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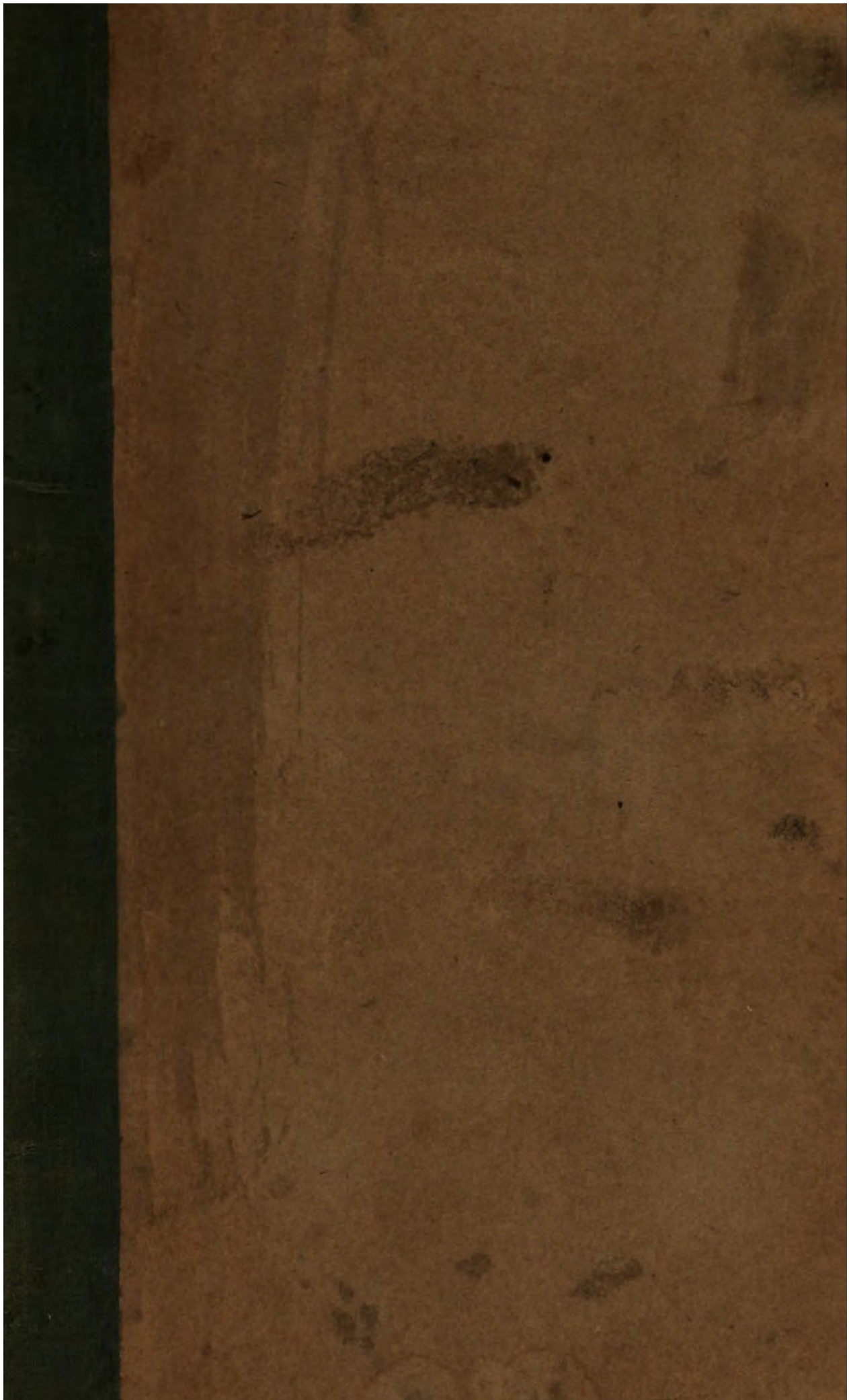
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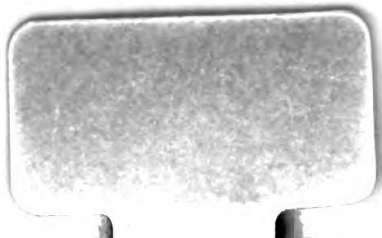


W/D/-

H. E. PALFREY, J.P. F.S.A.
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STOURBRIDGE

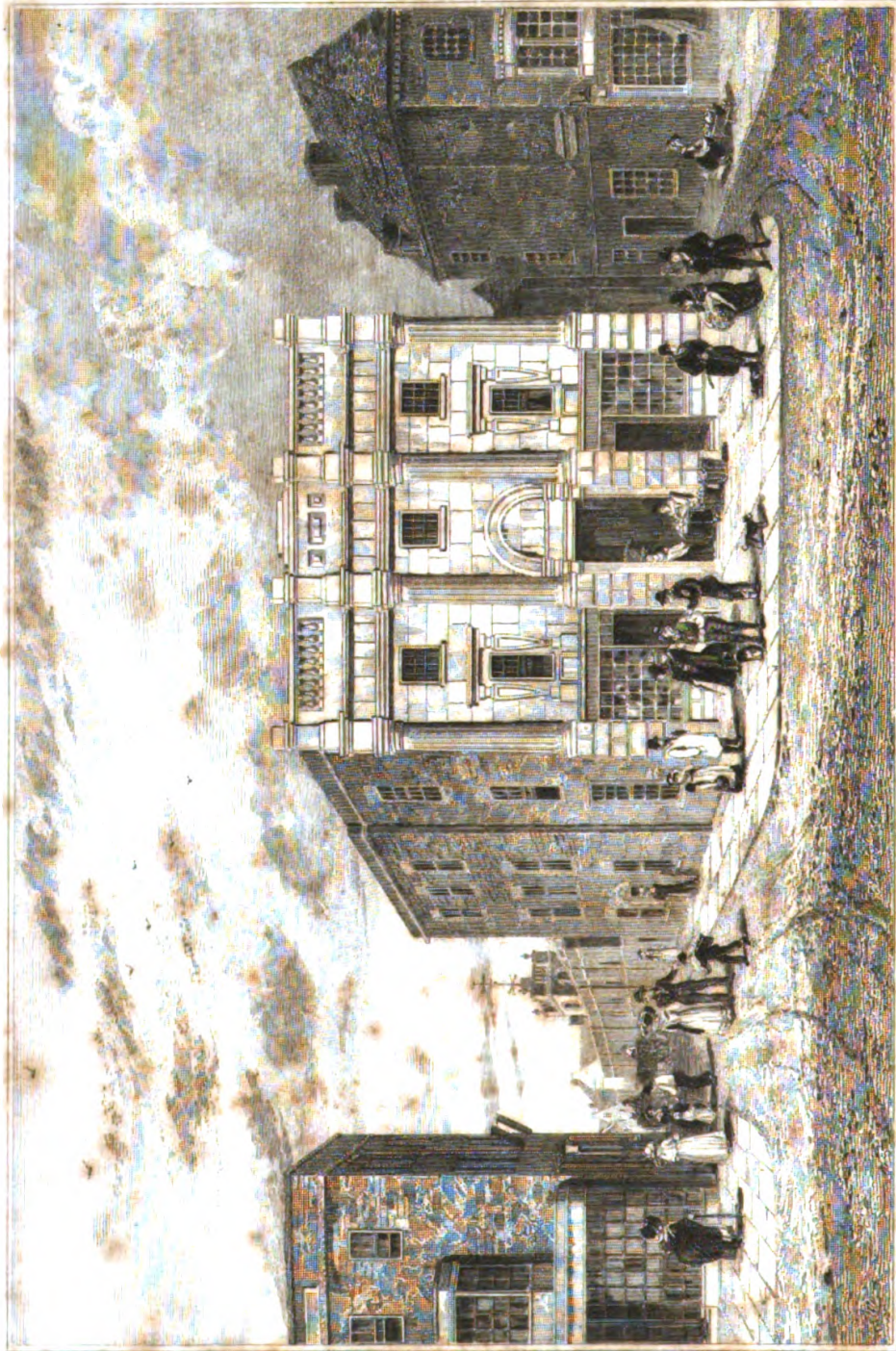
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G.A. Ware. 8° 147



STOURBRIDGE AND ITS VICINITY.





W. Roberts Del.

MARKET HOUSE,
STOURBRIDGE.

T. Rodcliffe Sc.

STOURBRIDGE AND ITS VICINITY,

CONTAINING

A TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PARISH OF OLD
SWINFORD, INCLUDING THE

TOWNSHIP OF STOURBRIDGE;

WITH THE ADJOINING PARISHES OF

King Swinford, Kinber, Pedmore, and Halesowen;

OBSERVATIONS ON

HAGLEY, ENVILLE, HIMLEY, CLENT, &c.;

Antiquities,

ITINERARY, MEMORABLE OCCURRENCES;

AND

MEMOIRS

GEOLOGICAL, MINERALOGICAL, BOTANICAL, &c.

Illustrated with Plates.

BY WILLIAM SCOTT.

Stourbridge:

PRINTED AND SOLD BY J. HEMING; SOLD ALSO BY SIMKIN
AND MARSHALL, LONDON; WRIGHTSON, BELCHER, AND
RADCLYFFE, BIRMINGHAM; MAURICE, DUDLEY; SMART
AND CO., WOLVERHAMPTON; PENNELL, KIDDERMINSTER;
AND ALL OTHER BOOKSELLERS.

MDCCLXXXII.



PREFACE.

AMIDST the various topographical descriptions which abound in the present day, it is presumed that an account of "Stourbridge and its Vicinity," may not prove to be entirely destitute of interest, both to the general reader and the resident inhabitants of the district described.

While the grand outlines of local history are supplied by works of a superior order, as County Histories, agricultural, statistical, geological, and other surveys; the minuter localities of townships, hamlets, villages, &c. fall more immediately within the scope of personal observation.

Moreover, the mass of information contained in the volumes alluded to above, generally constitutes part of the literary treasures of the opulent, and is inaccessible to readers in general; copies also becoming, in a course of time, both scarce and costly. Summaries of portions of these valuable and authentic documents, while they leave unimpaired the treasures from whence they were drawn, together with the additions of minutiae suggested by personal observation, carrying down to the current

period the various results occurring; appear to be desirable repositories of local information.

In addition to the stores obtained from the class of publications alluded to above, contributions innumerable from private individuals have been received, which it is impracticable to particularize, or adequately to acknowledge.

In almost all the intercourses of society, facts, observations, &c. tending to illustrate, more or less, some of the points under consideration have occurred, many of them affording the most important information.

To the candid consideration of the Public in general, more particularly to his Townsmen, Friends, and Neighbours, the writer submits this volume of Memoirs, the result of many years' study and investigation.

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INTRODUCTION.



*OF the Midland, Mining, and Manufacturing District
of England, comprising parts of the Counties of
Warwick, Stafford, Worcester, and Salop.*

THIS important district may be considered as described by the figure denominated a trapezium, having Dudley (a) for its most central town, and Birmingham with part of Aston, Walsall, Wolverhampton, and Stourbridge, for its extreme points.

The boundary line of this figure, taking the turnpike roads from town to town in continuity, with a little deviation on the northern side, to include Wednesfield and Bloxwich, will be found to be somewhat more than thirty-eight miles in extent.

From the exterior of this line, a country devoted to agriculture is presented to view, while the interior space remarkably abounds in mines and manufactures, containing a very considerable population.

(a) Mr. Yarranton considers this manufacturing district as extending ten miles round Dudley.

The inhabitants of this part of Britain, previous to the Roman conquest, were unquestionably the Cornavii or Cornabii, though some parts of Worcestershire and the adjoining counties were occupied by the Dobuni, succeeded by the Wiccii. In tracing the history of this British tribe, to the period of their settlement, in the centre of the kingdom, that important event, the peopling of Britain from the opposite coast of ancient Gaul, demands attention.

