, at an early stage of the work's publication, acknowledged, by a letter to herself, his sense of the enthusiastic appeal to the best sympathies of human nature, which she had wrought out of the story of his country's misfortunes.

At this commencement of her literary career, she had felt with her sister, that "if for every idle word *spoken*, we must give an account at the highest tribunal!" how much more must the responsibility be, for every word *written*; which may not cease to speak, even to generations and generations:—therefore her succeeding work, "The Scottish Chiefs," composed two or three years afterwards, told a similar parable on the side of virtue, and its only sure foundation, a religious principle. This book, though one of uncommon length because of the number of events to be woven into "the golden web of its ancient tapestry," was read with an avidity hardly exampled. Its first appear-

ance had an electric effect in Scotland. Rings and crosses cut out of Wallace's oak, were sent to her; and other relics also, real or supposed, of him and his heroic companions, came as grateful offerings from their posterity. Mrs. Joanna Baillie, in her fine poem on Sir William Wallace, (published in her volume of Metrical Romances,) notes with a glowing praise Miss Jane Porter's management of her hero's almost incredible achievements; and particularly points out the sublimity of her description of his burning the "blood-stained Barns of Ayr." Moreover, it is known that Sir Walter Scott generously admitted to his late Majesty, one day in the library at Carlton-palace, that this work was the parent, in his mind, of the Waverley Novels.

"The Scottish Chiefs," like its predecessor "Thaddeus of Warsaw," was translated into the Continental languages; and was so well received amongst them, that one of the German Courts honoured its authoress with making her a lady of the chapter of one of the chivalric orders, which admits both sexes as its members. The late Mr. Harlowe had this idea in his mind, when he drew the portrait of Miss Jane Porter that accompanies this memoir. The work appearing in France at a time when the Emperor Napoleon felt particularly jealous of all references to past lawful *regimes*, and examples of patriotic loyalty, and of the genuine spirit of freedom, he so little liked the old British spirit of our English authoress, that he ordered the book to be suppressed. Her next publication was a pocket-companion for youth, entitled, "Sir Philip Sidney's Aphorisms." They are selected from his works, and illustrated by her remarks; and strikingly exhibits the principles, the manners, and the graces of a true gentleman.

A few years after the foregoing, Miss Jane Porter brought out "The Pastor's Fire-side," a romantic, and, as usual with her, an authentic tale. It relates to the times of the Stuarts; and their attempts in what the Scotch call the Fifteen, and the Nineteen, (in contradistinction from their final effort, in the Forty-five rebellion,) to regain their seat on the British throne. In the course of the story, the traversing policies of the celebrated and wily Duke Wharton of England, and the famous Ripperda of Spain, both such signal proficients in diplomatic mysteries, occupy conspicuous places. The scenes at Vienna and in Barbary are very extraordinary; but she has facts to bear her out in most of them. With regard to the home part of it, the Pastor's Fire-side in England; it is gently and peaceably terminated where it began, in "Holy Lindisfarne."

In the autumn of 1823, our authoress published the historical romance of "Duke Christian of Lunenberg,"—the hero being of the

race whence our present Brunswick monarchs sprung; and the subject, we understand, was selected for her pen by his late Majesty himself. However, if so dictated, it is not the less genuine in its principles; a loyal independence, like that of her preceding works, pervading the whole of this. It gives a very curious history of the ancient Brunswick family; and is compiled from the rarest and most authentic documents.

Her next publication was her share in the "Tales round a Winter Hearth," two tales, entitled "The Old House at Hunter Combe," and "Berenice's Pilgrimage." The latter makes a very interesting use of her brother Sir Robert Ker Porter's Travels in the East; for, by their track, she conducts her heroine not only through Palestine, but over part of Arabia, to

'Doomed Euphrates' solitary shores!"

bringing us to the ruins of Babylon, with a borrowed spell indeed, but it is still a spell, till we almost believe we are seated amongst them. In 1828, she published "The Field of the Forty Footsteps." A story founded on an old legend respecting a certain field in the neighbourhood of Bloomsbury, in London, where such scathed blood-stampt footsteps have often been pointed out, even in the memory of the narrator; and on part of the site of which, the New London University now stands.

These latter works were written at Esher; where the author, and her sister-coadjutor Anna Maria, had resided from the autumn of 1825, with their venerable mother, in a pretty cottage on the brow of the village hill. A numerous, but still select acquaintance, visited the sisters and their mother there; and a yet more numerous correspondence (too numerous for the ultimate health of the party) engaged what ought to have been the leisure hours of the sisters. A correspondence with the younger, was particularly sought; for she wrote letters with a singular felicity on every subject; inheriting that most endearing of all talents from her mother, who, though never an authoress, from her earliest womanhood had been admired and loved for the natural grace, playful vivacity, and truth of heart manifested in her epistles. We are acquainted with more than one of her occasional correspondents, who preserve her letters with great care and interest. Besides these great and small occupations of their pens, the sisters occasionally gave some little poetical or prose contributions to a few of the best periodicals of the day, and most frequently to "The Naval and Military Journal." In its pages we have a

biographical sketch of the late admired and lamented Colonel Denham, the African traveller; and, perhaps, it is one of the most affecting tributes that has ever been paid to departed merit. It was written by Miss Jane Porter, but without her name being affixed to it. Colonel Denham, and his respected brother, had been her friends from boys.

In the summer of 1831, she published "Sir Edward Seaward's Narrative," with a preface which declared herself to be only its editor. It is a work which, if not the genuine narrative of a person so situated as Miss Jane Porter represents the hero to have been, all the reading world of both Continents have pronounced to be one of the most extra ordinary and yet natural pieces of invention that ever came from a writer's pen. But whether the work be her own offspring, or her adopted child as she sets it forth to be, it came out at a time when its quick celebrity could give no emotion of pleasure to its professed editor. Her revered parent was then on her death-bed, "gazing tenderly on her children to the last;" and after a short illness of hardly a fortnight, the pious hands of her sister and herself closed those venerable eyes on the 21st of June, 1831. Full of years, and with perfectly unimpaired faculties, at the age of eighty-six she departed this life; while, with a voice as gently firm as in her prime of days, she enjoined with her last breath this source of comfort to her children—"Prayer, prayer! is the vital aliment of soul and body! Man does not live by bread alone."

From that period, the cup of sorrow seems to have been the elder daughter's portion. The health of the younger then became doubly her tender care; and, as has already been related in the preceding memoir, she took the drooping Anna Maria away from their home, in search of a degree of renovation she was not destined to find. Both sisters had laid their honoured parent in a grave in Esher churchyard, which they prepared to be large enough to some day contain themselves beside her. But it was not to be so. On the anniversary of the very day in which their revered mother was committed to the earth at Esher, the sad survivor of both mother and sister saw the remains of that beloved sister taken to their last bed in Bristol.

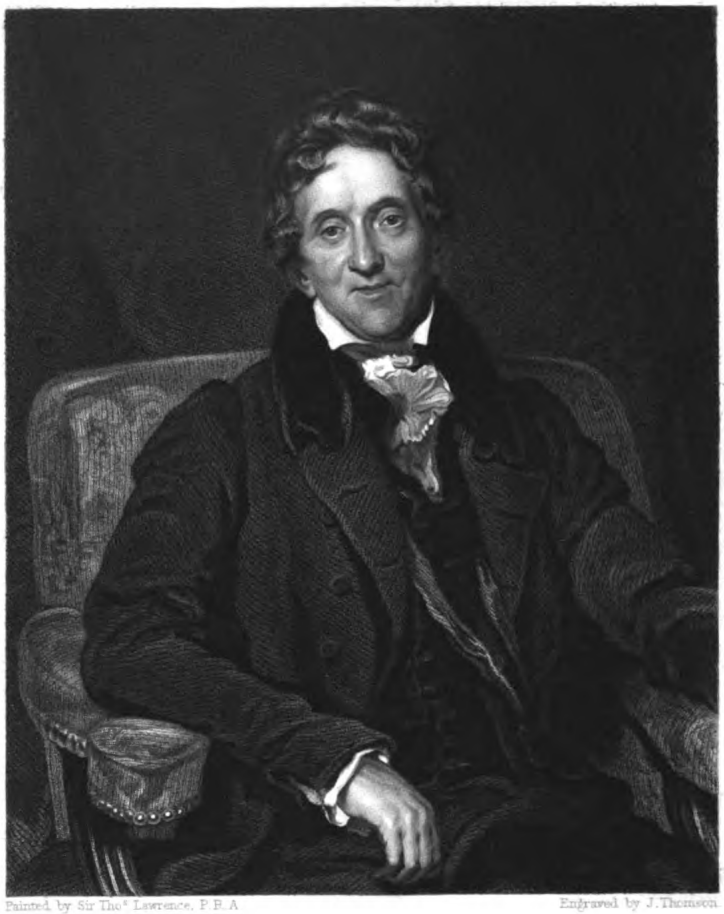
With much that was similar between the two sisters, there were some distinctive differences.

Though the same moral and religious principles are developed in the works of both, the manner of constructing their stories, and the diction in which they are told, are totally dissimilar. Anna Maria's language is most fluent and captivating; Jane's, with a severer strength, at times possesses an intenser interest in the situation of her characters.

But, for general beautiful imaginations, tenderness, sweetness, child-like purity, and universal charm, we must give the younger sister the preference. This distinction of mental temperament was also extended to their personal appearance. Jane was always remarkable for a grave deportment; Anna Maria, for a constant flow of animating spirits, smiling in her countenance, and giving an elastic spring to her slight and graceful figure. So distinctly was this difference stamped on their forms and features, that, amongst their youthful intimates, they went by the names of *L'Allegro* and *Il Penseroso.* About the same period, their brother, Sir Robert Ker Porter, when designing an altar-piece which he presented to Cambridge, made a study of his eldest sister for the figure of Faith, and of the younger for Hope. The President of the Royal Academy painted Miss Jane Porter for the fine picture of Jephthah's daughter, which is now at Frogmore; and another distinguished artist made a portrait of Anna Maria, as a Hebe. But there was one picture of the latter, the loss of which the family has never ceased to regret; it having been lent to a friend, and lost by an accident. It portrayed her in a simple dress, her fair hair coiled back from her brow, and bending attentively over a book which she held in her hand, reading. The unobtrusive original preferred the quiet simplicity of this portraiture of herself, before all the more animated depictings of her gayer moments.

We are happy, in closing the memoir of Miss Jane Porter, to state, that she has assigned to herself the consolatory task of completing a lengthened biographical account of her deceased sister; with a selection from her letters, and some of the poems, with which, through their lives together, she brightened present enjoyments, or gilded the memory of scenes that were passed.

*** Since this Memoir was written, we have learned that the Corporation of London have it in contemplation to appropriate a suitable place for viewing the Painting of the Battle of Agincourt, to which the public will have free access. Its dimensions are about thirty-three yards long by eight deep.



Painted by Sir Thos. Lawrence, P.R.A. Engraved by J. Thomson.

SIR JOHN SOANE, R.A. F.R.S. F.S.A.

John Soane

SIR JOHN SOANE,

R.A., F.R.S., F.S.A.

PROFESSOR OF ARCHITECTURE IN THE ENGLISH ROYAL ACADEMY,

&c. &c. &c.

"In ARCHITECTURE, too, of rank supreme!
That Art where most magnificent appear
The works immense of man—by *taste* refin'd,
And genius urg'd, to full perfection brought."

Thomson.

WHEN the genius and taste of the professional portrait painter are skilfully employed in delineating and transmitting to posterity the personal features and mental expression of men of worth and talent, they are both laudably and honourably exercised. We must protest against the common-place reprobation of portrait painting, which many persons unthinkingly and absurdly indulge in; for there are portraits by Raffaelle, Titian, Rembrandt, Vandyke, Reynolds, Lawrence, and others, both of the olden and of modern times, of pre-eminent beauty and merit. Those artists have shewn that they could produce a picture of commanding and lasting interest, in the representation of a single figure, and even in a head. This fact is also exemplified by several specimens in the present "National Gallery;" and, particularly, by the annexed engraving. In this we perceive the skill and taste of the artist, not merely in a masterly delineation of countenance, the index of mind, but in arrangement, colour, tone, and in the expression of the whole picture. As long as this portrait of the individual remains, we may hold imaginary converse with the man, the artist, the sentient being: we may call up reminiscences of the painter and the sitter. Let it never be again said, that the

talents of such an artist as the late estimable Sir Thomas Lawrence were improperly, or even injudiciously, exercised, in perpetuating the portraits of a Scott, a Canova, a Watt, a Kemble, a Siddons, a Canning, a Wellington, a Soane.*

From the days of Vitruvius to the present time, it may be safely asserted that there never was an architect whose name and works, during his life-time, have been known by a larger portion of the public, than those of the distinguished individual whose portrait accompanies the present brief memoir. Sir Christopher Wren, we are aware, not only designed many large edifices for London, and lived to an old age, but was almost a martyr to litigation and splenetic criticism: the press was then, however, of limited range, and the world of professional fame was equally circumscribed. Not so in our days; for literature has become infinitely varied in its powers; it has become of boundless scope, and of vast influence, and every public character is amenable to its imperious laws, and may be regarded as a legitimate subject for its criticism. SIR JOHN SOANE has been assailed by the satiric writer—for he has been fortunate and popular in professional engagements, as well as in the attainment of wealth, which invariably bring in their train the envy of rivals, and the animadversions of the censorious. The metropolis, alone, contains

* A memoir of Sir Thomas Lawrence, with accounts of his principal works, has been written by D. E. Williams, Esq., and various conflicting criticisms have been published on his merits as an artist. Some of these writers have lauded him to the acme of panegyric, but others have endeavoured to degrade him almost below mediocrity. The discriminating and impartial connoisseur, as well as the professional painter, will admit, that the late President of the Royal Academy was an artist of high attainments, and of great professional skill. From childhood to the end of life, he unceasingly pursued his studies, and endeavoured to impart to every succeeding picture some new beauties, and fresh excellences of art. He was ever anxious to bestow on each portrait the highest degree of finish, force, and truth, in his power. It was this feeling, this acuteness of sensibility, that impelled him to postpone, and entirely neglect, the finishing of many paintings, which were in different degrees of execution at the time of his death. For many successive years his works were the most prominent objects of attraction and admiration in the Royal Academy: and, in the summer of 1833, a selection from them was exhibited at the British Institution, in connexion with others by two former Presidents of that Academy, Reynolds and West. From these the well, informed critic is enabled to estimate the intrinsic and comparative merits of these three artists. In a former part of our "National Gallery," we have endeavoured to exhibit Sir Thomas in true and permanent colours; and have been tempted

several public edifices raised after his designs: from the Bank of England, in the city, to Chelsea Hospital, at the western extremity—from Walworth, in the southern, to the Regent's Park, in the northern suburbs—there are many of these buildings, which cannot fail of attracting the notice of the lover of architecture, by their novelty of form and feature. Some of them are works of magnitude, and of national import; for they belong to the historic annals of the age, the arts, and the country. The Bank, the National Debt Redemption Office, the Privy Council Office, the Law Courts at Westminster, parts of the House of Lords, the State-paper Office, the new appendages to Chelsea Hospital, the Churches at Walworth and Marylebone, are all buildings of this class and character; and the architect's own house, in Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, may now be regarded also as a public metropolitan edifice. These, however, are not the only objects that have tended to keep the name of Sir John Soane before the public for more than half a century; but, as Professor of Architecture in the Royal Academy, an author of different pamphlets and volumes on his professional studies, and from having been an extensive and liberal benefactor to many institutions connected with the fine arts, sciences, and literature of the country, he has acquired no small portion of publicity and distinction.

to allude to him again here, chiefly to remark, that the portrait of Sir John Soane, from which the annexed engraving has been copied, by permission of the liberal proprietor, may be referred to, among the very finest of his late productions. As a prototype of the sitter, it is almost perfect; it not merely delineates the features of the countenance, but marks the air, the expression, the apparent thinking, of the living model. The attitude of the figure, and the deep tone of the picture, are also touched in with all the mastery of art. A mezzotinto plate has been most admirably engraved from it by Mr. C. Turner, from which a few impressions have been presented to Sir John's particular friends. On examining a proof of this plate, on the 2d of January, 1830, only a few days previous to his lamented death, Sir Thomas expressed himself much pleased, but recommended the engraver to "make the sky, and the part immediately under it, a little lighter; by doing which," he said, "you will get more point in your print, and greatly assist the effect. When done, let me see it again on the 12th, at 8 o'clock in the morning, and I hope Mr. Soane will then be as well pleased with it as I am now." These remarks indicate two characteristic traits of the accomplished artist, who died before the appointed morning—namely, his early habits, and his minute attention to every part of his pictures. The new Waterloo Gallery, at Windsor Castle, from the designs of Sir Jeffrey Wyatville, contains a series of Sir Thomas's best and latest portraits of monarchs, statesmen, and warriors.