The Celtic tribes, (b) in the opinion of numerous respectable writers, took possession of a considerable portion of the island; and with them, the Belgae afterwards became participators, about three centuries before the arrival of Julius Cæsar.

Among these Celtic tribes were the Cornavii or Cornabii, who inhabited the midland district at the time of the Roman invasion, but were not conquered till the reign of Claudius Cæsar.

The territory of this people extended over a great part of the counties of Warwick, Worcester, Stafford, Salop, Chester, &c.

In addition to this branch of the Cornabii, inhabiting the tract extending from the Thames and Severn to the Humber, there were others, who, according to Mr. Whitaker, inhabited Cornwall, and also Caithness; each region having a promontery extending into the sea, to which the British word *Karneab*, a horn, is considered as applicable. (c)

(b) The *Celtae* were one of the two branches of the *Cimmerians*, *Cumri* or *Gumri*; ancestors of the ancient Britons. In the principality of Wales, the term *Cymri*, colloquially *Kumri*, still prevails.

Brewer's introduction to Beauties of England and Wales.

(c) Tacitus, though he frequently alludes to the *Silures*, *Brigantes*, *Trino-*

The capital, or the second city of the Cornavii, according to Camden,(d) was Uriconium, in Shropshire, a city celebrated as a Roman station, and which retained its consequence during the Saxon heptarchy. (e)

During the period of the Roman dominion over the British isles, the tract of country under consideration, formed a part of the province of Flavia-Caesariensis, it was limited by Britannia Secunda, and by Humber, Dan, and Mersey. Few vestiges of Roman antiquities occur within the limits described; these principally consist of a part of the Ikenild street, consular road, and some remains of one of the Watling vicinal ways, hereafter to be described.

A collateral branch of Ikenild is described as passing near Causeway green, Warley Wigorn and Langley, to Oldbury, in the Salopian district of Halesowen.

bantes, Caledonians, &c. &c. does not notice the Cornavii—indeed they appear to have been little known to the Romans.

Horseley says, that Ptolemy takes no notice of Worcestershire, and that it is not traced in the itinerary of Antoninus, Glevum, Gloucester, and Ariconium, Ross forming the extremities of the nearest line of Roman road to this district.

Evidences of the Roman occupation of Worcestershire, additional to those afforded by vestiges of roads constructed by that illustrious people, might be found in coins and other relics occurring at Hagley, Bellbroughton, &c. hereafter to be noticed. The numerous and continuous forests spreading over this province and beyond its confines, seem to have led to the supposition, that it was not subject to Roman occupation.

“Some companies of the Cornavii served under the latter emperors.”

Camden Notitia Provinciarum.

(d) Ed. of 1603.

(e) Uriconium, Caer-Vrach of Ninius; Caer-Urnach, of Camden; Uriconium of Antoninus; Viroconium of Ptolemy; Wroxeter of the Saxons; was destroyed by the Danes: after which Pengwerne, synonymous with Schrobbsbyrig; (Shrewsbury) was made a shire town by Alfred, after he had subdued the Danes. Mons-Uriconium (Wrekin hill) Uriconii mons, is supposed to retain a vestige of the name of this ancient city.

Other branches of Roman roads in this vicinity are—Moor street, communicating with Crook street, between Quinton and Northfield. Sturchley street, leading from Moor green to Kingsnorton. Ullenhall street, near to Wootton Warren. Twatling street, (corrupted from Watling,) leading from the Lickey towards Tardebig and Alvechurch, has also been considered as a branch of Roman road.

Hutton speaks of a lesser road, issuing from London, and penetrating through Streetford, Stratford upon Avon ; also of Monks path street and Shirley street, near Birmingham.

At Over Arley, in Staffordshire, near to the banks of the Severn, historians have pointed out another branch of Roman vicinal road, but it would be difficult to trace its course by any remaining vestige, or by the aid of narrative. This street is indeed named in Wulfruna's grant of the manor of Arley to the church of Hampton, as a boundary line.

This Portway, as it is termed, near Rowley Regis, is by some writers considered as a branch of the Watling vicinal way, already mentioned, and by others as entirely distinct therefrom.

When to the Roman Pentarchy, succeeded the Saxon heptarchy, or in the language of Mr. Turner, the Saxon octarchy ; (f) this tract of country formed part of the comparatively extensive kingdom of Mercia.

Uriconium continued to be the principal city of the middle Saxons, while Off-Church-Bury, near Southam, in Warwickshire, became the residence of Offa, one of their monarchs, where he held his rural court.

(f) By considering the two Northumbrian kingdoms as separate states, Mr. Turner, contrary to most authors, produces an octarchy. The kingdoms were, indeed, variously united and separated at different periods.

The kingdom of Mercia, like that of the Dobuni, already mentioned, subsisted both in an independent, and subsequently a suborninate state, in each of which it experienced numerous vicissitudes.

The Danes, A. D. 870, usurped East Anglia; and soon afterwards, Mercia submitted to their sway. During the reign of Alfred, incessant depredations were committed by these adventurers. After repeated conflicts, the sovereignty of Mercia became vested in that great monarch, who, though he discontinued its royal honours, constituted Ethelred, consort of his daughter Ethelfleda, its military commander. Sometimes Ethelred is designated as viceroy of the Wiccians. A

Ethelfleda governed the state eight years after the death of her husband, in very troublesome times; she is highly eulogised by Henry of Huntingdon, in a poem.

The geological features of this part of England are curious and interesting;—Mr. Aikin observes, that “a range of rude elevated land, sometimes rising into lofty mountains; extends from the borders of Scotland to the very heart of England, running from North to South, and forming a natural division between the Eastern and Western Britain of the Romans.”

The British Apennines are, by some authors, represented as commencing at Ashover, in Derbyshire, (g) extending through the Peak, part of Cheshire, Lancashire, Yorkshire, Durham, Westmoreland, Cumberland, and Northumberland, thence stretching to Scotland.

(g) The British Alps are considered by Mr. Brande, as extending from Scotland, by Cumberland, and the principality of Wales, to the Southern extremity of Cornwall.—Ashover is termed “the root, whose trunk takes a northern direction.”

A See Appendix.

In describing the extent and direction of the Apennine range, some writers assign to it much more considerable dimensions. Commencing the range in the Highlands of Scotland, and pursuing its course through the northern counties, they connect therewith, the eastern mountainous tract of Cumberland, and proceeding southward, to the root at Ashover, as above described; admit as components, though sometimes separated by numerous and extensive plains, the Leicestershire hills of Charnwood, the Buckinghamshire hills of Penn, Chiltern, &c. in their progress to the south, include the Moorlands of Staffordshire. Other midland elevations, as those of the south of Staffordshire, Edge-hill, in Warwickshire, Lickey, Breedon, Cotswold, and the eminences surrounding the vale of Gloucester; (leaving Malvern, Abberley, and the Herefordshire and Salopian hills to the west,) form parts of the range, which further extends to the Mendip and other Somersetshire mountains, and embraces those of Wilts, Dorset, &c. terminated by the English channel.

Several of the eminences just enumerated, are included in or nearly approximate to the district here described, and others are within the scope of prospect from some of its most elevated stations.

Mr. Keir, in his paper on the mineralogy of Staffordshire, points out two ranges of hills, which intersect the midland district, and form part of the elevations under description. First, the lime-stone hills, which begin to rise in the vicinity of Wolverhampton and Bilston, (h) and extend to the town of Dudley, whose castle is situated on the slope of the last of the chain.

(h) Sedgley beacon is included in the range commencing near to Wolverhampton, by some considered as the highest ground in England—of course excepting the mountainous parts, even of the immediate vicinity.

Major Mudge, while engaged in his trigonometrical survey, pitched upon the meridian of Dunnose, in the Isle of Wight, traversing the plains of Herts,

Secondly. Another range of mountains, beginning to rise near to the Limestone hills, and proceeding nearly in the same direction, but bending a little more to the east. "These," the author remarks, "might be considered as a continuation of the former range, did not their very different aspect, and the different nature of the Basaltic rock, of which they are composed, produce a striking distinction."

"This chain of hills proceeds, from Dudley, through Rowley, hence called Rowley hills, and dividing into two branches, terminates in a valley between Oldbury and Halesowen." The features of the Apennine range, consisting of distinct hills, as Dudley, Rowley, Clent, and Lickey, appear in distant prospect as blended in an uniform group.

These eminences afford prospects of great variety and extent in opposite directions, and divide the showers which fall on their summits, so as to fall into the eastern and western seas, through the media of the Trent and Severn.

Respecting the central hills, Mr. Whitaker particularises the chain from Derbyshire to Scotland, as consisting of Alpes, Pennines proper, in contradistinction from the southern and less continuous line.

The term Mediterranean is applied, by some authors,

Berks, &c. to Clifton, near Doncaster, Yorkshire, (a line parallel to the central chain,) as affording a convenient line for admeasurement.

The confines of Northamptonshire and Warwickshire, near the sources of the Nen and Avon, (800 or 900 feet above the level of the sea,) are represented as the highest point, Ardbury hill, near Daventry, as the centre.

Playfair's Works.

Inkpen beacon, near Hungerford, Berks, 1011 feet above the level of the sea, is represented in Smith's Geological map, as the highest ground in the S. E. of England.

to this tract. The above named historian asserts, that Ptolemy penetrated into central Britain. (i)

The geographical boundaries of these counties are remarkably sinuous and irregular. Dr. Nash thus calculates the number of acres of which the detached portions of Worcestershire consist:—

Dudley about.....	3900 (k)
Edwin Lock, and Warley Wigorn.....	2000
Tredington, Alderminster, &c.....	8300
Evenload or Elmload, Daylesford, and Icomb	5000
	19,200

The isolated Salopian district of Halesowen presents another instance of irregular division of counties.

The prevalence of the iron trade in the district of south Staffordshire and north Worcester, has long been the theme of the local historian.

Captain Andrew Yarranton, (l) in his work entitled

(i) Distinguishing features of the Appennines, according to Mr. Shaw, (Staffordshire) are "The Moorlands of Staffordshire, The Peak of Derbyshire, Blackstone Edge, Craven, Stanmore, and the Chaviots, branching into two horns."

"The middle and south parts of the island," says this author, "are generally level, or have gentle eminences, though with some exceptions, as the following Staffordshire hills:—Dudley, Sedgley, Clent, Barr; and others of less elevation as—Kinver, Enville, Cannock high grounds, Essington, Bushbury, &c. &c."

(k) The boundaries of this county and that of south Stafford, were settled, According to Mr. Payton, A. D. 1238, 22d Hen. III.

(l) "I was apprentice," says the author, "to a linen draper, and continued in the trade some years; afterwards I became a soldier, and in 1652, entered an iron work."

Mr. Grainger, in his Biographical History of England, has devoted a note

“England’s Improvement, 1677;” notices the iron manufactories of Birmingham, Stourbridge, Dudley, Wolverhampton, Walsall, &c.; observing that the commons, twelve miles round Stourbridge, afford favourable situations for planting of woods, for the production of charcoal. The iron of Dean forest is said, by this author, to be brought to this district for the purpose of manufactory.

Mr. Yarranton travelled on the continent under the patronage of twelve gentlemen, eleven of whom are enumerated as follows:—Sir Walter Kirtham Blount, Sir Samuel and Sir Timothy Baldwin, knights, Thomas Foley, Esq. Philip Foley, Esq. Thomas Smith, Joseph Newbrook, Samuel Whyte, Nicholas Baker, John Finch, and Nicholas Harrison: the object of this expedition was, to bring into England the art of manufacturing tin plates, which previous to the year 1670, had been in the exclusive possession of the Saxons and Bohemians.

In the course of his travels, Mr. Yarranton made observations on the state of the linen manufactories of Holland and Flanders. His proposals for transferring which to England, may, in the present day, appear to be somewhat chimerical.

The mineralogy of this district, together with the various manufactories connected with the mining interest, will demand attention in a subsequent part of this work.

to the memory of Mr. Yarranton, observing, that he was a soldier in the civil wars, that he was favoured with considerable patronage, and that his work contained some projects worthy of attention.