The public character of an artist is generally indicated by his professional works, and these are the chief, if not the only legitimate objects of commentary for the literary essayist and biographer. Raffaelle, Michael-Angelo, Inigo Jones, Wren, &c. have left such palpable proofs of their respective talents, in their various productions, that "he who runs may read" them, and thereby estimate their relative and intrinsic merits. If there were no other record left of the first-named but the series of designs called the "Cartoons"—or of the last, but the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, London—these would be "proofs strong as holy writ" of the commanding professional abilities of both these time-honoured artists. Of the eminent architect whose portrait is annexed, it may suffice to point to the Bank of England, and say—that is his work: and we will venture to assert, that, on careful examination, it will be found to manifest a fertile fancy, great abilities, and varied attributes of architectural skill. It is stamped with the broad mark of the artist's own genius, and is contradistinguished from the designs of all his predecessors and contemporaries.

Like most other artists of eminence, Sir John Soane has been the creator of his own fame and fortune. He inherits nothing but his name from ancestry; but that name will now be transmitted to posterity with the highest honours. Of his personal characteristics and connexions, it would be irrelevant to say any thing in the brief space allotted to this memoir; suffice it to remark, that he is a native of Reading, in Berkshire, where it is said that he was born in the year 1756. Placed in boyhood in the office of George Dance, an architect of eminence, he soon displayed those attributes of genius—zeal, acuteness, and perseverance—which generally lead to fame. Of his master, the pupil records the following high testimony, in a pamphlet, entitled, "A Statement of Facts respecting the Designs of a new House of Lords," 1799. He was "an architect whose perfect knowledge of the ancient works of the Greeks and Romans, and whose correct taste, founded on the most pure examples of antiquity, first secured him in Parma, in 1763, the premium in architecture from twenty-nine competitors, and have since deservedly placed him in the first class of professional men who have ever adorned this or any other nation."

In the office of such an accomplished preceptor, and under his guidance, the young architect soon distinguished himself; and, whilst a student in the Royal Academy, obtained a prize medal for an architectural design, and also the additional honour and advantage of being

appointed, by the council of that institution, one of its travelling students. Provided with a small annual stipend from the Academy, Mr. Soane left England in the year 1777, and, after visiting and residing some time in Rome, Florence, and other Italian cities, returned to England with his portfolios and pocket-books stored with sketches, measurements, and memoranda of some of the famed edifices of those classical regions. The result of these studies has been imparted to the public, and rendered manifest, in the Bank, in the Council offices, and in other buildings; and still further, to the students of the Royal Academy, by two courses of twelve Lectures. At the time Mr. Soane was in Italy, it had not become fashionable for young artists to examine the more remote and purer specimens of Grecian architecture, in Athens, Asia Minor, &c. It is a singular fact also, that our juvenile architect was, however, tempted to visit Greece under peculiar, but, as he thought, not very prepossessing circumstances. Some of his associates at Rome, young Englishmen of fortune, after repeated conversations about, and expressed wishes of visiting Athens, agreed to decide their determination by a majority of votes, and Mr. Soane settled the question of the proposed journey, by giving a casting vote against it. This seems strange; for, perhaps not one of the party was so eager to examine the far-famed architectural ruins of that classical capital, as the person who negatived the proposal: but that person also knew, that if he embarked with a party of young men, who had promised to pay his expenses, he must conform to their general wish and general habits. He likewise knew that they were not persons inclined to take a laborious and critical survey and investigation of the buildings they proposed to visit; and, therefore, rather than undertake an expedition of so much speculation and uncertainty, he preferred returning home. During his sojourn at Rome, Mr. Soane became distinguished by his zealous studies, and by the effect of those studies, in drawings, which were occasionally exhibited to the connossieurs of that city. Among the designs then made (1779) was one for "a Senate House," on which he remarks, in his folio volume of "Designs for Public and Private Buildings," 1828.—"It is a study made without regard to expense, or limits as to space, in the gay morning of youthful fancy, amid all the wild imagination of an enthusiastic mind, animated by the contemplation of the majestic ruins of the sublime works of imperial Rome." An elevation, section, and bird's-eye view of this Senate House, are engraved for the volume referred to; in which there is also a bird's-eye view of "a Royal Palace," which was likewise made in Rome, in the same year. In composing this superb mass of buildings,

Mr. Soane says, he "endeavoured to combine magnificence with utility, and intricacy with variety and novelty. Vignola's celebrated palace at Caprarola, determined the general outline of the plan; and the immense remains of the imperial palace of the Cæsars, in Rome—the villa of Adrian, at Tivoli—the palace of Dioclesian, at Spalatro—the baths of the Romans, and the Pantheon, with its superb portico—exemplars of magnificence, intricacy, variety, and movement, uniting all the intellectual lights of classical architecture—were circumstances calculated to call forth the best energies of the young artist." It is worthy of remark, that our youthful architect, at that time, projected not only the bold and novel scheme of raising a superb palace for the British monarch, but also another work in union with it, which, he remarks, was calculated to "defray all the expense of the design." The palace he proposed to erect in Hyde-park, with a series of magnificent hotels, or mansions, which were to extend from Knightsbridge to Bayswater, and to be relieved by occasional breaks. It appears that this design was much approved by Thomas Pitt, afterwards Lord Camelford, who was then at Rome, and who became a warm friend and patron of the young architect, when he settled in London. That nobleman not only employed, but introduced him to some of his noble and distinguished relatives and friends. Mr. Soane was successively engaged in making designs for Robert Fellowes, Esq., at Shottisham, in Norfolk; H. G. Lewis, Esq., Malvern Hall, Warwickshire; B. G. Dillingham, Esq., Letton Hall, Norfolk; T. Giffard, Esq., Chillington, Staffordshire; Sir Joshua Rowley, Tendring Hall, Suffolk; Sir Thomas B. Proctor, Langley Park, Norfolk; John Wharton, Esq., Skelton Castle, Yorkshire; Lord Mulgrave, Mulgrave Hall, in the same county; George Smith, Esq., Burn Hall, Durham; N. Rix, Esq., Oulton, Suffolk; the Rev. Archdeacon Gooch, Saxlingham; William Windham, Esq., Earsham, Suffolk; the Marquis of Buckingham, alterations and additions to Stowe, and to the town-house, Pall Mall; the Right Hon. William Pitt, Holwood, Kent; Lord Liverpool, Coombe Wood, Surrey; William Praed, Esq., Tyringham, Buckinghamshire; also in building St. Paul's bridge, and additions to the castle at Norwich. In those two distinguished statesmen and ministers, Lord Liverpool and Mr. Pitt, Mr. Soane met with kind and influential friends—friends who possessed the will and means of serving the architect on many and very important occasions. Most of the buildings above-named are shewn by plans, elevations, &c., with short architectural notices, in the folio volume already referred to.

SIR JOHN SOANE.

On the death of Sir Robert Taylor, in 1788, the office of Architect to the Bank of England became vacant, and Mr. Soane was appointed to that distinguished post of honour. It opened a wide field for his fancy and talents; for the buildings of the Bank were at that time limited in extent, inconvenient in many essential parts, and were also incongruous in architectural character. Unlike his predecessors, Sampson and Sir Robert Taylor, who had made some additions to the building, Mr. Soane commenced his professional operations by making an elaborate ground plan of the whole range of offices, &c. and another plan, shewing a design for erecting a new edifice, to be progressively executed, without interrupting the necessary and extensive business of this great national establishment. By that design, the buildings were to extend over a much larger area of ground than before. Several houses, with a church, were to be purchased and pulled down, and the whole was to be an insular stone edifice, constructed in the most suitable and substantial manner, without external windows, calculated for extended durability, and to resist the accident of fire. From that time to nearly the present, this noble building has progressively grown in extent, in symmetry of parts, and in many essentials of usefulness and architectural beauty. Some idea of its extent may be formed by the exterior measurements, which are 365 feet, the south front; 410 feet, the north; 245 feet, to the east; and 440 to the west. Within this area are nine open courts, a spacious rotunda, numerous public offices, court and committee rooms, an armoury, engraving and printing offices, a library, apartments for officers, servants, &c. The general architectural order of the Bank is Corinthian, from the Temple of Vesta at Tivoli; and the south-west angle exhibits a fac-simile of a portion of that beautiful temple. An essay on its merits and general characteristics will be found in "Illustrations of the Public Buildings of London," 2 vols. 8vo; and some engravings of its exterior and interior features are in Mr. Soane's folio volume of "Designs for Public and Private Buildings." The latter contains fifty-four engraved plans, elevations, and views of edifices, either executed or designed by the artist whose history is now under consideration. A brief notice of some of these buildings will serve to point out the most eminent of Sir John Soane's works, and also indicate the talents of the architect, and the spirit of the age in which they have been raised.

"*Designs for Entrances into Hyde Park and St. James's Park*," at the western side of the metropolis. These gateways, in imitation of the gorgeous triumphal arches of the Romans, are rich in architectural

and sculptural expression; and had they, or something of the kind, been erected in 1796, when submitted to, and approved by, King George the Third, they would have been highly ornamental to that court-end of London, and have led the way to other architectural embellishments.

The next, "*A Design for a Royal Palace,*" proposed to be raised on Constitution Hill, in the Green Park, is a splendid display of the capabilities and powers of architecture; and, had it been placed in that most appropriate and eligible site, and in union with the gateways already noticed, the whole would have formed a scene, or series of scenes, of great magnificence, and attraction.

A "*Design for a Monument for the late Duke of York,* and to perpetuate the splendid victories of Trafalgar, Waterloo, &c." is a sort of monopteral temple, intended for St. James's Park, adjoining the Horse Guards. At the time the design was made, some Members of Parliament proposed a vote of £300,000, to raise a grand national building commemorative of the famed battles in which the English had been triumphant; and, although a large sum was granted, and an immense subscription raised, we have not heard of the completion, or even commencement, of a second Blenheim, or of any other edifice worthy of the occasion and of the country. Even the monument for the Duke of York, for which Sir John Soane subscribed £1000 towards a statue only, is dwindled to an unmeaning, inappropriate single column, which is raised on Carlton Terrace, but which has neither application, nor one architectural sentiment adapted to the time, to the person, to the place, or to the nation.

"*Designs for the Board of Trade and Privy Council Offices.*" Part of this splendid building has been erected near Whitehall; and if the whole had been executed according to the elevations and views in Mr. Soane's volume, both the architect and the country would have been honoured by the work. Only a small portion, a sort of fragment, however, has been built, and that considerably varied from the architect's designs. Instead of detached columns in front, three-quarter columns are used; and, instead of the order of the little Temple of Tivoli being the prototype, that of the three columns in the Campo-Vaccino at Rome is followed. Thus a disproportionate and imperfect character prevails in the exterior, which is exposed to the view and criticism of every passenger; whilst the interior, in which the skill and taste of the architect is most manifest, and particularly the Council Chamber, is but little seen, and known only to a few persons.

"*The New Law Courts at Westminster,*" designed in 1820, may be referred to as a test of Mr. Soane's abilities and science. Within a space, very little larger than the celebrated and justly admired Rufus's Hall, adjoining, the architect has arranged and erected seven public courts, adapted for the accommodation of judges, counsel, lawyers, juries, witnesses, spectators, &c.; with appropriate corridors, retiring and waiting rooms, apartments for officers, &c. The task was not only difficult, but, to many men of less experience, would have been impracticable. "After repeated attempts," says Sir John, "I succeeded in composing a general plan, that satisfied me the site was sufficient." That plan being approved, the works were prosecuted with rapidity, and were very far advanced, when some architectural amateurs of the House of Commons found fault with the design, (the exterior of the northern front,) and obtained an order of the House to pull down a large mass of the building. Still further, they recommended and secured the same sanction for an architectural design of their own, in what they called "the Gothic style," to be built, and added to the architect's interiors, in which there is nothing "Gothic." The present north front, therefore, must not be ascribed to Mr. Soane; nor, indeed, is it fair to blame him, as Sir James Scarlett has publicly done, for the sizes and arrangements of the interiors of the several public courts. These were approved, in plans, by the judges and by the most eminent counsel, who were consulted, before any part of the work was commenced, and who then admitted that they were all ample in their respective areas. In consequence of frequent and severe remarks on these Courts, in the House of Commons, also, by certain officers within the courts, and by the public press, the architect was induced to publish a folio volume, in 1828, entitled, "A Brief Statement of the Proceedings respecting the new Law Courts at Westminster, the Board of Trade, and the new Privy Council Office, &c. &c." That volume contains a particular and detailed account of the whole series of designs —the consultations and advice the architect resorted to—the plans, elevations, and views, of the exterior and interior of the whole works—and various miscellaneous matters connected with the subject. It may be referred to as a literary, graphic, professional, and political curiosity, and eminently calculated to afford useful suggestion to young architects, and even to barristers, and statesmen.

The volume last noticed, contains a republication of some of the plates, printed in the volume of "Designs for Public and Private Buildings," and also additional illustrative etchings, with a large portion of letter-press. Besides twenty-five etchings by Coney, in a loose, ragged

style, it embraces much information and critical comment on public buildings, the press, and on public men. The remaining subjects delineated and noticed in the volume of "Designs," are the National Debt Redemption Office, in the Old Jewry; the church of St. Peter, at Walworth; that of the Trinity, in St. Marylebone; a chapel, at Bethnal Green; some villas, prisons; the Gallery and a Mausoleum at Dulwich; and the Infirmary, at Chelsea. The State Paper Office, in St. James's park, may be referred to, as the last building executed from the designs of Sir John Soane; and this is very unlike, in exterior and interior features, any other of his works. His own house and museum in Lincoln's Inn Fields, though built some years back, has continued to receive additions and architectural embellishments up to the end of the year 1833, and may be regarded as an index, epitome, and commentary on the architect's professional abilities. This museum, and this year, will be memorable in the annals of the arts of England, and particularly in the biography of Sir John Soane; as, by act of parliament, passed 20th April, 1833, he has settled on trustees, for the benefit of future architects, and for the gratification of artists and amateurs, his inestimable museum and library. To preserve these in their entireness within the walls which were purposely raised for their reception and display, and in union with the numerous and original architectural forms and effects which belong to the house, the most prudent and strict clauses are introduced into the act, and the interest of £30,000, with the rent of an adjoining house, are appropriated and granted to support and uphold the premises, and provide for a suitable domestic establishment. The whole is to be opened, for public examination, and for the study of artists, at certain times, and under due regulations; and thus a commencement is made towards supplying that desideratum, a national architectural academy. The *Soanean Museum* may be hailed as a novelty in this country, and probably in the world, and cannot fail of proving highly beneficial to the student in architecture, and more particularly to those persons of ardent and keenly inquisitive dispositions, who can neither afford time nor money to travel and examine the ancient edifices of distant countries. Of this truly novel and munificent donation to the public, it may be proper to give a very brief account; for it constitutes an important, a prominent feature in the biography of its proprietor and founder. A very concise catalogue of the contents of the museum and library, and a list of its pictures and drawings, would occupy a very large volume. They consist of several thousand books and MSS; some hundreds of architectural fragments, casts, and models; numerous pieces of ancient and modern sculpture; an immense collection

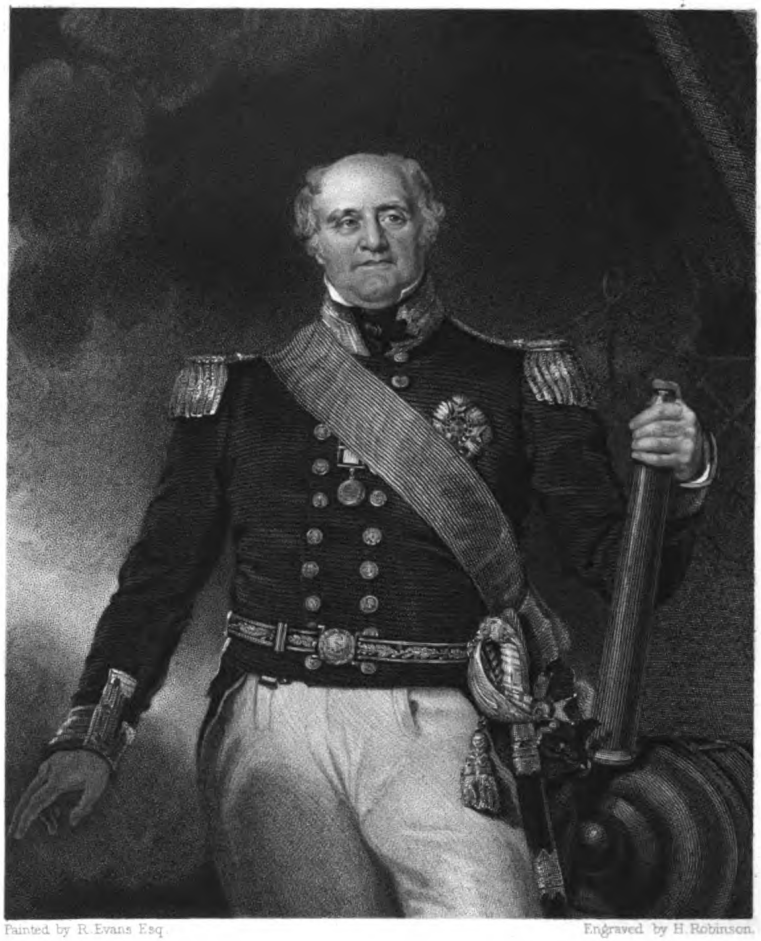
of architectural drawings; and several fine pictures, by Reynolds, Lawrence, Hogarth, Turner, Calcott, Howard, Jones, Canaletti, together with many objects of virtu and rarity. These are dispersed and arranged over nearly the whole of the house, from the attics to the basement floor. At the conclusion of the Professor's twelfth lecture, at the Royal Academy, March 21, 1833, Sir John, speaking of his house and its contents, said, "This collection, which is now my absolute property, I hold now as only a trustee for the country; and when I can no longer give my personal care to its protection and enlargement, that duty will devolve on others, who will exercise this trust under such regulations as will insure the perpetuation of those national advantages, to the promotion of which I have dedicated a large portion of an active and anxious life." *

The erection of the house in Lincoln's Inn Fields, for the residence, offices, and museum of Mr. Soane, excited considerable notoriety in the year 1812. The district surveyor, Mr. Kinnaird, then indicted the professor of architecture for having violated the Act of Parliament commonly called "the Building Act," by raising a sort of stone veranda, or screen, before the front wall of his house. The design is novel, and, for a southern aspect in a large open area like Lincoln's Inn Fields, is well adapted to preserve the front rooms cool in summer, and warm in winter. The Act alluded to prohibits the erection of any bow-window, or "other projection," in front of a house next to any public street, square, &c., excepting open porticoes, steps, or iron pallisades." The case was fully argued before the magistrates, who decided against the district surveyor. That gentleman next tried the question at the quarter sessions, where he was nonsuited; and then moved it into the Court of King's Bench, where Lord Ellenborough confirmed the decision of the magistrates and the sessions.

We have now pointed out the principal professional works of Sir John Soane, and these are sufficiently prominent in situation, in magnitude, and character, to attract the notice of all lovers of architecture, and of those who pretend to any knowledge of, or partiality for, the buildings of other countries and other ages. Without the aid of illustrations, it would be useless to make further comments on their varied designs and distinctive features, nor will our limits allow us to extend

* A ground plan, with views of the different apartments, and of several architectural and sculptured objects, with a descriptive account of the house, are published in a quarto volume, entitled, "The Union of Architecture, Sculpture, and Painting, by John Britton, F.S.A."

this essay. In conclusion, it is but justice to say, that in making estimates—in a comprehensive knowledge of the value and quality of materials—in directing sound construction, and in the skilful arrangement of plans—Sir John Soane is allowed, by his professional brethren and rivals, to possess and exercise on all occasions a discriminating judgment.



Painted by R. Evans Esq.

Engraved by H. Robinson.

SIR THOMAS MASTERMAN HARDY, BART K.C.B.

T. M. Hardy

H. HEATH SON, & Co. LONDON. 1834.

SIR THOMAS MASTERMAN HARDY,

BART. G. C. B.

REAR-ADMIRAL OF THE BLUE, ETC. ETC.

THIS very distinguished officer is a native of Somersetshire, and was born on the 5th of April, 1769. He very early manifested a decided attachment to the naval profession, and, contrary to the wishes of his family, entered the navy with no interest; relying only on those merits which have been so gloriously exhibited, and so warmly acknowledged, by his country. He served for some time as master's mate in the Hebe frigate, commanded by the late Captain Alexander Hood; in which ship, Vice-Admiral Sir George Cockburn, whilst a midshipman, was his messmate. After being separated by the vicissitudes of service for some years, they again met in La Minerve, of which frigate Mr. Hardy had been appointed a Lieutenant early in the revolutionary war. One of the first services by which he signalized himself took place in the road of Santa Cruz, when preparations were making in the fleet off Cadiz for an expedition against Teneriffe. It was on the 28th of May, 1797, that Captains Hollowell and Cockburn, of the Lively and the Minerve, having discovered a French brig of war lying close to the town, ordered their boats, under the command of Lieutenant Hardy, to proceed into the bay, and attempt the daring enterprise of cutting her out. To this the Lieutenant cheerfully acceded, and being gallantly supported by Lieutenant (now Rear-Admiral) Gage and his other companions, he boarded, and carried the enemy, notwithstanding a steady fire of musketry from the brig, a heavy discharge of artillery and small arms from the shore, and the fire of a large ship at anchor in the road. In this affair the British had not a man killed, and only fifteen wounded, one of whom was Lieutenant Hardy, who was immediately advanced for his bravery to the rank of Commander, and appointed to La Mutine, the ship he had taken.

We next find Captain Hardy accompanying Nelson in the pursuit of the powerful armament which had sailed from Toulon, and proceeded to Egypt. Immediately after the defeat of the French fleet in Aboukir Bay, he was made post into the Vanguard 74, bearing the flag of Nelson, which commission was confirmed by the Admiralty, Oct. 2d, 1798.

Shortly after this, Nelson shifted his flag into the Foudroyant of 80 guns, to which ship Captain Hardy also removed, and continued to command it until October 12, 1799; when Captain Berry, who had been selected to convey the news of the victory in Aboukir Bay to Earl St. Vincent, having joined from England, he was appointed *pro tempore* to the Princess Charlotte frigate. On his return from the Mediterranean, he was introduced by letter to Nelson's illustrious friend, his present Majesty, (then Duke of Clarence,) as "an officer of the most distinguished merit."

Captain Hardy subsequently served as Flag-Captain to Lord Nelson in the Namur, San-Josef, and St. George, the latter forming part of the fleet destined to dissolve the Northern Confederacy. During the night preceding the sanguinary action off Copenhagen, he was employed in sounding the channel; and on this occasion, with his accustomed intrepidity, he rowed in his boat to the enemy's leading ship, sounding round her, and using a pole when apprehensive of being heard. On his return to the Elephant, to which Lord Nelson had removed, Captain Hardy reported the practicability of the channel, and the depth of water up to the enemy's line; and, had his report been abided by, there can be no doubt that those ships which unfortunately took the ground, would have safely reached the stations assigned them. About the middle of June 1801, Captain Hardy accompanied Lord Nelson, when from ill health he was obliged to return to England. Soon after his arrival, however, the Captain was appointed to the Isis of 50 guns, in which he conveyed the late Duke of Kent to Gibraltar. He next commanded the Amphion, of 32 guns, and, in this, carried out Lord R. Fitzgerald in his embassy to the court of Portugal.

On the 16th of May, 1803, a royal message announced to both Houses of Parliament a fresh rupture with France. The eyes of the British public were immediately and unanimously directed to their invincible Admiral, and Lord Nelson was appointed to the chief command of the Mediterranean fleet. His Lordship sailed for that station in the Victory of 100 guns, accompanied by Captain Hardy in the Amphion, and on his arrival off Brest, shifted his flag to that

frigate, where it remained till he was re-joined by the Victory off Toulon at the end of July.

From this period to the termination of Nelson's glorious career, his beloved friend Captain Hardy was his constant companion, and their history becomes nearly identified.

On the 19th of January, 1805, Lord Nelson, then off the coast of Sardinia, received the long-wished-for intelligence, of the departure of the French fleet from Toulon, which port he had watched with the most patient circumspection ever since the renewal of hostilities in 1803; and after having proceeded to Egypt and in other directions in fruitless search of them, he learned, in May, 1805, that they were bound for the West Indies. Here again he was destined to lose them, in consequence of false intelligence; though, by the mere terror of his name, he saved our colonies, and above two hundred vessels laden for Europe, which would otherwise have fallen into their hands. He followed them, however, with the most determined vigour back to Europe, until, frustrated in all his hopes, after a pursuit which, for rapidity, extent, and perseverance has no parallel, he judged it best to reinforce the channel fleet with his squadron. He accordingly joined Admiral Cornwallis on the 15th of August, and, leaving the remainder of his squadron with that venerable commander, returned to Portsmouth with the Victory and the Superb.

On the 14th of September, 1805, Captain Hardy again embarked with Lord Nelson at Portsmouth, and arrived off Cadiz on the 29th. Nothing very memorable occurred until that eventful day, when "God gave us victory, but Nelson died." On this occasion, Captain Hardy, as Captain of Lord Nelson's flag-ship, the Victory, took a most conspicuous part in the triumphs and the calamities of the day. The events of that day need not be recapitulated here. Immediately on receiving the fatal wound, Lord Nelson turned to his friend, and said, "Hardy, I believe they have done it at last; my back-bone is shot through." On being conveyed to the cock-pit, his Lordship inquired for him with great earnestness. "Will no one bring Hardy to me? He must be killed; I am certain he is dead." At length the Captain exchanged, for a few minutes, his public for his private duties, and came down to cheer the last moments of his dying friend.

It was to Captain Hardy, that that last characteristic conversation was addresed, which so strongly attests the matchless intrepidity of the hero, and attaches to his last moments an everlasting interest. At the close of it, his Lordship ordered the Captain to bring the fleet to anchor, then affectionately desired him to kiss him, gave him his dying benediction, and shortly after expired.

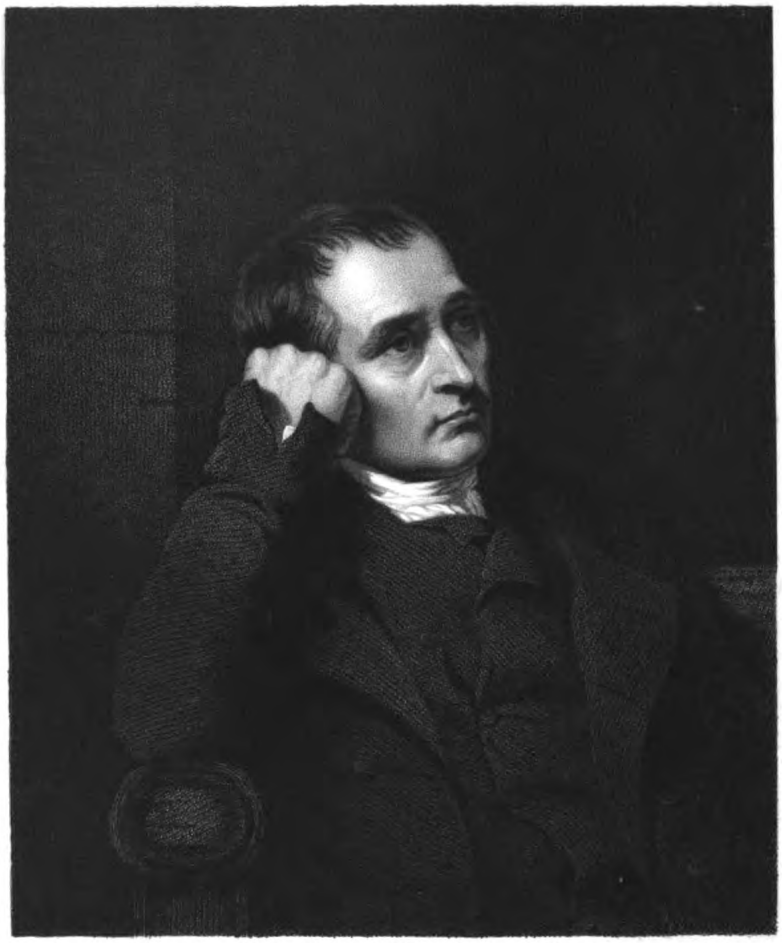
As soon as the Victory had been sufficiently repaired to be trusted at sea, Captain Hardy directed his course to England with the body of his friend, which was landed at Greenwich on the 24th of December. On the 7th of January, 1806, when it was interred in St. Paul's Cathedral, Captain Hardy attended the funeral, and bore the Banner of Emblems before the relations of the deceased.

In the following month he was created a Baronet of Great Britain, and in the ensuing spring appointed to the Triumph, of 74 guns, on the Halifax station. In 1811 the Portuguese government conferred on him the rank of Chief-of-Division in the Royal Armada of Portugal. In August, 1812, Sir Thomas Hardy obtained the command of the Ramillies, another third-rate; and, in the course of that year, proceeded with her to re-enforce the fleet on the coast of North America. Towards the conclusion of the American war, in conjunction with a detachment of the army under Lieutenant-Colonel Pilkington, he took possession of several small islands, and bombarded the town of Stonington, which had been conspicuous for its mischievous efforts against the British ships.

In January, 1815, Sir Thomas Hardy was nominated a K.C.B., and obtained next year the command of a royal yacht. He was appointed to the Superb, of 78 guns, in November, 1818, and in that ship joined the squadron employed in South America as Commodore, which service he discharged with the highest honour. On the 19th of July, 1821, he was appointed Colonel of Royal Marines, which he retained until promoted to the rank of Rear-Admiral in May, 1825. At the close of the following year, Sir Thomas was appointed to the command of an experimental squadron in the Channel, and continued so employed until October, 1827. On the accession of the present ministry, he was made Senior Naval Lord of the Admiralty; and on the 13th of September, 1831, was honoured with the title of G.C.B.

Sir Thomas Hardy married, on the 7th of November, 1807, Anne-Louisa, daughter of Admiral Sir George Cranfield Berkeley, G.C.B., and has issue three daughters.

*** The materials of this Memoir are chiefly taken from Marshall's Naval Biography.



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SAMUEL CROMPTON.

Samel Crompton

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PRICE

MR. SAMUEL CROMPTON,

INVENTOR OF THE SPINNING-MULE, SPINDLE-CARRIAGE, ETC.

THE cotton manufacture, which is of such immense importance to this country, had its origin in the East, where the cotton plant is indigenous, and where the climate renders a light and porous fabric a suitable clothing for the people. It has in consequence been long established every where over that quarter of the world, though it is only in India that it is carried on extensively with a view to foreign exchange.

Cotton cloths are mentioned by Arrian among the commodities which the Romans imported from India; and Dr. Robertson observes, that the difference between the cargoes brought thence in ancient and modern times, appears to have arisen more from variety in the tastes of the nations with which they trade, than from any diversity in the nature of the goods prepared for sale in that country.

The implements made use of in the cotton manufacture of the East, are of so rude and simple a nature, that they are evidently the invention of a very early period, and it is probable that they existed as we now find them, before the people of that country were divided into castes; for the continuance of a particular employment in the same family, which seems to belong to that artificial construction of society, while it had the effect of transmitting unimpaired the knowledge already acquired in an art, puts a stop to farther improvement.