Authors of a similar class are cited, as Roger Coke, Carew Reynell, and J. Gee. To this list, in our own times, might be added Campbell, author of the “Political Survey of Great Britain.”

An unrivalled seat of arts, forming the central metropolis of the kingdom, forms a principal feature in the picture.

To attempt a description of this flourishing emporium, and the numerous manufactories, towns, and villages, in its vicinity, would be to deviate from the design of this topographical sketch, neither is such an effort necessary, as several of the towns have their histories, and ample materials are at hand to form the basis of other local descriptions. (m)

Dyer has celebrated this, and some others of our large manufacturing towns in his "Fleece."

" The increasing walls of busy Manchester,
Sheffield and Birmingham, whose reddening fields
Rise, and increase their suburbs."

And speaking of Canton, in China, the poet adds :—

Upon the Strand they heap their glossy bales,
And works of Birmingham in brass and steel.

South Staffordshire, over a part of which the mining vicinity of Birmingham extends, is considered as the centre of inland navigation, and numerous additional channels for commercial traffic, are continually emanating therefrom, while facilities for travelling by land are afforded by the proximity and approaches of many of the principal roads.

" No district in the world," according to a modern publication, (n) " is more nobly supplied with cheap and easy methods of distributing its own productions, and receiving those of others."

(m) Beauties of England and Wales.

(n) This station of the iron trade has the advantage of a ready demand on the spot for the produce of its industry ; that of South Wales, with the bordering district of Monmouthshire, enjoys facilities for exportation.

The midland, mining, and manufacturing district, is the seat of a very considerable population, perhaps equal in density to any in the kingdom; though some are much more extensive.

Taking Manchester for a centre, a circle might be drawn of large circumference, containing a much larger total amount of inhabitants. (o)

Other parts of the vicinity of Stourbridge, not entirely within the limits of the mining tract.

—◆—

The Worcestershire part of this tract consists, principally, of a branch of that county, extending from the mainland to the N. W. in the form of a peninsula, and united thereto by what may be figuratively denominated the isthmus of Churchill.

At the period of the Norman conquest, this tract, together with Halesowen, formed part of the hundred of Clent, but is at the present time included in the lower division of Halfshire. (p)

(o) Two other seats of manufacturing industry, nearly approximate to this district, as Bromsgrove become the seat of a very considerable nail manufactory; and Kidderminster, long known for its woollen trade, particularly the manufactory of carpets.

(p) The lower division of the hundred of Halfshire consists of Bellbroughton, Chaddesley-Corbet, Churchill, Dudley, Elmley-Lovett, Frankley, Hagley, Kidderminster, (including Stourport,) Halesowen, (part of, including Cradley, Lutley, and Warley,) Oldswinford, (including Stourbridge and Swinford,) Pedmore, Rushock, and Stone.

A plea-roll, 10th John, gives it the latter appellation.

A portion of the south of Staffordshire forms another part of this district, being part of the hundred of Seisdon, as Clent and Broom.

The boundaries of the counties of Worcester and Stafford, at a period alluded to above, were so settled by consent of B. P. Stavenby, and William de Cantelupe, bishop of Worcester; Dudley was assigned to the diocese of Worcester, and its castle and priory to that of Lichfield.

The parish of Halesowen, now in part Salopian, was once entirely in the County of Worcester, and still remains within the diocese so designated.

In a geological point of view, the borders of the south Staffordshire, &c. mining station, enter into a contact with a very extensive formation of sand and gravel, occupying a considerable portion of the kingdom.

Publications affording information relative to the vicinity under review, consist principally of County Histories—to which may be added, those enumerated in the subjoined list. (q)

(q) In addition to sources obtained from county histories, and others of a more general description, as "Beauties of England and Wales," &c. &c. others have been supplied through the kindness of friends, consisting of scarce publications, which though they do not expressly treat of the subject in hand, yet supply important incidental information.

Of this description are—Stowe's Summary of English Chronicles.

Atlas Minor, by Gerard Mercator, with additions by Hondius, Amsterdam, 1609.

Nauclerius's Chronica, with additions by Basclius and others, 1543.

Poor Man's Library, by William Alley, Bp. of Exeter, 1571, 2 vols.

Camden's Britannia, 1603, another edition, 1637.

Speed's Theatre of the Empire of Great Britain, 1676, &c. &c.

Dr. Nash, in his "Collections for the History of Worcestershire, 2 vols. folio, 1781," with a Supplement, 1799, has consolidated the labours of prior historians, as Habington, (r) Thomas, Bp. Lyttelton, (s) and others.

He has extended his narrative to the Salopian as well as the Vigornian portion of Halesowen, situate in the hundred of Brimstree.

The Rev. Stebbing Shaw published, 1801, "The History and Antiquities of Staffordshire," (partially completed) in 2 vols. folio, comprising the substance of Huntbatch, Loxdale, Lyttleton, Wilkes, Fielde, Eardeswick, and Plot.

Pitt's Staffordshire is dated 1817.

In the preface to Harwood's edition of Eardeswick, 1820, are memoirs of the historians of Staffordshire, including one of Eardeswick, who died 1603, and was buried at the place of his residence, Sandon, now a seat of the earl of Harrowby. To the topographical works on Staffordshire, may be added, Sanders' History of Shenstone, affording some particulars of the neighbourhood of Stourbridge.

The Rev. Henry Sanders, curate of Shenstone, and successively master of the Free Schools of Halesowen and Birmingham, descended from the family of Titery of Nantz, in Lorraine. He was brother to Mr. Sanders, of Stourbridge,

(r) The MSS. of Habington and John de Feckenham, are said to be still in a train of elucidation.

Beauties of England and Wales, vol. XV. 1814.

(s) Parochial Antiquities of Hagley, Clent, Arley, &c. compiled from Original Records, Public Offices, and private muniments, by Charles Lyttelton, dean of Exeter, and afterwards Bishop of Carlisle; are deposited in the library of the Society of Antiquaries.

apothecary, an early and extensive practitioner in inoculation, another brother of the same profession resided at Dudley. The historian of Shenstone died 1785.

Payton's "History of Dudley Castle and Priory,"—and Dr. Booker's *Descriptive and Historical Account of Dudley Castle*, 1825, close, for the present, our enumeration of Staffordshire histories.

Respecting Warwickshire, Sir William Dugdale Garter, king at arms, (t) has written with distinguished ability, "Opus aureum" is the encomium bestowed on this work, and respecting its author, Bp. Barlow observes,—*Plurimum tibi debet Comitatus tuus*, in allusion to the eulogy bestowed on the historian Camden,—*Multum tibi debet Britannia*.

Warwickshire is by an ingenious author termed, "the centre of the land, whose lustre diffuseth light, and darteth beams to the circumference of the kingdom."

Peake observes that, "Warwickshire is more indebted to Dugdale's indefatigable pen, than to Guy's fictitious sword."

Hutton's *History of Birmingham* was begun, A. D. 1780, and published 1782.

Mr. Sheriff's *Map of the vicinity of Birmingham*, to the extent of twenty-five miles and upwards, published 1798, and since republished, contains an accurate delineation of this district, with some other parts of the neighbourhood.

(t) See his "Life and Correspondence," published by — Hamper, Esq. 1827, who informs us that he was the associate of many eminent men of his day, as Archbishop Sheldon, Abington, Ashmole, who married his daughter, Brady, Causaubon the younger, Anthony Wood, &c.

INTRODUCTION.

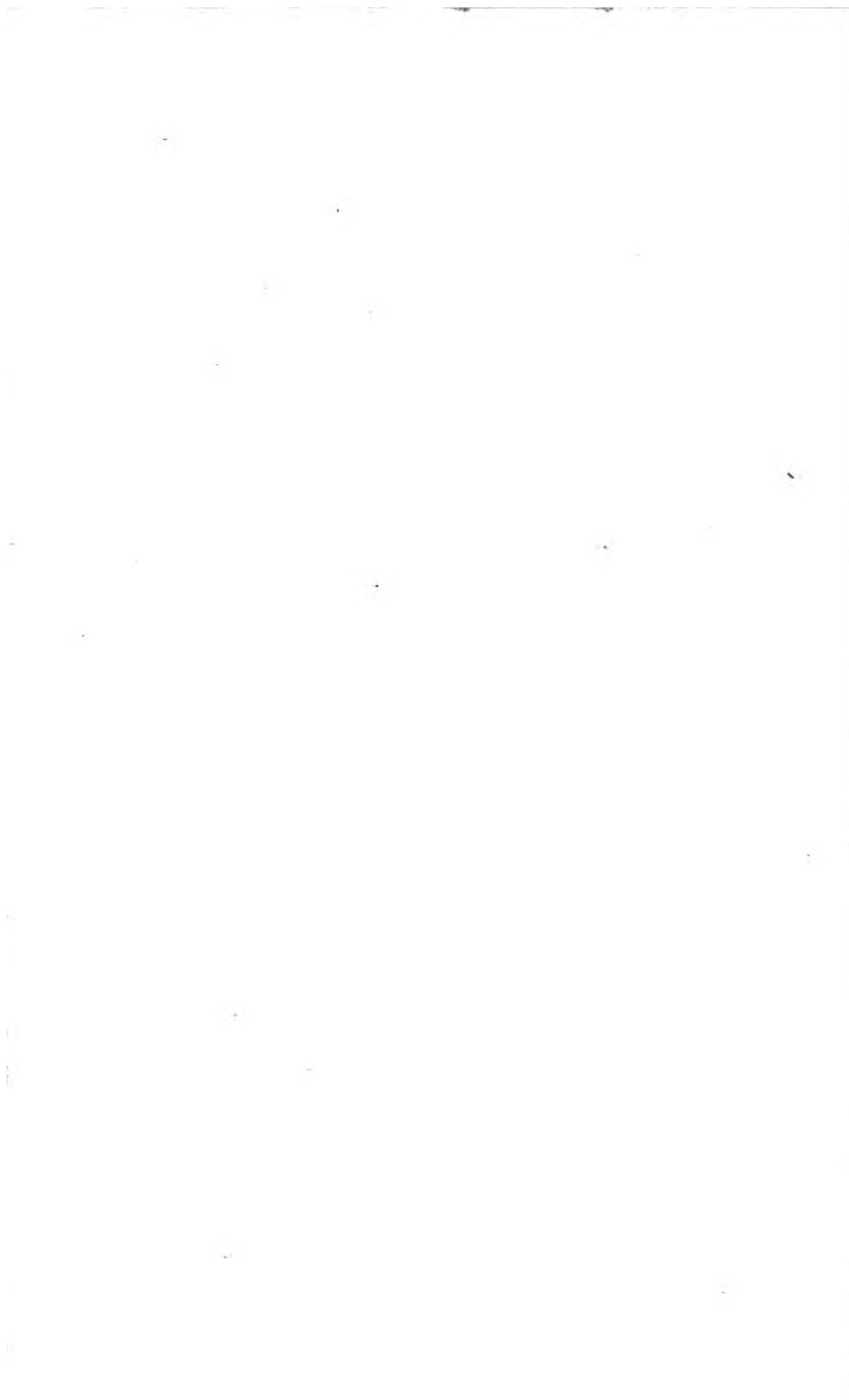
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Evidences extant.

MS. Stourbridge Free School.

Millward's at Wollescote.

Earl of Stamford's concerning Amblecot.



PART FIRST.



A TOPOGRAPHICAL ACCOUNT

OF THE

PARISHES OF OLD SWINFORD

(INCLUDING STOURBRIDGE ;)

King Swinford ; Kinver ; Pedmore ; and Halesowen :

WITH DESCRIPTIONS OF

The Leasows, Hagley, Enbille, and Himley ;

CLENT-HILLS,

AND AN

ITINERARY OF ROADS, CANALS, &c.

OLD SWINFORD.

CHAPTER I.

Old Swinford.

OLD SWINFORD, in the Counties of Worcester and Stafford, hundreds of Halfshire and Seisdon, and deanery of Kidderminster, &c., is bounded N. by King Swinford, (having the Stour for a boundary,) W. by Kinver, S. by Pedmore, and E. by Halesowen.

Historians, of the counties in which the two Swinfords are situated, present us with different etymologies of this name. Dr. Nash asserts that a ford, over a rivulet of the name of Swin gave name to this place. (u) Mr. Shaw derives it from the Danish king Sueno, Swane, or Sweyne, who, A. D. 1004, came with a fleet to the city of Norwich, and was afterwards proclaimed king of England.

The appellation of "Old," distinguishes this lordship, in the record of Domesday, from that of Swinford Regis.

Verstegan in his Antiquities, alluding to places whose names had been changed by the Saxons, on their arrival, enumerates Oxford, Hereford, Swinford, &c.

(u) Such a rivulet presents itself to view, originating in Pedmore, and flowing through a romantic dell called the Ham Dingle, near to the borders of this Parish. This small stream, whether it gives name or not to the district, may properly be called Swinford brook.

Swinford occurs in Leicestershire as a manor near Welford, with Swin-brook; also, on the Avon in the vicinity of Bath. Swinside is a verdant mountain intersecting the vale of Keswick in Cumberland.

Swindon is a village in the parish of Himley.

Sir Thomas Swinford, whose widow Catherine was third wife of John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster, and whose sister married Chaucer the poet, flourished in the reign of Richard II.

The lordship of Oldswinford, in the time of
EDWARD THE CONFESSOR,
 was held by Olwin or Ulwin, thane of Edwin, earl of Mercia, being part of the barony of Dudley. (B)

In the reign of
WILLIAM I.
 according to the accurate and authentic record of Doomsday, (C) it was also a member of the barony of Dudley, and part of the lands of William Fitz Ansculf, under whom it was held by Acard.

Afterwards, it went with Dudley to the Paganel and Someries, till the extinction of the male line in John de Somery, who died 1322. (v)

(B) See Appendix No. 2. Bromsgrove and Frankley were also held by earl Edwin and his thane in succession.

(C) See Appendix No. 3.

(v) Among lord Lyttelton's Evidences is a deed, supposed by Bp. Lyttelton to be of the age of Henry III., whereby William de Somery leases to Ranulph Langde a tenement, in the manor of Swinford, which he held in the reign of king John, from the death of Somery's father.

15th EDWARD II.

On this event, his two sisters, Margaret and Joan, divided the estate between them; (w) when Old Swinford, Northfield, and Cradley, came to the latter, wife of Thomas Botetourt, when the separation from the barony of Dudley took place. On the decease of this lady, her son John, who possessed the lordship,

12th EDWARD III.

died.

9th RICHARD II.

having joined Clent and Rowley to Hales, Joyce, his grand daughter, wife of Sir Hugh Burnel, became his successor, who dying without issue, Jan. 1st,

Fifth Edward II. Bernard de Brus, lord of Old Swinford,* grants lands at Gorsthill, within the same manor, to William Fourges.

By another deed, without date, Bernard son of Bernard de Bruys, grants lands in Haya de Veteri Swyneford, to Richard de la Leye. And

14th of the same reign, the said Bernard for himself and heirs, quits claim of all right and interest in the manor of Old Swinford, with the advowson of the church, to John Somery, lord of Dudley, and his heirs.

* For Edward de Brus, see under Lye.

(w) Margaret married John de Sutton, of a respectable family in Nottinghamshire—hence the Sutton branch of the Dudley family.

At this period, several deeds present themselves to notice, the titles of which will find their most appropriate situation in a note, as they do not make a part of the narrative, viz.

I. Deed, 39th Edward III. by which it appears, that lands and tenements in Wollaston and Bedcote, formed a part of the manor of Old Swinford, being a deed of confirmation between Sir John Botetourt, baron of Weoleigh, and lord of Old Swinford, and Philip de Lutley.

II. A deed of 46th Edward III. being a grant of John de Lutley to John de Styler.

III. 4th Henry V. 1416. A mortgage. Sir Humphrey Stafford to Robert Daniel.

IV. 36th Henry VI. 1457. Humphrey Stafford to John Styler, son of the above.

7th HENRY IV.

the lordship came into possession of her heirs. (x)

Joan Beauchamp, lady Bergavenny,
temp. HENRY V.

purchased the estate of these co-heirs, and settled it, by will, upon her eldest grandson James, earl of Ormond, who, by espousing the cause of the Lancastrians, was advanced to great honours, and

27th HENRY VI.

created earl of Wiltshire, but

1st EDWARD IV.

was taken prisoner, and beheaded at Newcastle, whereupon all his lands were seized. (y) Thomas, younger brother of the earl, becoming a favourite of the king, procured the restoration of the lands, alienated from his family.

Anne, daughter of Thomas, and wife of Sir James Seyntleger, of Aunary, Devon, inherited Swinford and Hagley, which her grandson, Sir John Sayntleger,
1564, 6th ELIZABETH,
sold to Sir John Lyttelton, of Frankley.

From the family of Lyttelton, it is probable, that the manor of Swinford proper, as well as that of Bedcote, passed into the hands of several families, as Jervois and Sparry, of whom

(x) Viz. Maud and Agnes Bottetourt, nuns.

Maurice de Berkley, and

Agnes and Joyce Wykes.

See also Cradley in Halesowen, and Hagley.

“9th Henry V. Sir Hugh Burnel held for his life a third Weoley castle, with the manors of Northfield, Cradley, and Old Swinford.”

(y) Here the descent of property varies from that of Hagley, which passed from Butler to Stafford.

1625,

it was purchased by an ancestor of the present Lord Foley. The gentleman alluded to was probably Thomas, grandfather of Thomas, created lord Foley, and baron of Kidderminster, 1711.

This nobleman, dying, 1732, was succeeded by Thomas, second lord Foley, who deceased, 1766.

6th GEORGE III.

leaving his estates to Thomas Foley, of Stoke Edith. (z)

Thomas, third lord was ennobled 1776, and died 1777, when Thomas, fourth lord succeeded, he was living 1782, Thomas, fifth lord, living 1830. (a)

(z) Nash Wor. art. Old Swinford.

(a) Other branches of the family of Foley, resident in this vicinity, were, Edward Foley, common stock, of Stourbridge.

Richard, his son, of the same place, who married Alice, daughter of William Brindley, of Hyde, county of Stafford, father of Thomas, founder of Old Swinford Hospital. He gained a considerable fortune by being concerned in the manufactories of the place, died 1657, about 80. Mrs. Foley died 1663. Both buried at Old Swinford.

Robert, of Stourbridge, his son, magistrate, high Sheriff of the county of Worcester, died 1676, aged 50.

Robert of Stourbridge, son of the former, died 1700, aged 51.

North Foley, of Stourbridge, died 1727, aged 50.

Thomas Tabbot Foley, died 1782.

STOURBRIDGE

is a township, forming the central division of the parish of Old Swinford, according to Greenwood's map of Worcestershire $52^{\circ} 27' 40''$ North latitude.— $2^{\circ} 8' 30''$ West longitude. This appellation is derived from a bridge (c) over the Stour, which communicates with the county of Stafford. The site of the town is that of the ancient vill of Bedcote, of which no vestige at present remains, though a meadow, on the eastern side of Stourbridge, retains the name.

Previous to the reign of Henry VI. the district in after times known by the name of Stourbridge, was called Bedcote. (d)

That this was a place of some consideration in the reign of Edward III. appears by that monarch in the 23d year of his reign, 1350, appointing a special commission, and sending his judges to settle a dispute which had arisen between

(c) The name of Stourbridge occurs in the county of Kent, a shoal in the Solent sea, between Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight, is so named.

Plas Stourbridge, between Mold and Ruthin, is noticed by Nicholson, in his "Cambrian Guide."

Sturbich, in Cambridgshire, situate on a brook called Sture, is sometimes printed Stourbridge, and often confounded with Stourbridge in Worcester-shire. Both stations have considerable annual fairs.

(d) In seeking for the etymology of Bedcote, the following synonymous terms occur in Gibson's Saxon Chronicle, &c.—Bedford, Bedanford, Beadanford, a fortress or ford.

Bedwin, Wilts, in the Will of king Alfred. Locus praelii.

The Saxon term cot, cote, coat, casa, cote for sheep, ovile, &c. will better comport with Bedan than the British Coed, being also the terminating syllable in the names of several neighbouring places.

the priory and townsmen of Worcester. The court sat at Kidderminster and Wolverley, from whence the cause was removed to Bedcote, where it was determined.

The identity of Bedcote, with the site of the present township of Stourbridge, appears from the depositions of several witnesses, made before commissioners appointed by the court of marches in Wales, about A. D. 1595, 37th Elizabeth, in a suit between Richard Maidston, one of the trustees of Stourbridge school, complainant, and Gilbert Lyttelton, Esq. and others, defendants; whereby it appears, that Stourbridge was situated within the manor of Bedcote.

In records of a court baron of Sir Thomas Gervois, anno. 1622, 20th James I. (e) the metes and bounderies of Bedcote are delineated, which agree with the precise limits of the township of Stourbridge, A. D. 1830. The vill of Stourbridge is there asserted to be within the manor of Bedcote. (D)

Bedcote passed with the manor of Old Swinford, 4th Henry V. 1416, when the name of Sir Humphrey Stafford occurs, as lord of the manor. In that year he mortgaged it to Robert Danyel.

In 36th Henry VI. 1457, his son, Humphrey Stafford, granted lands here to John Styler.

The first document extant respecting Stourbridge as a separate district, is a court roll of the manor of Hagley, dated 1454, 32d HENRY VI.

(e) Nash Wor. II. 208. In an History of Warwickshire, published 1817, art. Burton Hastings, is some account of a law suit between Mr. Smith of that place, relative to property in dispute between the father of Gilbert Lyttelton, and the said Smith.

(D) See Appendix, No. 4.

The next is a grant of *inspeximus*, 1486,

HENRY VII.

whereby the king grants to Thomas, earl of Ormond, a court-leet, assize of bread, wine, and ale, within the lordships or manors of Old Swinford and Stourbridge, in com. Wigorn, also a weekly market on Friday, with the fairs yearly at Stourbridge. These fairs fall on March 29th and Sep. 8th. (f)

(f) A document, furnished by a friend, is entitled—"A copy of the grant of the Court Leet, Fairs, and Market, and other things relating to the manors of Old Swinford and Stourbridge, to Thomas, earl of Ormond." Date 4o July, anno primo Henrici Septimi — 1486."

This grant, expressed in the body of the deed, is thereby confirmed by Elizabeth, "Quinto die Junii anno regni nostri tricessimo quarto, 1592." ad requisitionem Dilecti Nobis Gilberti Lyttelton Armigeri."

Old Swynforde, Storebrugge, Cradley, et Hagley, in com. Wigorn, are named in the grant. See those articles.

The fairs fall on the feasts of St. Edward confessor, and St. Augustine. The original grant is recited in the body of the deed; the confirmation of Elizabeth is comprised in the two last lines.

Signed Gerrard.

A market granted by Edward IV. to one of the Ormond family, is spoken of in Nash, and also the revival of Henry VII.'s grant by Elizabeth. The grant of Edward the IV. is sufficiently ancient, to prove that Bedcote was a market town as well as Stourbridge.

Concerning Ormond family see Cradley in Halesowen.

"The Poor Man's Library," alluded to in the Introduction, and several other publications record the fact, that a curious MS. was discovered in the reign of Henry VIII. near to Clarendon, Wilts. It was contained in the hollow of a stock of wood lined with lead.

The letters were in Roman capitals, but so soon mouldered to dust, that neither Sir Thomas Eliot, nor Mr. Lilye, master of St. Paul's School, could read it, so that the expectation of finding valuable information respecting Stonehenge, was disappointed. The word *Prytannia* was however conspicuous, signifying, as Bishop Alley observes, not only metals, but fairs, markets, treasures, &c. and the country producing them; "as one going to Anwarpe, Barrow, or to Stourbridge fair, would say—he was going to the place whence his revenues proceeded."