The whole of the implements used by the natives of India in the different processes of the cotton manufacture, from the cleansing of the fibres to their conversion into the finest muslin, are so simple, that they may be purchased for a few shillings. With the exception of the loom, there exists among them no instrument that can bear the name of a machine, nor is there any trace of the Hindoos having ever displayed any mechanical ingenuity. They spin their yarn upon the distaff, and yet, with all the advantages which we derive

from machinery, we have scarcely yet been able to equal, either in fineness or quality, the yarn which they produce by means of this primitive instrument. The loom, upon which their cloth is woven, is composed of a few sticks or reeds, which the weaver, carrying them about him, puts up in the fields, under the shade of a tree, digging a hole large enough to contain his legs, and the lower part of the geer, the balances of which he fastens to some convenient branch over his head. Two loops under the geer, in which he inserts his great toes, serve as treadles; and the shuttle, formed like a large netting-needle, but of a length somewhat exceeding the breadth of the cloth, he employs also as a baton, using it alternately to draw through the weft and to strike it up. On this account the weavers live entirely in villages, as they could not, if shut up in towns, work in this manner. Forbes, indeed, in his Oriental Memoirs, says, that "the weavers' houses are mostly near the shade of tamarind or mango trees, under which, at sunrise, they fix their looms, and weave a variety of very fine cloths." The reed is the only part of the weaving apparatus which approaches in construction the perfection of the instruments we use.

Upon these rude machines, worked in the way we have mentioned, do the Indians produce those muslins, which have long been such objects of curiosity, from the exquisite beauty and fineness of their texture.

Such a manufacture, we shall easily conceive, though probably carried on to its present extent during many thousand years, has given birth to no inventions, to nothing which could contribute to the means of procuring enjoyment, to nothing calculated to improve man's condition, or to enlarge the sphere of his happiness. In England, on the contrary, it has existed (to any considerable extent) only sixty years, and in that short time has given rise to some of the happiest efforts of ingenuity; it has been of incalculable use in promoting mechanical skill, and in improving the power of execution in our artisans; and the demand for additional mechanical application, created by the extension of its processes, has led to the perfecting of the steam-engine, the most successful attempt which man has ever made, to bend the properties of matter to his will. By the introduction of machinery, moreover, so extensively into our processes, we have been enabled to reduce the price of our manufactures so much, that we not only maintain a successful competition with the Indian goods, in markets formerly supplied exclusively with them, but we now actually export cotton goods to India itself.

MR. SAMUEL CROMPTON.

Until so lately as the year 1767, all spinning in England was performed on the domestic one-thread wheel, of which there were two kinds. The first required the raw material to be previously prepared and carded, and was used for wool and cotton. The cardings were soft loose rolls, from eight to twelve inches long, possessing but little strength or elasticity, the slightest force being sufficient to break or pull them asunder. One end of this roll was held between the finger and thumb of the spinner; and the other, twisted round the point of the spindle, was rapidly drawn out during the revolution, and formed a coarse round thread called a *slubbing*, similar to that now denominated a *roving*. For inferior goods this operation was sufficient, and the thread was ready for the loom; but for fine cloths the twisting and drawing were repeated, and the roving was converted into a smaller, finer, and longer yarn. The second mode of spinning was on the flax wheel, and used for those substances, the fibres of which, from their nature, but more especially from their length, would not admit of the preparatory process of carding. These fibres were dressed and disposed in an even and parallel direction by an operation resembling *combing*, and were then coiled round the head of the distaff affixed to a wheel furnished with a spindle, bobbin, and fly. The fly and spindle moved together, and were kept in rapid motion by a wheel and band, worked by the foot of the spinner; the bobbin, which received the thread, ran loose upon the spindle, and moved only by the friction of its ends, in proportion as the fibres of the flax were disengaged from the distaff by the finger and thumb of the spinner, and were twisted by the fly.

If we suppose the machine itself to be left at liberty, and turned without the assistance of the spinner, the twisted thread, drawn inwards by the bobbin, would naturally gather more of the material, and form an irregular thread, thicker and thicker, till at length the difficulty of drawing out so large a portion of the material as had acquired the twist, would become greater than that of snapping the thread, which would accordingly break. It is the business of the spinner to prevent this, by holding the material between the finger and thumb, and by separating it with the hand during the act of pinching, that the intermediate part may be drawn out to the requisite fineness previous to the twist.

To accomplish these ends by machinery, two conditions became indispensably necessary. First, that the raw material should be so prepared as to require none of that manual tact, which is indispensable in separating the knotty or entangled parts as they offer themselves;

and, secondly, that it should be regularly drawn out by certain parts resembling the finger and thumb of the spinner. The first of these was completely fulfilled by the various machines and contrivances for the preparation of the cotton for spinning; and the second was accomplished by that capital machine, since called the twist or water-frame.

The contrivance for drawing out the thread constituted the great merit of the invention; the fly, the bobbin, and spindle connected with it, being derived with little alteration from the flax wheel before described. It consisted of a pair of cylinders, called rollers, slowly revolving in contact with each other, at a little distance from a second pair revolving with greater velocity, the lower cylinder of each set being furrowed or fluted in the direction of its length, and the upper ones neatly covered with leather, to enable them to hold the thread. If we suppose the end of a roving or loosely twisted thread to be passed through the first pair only, it may be readily supposed that it will be gradually drawn off the bobbin, and passed through the cylinders without suffering any other sensible alteration in its form or texture than slight compression from the weight of the superincumbent cylinder. But, if from the first pair it be suffered to pass immediately to the second, whose surfaces revolve much quicker, it is evident that the quicker revolution of the second pair will draw out the cotton, rendering it thinner and longer, when it comes to be delivered on the other side.

This is precisely the operation which the spinner performs with his finger and thumb, and the application of this simple and beautiful contrivance to the spindle and fly of the common flax wheel, produced that machine which had hitherto completed the process of cotton spinning, and rendered the yarn of this country so deservedly famous all over the world.

At the period we have before spoken of, the Manchester dealers, instead of buying fustians and calicoes from the weaver, as in former times had been the practice, began to furnish him with the materials for cloth, and to pay him a fixed price per piece for the work when executed. Along with a quantity of linen warp they delivered to him a certain portion of cotton-wool, which he was obliged to get spun into the weft he was to use. But so rapidly was the manufacture at this time outstripping the process of spinning, that it frequently happened that the sum of money the weaver was allowed by his employer for spinning, was less than what he found himself obliged to pay for it. In this state of things, the farther progress of the

manufacture must have been stopped, if a more productive mode of spinning had not been discovered. A change in the system, therefore, was now indispensable; and we accordingly find that various ingenious people had already begun to employ themselves in contriving a better mode of spinning.

From this period the different improvements were both rapid and effectual. Mr. Wood, of Bolton, invented the carding stocks, and Kay, of Bury, devised the fly-shuttle; in a short time Hargraves, of Stanhill, brought out the jenny, the idea of which he is said to have conceived from seeing a common spinning-wheel, which had been overturned by accident, continue its revolutions as it lay on the floor. This invention occasioned great alarm among those who earned their subsistence by the old mode of spinning, and even produced popular commotion. A mob broke into his house and destroyed his machine; and some time after, when a better knowledge of the advantages of his invention had begun to bring his "spinning-jenny" into general use, the people rose a second time, and, scouring the country, broke in pieces every carding and spinning machine they could find. Hargraves himself had now removed to Nottingham, where he was engaged in erecting a small spinning work, about the same time when Mr. Arkwright went to settle there, he being driven also from Lancashire by the fear of similar violence. The jenny, notwithstanding, in a short period put an end to the spinning of cotton by the common wheel; and the whole of the weft used in the manufacture continued to be spun upon that machine, until the invention of the *mule*, by which, in its turn, it was superseded.

The inventor of this latter ingenious contrivance, was MR. SAMUEL CROMPTON, the subject of our present memoir. He was born, according to Mr. Kennedy,* on the 3d of December, 1753, at Firwood, near Bolton, in Lancashire, "where his father held a small farm, and, as was customary in those days, employed a portion of his time in weaving. His parents were very respectable in their station of life, and taught him to read and write; his father dying when he was very young, and his mother being a very prudent and virtuous woman, together, perhaps, with the sequestered situation in which they lived, induced a contemplative turn of mind. He had taken various views of the Christian religion, but finally preferred the Swedenborgian faith. In all his dealings through life, he was strictly honest,

* Transactions of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester

patient, and humane. In politics he took little interest, but regretted the waste of life and property occasioned by war."

In his younger days, having learnt to use the jenny of Hargraves, he had occasionally woven the yarn he had spun; but finding that it made but an inferior kind of work, he was led to consider how it might be improved, and the defect remedied. It has been generally stated that this invention took place in the year 1775, but Mr. Kennedy, who was personally acquainted with Crompton, states that "he was only twenty-one years of age when he commenced the undertaking, which took him five years to effect, at least before he could bring his improvements to maturity." As he was born in 1753, he must therefore have begun his machine in 1774, and completed it in 1779. "As he was not a regular mechanic, says his biographer, and possessed only such tools as his little earnings, acquired by labour, enabled him to purchase, and as he had also to learn the application of them, we may justly feel surprise that even in five years he succeeded so far as to make his machine practically useful." Crompton has been known frequently to declare, that "what annoyed him most was, that he was not permitted to enjoy his invention to himself in his garret;" for the product of his machine obtaining a better price than any other yarns of the day, the secret soon got abroad, and his newly constructed machine so drew the attention of the neighbourhood, that they absolutely climbed up at the windows to observe him at his work. Crompton, offended at their freedom, put up a screen to prevent this; but the annoyance proved so great, that it interfered materially in preventing the completion of his ingenious contrivance, and finally induced him to lay the scheme before a number of his friends, who subscribed a guinea each to examine it. This subscription amounted to about £50, and enabled him to construct another machine, still farther improved, and of larger dimensions.

This machine was called the Hall-in-the-wood, or muslin-wheel, because its capabilities were available for the finer yarns for making muslins; and finally acquired the name of the *Mule*, from its partaking of the two leading features of Arkwright's waterframe and Hargraves's spinning-jenny. "It consisted in erecting his spindles on a moveable carriage, which at the same time turned on their axes and centres, whilst the moveable carriage was receding from the beam or rollers which measured out the rove to a certain length. His first suggestion was to introduce a single pair of rollers, viz. a top and bottom, which he expected would elongate the rove by pressure,

like the process by which metals are drawn out, and which he observed in the wire-drawing for reeds used in the loom. In this he was disappointed, and afterwards adopted a second pair of rollers, the latter pair revolving at a slower rate than the former; and thus producing a draught of one inch to three or four. These rollers were put in motion by means of a wooden shaft with different-sized pulleys, communicating with the rollers by a band. This was certainly neither more nor less than a modification of Arkwright's roller-beam; but he often stated, that when he constructed his machine he knew nothing of Arkwright's discovery. Indeed, we may infer that he did not, otherwise he would not have gone thus rudely to work; and the small quantity of metals which he employed proves that he could not have been acquainted with Arkwright's superior rollers and fixtures in iron, and their connexion by clock-work. Even the rollers were made of wood and covered with a piece of sheepskin, having an axis of iron with a little square end, on which the pulleys were fixed.

"Mr. Crompton's rollers were supported upon wooden checks or stands. His tops were constructed much in the same way, with something like a mousetrap spring to keep the rollers in contact. His first machine contained only about twenty or thirty spindles. He finally put dents of brass reed-wire into his under rollers, and thus obtained a fluted roller. But the great and important invention of Crompton was his spindle-carriage, and the principle of the thread having no strain upon it until it was completed. The carriage with the spindles could, by the movement of the hand and knees, recede, just as the rollers delivered out the elongated thread in a soft state, so that it would allow of a considerable stretch before the thread had to encounter the stress of winding on the spindle. This was the corner-stone of the merits of the invention. The frame of his machine was composed entirely of wood, and extended to the length of the draw or stretch; the roller beam was supported at each end by the frame; and the wheel-end and wheel-frame, and roller beams, all stood breast-high. The rim or wheel had a small pulley upon its axis, with a band for the purpose of communicating power or motion to the back shaft, which had pulleys upon it to give motion to the rollers. There were also, from the same shaft, bands to each head or pair of rollers, as has been stated, which had pulleys of different sizes for the purpose of varying his draught, having sink-weights and pulleys to keep the bands of an equal tightness, and the rollers in corresponding motion.

"The band that gave motion to the shaft was connected with a loose pulley, having a catch upon the rim, so that it might be disengaged at pleasure and stop the rollers. This was done by a treadle with the foot. The other band was conducted from the rim or wheel by two carrying pulleys, at the extreme end of the frame containing the carriage or rail-way. The band made a turn upon a pulley round the wooden or tin roller, which roller, being supported by two centre points or bearings, gave motion to the spindles by means of separate bands. He had a faller or wrapper, (like that of Hargraves's jenny, with the exception that Hargraves's was placed behind the stationary spindles, and that of Crompton on the spindle carriage, as it was called,) nearly on the same principle as that now in use. His carriage was a long box with wooden pulleys or carriage-wheels, running upon a wooden rail-way, very much inclining downwards from the beam, which enabled him to draw it out by his knee with greater steadiness, as at that time he had no method of drawing out the carriage by machinery."

This admirable machine proved a very important addition to the improvements already made in the ancient method of spinning; yet it could not be brought to perfection at once, and five years will not, perhaps, be thought too long a period to be taken up in bringing to maturity such an instrument, or rather a complication of instruments, when the great variety and extent of its mechanical movements are remembered, and when we reflect that its inventor was neither a regular mechanic, nor had enjoyed the advantages of education.

Mr. Kennedy further informs us that many improvements were afterwards added to the mule, and mentions particularly a person of the name of Henry Stones, of Horwich, near Bolton, who exchanged the wooden rollers for others of metal, and added clock-work, as it was called, to effect their motion, with a chain to stop them when required; and it is rather remarkable, that, after Stones had completed his additions, the mule followed the jenny, in exact order, through a circuit of the same towns, and superseded it in the very same manner as the jenny had done away with the old one-thread wheel. Its use quickly became general through the towns of Bolton, Blackburn, Bury, Oldham, Ashton, and Stockport; and the effect was so apparent that a disposition to improve became general, and whoever possessed the slightest talent at construction fell to work in improving the process of making rovings, and the facilities, commenced by Crompton, soon became available to all.

MR. SAMUEL CROMPTON.

The improvements so far brought out, quickly extended the use of the machine, even to 100 or 130 spindles, but this extension was again soon at its limit. A person of the name of Baker, of Bury, by placing the cylinder vertically, made the first attempt at extending the carriage, so as to embrace twenty-four to thirty spindles, and the enlargement of the whole machine followed. Artificial power was now first added by Mr. Kelly, of Glasgow; and immediately after, Mr. Wright, of Manchester, a workman of Sir Richard Arkwright's, constructed the double mule, to be worked by Kelly's power. In time, Mr. Kelly's water power was superseded by Watt's steam-engine; and after the introduction of several other modifications, the system was finally complete.

"Thus," says Mr. Baines, junior, in his very elegant summary of the inventions gradually introduced into the cotton manufacture, "thus we have traced the spinning machinery up to the present time, and we pause to cast a retrospective glance on the different stages by which the process of spinning has advanced, from the time the one-thread wheel was in general use. Little more than sixty years since, every thread used in the manufacture of cotton, wool, and flax, throughout the world, was spun singly by the fingers of the spinner, with the aid of that classical instrument, the domestic spinning wheel. In 1767, an *eight-handed* spinster sprung from the genius of Hargraves; and the jenny, with still increasing powers, made its way into common use, in spite of all opposition. Two years after, the more wonderful invention of Wyatt, which claims a much earlier origin, but which had disappeared like a river that sinks into a subterraneous channel, now rose again under the fortunate star of Arkwright, and claimed yet higher admiration, as founded upon principles of more extensive application.