According to tradition there was once a fair in this town on Jan. 8th.

From 1457, to 1558,

1st ELIZABETH,

nothing material occurs in relation to Bedcote, but in that year William Strangeways sold the manor to Mr. Jervois, a ward of the crown.

1625,

1st CHARLES I.

Sir Thomas Jervois (g) sold it to Nicholas Sparry, Esq. of whom it was purchased by one of the family of Foley, probably Thomas, at the same time that he purchased the advowson of Old Swinford, Pedmore, &c.

The general contour of the district in which Stourbridge is situated, may be thus described.—To the west of the central eminences which collectively or individually constitute the Appennine range, extends an undulating tract, bounded by distant hills, apparently forming a large amphitheatre. Rowley, with the neighbouring clusters of Clent, Lickey, &c. &c. forms the nearest and most conspicuous link of the chain. To the south west, the summits of Malvern rise majestically to view, from whence the eye is directed to the heights of Abberley, and thence to the Salopian mountains of Clee, the Titterstone, and the Brown, Wrekin, and several faintly-discerned hills of varying altitude; till returning to the point from whence the survey commenced, the beacon of Sedgley, with the adjoining calcareous rocks of Dudley, complete the chain, and seem to identify themselves with the basaltic eminences of Rowley.

The intervening tract of country is likewise of a bold and picturesque character. Kinver Edge, Wassell, the ornamented acclivities of Enville, the minor ridges of Iverley, Swindon, &c. form prominent features in the landscape.

(g) Or Gervoice, according to the orthography of the record, expressing the boundaries of the manor of Bedcote.

The site of the district under consideration, to which the successive appellatives of Bedcote and Stourbridge have been applied, occupies the northern extremities of three parallel eminences, (b) which, together with a minor ridge flanking the western boundary line, form the entire township. The latter elevation contains numerous recently-erected houses, those on its brow inscribed Summer hill, from whence branches Summer street. Other groups of new buildings occasionally occupy this first mile of the road to Bridgnorth, and also the parallel one, called the Bowling Green lane. Red hill, in the centre with Hanbury, formerly Yarnborough, to the west, both belong to the sand and sandstone formation; while Hungary, composed of clay, strata of coal, ironstone, &c. separated therefrom by a narrow dingle, with a rivulet, forms its eastern satellite.

Red hill, branches into a terrace on the east, its southern declivity, on which the town is principally built, extends to the river, having its western side formed into cliffs which border the vale, and correspond with various meanders of the Stour. (i) The terrace, crowned with two handsome houses, overlooks the town, and commands a very extensive prospect far beyond its precincts. This is sometimes called Green hill.

(b) The continuous parts of them stretching to the south, appertaining to the hamlet of Old Swinford. It may be reasonably conjectured that Red hill derived its appellation from its geological character. Red hill and Red cliff, in Somersetshire; Red brook, Gloucestershire; Rougemont, Devon; Retford, Nottinghamshire; with numerous other names of places, are similarly derived from the colour of the sandy formations they occupy.

(i) This representation will appear to be accurate, on a survey of the spot, though very contrary to prevailing ideas. The centre of the hill, an indentation, which is the site of a gentleman's house and a charity school, alone retains this appellation; it is intersected by the boundary line of the township and hamlet of Swinford, having the town and part of the village bearing the last-mentioned name on its northern and southern extremities.

Hanbury hill is separated from the central eminence by a narrow plain, the course of the road to Bromsgrove and Worcester, the northern extremity forming the escarpment only, belongs to Stourbridge; as it extends in form of a terrace through a part of the hamlet of Swinford, and touches upon the parish of Pedmore.

On the western side of this eminence, are several springs and small morasses, from whence a stream issues, which supplying in its course a chain of pools, and giving motion to the mechanism of an iron work, becomes the liminary rivulet which ascertains the boundary of the township during the greater part of its course to the Stour.

Hungary hill, on the east, has but a small portion of its surface occupied by the township, (the district of Swinford extending over its southern and eastern parts,) yet it is the sole spot within its bounds in which the valuable argillaceous substances, one of which has conferred celebrity on the town, are found.

This eminence was once the site of a glass-house, the very foundations of which are now indiscernable.

Descending towards the river on the north side, (on which the Halesowen and Birmingham road winds its way along an easy ledge,) Hungary hill, forms argillaceous cliffs which border the vale, sometimes approaching the margin of the stream, and presenting surfaces greatly differing from those of the obdurate projections of the sandy range.

The situation of Stourbridge, considered in contrast with the neighbouring uplands, appears to be in a plain; yet the approaches to it, on three sides, are hilly. On the other hand, there is a gradual descent on the south, from the upland part of the country to the town.

The following description of a plain by a writer in a periodical journal, seems applicable to this site:—"It is not strictly a plain, but a series of elevations and depressions, some of which are considerable; so that it is only in contrast with neighbouring elevations that it can be so considered."

The principal line of streets in the town of Stourbridge, commencing at the summit of (k) Red hill, descends by a short but steep declivity to the entrance from Bromsgrove; thence taking a gradual inclination, till a little below the centre of the principal street, the fall becomes more abrupt. A gentle declivity succeeds, as the street enters the excavated part of the rock, which soon terminates at the bridge, which gives name to the town; leaving two masses of unhewn sand-stone rock, the acclivities of which are occupied by gardens and appurtenances to the dwellings on either side.

The principal street, to which this description applies, instead of being carried in a direct line from the brow of the hill to the river, is in form a curve with a wavy line. Had the former obviously advantageous arrangement been adopted, and the streets bearing east and west intersected the central one at right angles, a pleasing effect would have been produced.

Even amidst the curvations and sinuosities consequent upon the present plan, glances are occasionally obtained, not only of the neighbouring eminences, but of some of the more distant hills. (l) The eastern terminations of the lateral cross

(k) Windmill street, High street, and Digbeth, a name now become obsolete, form the three portions of street above described. Digbeth, also the designation of the principal old streets in Birmingham and Walsall, indicates, according to Hutton, a watery site.

(l) From the brow of the hill, Wrekin and the Clees are apparent;—from the centre of the town, Ashwood is plainly seen—and to the south, Wich-

streets, just alluded to, if in straight lines, would display beautiful and varied landscapes, overlooking the vale, and commanding the rising grounds of Amblecoat and other more distant passages of country. In the opposite direction the view is monotonous, bounded by the extended ridge of Iverley.

The two lateral elevations contain but small parts of the town, though some of the side streets approximate to, and border their bases.

The gentle ascent and long terrace of Hanbury, offer a pleasing site for building, and from this eminence a very extensive prospect is commanded, overlooking the ridge which intervenes to exclude the western landscape from the lower parts of the town.

Stourbridge stands on the left bank of the Stour, and near to the head of the canal (m) on which its name is conferred. From this point the natural and artificial rivers (allowing for the manifold meanders of the former, and the different degrees of speed with which they pursue their respective courses), are constant concomitants, both pouring their tributary waters into the majestic channel of the Severn.

Situate at the extremity of a populous manufacturing district, and bordering on an agricultural one, as has been before observed; the aspect of the vicinity of Stourbridge is extremely various.

From Ashwood on the north, a populous valley presents itself to view, full of manufacturing industry. The fore-

bury, backed by those of Clent—to the east, Homer hill is partially conspicuous, as is Halesowen hill in one particular point of view.

(m) The wharf at which the canal commences is in the opposite hamlet of Amblecoat.

ground of Wordsley, with a continued line of buildings, including the town, villages of Swinford, Pedmore, &c.; form an animated coup d' œil, terminated by the hills of Wichbury, Clent, &c. with which the classic grounds of Hagley blend their varied woodlands.

The approach from Birmingham, and consequently London, on the east, is picturesque, the road overlooking the vale with its meandering stream, and entering the town along the ledges of its bordering cliffs.

From Shropshire on the western side, no view of the town and its immediate vicinity is obtained till the traveller arrives at the ridge of Iverley, about a mile and a half distant, when the mining and manufacturing tract offers a complete contrast to that already traversed. It must here be acknowledged, that the entrances into Stourbridge, in the two last mentioned opposite directions, are such as to call loudly and plead forcibly for the aid of modern improvement; and that the stranger in crossing the town from east to west, must be very unfavourably impressed. (n)

From Kidderminster, S. W. the entrance is pleasing, but after passing Church-row the street contracts to inconvenient dimensions, widening however as it approaches the Rye market;—the ancient corn cheaping, still retaining that name, though the present corn market is held in front of the Talbot hotel, High-street.

From Church row the termination of the Rye market, a communication extends to the upper end of High street, bearing the indefinite name of the New Road. Some well-built

(n) The entrance to the township from Bridgnorth, is not of an unpleasing description; but on approaching the principal street, the inlet, termed Crown lane, becomes narrow and incommodious.

modern dwellings, and two places of worship, decorate this gradually formed street.

The principal street, (allowing for the various architectural varieties of different periods,) has an handsome appearance, containing a good proportion of neat dwellings, and some public buildings. The incurvation in the left line of houses in descending to the lowest part of the street, has been considered as possessing some degree of beauty, especially as it is viewed from the centre of the town in connexion with the rising woodlands of Ashwood, at a short distance.

In 1823, considerable improvements of the streets of Stourbridge were made, by the commissioners of the two districts of turnpike roads, a depression and elevation of the upper and lower parts of the principal street being effected, to the great comfort and convenience of the traveller.

At the same time, a liberal subscription was entered into, for the purpose of flagging the causeways of the principal streets. To this succeeded an additional voluntary contribution in 1829.

By means of these resources, the flagging of High street has been nearly completed, while the Rye market and New street, adjoining the two sides of the market place, have been similarly improved. Considerable progress has also been made in re-constructing the central ramparts on the Mc'Adam system.

**DISTANCES OF THE NEAREST MARKET TOWNS FROM
STOURBRIDGE.**

Birmingham (by Halesowen $4\frac{1}{2}$)	12 miles
Bromsgrove	10
Kidderminster	$6\frac{3}{4}$
Bewdley	10
Stourport	10
Worcester, (by Kiddermidster and Bromsgrove)	$20\frac{1}{2}$ & 23
Bridgnorth	14
Wolverhampton	10
Dudley	5
Bilston	10
London is diatant	121 miles

POPULATION OF THE TOWNSHIP.

1801.	1811.	1821.
3431.	4072.	5090.

which number is considerably augmented since the last census was taken.

DIMENSIONS.

363A.	3R.	30P.
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ANCIENT RELIGIOUS ESTABLISHMENT.

A. D. 1415, 6th Henry VIII. a chapel stood upon the site of the present Free School, dedicated to the Trinity, supposed from a license of Stillingfleet, Bishop of Worcester, to have been founded in that year.

A stipendary priest officiated in this chapel, who was accustomed to assist the parish curate on some occasions,

and to keep a school for the gratuitous instruction of the children of the poor.

PLACES OF PUBLIC WORSHIP.

There is no document at hand to prove at what time the original chapel, above mentioned, ceased to be appropriated to the use of the town.

ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH.

In 1735, St. Thomas's church was erected by voluntary subscription, and licensed according to the rites of the church of England, but was never consecrated; consequently it is not subject to episcopal jurisdiction, and the presentation is vested in the inhabitants of the town.

In 1726, Mr. Biggs, a clothier, bequeathed £300 to the governors of King Edward VI. free school in trust, for the building of this church, which was augmented by the nobility, gentry, &c. of the neighbourhood to £2000. (o)

In 1742, a bill was brought into parliament for rendering this church parochial, and independent of Old Swinford, but was arrested in its progress through the upper house. Geographers have unfortunately reported this attempt as a successful one, and accordingly the township is represented as a parish in numerous works in which the error has been successively copied.

This edifice is considered as an handsome brick building,

(o) Whateley's England's Gazetteer, 1751. Martin's Description of England, 1763.



T. Rockwell Sc.

ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH,
BURLINGTON.