"Five years later, the happy thought of combining the two inventions, to produce a third, much more efficient than either, struck the mind of Crompton, who, by a perfectly original contrivance, effected their union. From twenty spindles, the machine was brought, by more finished mechanism, to admit of a hundred, and thus to exercise a Briarean power. Kelly relinquished the toilsome method of turning the machine by the hand, and yoked to it the strength of the rapid Clyde. Watt, with the subtler and more potent agency of steam, moved an iron arm that never slackens or tires, and whirled round four hundred spindles in a single machine; and finally, to consummate the wonder, Roberts, of Manchester, dismisses the spinner. and leaves the machine to its own infallible guidance.

So that, in the year 1833, several thousand spindles may be seen in a single room, revolving with inconceivable rapidity, with no hand to urge their progress or to guide their operations; drawing out, twisting, and winding-up as many thousand threads, with unfailing precision, and indefatigable patience and strength; a scene as magical to the eye which is not familiarized with it, as the effects have been marvellous in augmenting the wealth and population of the county."*

In 1784, or 1785, Mr. Crompton tried his hand at a carding machine, the principles of which were somewhat different from those in common use. The main or large cylinder was made to turn in an opposite direction, thereby combing the cotton downwards from the rollers, and, of course, upwards from the doffing cylinder. His object was to procure an easier egress for the waste or dirt that was in the cotton, and to save the trouble of stripping, &c.; but this was not followed so as to become practically useful.

About the year 1802, Mr. Kennedy and Mr. George Augustus Lee, moved with compassion for his adverse circumstances, and desirous of fostering the genius he had already shewn in his inventions, set on foot a subscription, and collected about £500, with which he was enabled to increase his establishment of spinning and weaving. He was left a widower when his children were yet but very young, and his only daughter kept her father's cottage, in King-street, Bolton, till his death, and where she is now living.

Being a weaver, he erected several looms for fancy work; in which he displayed much ingenuity, and though his means were small, his great economy always kept him in easy circumstances. He was fond of music, and built for himself an organ, which he kept in his cottage for his own amusement.

In 1812, he made a survey of all the cotton districts in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and obtained an estimate of the number of spindles then at work upon his principles, which then amounted to between four and five millions, but which is now increased to at least double the number. On his return, he laid the result of his inquiries before Messrs. Kennedy and Lee, with a suggestion that parliament might grant him some remuneration or assistance. With these data before them, these benevolent gentlemen entered warmly into the scheme, and, in conjunction with the late Mr. Duckworth, of Manchester, who felt a lively interest in the plan, drew up a memorial, which was signed by most of the principal manufac-

* History of Lancashire, Vol. II. p. 459.

turers in the United Kingdom, who were acquainted with his merits. Crompton carried the memorial up to London, himself, and obtained an interview with one of the members of Parliament for the county. He remained in town during the session, and happened to be in the lobby of the House of Commons on the evening on which Mr. Perceval was assassinated, and witnessed the catastrophe. Mr. Perceval had, a short time before the disastrous occurrence, promised to exert himself on Crompton's behalf, and, in accordance with this assurance, had brought in a bill, which was afterwards passed, for a grant to him in full of £5000, without fee or charges.

Mr. Crompton was now anxious to place his sons in business, and fixed upon that of bleaching; but the unfavourable state of the times, the inexperience and mis-management of the parties, a bad situation, and a misunderstanding with his landlord, which occasioned a tedious lawsuit, conspired, in a very short time, to put an end to the establishment. His sons dispersed, and he and his daughter were reduced to poverty. Messrs. Rothwell and Hicks, of Bolton, the benevolent Kennedy, and some others, had recourse to a second subscription in 1824, and actually purchased for him a life annuity of sixty guineas. The amount was collected in small sums of from one to ten pounds, some of which were contributed by the Swiss and French spinners, who acknowledged his merits, and pitied his misfortunes. His portrait, for which he sat in 1802, was engraved for his benefit, and a few impressions were disposed of; but he enjoyed this small assistance only two years, and died in January, 1827, leaving his daughter, his affectionate housekeeper, in distress.

Such, then, was the life of Samuel Crompton; and great and incalculable was the importance of the machine he invented, to the commercial relations of this country. There is, however, one circumstance remaining, to which we have not yet bespoken the attention of our readers, but which deserves to be placed in its true light, not only from the remarkable fact itself, but from the proof which may be gathered from it, that true genius is no more to be stifled by poverty, than it is to be created by wealth. It will, most probably, have been seen, that the men, to whose ingenuity the country has been indebted for the gradual perfection of the spinning machinery, were all persons of very moderate, if not indigent, circumstances, and destitute of the advantages of education. Hargraves, an operative weaver, invented the spinning jenny;—Highs, the reed-maker, of Leigh, a poor Irishman of the lowest grade, with the assistance of Kay, the clock-

maker, equally poor, was the real projector of the water-frame, afterwards completed by Arkwright;—Wood, and Lees, both working mechanics, invented the carding engine and feeding cloth, to which were superadded Hargraves's crank and comb;—Crompton furnished the mule, subsequently doubled by Wright, one of Arkwright's workmen;—Benjamin Butler projected the roving-can;—and Arkwright, himself, originally a barber of Preston, completed the whole series, and organized the factory system, now spread so extensively throughout the country. Under the influence of the cotton manufacture, the towns of Manchester and Liverpool, from their original state of small and inconsiderable villages, have arisen to a population and extent, inferior only to the metropolis; and it is a curious reflection to a contemplative mind, to observe, that the rolling tide of the cotton trade, so vast in its consequences, and so beneficial to the whole world, may be satisfactorily traced to its origin, in the genius of half a dozen poor mechanics.

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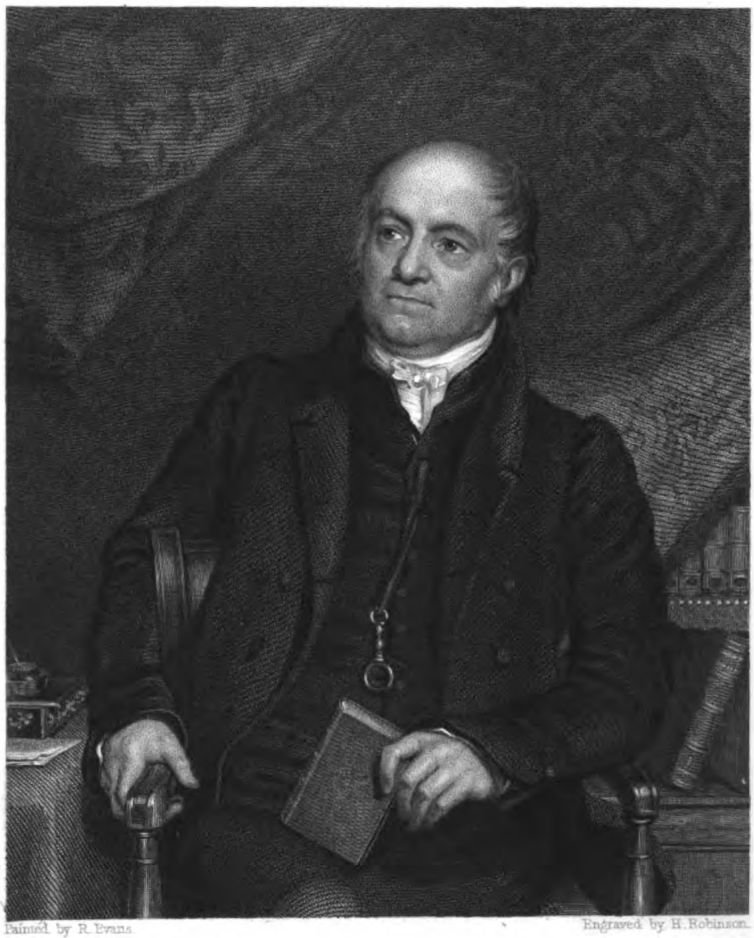

Painted by R. Evans. Engraved by H. Robinson.

OLINTHUS GREGORY. LL.D. F.R.A.S. &c

Olinthus Gregory.

PUBLISHED JUNE 1, 1824

OLINTHUS GREGORY, LL.D.

F. A. S. &c. &c.

PROFESSOR OF MATHEMATICS IN THE ROYAL MILITARY ACADEMY, WOOLWICH.

OLINTHUS GILBERT GREGORY was born at Yaxley in Huntingdonshire, on the 29th of January, 1774. He received his early education under the care of Mr. Richard Weston, then master of the most respectable boarding-school in that part of the country. Under this gentleman, Mr. Gregory appears to have enjoyed very considerable advantages. He had been a pupil of Mr. Lander, one of the most eminent of British mathematicians, and distinguished himself as an able contributor to the Ladies' Diary, about the year 1757. He was, therefore, well adapted to develop and encourage that particular intellectual tendency in the subject of this memoir, to which he owes so much of his subsequent distinction. Nor was it only as a mathematical preceptor, that he contributed to the eminence of his pupil. He had the sagacity to discover the inefficiency of those antiquated systems of education, which were predominant in his day, and deserting the ordinary routine, invited the attention of those under his care, to works of collateral information; and, at a time when such a plan was entirely unknown elsewhere, made his pupils the instructors, and frequently the examiners, of each other, thus multiplying the sources of information to each, and giving exercise in all to the principle of generous emulation.

Under the judicious superintendence of Mr. Weston, Mr. Gregory remained ten or twelve years, during which time he laid the solid foundation of those great acquirements, by which he has been distinguished in after life. The last two years of this portion of his education had probably a very important bearing on his future character. During this time, he pursued, in connexion with another senior pupil, a course of indefatigable study, frequently remaining

absorbed in reading the greater part of the night. Once a week they compared their progress, and thus promoted a feeling of honourable rivalry, which continued till their departure from Mr. Weston's school, when it was exchanged for a correspondence on literary and scientific subjects, which was maintained for some years.

At a very early age, Mr. Gregory's attention was accidentally directed to subjects very remote from those which lie within the range of ordinary education. When only seven years old, he happened to hear his father read to a lady the following passage from Milton's Paradise Lost:—

> " — That must end us, that must be our cure,
> To be no more. Sad cure! for who would lose,
> Though full of pain, this intellectual being,
> Those thoughts that wander through eternity,
> To perish rather, swallow'd up and lost
> In the wide womb of uncreated night,
> Devoid of sense and motion?"
>
> BOOK II. LINE 145—151.

The vast subjects alluded to in these lines, at once riveted and perplexed his inquisitive mind, and his speculations were immediately drawn to the most profound branches of metaphysical science. With a mental energy and daring rarely met with at his age, he addressed himself to the study of the abstract nature of eternity, and of simple duration considered as an attribute of Deity. Here, however, as might be expected, he " found no end, in wandering mazes lost." The more he contemplated the subject, the more he found himself bewildered and fatigued. Nevertheless, the hold which it had taken on his mind was so firm, that he could not cast it off, and yet he could not pursue it to any satisfactory issue. Having acquired some knowledge of figures, he first thought that a connexion might be traced between numeral infinity and endless duration; and this stimulated him to study arithmetic with more intenseness, hoping that he should soon reach a point that would solve the difficulty with which he found himself perplexed: but this ended in disappointment, or only led him to suppose that a knowledge of the generalizing properties of algebra, and especially those of infinite series, would crown his wishes with success. Having vainly toiled in these pursuits, an insulated sentence in Harris's Hermes induced him to seek it in the languages, in the ancient philosophers, and in the principles of universal grammar, which he then fancied might contain the development of the principle of infinity. This in time gave place to a note in

Rohault's Physics, which induced him to search for relief from the load with which his mind was burdened, in the works of Locke, and in the profound but interesting controversial papers which passed between Clarke and Leibnitz. Thus, through a succession of years, his mind was oppressed with this metaphysical difficulty, which haunted him by day and by night, stimulating him to seek a solution in the most multifarious reading, without knowing how to make a proper selection among the numerous books which fell in his way, and without having courage to develop his feelings to any one who might have rendered him assistance. Such with Dr. Gregory was the dawn of intellect at the early age of seven years!

Pursuing his studies under Mr. Weston, and making a rapid progress in learning, he soon attempted to give solutions to the critical, philosophical, and mathematical questions proposed from year to year in the Ladies' and Gentleman's Diaries, and other publications of a similar nature. Thus, instead of confining his attention to one department of literature, he was, from these incidental circumstances, led to take a wider range; although the bent of his genius and concurring events tended most to his cultivation of mathematical knowledge.

Among the books which he read most eagerly at this time, were the following: — Harris's Hermes, Berkeley's Minute Philosopher, Pliny's Letters, Polybius, Shakspeare, Milton, Locke's Conduct of the Understanding, Wallis's Arithmetica Infinitorum, Keill's Introductio ad Veram Physicam, Keill's and other works on Anatomy, Martin's Philology, Martin's Philosophia Britannica, &c. &c. Strange as the effort and the taste may seem, for a mere boy, he read most of these works quite through, and the rest in considerable portions, before he was fourteen. In addition to this, having a notion that several of them were scarce, he transcribed very largely from them, rising early in the summer mornings for this purpose.

On quitting school, in his 17th year, Mr. Gregory continued his course of reading with unremitting assiduity, sometimes purchasing, and at others borrowing books for that purpose. Having attained the age of nineteen, he made his first attempt as an author. He then composed "Lessons Astronomical and Philosophical, for the Amusement and Instruction of British Youth." Being unwilling, however, to commit himself before the public without receiving the best advice he could obtain, he introduced himself to the Earl of Carysfort, whose seat at Elton Hall was within a few miles of Mr. Gregory's residence. Subsequent events proved that he had made a most happy choice in

the friend whom he thus ventured to consult. This nobleman, the favourite pupil of Bishop Watson, was as remarkable for his kindness, affability, and generosity, as for his extensive acquaintance with literature and science, his fine taste, and correct judgment.

Meeting with a polite reception, our author left his manuscript with the noble earl, who shortly afterwards returned it with many hints for the improvement of the lessons. Nor did his kindness terminate here: in frequent interviews afterwards, he gave the young student many valuable directions as to the best course of reading to be pursued, directing his attention to chemistry, to ancient history, the classical scholiasts, &c. at the same time that he urged him to pursue most decidedly his mathematical career; and from that time to his lordship's death in 1828, he honoured him with his warm and steady friendship. The juvenile performance which thus served as an introduction to this nobleman has been very successful as a school-book, and has passed through several editions.

At the age of twenty, Mr. Gregory prepared a treatise on the sliding rule, and its most useful applications. The manuscript was offered to a London bookseller, who, to ascertain its utility, referred it to Dr. Hutton for his opinion. The Doctor, on returning it, spoke highly of the work as being scientific and accurate, but, knowing that the subject was not sufficiently interesting to ensure an extensive sale, recommended that it should not be published. This circumstance, however, gave birth to a correspondence, and afterwards to a friendship, between this eminent man and the author, which was only terminated by the hand of death.

About the year 1794 or 1795, Mr. Gregory became acquainted with some distinguished students at the University of Cambridge, among whom was Lord Lyndhurst; and by their representations concurring with his own wishes, he was induced to contemplate availing himself of the advantages of a college education. This design, however, was set aside, by some important changes in his opinions. Among the books which at this time came under his inspection, were several which had recently been brought into particular notice by the proceedings instituted in the University of Cambridge against Mr. William Frend, then a fellow and tutor of Jesus College. These were, Mr. Frend's pamphlet, entitled "An Exhortation to the Inhabitants of Cambridge, to turn from the false Worship of Three Gods, to the Worship of the One True God;" Hartley on Man; Dyer on Subscription; and others. Impressed by the confident assertions of Mr. Frend's pamphlet in particular, Mr. Gregory hastily adopted

Socinianism. This change, however, was too sudden to be permanent. He determined to appeal honestly and diligently to the Scriptures, and to them alone; and the result of his studies was, the cordial adoption of the peculiar and vital truths of Christianity, of which he has subsequently been one of the most efficient advocates.