W. Rolph Del.

commodiously fitted up. In 1809 it was repaired and beautified, and during the succeeding year a very powerful organ was opened. The building is pleasantly situated at the entrance of the town from Kidderminster. In the church-yard is no sepulture. Church row on the opposite side of the road is so named from its relative situation.

MINISTERS OF ST. THOMAS'S.

1 Rev. Walter Hickman.

2* Rev. Charles Harris, M. A. Obt. Sep. 1st. 1782, aged 72, sep. Old Swinford.

3* Rev. John Pattinson, A. M.

4* Rev. Joseph Taylor, A. M. also Vicar of Snitterfield, Warwickshire, 1808.

FRIENDS' MEETING HOUSE, WOLLASTON ROAD.

From a document in the hands of the society of Friends, (p) the following particulars have been obtained:—The first entry upon this record, is a minute of a collection in behalf of friends in distress beyond the sea, (q) date 1684.

* Masters of the Free Grammar School founded by Edward VI. Tablets in the pannels of the south and west galleries, record a donation by Mrs. Frances Dovey, of £100 to be appropriated to the repairs of the church; by Mrs. Margaret Lynell of £100 for the same purpose; and Mr. George Lynell £100, 1796, for the support of Sunday Schools, or other means of instruction.

(p) Register Book, 1694, art. "Chadwich monthly meeting." Stourbridge is now in the district of North Warwickshire; nine of the monthly meetings are held at Birmingham, one at Stourbridge, one at Dudley, and the remaining one at Litchfield and Tamworth, alternately. There are also annual meetings in London, and quarterly in provincial towns.

(q) By the testimony of the late Mr. Joseph Crowley it appears that the society existed as early as 1680.

In 1688, 1st William and Mary, Mr. Ambrose Crowley granted by indenture, the meeting house and burial ground, to certain trustees therein named, for 1000 years, at a peppercorn rent. The registers of births, marriages, and burials, respectively commence A. D. 1651, 1658, and 1689. In 1698 the cemetery was enlarged.

The name of Crowley frequently occurs in the register. About sixty years ago, a large booth was erected at the base of Hanbury hill, for the accommodation of the general body of Friends, who held their circular annual meeting here. Those assemblies are now convened in the metropolis.

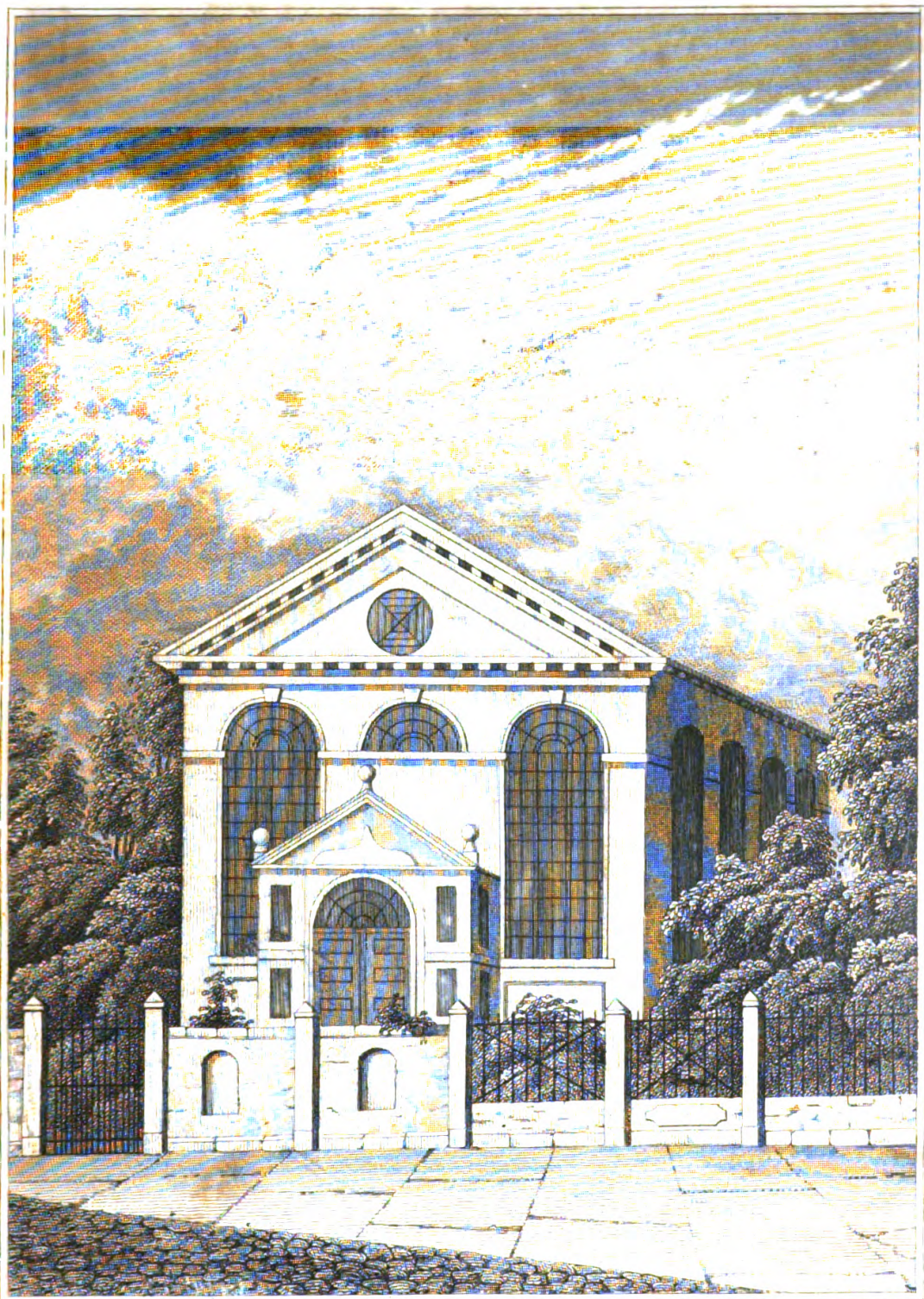
PRESBYTERIAN CHAPEL, HIGH STREET, WEST.

From the period of the restoration, 1662, when the act of uniformity, (1st Elizabeth,) was rigorously enforced, nonconformity was considered as assuming a more systematic form than it had done from the memorable epoch of the reformation to that time.

Of the 2257 divines (r) who on that occasion resigned their benefices, or were privately silenced, many resorted to the neighbourhood of Stourbridge. In many instances the nobility and gentry espoused the cause of the Nonconformists; and of this number was Philip, son of Thomas, generally stiled Founder Foley; (s) at that time resident at Prestwood. This gentleman was a munificent patron to the ejected ministers, and previously to the erecting of a place of worship in Coventry street, Stourbridge, the chapel attached to his house was the place of worship used by the Nonconformists.

(r) See Calamy's Nonconformists Memorial, republished by Palmer.

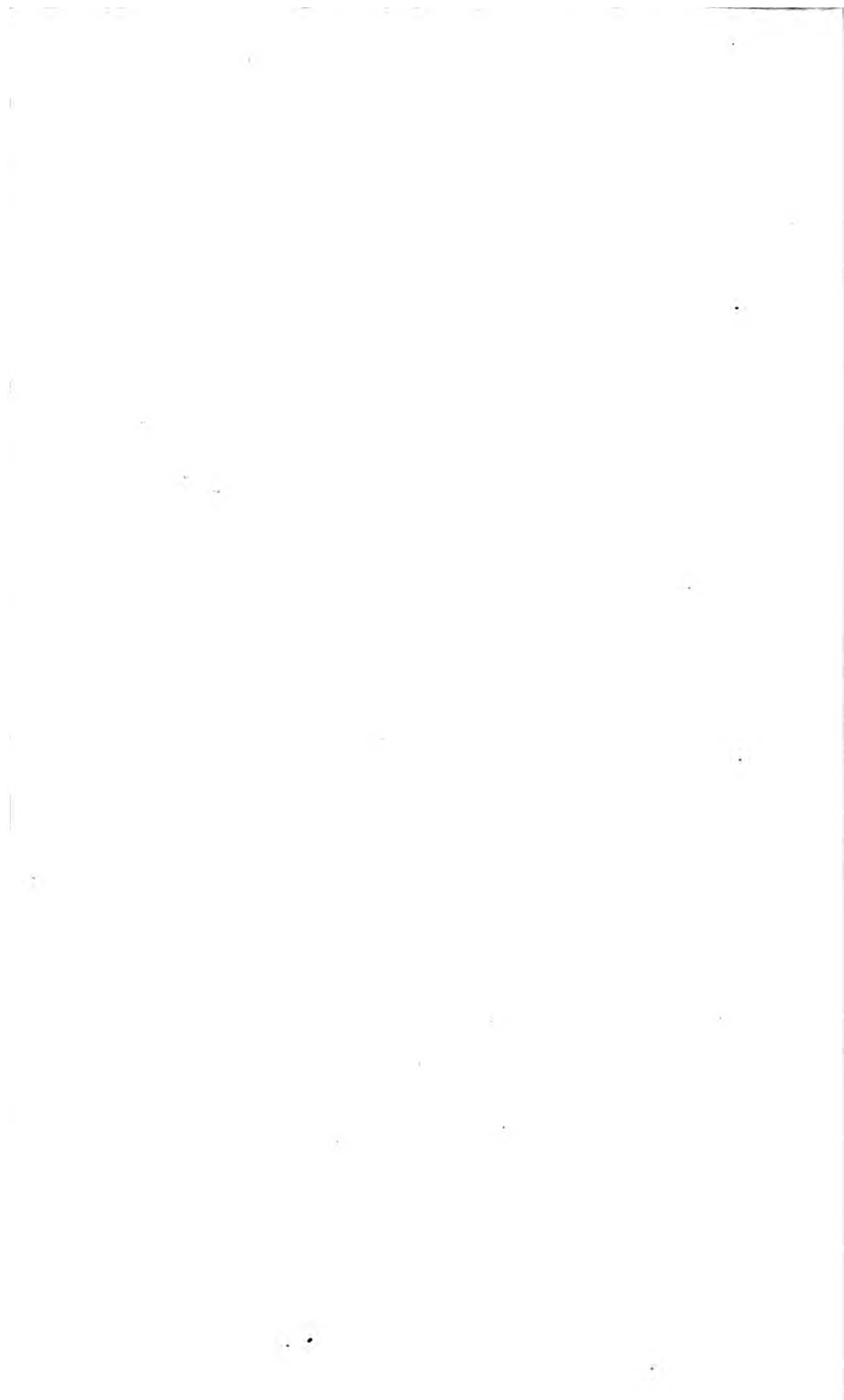
(s) From his benevolence and munificence, as displayed in founding the noble Hospital of Oldswinford.



J. S. Del.

H. Radcliffe Sc.

PRESBYTERIAN CHAPEL,
STOURBRIDGE



Service was performed by the Rev. G. Flower, domestic chaplain to Mr. Foley, from 1696 to 1698, at Prestwood only; and alternately at Stourbridge and Prestwood from 1698 to 1716, when Mr. Foley died; afterwards solely in the town, at the original place of worship in Coventry street, erected 1698.

MINISTERS.

1. Rev. George Flower1698, to 1733.
 2. — John Edge1734, — 1777.
 3. — Benjamin Carpenter1778, — 1795.
 4. — Herbert Jenkins.....1796, — 1806.
 - Benjamin Carpenter (2d time) .. } 1807, to 1816.
 5. — James Scott, minister also at }
Cradley and the Lye Waste } Colleagues
 6. — Thomas Warren.....1817, — 1821.
 7. — Alexander Paterson, M. A. .. 1822, — 1830, &c.
- The two last colleagues also with Mr. Scott. from 1817, to 1827.

The chapel, erected A. D. 1788, is an elegant building, doing credit to the abilities of the late (t) Mr. Johnson, architect, of Worcester. The dimensions are 56 feet by 34, 1904 square feet. It has one gallery, containing an organ, and affording accommodation for a band of singers and charity children.