Transient, however, as was the impression produced by Mr. Frend's pamphlet, it was not so with regard to the other publications. Though he did not then go through the whole of Hartley on Man, with close attention, he found his thoughts forcibly drawn to that acute author's observations on the inexpediency of requiring subscription to articles of religion: these produced a train of anxious inquiry, which, the more Mr. Gregory pursued, the more it increased his scruples, not only against subscription, but even against matriculation, since this required an engagement to observe the college statutes, which, as he had learnt from Dr. Paley, were "in some cases unlawful, in others impracticable, in others useless, in others inconvenient."

About 1797 or 1798, Mr. Gregory repaired to Cambridge, not indeed to enter the university, but, to assist the editor of a provincial paper: this, however, not being very congenial to his taste, he relinquished after a few months. He then opened a bookseller's shop, and announced his intention of teaching mathematics, intending, by the adoption of this two-fold plan, ultimately to follow that separately which promised the greatest success. Soon meeting with much encouragement, both in the university and the town, at the end of about one year he disposed of his books, and devoted his whole time and talents to his duties as a preceptor.

One of the most interesting and important circumstances connected with Mr. Gregory's residence at Cambridge, was the commencement of his friendship with the late Rev. Robert Hall, which continued unimpaired until the death of that distinguished man. Since that event, Dr. Gregory has given to the world an admirable memoir of his friend, accompanying a complete edition of his works. From this we learn, that Mr. Gregory and Mr. Hall at first were associated, not only as friends, but also as fellow-students, as well as some other particulars respecting the early intimacy and habits of these eminent men, which are highly interesting, as illustrating the character of both. We subjoin the Doctor's account of this period of his life, drawn from the memoir to which we are referring.

"When Mr. Hall proposed," says Dr. Gregory, "that we should devote an hour every morning to reading together, he asked me to assist him in his mathematical studies; adding, that as a matter of

mutual advantage, it might be well that, on alternate mornings, I should be his mathematical tutor, and he my instructor in metaphysics. To this proposal I gladly assented; and it has long been my persuasion that the scheme flowed in great measure from his desire to call my attention to general literature, and especially to the science of mind.

* * * * * *

" Mr. Hall's avowed object in recurring at all to his mathematical studies was, the acquisition of so much geometry, trigonometry, and conic-sections, as would enable him thoroughly to comprehend the entire scope of the reasoning in Maclaurin's 'Account of Sir Isaac Newton's Philosophical Discoveries.' For this, indeed, his college studies had in great measure prepared him; and there would have been but little to learn, could he have been satisfied to proceed as students often do. But it was not in his nature to advance, unless he ascertained the firmness of the ground at every step. He reasoned philosophically, for instance, upon the nature of ratios and proportions; so that we had to clear our way through the recondite lectures of Barrow relative to those points, before we could advance to trigonometry. His logical habits, also, made him very reluctant to pass over any geometrical proposition, in which he could not trace the analysis as well as the synthesis. In this manner, and with such views, we went through the proposed course. Of what utility all this was ultimately to Mr. Hall, I cannot precisely say; but I can testify that it was of permanent advantage to his mathematical preceptor, who had not previously formed the habit of tracing apparent results to their foundations; but who, from that period, pursued science with a new interest, kept his eye more steadily upon ultimate principles, and learnt to value such researches quite as much for their intellectual discipline as for their practical benefit.

" In reference to the philosophy of mind, after we had gone slightly over Locke's Essay, his Conduct of the Understanding, and Watts's Ontology, which I had read before, we studied Berkeley, Wollaston, Hartley, Andrew Baxter, Reid, some portions of Bacon's Essays, and of his Treatise on the Advancement of Learning; or rather, I should say, I had the advantage of learning what was most or least valuable in each and all of these, from this admirable living commentator. We were about to proceed to Search's (Abraham Tucker's) 'Light of Nature,' when some circumstances, which I cannot recall to mind, rendered it inconvenient for us thus to meet, and brought these delightful readings and commentaries to a close. We did not then go

through any of Dugald Stewart's works, Mr. Hall regarding him as an elegant expositor of Reid, but greatly inferior in originality. From Bacon's Essays he used to read passages aloud, with the warmest expressions of commendation."

In the spring 1801, he wrote a treatise on astronomy, which he dedicated to his friend Dr. Hutton. This work, which was published in one volume octavo, was received by the public with the respect which it merited. It was noticed in the Monthly and other reviews, in a manner highly flattering to an author's feelings; and in the Philosophical Magazine it was characterized as "the best practical work on the subject published since the days of Leadbeater." But with all these encomiums, and although it commanded an extensive sale, the author was not altogether satisfied with it. He always describes it as a hasty performance, drawn up during his leisure hours in less than four months, and with inadequate knowledge. To remedy this, he long meditated a new work on the subject, which would include the excellencies of the preceding, with such additions as time and observation had enabled him to make; but from this he was finally deterred on the appearance of Professor Woodhouse's Astronomy.

In the year 1802, on the death of that eminent mathematician, the Rev. Charles Wildbore, the Stationers' Company consigned to Mr. Gregory the editorship of the Gentleman's Diary, and another of their almanacs. About the same time he undertook the general editorship of the Pantologia, a comprehensive dictionary of arts and sciences. Upon this work he immediately commenced his labours, although no part of it was published until March, 1808. From the preface we learn, that more than half the articles it contains were written by himself.

In the same year, as the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich was about to be considerably enlarged, in consequence of the augmentation of the Royal Artillery, occasioned by the Irish Union, a mathematical master was wanted. This office, in the month of December, principally through the instrumentality of Dr. Hutton, Mr. Gregory was invited to accept. With this invitation he complied, and, removing to Woolwich, immediately after the Christmas vacation entered upon his academical duties. Since that time he has been gradually promoted through the intermediate stages to the professor's chair, to which he was appointed on the death of Mr. Bonnycastle, in May 1821, and which he now fills with equal reputation to himself, and advantage to that important seminary.

Shortly after Mr. Gregory's removal to Woolwich, he received from Mareschal College, Aberdeen, the degree of M.A.; and, after a lapse of three or four years, on presenting this college with a copy of his Mechanics, and the first volume of his Pantologia, he received the further degree of LL.D. This latter work is comprehended in twelve thick and closely printed octavo volumes, and was finished in 1813.

Although Dr. Gregory's professional duties required unwearied application, he found time to compose his celebrated "Treatise of Mechanics in Theory and Practice," in three octavo volumes, of which the first edition appeared in 1806. The strongest testimony to the excellence of this work may be found in the numerous editions through which it has passed, and the extensive sale it continues to command in England, on the continent of Europe, and in the United States. It is used as a class-book in the American Military College at West Point, and in several other of their colleges. It has also been translated into the German language, and introduced into some of the Continental Universities.

In the year 1807, Dr. Gregory's translation from the French of M. Haiiy's Elementary Treatise on Natural Philosophy, made its appearance in two octavo volumes, and met with that favourable reception, which might have been expected from the joint influence of two such names as that of the author and of the translator.

In the spring of 1811, Dr. Gregory, in conjunction with his friend Dr. Hutton, published, primarily for the use of the Royal Military Academy, a third volume of "A course of Mathematics," of which also he composed about one half. In the midst, however, of these great and complicated efforts, he was not unmindful of higher interests than those of science, and, immediately on the completion of the last mentioned treatise, he at once varied his labours, and impressed upon them a far higher degree of value and importance, by the composition of his justly celebrated "Letters on the Evidences, Doctrines, and Duties of the Christian Religion," in two volumes. This work, the history of which appears in its preface, is one of the best performances on the subject that the English language contains. It has been extensively circulated in Great Britain, America, and India, and several editions have been published. The letter on Mysteries, and that on the Divinity of our Lord, have been translated into the French language, and widely circulated in France. These letters, on their first appearance, were elaborately reviewed in several of our periodical journals; but in none with more justice, elegance, and masterly

discrimination, than in the Eclectic Review for 1812, by his friend the Rev. Robert Hall.

In 1816, Dr. Gregory laid before the world his "Elements of Plane and Spherical Trigonometry, with their applications;" and in the summer of the following year, accompanied M. Biot and Captain Colby to the Shetland Islands, in order to make some astronomical observations and experiments with pendulums, in reference to that long agitated and highly interesting problem—the figure of the earth, and published a brief account of the result of his own observations, in *Tilloch's Philosophical Magazine.* On their journey northward, Dr. Gregory and M. Biot were made honorary freemen of the city of Aberdeen.

Prior to this time, Dr. Gregory had for several years prepared two almanacs for the Stationers' Company, and, on his return from his northern excursion, they consigned to him the entire management of the Ladies' Diary and White's Ephemeris, together with the whole of that general superintendence of their Almanacs, which had been so long and so ably conducted by Dr. Hutton. In addition to the above labours, Dr. Gregory was one of the twelve gentlemen who had the honour of establishing that most useful and flourishing institution, "The Astronomical Society of London;" he also discharged the duties of Secretary to that Society, until a severe attack of inflammatory disease compelled him to resign.

Engagements so laborious, important, and diversified as those in which Dr. Gregory has been engaged for more than thirty years, have acquired for him an extended celebrity and influence, not only in his own but also in foreign countries. They have also induced many learned bodies to enrol him among their honorary members. Among these are, the Academy of Dijon, the Literary and Philosophical Society of New York, the Historical Society of New York, the Literary and Philosophical Societies at Cambridge and Bristol, the Institution of Civil Engineers, the Parisian Statistical Society, and others. About three years ago, he also had the honour of being appointed by his present Majesty, one of a board of fourteen men of science, who are constituted visitors of the Royal Observatory at Greenwich. In addition to the works already noticed, Dr. Gregory has edited new editions of Joyce's Scientific Dialogues; of Lobb's Contemplative Philosopher; some of Dr. George Gregory's works; and, lately, superintended the English edition of Bishop M'Ilvaine's Evidences of Christianity. He has also published Mathematics for Practical Men; and Memoirs of his friend the late Dr. John Mason Good.

We have only room to notice the last, and, in some respects, the best of Dr. Gregory's literary productions. This is, the recent edition of the entire Works of Robert Hall, in six vols. octavo, which has appeared since the death of that extraordinary man, accompanied by an admirable memoir &c. from the Doctor's pen. The memoir is unquestionably one of his happiest efforts, and is alike worthy of the author and the subject. The work, besides its many and great literary excellencies, has a crowning merit, which we must be allowed to mention. All the labour of producing it has been borne by Dr. Gregory in the midst of his accumulated engagements, gratuitously, for the benefit of Mr. Hall's family, and in testimony of his lasting affection for the memory of his friend. Indeed, the review of the entire life of the subject of the preceding memoir is alike calculated to inspire admiration of his distinguished talents and acquisitions, and a profound respect for his character. Rising above that narrow and partial philosophy which, with too many scientific men, induces doubts upon the highest order of subjects, which it is utterly unable to solve, Dr. Gregory has earned the title of a Christian philosopher. He has shewn in his own character, as well as in his writings, the harmony of scientific, moral, and religious truth; and perhaps it is difficult to determine which of these subjects is most deeply indebted to his valuable and persevering labours.

Dr. Gregory has married twice, and has a surviving family of two sons and two daughters.

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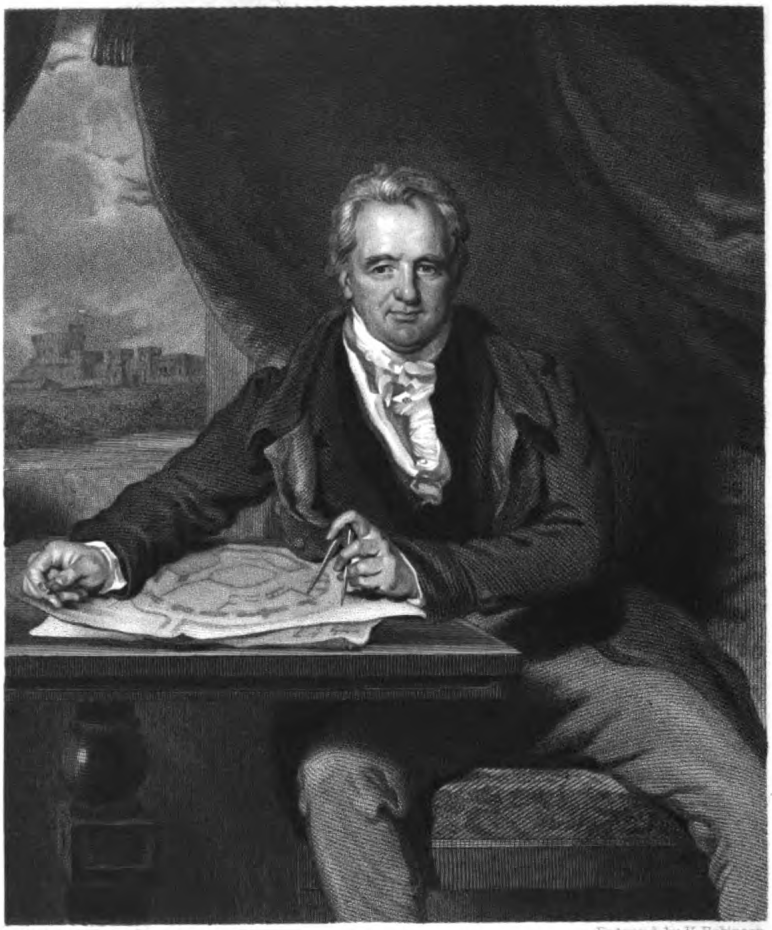

Painted by F Evans Esq.

Engraved by H. Robinson.

SIR JEFFRY WYATVILLE R A F R S F S A &c

Jeffry Wyatville

H. GREIG, SON, & Co. LONDON, 1835.

SIR JEFFRY WYATVILLE,

R. A. F. R. S F. S. A.
ETC. ETC.

As the name of Gundulf, Bishop of Rochester, is intimately associated with the architectural character of the famed castle of that city, and the more famous Tower of London—as William of Wykeham, once Bishop of Winchester, is more distinguished in the annals of the country for his architectural works at Windsor, Winchester, and New-College, Oxford, than for any personal acts and deeds—so the name of WYATVILLE is historically identified with the castellated palace of Windsor, in all its modern re-edifications and improvements. This distinguished and fortunate architect has attained fame and envied distinction by the skill, integrity, and straight-forward conduct he has displayed in the commencement and prosecution of his professional works at that admired seat of Royalty. Of an artist who has been honoured by the personal commendations of two monarchs who have successively sought his professional advice—who has also obtained the public praises of some of the most distinguished senators in both Houses of Parliament, and of many eminent critics and connoisseurs—it may serve at once to gratify laudable curiosity, and excite emulation, to put on record a few facts and opinions calculated to characterize the man and the architect.

This eminent architect, whose personal features have been admirably delineated by Sir Thomas Lawrence,* and from whose picture the

* This portrait was painted by command of George IV. as a compliment to his architect, to be placed in the royal collection at Windsor Castle. It is a good, impressive likeness of the living prototype, and will transmit his personal features to posterity, whilst it has all the blandishment of Sir Thomas's glowing pencil. By the gracious permission of King William IV. it has been copied, and skilfully engraved for the present work. His Majesty, as well as his predecessor, George IV., have honoured the architect with repeated acts of condescending kindness and patronage; both of whom have manifested equal interest in the progress of the architectural works at Windsor.

annexed engraving has been made, is the son of Joseph Wyatt of Burton-upon-Trent, in the county of Stafford, where he was born on the 3d of August, 1766. His father was considered clever, but indolent, and therefore afforded but a poor example for a boy of an enthusiastic and enterprising spirit. Placed at the free-school of his native place, he speedily acquired the common rudiments of scholastic education. After reading Sir Walter Raleigh's "History of the World," he "took a fancy" for the sea, before he had attained his twelfth year, and secretly left his home, to seek adventures on "the vasty deep." Pursued and overtaken, he was quickly conveyed back to school; but correction and study did not curb his "ruling passion," for within two years he again fled from both, with the same intention as before. His purpose was again arrested, and he was compelled to remain at home till the age of seventeen. During this time, he was once "rigged out" for a voyage with Admiral Kempenfeldt, on board the Royal George, but was fortunately prevented from joining that noble ship, which was afterwards lost at Spithead. Home, however, became not only irksome but painful to him, from the improvidence of his father; and in 1783 he made a third, and successful, attempt to fly from both, and seek his fortune in the metropolis, but could not obtain any engagement in the naval service, as the American war had then ceased. Thus the juvenile adventurer was once more foiled, and his long-cherished anticipations of becoming an admiral were frustrated. In this dilemma, he found a friend and protector in Samuel Wyatt, his father's brother, then an architect and builder of repute in London. With that gentleman he continued more than seven years, and acquired considerable knowledge of the ordinary routine office-business, and of practical construction. Mr. S. Wyatt was extensively employed both in London and at the seats of many noblemen and gentlemen in the country; namely, at Eaton Hall, Tatton Hall, the Trinity House, London, &c., all of which were executed by and from his designs; and consequently afforded his nephew opportunities of witnessing all the processes of designing, estimating, and executing buildings of various kinds.

In the hopes of acquiring further professional knowledge, and particularly with a view of cultivating that essential requisite in art, taste, young Wyatt sought these advantages in the office of another uncle, Mr. James Wyatt, who had attained a higher station on the ladder of fame than his brother. He had been some years in Italy, and had visited its architectural emporium, Rome. On returning home,

and before he had come of age, he designed and built a magnificent room, called "The Pantheon," in Oxford Street, London. This edifice was highly extolled by the critics of the day, and consequently gave celebrity and employment to the fortunate architect. Its simple Palladian front of Portland stone, secured the praises of many persons, and its splendid interior those of more. Mr. James Wyatt was latterly promoted to the high station of Surveyor-General of his Majesty's works, and introduced by King George the Third to Windsor Castle, where many alterations and additions, without much substantial improvement, were made by him to that famed palace. In the office of that gentleman, the nephew served the period of another apprenticeship; and, if he did not participate, at that time, in the fame and fortune of his uncle, he was materially improved and benefited by the varied practice which he saw, and a knowledge of influential persons, from whom, subsequently to Mr. James Wyatt's decease, he derived important advantages. Among this high class, was the Prince of Wales, then "the observed of all observers—the glass of fashion and the mould of form," who honoured him with his first personal notice on the day of the marriage of the princess royal, and continued to speak occasionally to, and applaud his designs, up to 1799. In that year, an opportunity occurred of commencing "the world on his own account," by an offer from an eminent builder, then in ill health, to join him in business, and who had extensive contracts with government and other offices. In this profitable and respectable career, Mr. Jeffry Wyatt continued to the year 1824, when, after an absence of twenty-five years from Royal intercourse, he was unexpectedly commanded by his Majesty, George the Fourth, to attend and receive personal instructions respecting designs for restoring Windsor Castle. This led to a new engagement, which demanded not only the whole of his time and professional attention, but impelled him to relinquish all the duties and profits of the man of business.

The union of the tradesman with the architect was deemed by the Royal Academicians a sufficient bar to the advancement of Mr. Jeffry Wyatt to be one of their society, and he was allowed to continue as a candidate for twenty years, before he was admitted a member. During this period, he made many designs for public and private buildings, which were erected in different parts of the kingdom, some of which manifested architectural talents of a high order. He was at length elected an associate, and speedily afterwards one of the Royal Academicians. Among various designs which he had exhibited at that nursery of the arts, was one called "Priam's

Palace," which attacted much admiration during the exhibition. This, and his other architectural drawings, and executed buildings, are ample evidences of his love of, and devotion to his profession.

> " Direct thy steps to *Windsor's* stately courts,—
> Explore her halls, her towers, her sacred fane,
> And treat thine eye with grandeur. Look around,
> And mark the teeming landscape strew'd with gems
> Of architecture: mansions, villas, domes,
> Replete with art and science, taste and beauty."
>
> OLD MS.

King George the Fourth having expressed a desire of living in Windsor Castle, his Majesty's ministers recommended the subject to Parliament, when it was agreed that great alterations and improvements should be made in that rural palace. It was also agreed, that the three attached architects to the board of works, Messrs. Soane, Nash, and Smirke, with Mr. Jeffry Wyatt, should be directed to make plans, drawings, and estimates, for effecting this purpose. It may be naturally concluded that the prospect of such an important and lucrative commission would call into action all the energies and talents of these experienced and fortunate architects. The sum of three hundred thousand pounds had been voted by Parliament towards the expenses of these projected improvements: and a commission of eight noblemen and gentlemen, members of the administration and of the opposition, were appointed to superintend and advise about the works, and check the expenditure of the money.

On the 4th of May, 1824, the architects were directed to attend, with their respective drawings, at the office of the Earl of Liverpool, at Whitehall. Each, with the exception of Mr. Soane, who had declined, was called before his Lordship and the other commissioners in succession, to explain his plans and opinions; and the drawings remained in the possession of the commissioners for several days: it was at length announced, that the designs of Mr. J. Wyatt had been approved and accepted. Apprised of this flattering event, first by his Majesty, who had evidently been much pleased with the designs, and who had previously expressed favourable opinions of the architect—and, secondly, by Lord Liverpool—Mr. Wyatt was commissioned to commence the works, and exert his abilities in rendering the Castle a comfortable and splendid habitation for the English monarch, and an ornament and honour to the country. How far these injunctions have been accomplished, and how far the architect has justified the favourable testimonies of friends, and the approval of

commissioners, the critical part of the public is now qualified to decide, and in the sequel it will be our duty to explain.

With a liberal grant of money, and after a visit of the Commissioners to Windsor, the general plan of operations settled, and all the formulæ of agreements, signatures to drawings, &c. regularly executed, it was agreed to commence the new works; and on the 12th of August, 1824, the anniversary of his Majesty's birth-day, the first stone was laid by the King. This was part of the foundation of the new gateway on the southern side of the great quadrangle, and thenceforward to be called *George the Fourth's Gateway*. On this occasion, the Monarch conferred on the architect the royal authority of changing his name to Wyatville, not merely as a personal compliment, but for the purpose of distinguishing and separating the Wyatt of that reign, from Mr. James Wyatt, who had been much identified with the architectural works at Windsor, during the long life of George the Third. As a mark of further favour, his Majesty was pleased to suggest and confer the additional armorial quartering to the architect's family arms, of a view of George the Fourth's gateway, with the word, *Windsor*, as a motto.

The works proceeded with great rapidity, for numerous hands were employed, and the architect devoted the whole of his time and zeal to their advancement and completeness, not only from conscientious motives and professional pride, but from the deep interest, and condescending kindness and urbanity of his Majesty towards him. On the 9th of December, 1828, such progress had been made in the works, that the King's private apartments were completed, and his Majesty took possession of the Castle. The first public act the King performed, and that immediately after residence, was to confer the honour of knighthood on his architect.

Without the aid of plans and views of the buildings, it will be impracticable to convey to the stranger any clear ideas of the comparative state of Windsor Castle, at the time Sir Jeffry commenced his improvements in 1824, and at the time of writing this biographical sketch in 1834.

As this national edifice is intimately associated with the name and fame of the architect whose professional character we are endeavouring to delineate to the reader; and as it is a popular theme of comment, criticism, and history, it cannot be deemed irrelevant, in this place, to give a very brief account of it, which will be done in the language of Mr. Britton, as related in his lecture on Castellated Architecture, read at Windsor in March, 1834.

'This provincial palace of the Kings of England has been successively occupied by nearly all the English monarchs, from William I. to William IV., that is, for a period of above seven hundred and fifty years. Such, indeed, are its local advantages, luxuries, and varied attractions, that it is likely to continue the abode of kings, as long as they continue to possess taste to enjoy its many natural and artificial charms. Its situation is a gentle eminence, commanding an extensive tract of flat, but fertile and finely-wooded country to the north, east, and west, whilst a large and picturesque forest sweeps round its southern side, presenting a variety of undulating and thickly-wooded scenery. The "silver Thames" flows through low, and flat meadows from the west to the east, at a short distance from its northern terrace, and gives many sparkling and cheerful features to the landscape. The Castle buildings have been progressively raised by the Sovereign's William I. and II.—Henry I.—Edward III. and IV. —Henry VII. and VIII.—Elizabeth—Charles I. and II.—George III. and IV.—and by William IV. The splendid and interesting Chapel of St. George, the pride of Windsor and of England, was chiefly raised by Edw. III. and Edw. IV., and it is presumed that it was designed by the famed William of Wykeham, who certainly directed many of the Castle buildings. The commanding tower, in the middle ward, at the west end of the north terrace, was doubtlessly built and occupied by that bishop, and is now inhabited by the modern architect of Windsor, who is rationally proud of such a residence and such association. Parts and specimens of the architectural evidences of nearly all the monarchs here named, are to be seen in different portions of the Castle: and it is at once curious and interesting to compare and contrast the styles of architecture which prevailed and were fashionable at the different ages thus referred to. At the north-western extremity of the curtain walls, in the lower ward, is an example of real Norman design, called Cæsar's, or the Bell Tower, whilst the dynasties of the Plantagenets, Lancastrians, Yorkists, Tudors, Stuarts, and Hanoverians, are all to be identified in other parts of these extensive castelled and christian buildings.

'The lofty keep tower, occupying a high conical mount near the centre of the buildings, and separating the upper from the lower ballium, or ward, is at once a fine castellated feature, and a curious specimen of design and construction. On its summit is raised the royal flag, which, by the addition to the tower, is increased fifty-four feet in height. In the reign of King Charles II., it was sadly disfigured by the alterations then made, as were the whole buildings of the upper,

or inner ballium. Sir John Evelyn visited Windsor in August 1670, and writes in his "Diary," that the castle "was now going to be repaired, being exceedingly ragged ruinous. Prince Rupert, the constable, had begun to trim up the keep, or high round tower, and handsomely adorned his hall with furniture of arms, which was very singular, by so disposing y^e^ pikes, muskets, pistols, bandeliers, holsters, drums, back, crest, and head pieces, as was very extraordinary." Hence, it seems, that the fashion of decorating halls with a display of arms and armour commenced with the disuse of those emblems of human warfare, in Charles the Second's reign.

'It may be safely affirmed, that all the alterations and additions made in the Castle buildings from the commencement of the Tudor dynasty, to the year 1824, were not only incompatible with the castellated character of the older works, but some of them were tasteless in design, and slight and bad in execution. It has been found necessary to take down the whole of the latter class, and, on removing floors and partition walls, it was seen that nearly all the main timbers were so much decayed as to be unfitted for further use. New floors and ceilings, with new partition walls, were necessary, and, to improve the exterior effect of the elevations, each wall was raised several feet, and finished with bold embattled parapets. The angular and intermediate towers were also augmented in height, and each crowned with a machicolated summit. The chimney shafts were formed into stone clusters, and made to assume the shapes of turrets. Around the south and east sides of the interior of the great quadrangle, was erected a spacious corridor below, with a gallery, over it, five hundred and fifty feet in length, both of which form approaches to the chief suites of apartments which belong to those parts of the Castle. The range of rooms appropriated to the Royal Family occupy the first floor of the eastern side of the quadrangle, whilst those devoted to distinguished visitors are to the south, and the state apartments, consisting of St. George's Hall, the Waterloo Gallery, the Audience Room, the Presence Chamber, the Throne Room, the Grand Staircase, &c. are to the north.'

In 1830 the Commissioners, having found that the most decayed and dangerous parts of the building had occasioned an expenditure much beyond the original estimates, applied to Parliament for further advances; but to this application an opposition was made in the House of Commons, and a committee was appointed to investigate the public works at Windsor Castle, and endeavour to ascertain the amount of money required to complete them. After several meetings,

and inquiries of the architect, the committee allowed and ordered additional works to be undertaken, to the estimated amount of £149,000, thus making a total of £771,000. This grant was to be advanced at the rate of £50,000 per annum. It is proper to remark, that the total sum here specified belongs to the architect's department alone, independent of the upholsterer, decorator, and other artizans: and it must be highly gratifying to Sir Jeffry to learn that the committee, after a careful examination of the matters referred to them, reported to Parliament their approbation of the works, and their recommendation that the architect should prosecute them in the same manner, and with the same powers and discretion which he had hitherto exercised. Since that time much has been done, and more is still in progress. The Elizabethan gallery is finished, and fitted up as a library; the Waterloo gallery is completed, and adorned with a series of splendid portraits executed by the late Sir Thomas Lawrence, of the principal monarchs, statesmen, and generals of Europe; a large and noble Staircase has been constructed, in which is to be placed a colossal statue of George IV., executed by Chantrey, 9 feet 6 high. Lodges have been erected at the junction of the Long-Walk with the Home-Park, and several of the old state apartments, at the north-west part of the upper court, are enlarged, new ceiled, floored, lined, &c. In the architect's designs was shewn a splendid royal chapel at the north-west angle of the upper court, but this, with stables, coach-houses, and many other works, still required in the base court, are deferred.

On a recent examination of the Castle, and contemplating its present grand, substantial, and imposing portraiture as a whole, and features in detail, in comparison to, and contrast with, its state in 1799, the picture is striking and impressive. It plainly manifests an improvement in public taste, as well as an enlarged liberality in the national councils: it shews a harmony and co-operation in the monarch, the parliament, and the people, which may be referred to as unparalleled in the annals of the kingdom. At an age when economy in every department of the state has been demanded by the people, and partly conceded by the government, it is presumed that a million of the public money will be expended on this palace, and paid without a murmur, and without reproach. Nothing can be a stronger proof of the ability and integrity of the architect: for the monarch and the subject—the Tory and the Whig—the liberal and the radical—are nearly unanimous in commendation of these works; and such is the unaffected liberality of John Bull, when thus pleased, that he freely opens

his purse, and proffers his tens of thousands without reserve, and without regret. Under these circumstances and persuasions, we will indulge the fond hope that the respected object of this brief, imperfect biographical sketch, may live to complete all his projected improvements to this British palace, and transmit it to future ages for the admiration and boast of other monarchs and statesmen, as well as for every other class of Englishmen.

As in the naval code of renown, one of its honoured heroes proclaimed that—"England expects every man to do his duty,"—so, in that of the fine arts and literature, every one, who in discharging his duty, exercises talents and taste, enhances his own fame with that of his country.

> "Beneath one Royal head, whose vital pow'r
> Corrects, enlivens, and exerts the whole;
> In *finer arts* and *public works* shall she,
> Shall BRITAIN shine." THOMSON.

Although Windsor Castle is the prominent professional work of Sir Jeffry Wyatville, and for ages to come will be associated with his name and memory, there are many other buildings in different parts of the kingdom, which have been either wholly raised, or essentially improved, from his designs. As the literary publications of an author, the pictures of a painter, and the plastic designs of the sculptor, serve to characterize and commemorate the relative talents of each, so the executed buildings of an architect may be referred to as the best memorials of, and comments on, his professional life. It is a singular circumstance that Sir Jeffry has had professional engagements, and left some of his works, in thirty-five out of the forty English counties, and four out of the twelve, Welsh. From a list of above one hundred of these buildings, the following may be enumerated, with the names of their owners.

Badminton House, Gloucestershire, Duke of Beaufort.—Drawing-room and library.

Woburn Abbey, Bedfordshire, Duke of Bedford.—Temple of the Graces.

At *Endsleigh*, Devonshire, Duke of Bedford.—A spacious and commodious seat, in the cottage style.

Chatsworth House, Derbyshire, Duke of Devonshire.—Some magnificent new buildings, also alterations, and restoration of the old mansion, in the Italian style. These have been in progress during the last fourteen years.

Longleat House, Wiltshire, Marquis of Bath—New conservatory, stables, offices, staircase, and alterations of the hall, &c.

Ashridge, Hertfordshire, Earl of Bridgewater.—The completion of the house, begun by James Wyatt, Esq. R.A.; the Bridgwater column in the park, and lodges.

Bretbey, Derbyshire, Earl of Chesterfield.—Parts of the house.

Gopsal, Staffordshire, Earl Howe.—A new lodge, &c.

Belton House, Lincolnshire, Earl Brownlow.—New green-house, and alterations to the mansion.

Wollaton Hall, Nottinghamshire, Viscount Middleton.—Alterations to the interior, and new lodges to that fine Italian house.

Sidney College, Cambridge.—New gate-house, and fronts to the whole college.