On the western wall is a family monument, inscribed with the names of William Scott, formerly of Stourbridge, late of Birmingham, and Ann his wife, both munificent contributors to the building of the chapel, and to the support of the christian ministry; also John Scott, to which the same observa-

(t) See "Brewer's Introduction to Beauties of England and Wales," Appendix, Article Kidderminster; also "Crosby's Gazetteer."

tion applies, and Elizabeth his wife; near to which is a tablet inscribed Alicia, wife of William Scott.

Another stone commemorates the Rev. James Scott, a native of Stourbridge. Memorials of this excellent man are to be found also at Cradley and the Lye-waste, respectively the scenes of his abundant labours. A memoir of his life, written by himself, is prefixed to a volume of his posthumous sermons.

William and John were sons of William and Joanna Scott, of Stourbridge, and afterwards of Hollow's end,—paternally descended from John Scott, yeoman, of Chad-desley Corbet, who removed from thence to Stourbridge, A. D. 1667. William, of Stourbridge, and John, of Stourbridge and Barr, living 1830, are surviving sons of John and Elizabeth. James was a third brother.

Near to the pulpit is a neat monument, in memory of the Rev. Benjamin Carpenter. On the south side is a plain marble tablet, by Chantrey, containing the name of Mr. Samuel Parkes, erected by his son, author of the Chemical Catechism, Chemical Essays, &c. now, also, deceased, who was a native of Stourbridge; another of Lucy, wife of Edward Kendall.

On the north side a plain stone records the death of Francis and Mary Witton, also of Philip, half brother of Francis, maternally descended from the Rev. Philip Henry.

The building stands on a gentle acclivity, within a neat cemetery. A parsonage is provided for the use of the minister of this chapel, situate at the extremity of New-street, the land on which it is erected was given by Edward Kendall, of Austrey, afterwards of Stourbridge, and Anna his wife, A. D. 1743.

The register of baptisms commences 1709, and is entire to the present time ; that of burials is also entire from the opening of the cemetery 1791 to the current year. Historical records have been kept from 1790 to 1830, to which is prefixed—" An introduction," recording the events of preceding years. Trust deeds enrolled in the High Court of Chancery.

INDEPENDENT CHAPEL, HIGH STREET, EAST.

About the year 1743, the Rev. John Wesley travelled through this part of the kingdom, planting numerous societies. He was shortly followed by Mr. Whitfield, and in 1745, Mr. Percy, who for a short time officiated as curate to Mr. Stillingfleet, of West-Bromwich, frequently preached in the fields to vast multitudes,—as did Mr. Fletcher, of Madeley.

Professors of both these denominations, and some of the baptist persuasion, planted numerous societies in the parish of Kingswinford, and also in other parts of the neighbourhood, which have been much increased in modern times.

On the removal of Mr. Percy to America, some of his followers engaged a house in Brettell Lane, where services were regularly performed by ministers in connexion with the Countess of Huntingdon. The independent society then originating, had two sources, the interior one arising within the pale of the Presbyterian church, the exterior, consisting of Calvinistic christians, scattered through different parts of the neighbourhood. After occupying at different periods several buildings, both in the town and its vicinity, the society engaged the original place of worship in Coventry street. (u)

(u) This building was occupied by Presbyterians 90 years,—by the Independents 22 years,—total 112 years,—and was disused in 1810.

In 1810, a new and handsome chapel, with an elevated cemented front, was opened on a site nearly opposite to the Presbyterian place of worship. The dimensions are 50 feet by 35; 1750 square feet; the deeds are enrolled in the High Court of Chancery. A gallery extends across the front, and at the east end is a monument, in memory of Mr. Hawkes, and Martha his wife, late of London; he was a munificent benefactor to the Independent interest in this town, and in the neighbouring village of Wordsley. (v) She was of the family of Moseley, long resident in Stourbridge. A court in front, shaded by poplars, to which adjoins a school building, and a cemetery in the opposite direction, completes the description of these premises.

MINISTERS.

From 1743, to 1791, various.

1. Rev. Henry Hunt1791, to 1800.
2. — John Richards1801, — 1824.
3. — Theophilus Davis1825, &c.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL, NEW ROAD, FOOT OF HANBURY HILL.

The year 1743, having been given as the point of time when several incipient religious societies were planted in this neighbourhood, it is unnecessary to enter into a detail of their history, (particularly of that under consideration) during the interval which ensued, from the dates of their respective foundations, to those of their obtaining permanent settlements by the erection of edifices for public worship.

In 1805, a chapel was erected, dimensions 45 feet by 43, 1935 square feet, with three galleries; adjoining thereto is a

(v) The charitable bequests of Mr. Hawkes were numerous and liberal.

dwelling, for the accommodation of the officiating ministers, who are appointed by the conference.

The society in this place, together with several others in the vicinity, belong to a district of which Birmingham is the principal town. In 1826, a wing was added to this chapel, containing apartments for the accommodation of the Sunday School, and a commodious vestry; and in 1829, the chapel was enlarged to 65 feet by 45; 2965 square feet, exterior, containing accommodation for a very numerous auditory.

MINISTERS, 1830.

Rev. Samuel Sugden.
 ——— John Rattenbury.



A body of professors, denominated Primitive Methodists, opened buildings for public worship, in 1820, and 1823. There are still several societies of this description in the vicinity.



CATHOLIC CHAPEL, NEW ROAD,

Dedicated to All Saints.

consecrated 1823. The dimensions are 57 feet by 23, 1311 square feet.

MINISTERS.

Rev. T. Brownlow.....1821.
 ——— Abbe Vergy1825.
 ——— J. A. Mason.....1826.

BAPTIST CHAPEL, DUKE STREET, COVENTRY STREET,
was erected, 1828, the dimensions are 31 feet by 17; 527 square
feet.

MINISTER.

Samuel Oldacre.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Edward VI. (an act of parliament having passed for that purpose, 1547,) appropriated the revenues of various suppressed chantries, colleges, chapels, &c. &c. with guild lands appertaining to certain fraternities, &c. &c. to the founding of free grammar schools in different towns within the realm of England. (w) The charter, (in Latin,) of this royal foundation, appointing trustees, and investing in them certain lands in the city of Worcester, borough of Evesham, &c. &c. bears date, June 17th, 1552. (x) Commodious buildings in High-street, consisting of a spacious room, to which was annexed a tower, surmounted by a cast iron cupola, (y) with houses

(w) Viz. St. Edmundsbury, Spilsby, Louth, Chelmsford, Sedbergh, Shrewsbury, East Retford, Birmingham, (date in front of the building fifth year of his reign,) Morpeth, Macclesfield, Nuneaton, Stourbridge, (date sixth year,) Bath, Bedford, Guildford, Grantham, Thorne, Giggleswick, St. Albans, Tunbridge, Southampton, and Stratford upon Avon.

Rapin II. pa. 10.

Dr. Nash considers the School at King's Norton, near Birmingham, as one of the number, and Britain and Brayley, (Beaut. Eng. and Wales,) include that of Frome, Somerset. Bromsgrove school was also endowed by the Crown, temp. Edward VI. Norwich school, on the foundation of Edward VI. is mentioned in a periodical publication.

(x) Extracted from Price's Notitia, pa. 27, and inserted in Nash's Wor. II. 215.

(y) The cupola being destroyed by fire in 1812, a new one, cast at Coalbrook Dale, was erected in 1814, this, with the tower forming its base, was taken down 1820.

for the accommodation of the first and second masters, constitute the establishment.

Documents relative to this institution exist in a MS. vol. of evidence contained in the chest. Dr. Samuel Johnson, A. D. 1724, then fifteen years of age, studied in this school under Mr. Wentworth; he continued one year in this situation.

About the year 1665, the Rev. Henry Hickman, formerly public orator in the university of Oxford, built the library, and endowed it with a small but valuable collection of books, some of which are scarce works. Very little augmentation has since taken place.

Mr. Carlisle remarks that there is one exhibition of £3. to either Oxford or Cambridge belonging to this foundation (z) and that it was endowed by several chantries, as those of Worcester, Evesham, Martley, Suckley, &c.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

It would perhaps be difficult to award the palm due to the discoverer of the Sunday School system of education, to its original and rightful possessor. So many professors of christianity must have virtually adopted the plan of affording instruction to the poor on the early and later hours of the Sabbath day, and also during the intervals of public worship through every age of the church, that the benefit appears incapable of being traced to its primary source. (a)

(z) Carlisle on Endowed Grammar Schools, II. 773.

(a) Not to neglect, totally, the production of evidence to prove this point, the Rev. Mr. Stock, of Gloucester, is said to have conducted a scheme of this description, previous to the year 1783, and another example occurs in a private gentleman in the vicinity of Bury, Lancashire.

Amidst the numberless examples which might be brought forward in proof of this assertion, a very conspicuous one presents itself to view on perusing the classical pages of Eustace.

A venerable successor to the chair of St. Ambrose, is described by this author, as the founder of Sunday Schools, Charles Borromeo, Archbishop of Milan, who died A.D. 1584. The magnificent cathedral of this city, almost equal in extent to that of St. Peter, at Rome, is represented as completely filled by a vast body of children of both sexes, organised in the most effectual manner, and attended by numerous bodies of clergy and laity of the first distinction.

This admirable system was intended, by this excellent prelate, to have been extended through his immense diocess, the tract of country intervening between the Alps and Appennines. This statement of facts still leaves the late worthy citizen of Gloucester, Mr. Raikes, in possession of the distinguished honour of being the sole promulgator of the scheme, the founder of the institution in Britain—"Britain the centre of illimitable and innumerable emanations."

William Morton Pitt, Esq. established one of the earliest Sunday Schools at Dorchester.

The table of public charities belonging to the parish at large, will show that an early establishment of Sunday Schools took place in the township; each religious society having its appropriate seminary, in addition to the parochial ones.—The Madras and other day schools are also enjoyed by the other parochial divisions in common with this. The same remark is applicable to the provisions for sickness and old age, through the medium of benefit societies, to which the beneficiaries are contributors. (b)

(b) See enumeration of charitable Institutions belonging to the Parish of Old Swinford.

SCOTT'S CHARITY.

William Scott, formerly of Stourbridge, but late of Birmingham, Gent. by his will, dated Jan. 14th, 1792, bequeathed "in trust, to his nephews, William Scott, John Scott, both of Stourbridge; Rev. James Scott, of Cradley, Rev. Benjamin Carpenter, Francis Witton, and Thomas Hornblower, all of Stourbridge; one share in the Birmingham and Fazeley Canal Navigation: the income or produce whereof he ordered from time to time to be applied to charitable purposes, within the town of Stourbridge; particularly to boarding, clothing, and educating poor children; and to the distribution of alms, at the discretion of his trustees for the time being: one half to take effect at the time of his own decease, and the other at the death of his widow."

Pursuant to the directions of the testator, who died December 21st, 1792, aged 71; the trustees, at a meeting held February, 1793, resolved to commence the distribution of alms, and during the following year provided the means of instruction for a small number of poor children.

The produce of the first moiety continued to be applied, during twenty years, to the purposes of the charity; when, on the decease of Mrs. Ann Scott, relict of the founder, Jan. 8th, 1813, at the age of 82,—two entire shares in the property of the Birmingham Canal Company, became applicable to the same objects. On the 14th of August, 1816, the trustees (c) founded Wollaston-road School, on a plot of land presented to the charity by Mr. John Scott, nephew of the founder, and member of the trust; the deed of conveyance being enrolled in the High Court of Chancery.

On January 30th, 1817, this building was registered as a

(c) An act having passed in 1811, constituting each moiety a separate share, afterwards 1820 and 1823, subdivided into four and eight shares.

place of public worship, under 52d Geo. III. ch. 155, and on March 16th, following, was so appropriated.