Besides the above, which are generally called show places, Sir Jeffry has designed and executed the following *new houses*.

Lilleshall, Shropshire, Earl Gower.
Golden Grove, Carmarthenshire, Earl of Cawdor.
Nonsuch Park, Surry, Samuel Farmer, Esq.
Dinton, Wiltshire. William Windham, Esq.
Denford, Berkshire, William Hallet, Esq.
Stubton, Lincolnshire, Sir Robert Heron, Bart.
Hillfield Lodge, Hertfordshire, The Honourable G. Villiers.
Trebursye, Cornwall, The Honourable William Elliot.
Banner Cross, Yorkshire, General Murray.
Wimborn, Dorsetshire, William Castleman, Esq.
Claverton, Somersetshire, John Vivian, Esq.
Hastings, Sussex, Compt de Vandes.

&c. &c. &c.

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

Painted by T. Hargraves. Engraved by J. Cochran.

Edw. Baines

MP.

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PROOF

EDWARD BAINES, ESQ.

M. P.

EDWARD BAINES, ESQ. M.P. for the Borough of Leeds, son of the late Mr. Richard Baines of Preston, was born at Walton-le-dale, Lancashire, in 1774. Placed at an early age in the family of his maternal uncle, Thomas Rigg, Esq. of King's Land, near Hawkshead, he received the first part of his education at the free grammar school in that town, under the tuition of Edward Christian, Esq. afterwards Chief-justice of Ely, and Downing Professor of Law in the university of Cambridge.

From thence he returned to Preston, and at the age of seventeen was apprenticed to Mr. Thomas Walker, of that place, printer and stationer. Before the expiration of his apprenticeship, he removed to Leeds for improvement, and served the remainder of his term with Messrs. Binns and Brown, the printers of the Leeds Mercury.

Immediately after the termination of his apprenticeship, he formed a connexion in trade with Mr. John Fenwick, and carried on the printing business for about a year, under the firm of Baines and Fenwick, at Leeds. This connexion having been dissolved, he succeeded, in the year 1800, after the death of Mr. Binns, to the proprietorship of the Leeds Mercury, of which he became the sole conductor. In the preceding year, he married Charlotte, the daughter of

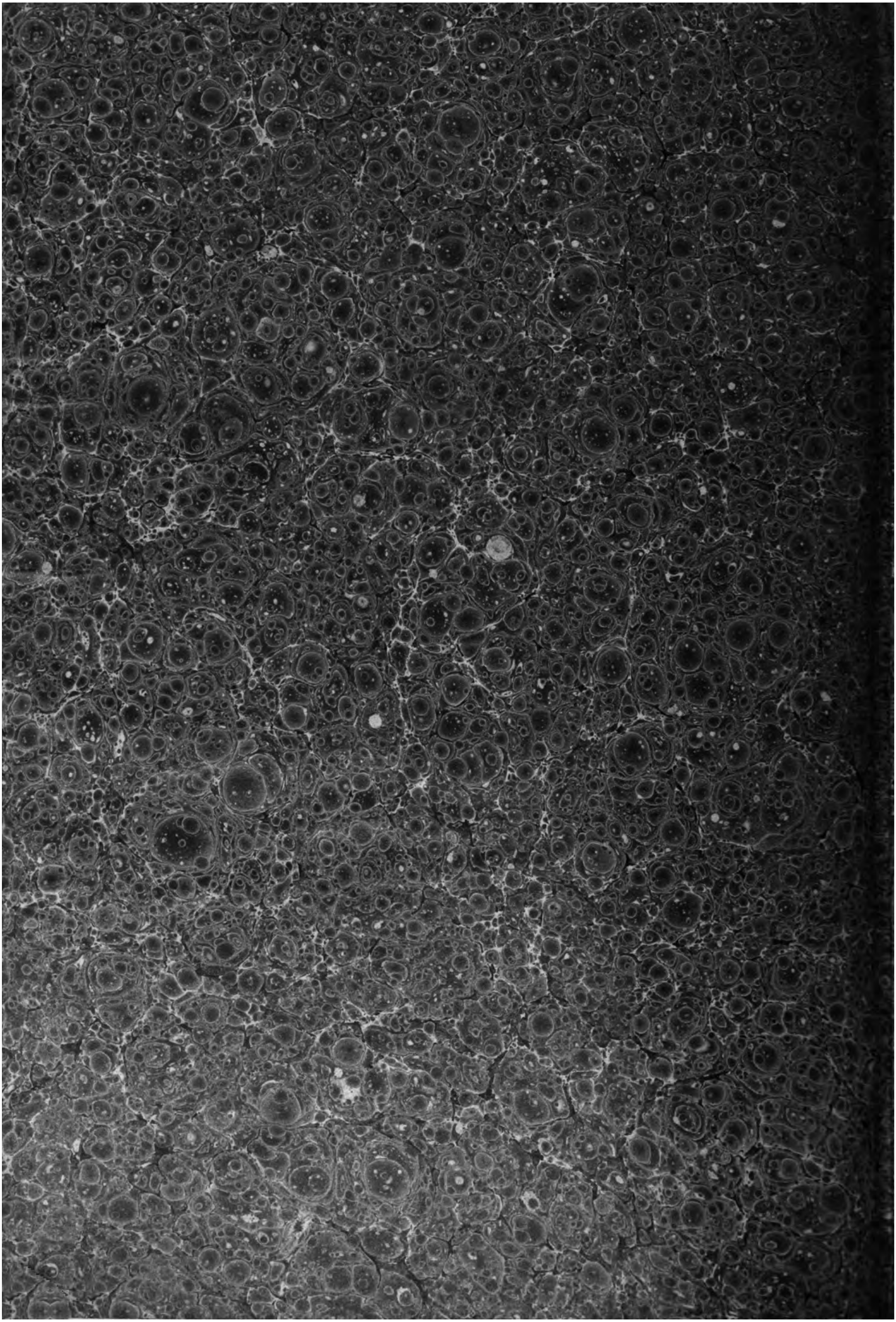
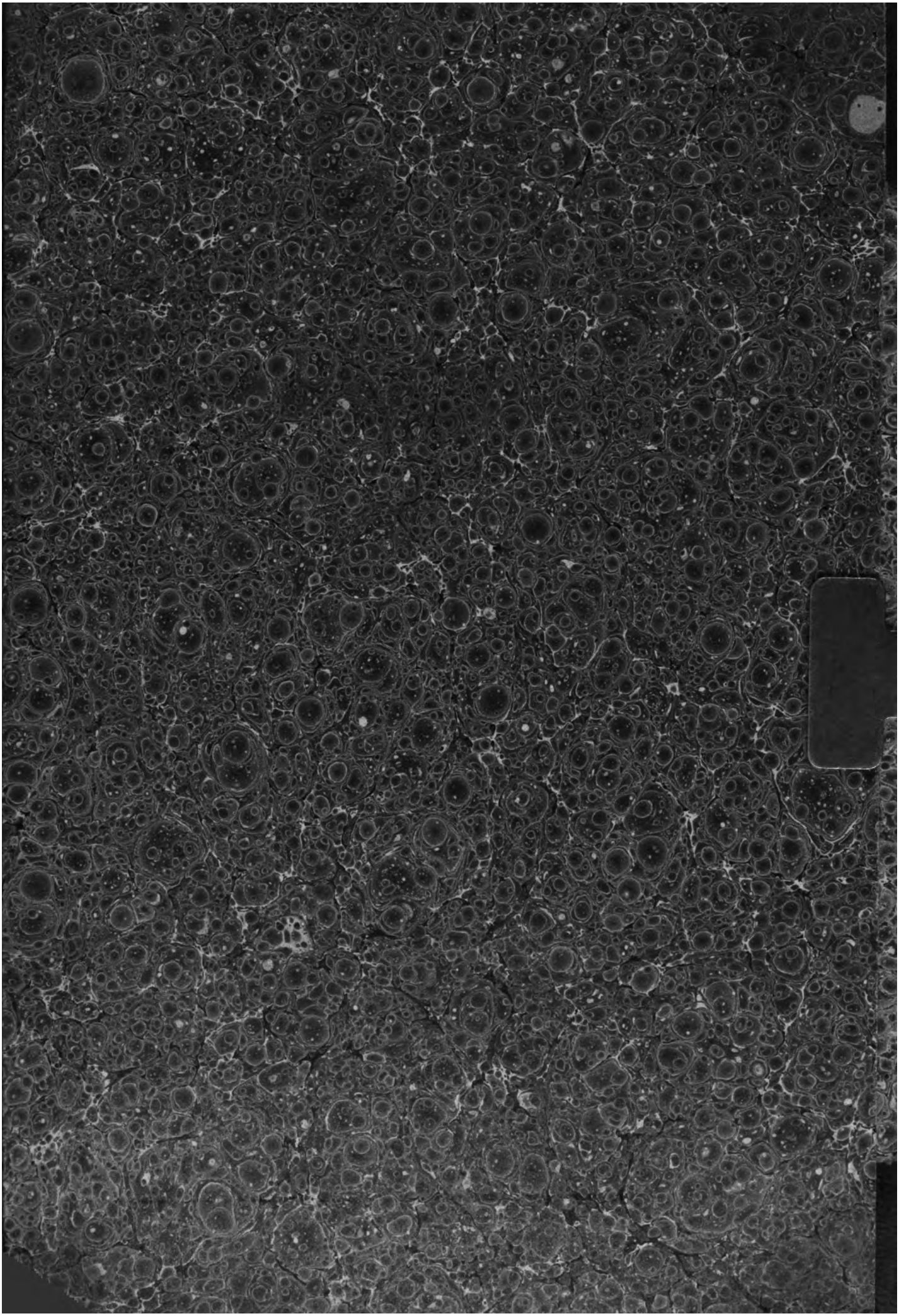
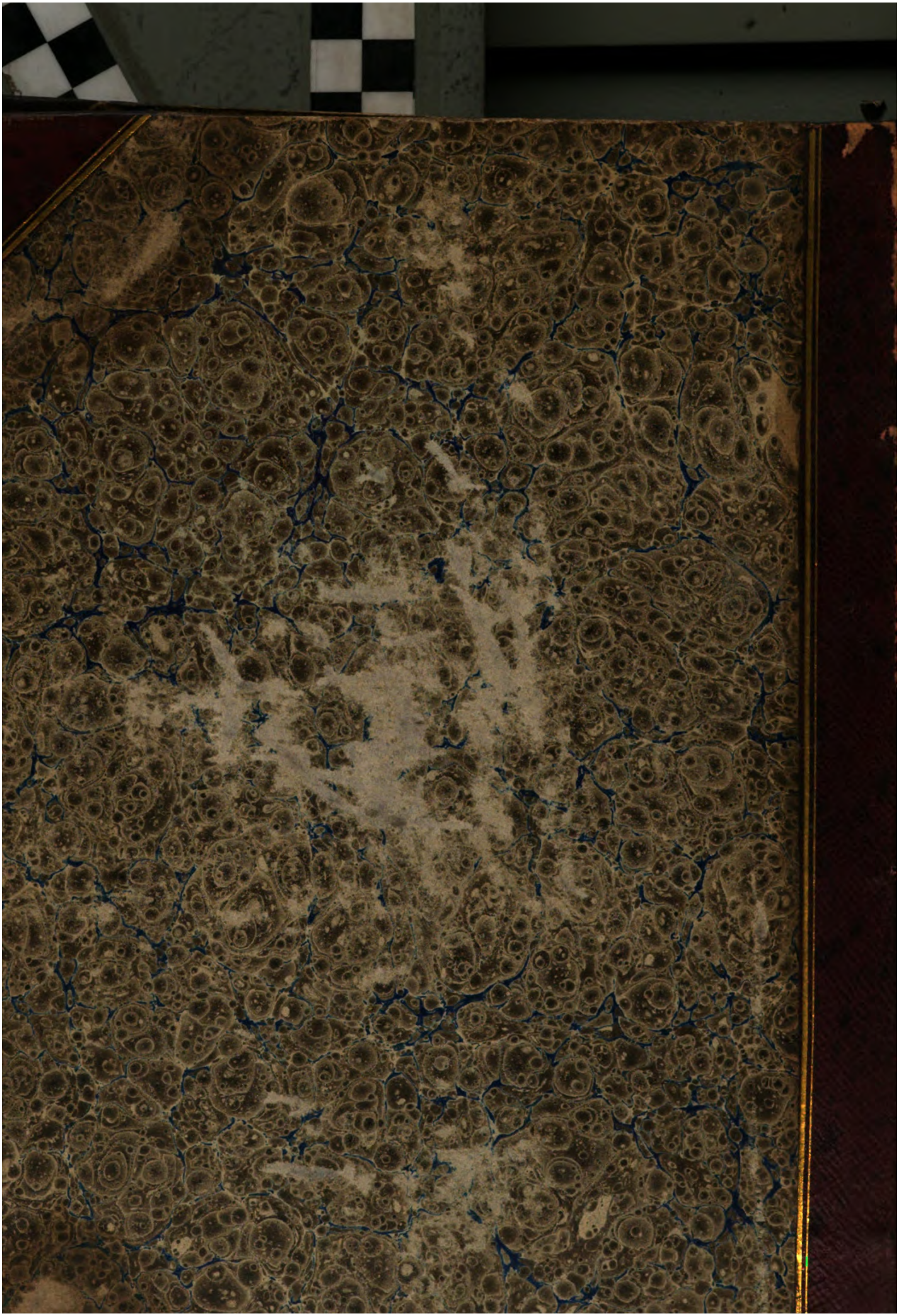
Mr. Matthew Talbot, known, in the literary and theological world, as the author of a very laborious work, under the title of " An Analysis of the Bible." The issue of this marriage has been six sons and five daughters; all of whom survive, except two sons who died in infancy.

In the hands of Mr. Baines, the Leeds Mercury became a journal of extensive political influence in the north of England, which has been enlarged since he obtained the co-operation of his son, and partner in business, Mr. Edward Baines, in the year 1828. Having uniformly maintained the principles of civil and religious liberty with zeal and consistency, this journal has contributed essentially to the promulgation and extension of those principles, once so little popular in the town of Leeds and the county of York. Through the medium of this journal, Mr. Baines first suggested to the freeholders of Yorkshire the propriety of returning to parliament Henry Brougham, now Lord Chancellor of England. This suggestion was adopted with enthusiasm; and that highly talented man, and patriotic statesman, was elevated, at the general election of 1830, to the distinguished eminence of representative of the county of York; from which station he stepped, by no very unnatural transition, to the woolsack.

Under the new system of representation introduced by the Reform Bill, aided by the operation of the press, the representation of the West Riding of Yorkshire has become wholly popular; and by the exertions of the friends of that measure of political regeneration, Thomas Babington Macauley, Esq. was returned as the representative of Leeds, along with John Marshall, jun. Esq., in the first reformed parliament in 1832. On the retirement of Mr. Macauley to take the station to which he was so fitly appointed in the Supreme Council of India, the electors of Leeds bestowed upon Mr. Baines the highest mark of their confidence and esteem, by returning him to parliament on the 17th of February, 1834, as their representative, without solicitation on his part, without cost, and on those principles of purity of election which he had so long and so strenuously advocated.

EDWARD BAINES, ESQ. M.P.

The subject of this memoir has been engaged in several historical and statistical works. At the conclusion of the war between England and France in 1814, he commenced a quarto work, in two volumes, under the title of "The Wars of the French Revolution," which was originally intended as a compilation, and the first part of which, from 1793 to the peace of Amiens, was of that character. The work was afterwards extended, under the title of the History of the Reign of George the Third, and finally comprehended a period of English history of sixty years. His principal topographical work, now in course of publication, is the History of the County Palatine of Lancaster, in four quarto volumes.

Mr. Baines has been amongst the most active promoters of the public improvements in the Borough of Leeds, for the last thirty years. Personally, and through the medium of that powerful instrument the press, his exertions have been unremitting to extend the charities, to increase and to improve the public edifices, and to enlarge the facilities for the education of the poor. In the administration of the public concerns of the parish, he has taken a lively interest; and his fellow-citizens have adjudged to his services their highest reward, by conferring upon him the guardianship of their interests in the national councils.

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