The dimensions of the original room are 37 feet 8 inches, by 16 feet 6. In 1818, an additional room was built, 40 by 10 feet, appropriated midsummer, 1821, to the reception of a School, on the British, or Lancasterian system, for sixty boys (d)

This institution is a representation in miniature of the Free School in Severn street, Birmingham, organized by the very able director of that seminary Mr. Thomas Baker.

BIBLE SOCIETY.

The British and Foreign Bible Society was instituted in London, A. D. 1804, for the universal dissemination of the Holy Scriptures. The Auxiliary Society of Stourbridge was founded 1812, under respectable patronage; and has continued to the present day to experience a steady and efficient support. (e) A series of Annual Reports, sixteen in number, have been published, 1813 to 1829, (f) inclusive, by the last

(d) The Royal British system of education, sometime designated by the name of its founder, who, A. D. 1798, established a School on an extensive scale, in the Borough road; is making rapid progress through the kingdom, and by the instrumentality of the British and Foreign School Society, through many parts of Europe, and other quarters of the globe.

(e) See IX Report of the Parent Society, 1813, after which year particulars of local societies are discontinued, though brief statements of them are still inserted. See also "Owen's History of the British and Foreign Bible Society," vol. II. pa. 314, where this society is enumerated, as of a class established for limited districts, independent of the counties in which they are situated. Of this description there are in Worcestershire, exclusive of the county society, those of Dudley, Evesham, Shipton upon Stour, and Stourbridge.

(f) Omitting the year 1816, the anniversary meeting for which was adjourned to 1817.

of which it appears that 6058 Bibles and Testaments have been purchased, and disposed of at one half of the reduced price.

PATRONS.

The Right Hon. Lord Foley, Right Hon. Earl of Stamford and Warrington.

PUBLIC LIBRARY,

Supported by voluntary Subscription.

This institution was preceded by a Reading Society, which existed in various forms during a considerable period. Probably this friendly association took its rise early in the 18th century. Several lists of members still remain attached to sundry volumes, which after circulating within their destined limits became private property. (g) During its early stages, the book society numbered among its members respectable inhabitants of several neighbouring towns, which afterwards established local institutions of a similar kind.

No ultimate diminution of numbers, however, appears to have taken place in the Stourbridge separate society, for we find the catalogue of names as full and complete during its closing years, as at any former time. It is to be lamented that this useful institution should have been considered as incompatible with the establishment of a permanent library. (h)

In 1790, the library commenced under favourable auspices. Efforts were made to procure an immediate and valu-

(g) No dates of years occur in the list of names, but those of months and days only.

(h) Reading Societies have several times been re-instituted, but of ephemeral duration. Two remain at the present time, 1830.

able supply of books, which, from the nature of the system adopted, are in a course of gradual and progressive augmentation. The sixth edition of the catalogue was published A. D. 1820, to which a supplement was added in 1826.

MARKET HOUSE,

Founded under Act 6th, Geo. IV. Session 1825, opened October 5th, 1827.

In 1773, the original town hall or market house was taken down, for the necessary purpose of widening the carriage way in the centre of the town, and opening the entrances to several roads and streets branching therefrom.

In 1791, 31st Geo. III. an act was obtained for lighting, cleansing, removing obstructions, &c. &c. within the township. In August, 1824, a liberal subscription was entered into for providing a market house, and other necessary accommodations for the use of the town, since converted into loans.

A repeal of the act of 1791 was effected, and a new one obtained, as above referred to, containing additional provisions, more adequate to existing demands; powers being granted, not only to erect proper buildings for the holding of the weekly market, but also to augment the rates, to supply gas lights, to affix names and numbers to streets and houses, to appoint scavengers and watchmen, to ascertain from time the limits of the town, &c. &c. To effect these purposes, the commissioners appointed by the act and their successors are empowered to levy rates, and likewise to borrow adequate sums of money—securing to the lenders an income of £5. per cent per annum.

The market building is in shape an irregular triangle, according to the form of the ground.

<i>Dimensions.</i>	<i>Feet.</i>	<i>In.</i>
Frontage on the side of the Rye-market	165	0
..... Union street (the cattle mart).....	201	0
..... New street.....	167	0
..... High street principal front see below*	72	3

each side has an entrance.

An obtuse angle pointing to High street is fronted by a lofty cemented building, comprising two houses with shops, in the centre of which is a spacious gateway, forming a communication between High street and the central area, widening as it approaches thereto.

The interior open space serves for a vegetable and fruit market; it is bordered by three lofty covered avenues, respectively used as shambles, receptacle for poultry, and other provisions, and miscellaneous articles. The N. W. angle has been partitioned to form a soup shop. The general contour of this building resembles that of Islington market, Liverpool, the three side fronts, those of St. John's in the same commercial town, though vastly inferior in length.

The fairs, market, court leet, &c. already recorded, as granted by different monarchs, remain to the present day, with the addition of a second market on Saturday evenings, an increasing population and extension of manufactories having occasioned additional demands for accommodation. The situation of this and some other neighbouring towns on the line of separation between the manufacturing and agricultural parts of the country, points them out as affording peculiar facilities both with respect to supply and demand, for the support of a market.

* Dimensions of the obtuse termination of the front angle,

	<i>Feet</i>	<i>In.</i>
Gateway at the principal entrance.....	30	9
North side thereof	16	0
South	25	6

During the week preceding the fair on 29th March, a very considerable mart is held for the sale of horses, much resorted to from many parts of the kingdom.

General quarterly meetings have been held during a long period of gentlemen concerned in the iron trade, when prices were settled, contracts entered into, and various other affairs transacted. The mode of conducting business in this important branch, has recently assimilated itself to that of other manufactories, on which account these meetings have in some measure declined. Added to this, similar ones have been established in neighbouring towns, some of which are more central to the mining and manufacturing district than Stourbridge, on their respective market days. (i)

AMUSEMENTS.

Assemblies have for a long period been held at Stourbridge during the winter season, in a large and commodious room at the Talbot Hotel, which continue to be numerously

(i) Order of the Quarter days as annually inserted in Birmingham Almanack.

Walsall.....	Tuesday
Wolverhampton	Wednesday
Birmingham	Thursday
Stourbridge	Friday
Dudley	Saturday.

The appointment of quarter day is ruled by the four quarterly days of the year. Example.—Supposing March 25th, June 24th, September 29th, or December 25th, to have arrived, the first quarter day succeeds after an interval varying from 10 to 16 days, viz. the remaining days of the week on which such quarterly day falls, the whole of the succeeding week, and Sunday and Monday of the next following one. Walsall then takes the lead in a series of market days, as described above.

On the Monday following the last iron masters' meeting, that of the coal and lime masters' takes place at Stourport.

and respectably attended; four meetings take place during each winter and the spring ensuing. An annual ball on the 31st of December, is also of long standing.

In 1790 a Theatre was erected, which though destitute of architectural merit, is sufficiently commodious for its intended purpose.

Annual Horse Races, in August, have recently been re-established, noticed also under Pedmore and the hamlet of Swinford. A ball and other amusements take place during the former part of the week.

In 1824, a society termed the Harmonic, was formed, for the practice of music, on the plan of some in the north of England, at Birmingham, &c. which promises to be of some utility on charitable occasions, &c. &c.—public concerts are given every two months.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT.

The administration of justice being conducted by magistrates having a concurrent jurisdiction over the other divisions of the parish and beyond its limits, will be elsewhere noticed. A Court-house is provided for the transacting of magisterial business, to which is attached a small prison.

The management of the poor is separately conducted in this as in the two other divisions of the parish. A small poor house in High-street is the appointed receptacle for the impotent and aged poor. A standing overseer, assisted by others annually elected, collects the levies, and administers the necessary relief.

COMMERCIAL AND MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS.

Two Banks are established in the town of Stourbridge.

OLD BANK.

Thomas Hill, Thomas Bate, and William Robins, draw on Sir James Esdaile and Co. London, formerly Hill, Waldron, and Co.

NEW BANK.

Rufford, Biggs, and Ruffords, draw on Spooner, Attwood, and Co. London. (k)

Of the Inns, the Talbot, Crown, and Vine are the principal, in addition to which are the Bell, Falcon, Foley Arms, &c. &c. &c.

Manufactories of iron, glass, fire brick, &c. are widely diffused through the vicinity, and will be noticed in treating of other adjoining districts; that of woollen cloth was more particularly seated within the township. In earlier times, the banks of the river, with those of its tributary streams, presented a series of works in which the various processes of the iron manufactory were conducted. (l)

One of the most eminent of the iron masters was Richard Foley, Esq. of Stourbridge, son of Edward, (whose name stands at the head of the pedigree,) "who by prudent acquisitions to his former estates, laid the foundation of the large possessions since enjoyed by his descendants." He died 1657, aged 80. This gentleman founded a charity school in Dudley, A. D. 1634, for 50 boys; applying the produce of some alineated lands, together with donations of his own, to this purpose; and also to the building of a commodious school house. The celebrated Richard Baxter, as appears by his memoirs, was appointed first master.

Nash, art. Dudley.

(k) Stourbridge and Bromsgrove Bank is conducted by the same Company.

(l) See Itinerary, river and vale of Stour.

His eldest son Thomas, of Witley Court, is recorded also as rising from small beginnings to opulence, being in possession of £5000 per annum. (m)

Robert, second son of Richard, high sheriff of the county of Worcester, 1624, was also of Stourbridge, he is noticed as having supplied the naval arsenals with iron.—Several armorial bearings were granted to this gentleman. He died 1676, aged 50.

In North's Life of Francis Lord Guilford, mention is made of North Foley, of Stourbridge, eldest son of Robert, by Ann second daughter of Dudley Lord North, who married a daughter of Sir Charles Holt, of Warwickshire. Dr. Samuel Foley possessed considerable landed property in the town and neighbourhood of Stourbridge, see Hayes, &c. he was brother of Robert.

It has been asserted that this divine accompanied the Duke of Ormond, when lieutenant of Ireland, in the capacity of chaplain. According to Nash, he was consecrated bishop of Down and Connor, 1694, and died during the year following. In a publication entitled "Natural History of Ireland, 1726," is a paper by this prelate, containing a description of the Giant's causeway. Other papers on the same subject precede and follow it, being also communications to the Royal Society. Dr. Thomas and Mr. William Mollineux were contributors. From this time we read of the members of the family of Foley under the designations of nobility, gentry, members of Parliament, &c. &c.

(m) Founder Foley, see Old Swinford Hospital. Edward Foley, brother of the founder, resided at Dudley, his eldest son at Kidderminster. The estates at Witley were purchased by Mr. Thomas Foley, from the family of Russell, of Strensham, to whom they had descended from the Cookeseys.

Nash.

For Foley pedigree see Nash, art. Witley, II. 465, and Shaw, Kingswinford, II. 234.

Property in Stourbridge, called the Park, (n) situate along the base of Hanbury hill, was in possession of one of the branches of this family till about the middle of the 18th century. The residentiary house, formerly belonging to this demesne, is at the corner of a street opposite Bell-lane, occupied by Thomas Collis, Esq.

From a comparison of dates, it appears that during the latter part of the 17th century, Mr. Dud-Dudley also conducted his useful operations in the same vicinity.

The family of Knight follow in regular succession, as manufacturers of iron. John Knight, Esq. was considered the most eminent iron master of his day. (o) Such was his influence, that by general consent, "he usually fixed the prices of bar-iron, at the periodical meetings held at Stourbridge, Wolverhampton, and Birmingham." (p)

Another respectable family engaged in the iron trade, (probably about the same period,) was that of Crowley. In various topographical publications, this name occurs in connexion with Stourbridge, as Ambrose Crowley, who raised a considerable fortune there. (q)

An house in London, under the firm of Crowley, held for many years a considerable iron warehouse in this town. (r)

(n) Adjoining thereto is a piece of land called Catherwell, probably St. Catherine's well, a spring being formerly open there, supplying water to the neighbourhood.

(o) See Shaw's Staffordshire, Whittington, under Kinver.

(p) Brewer's Introduction to Beauties of England and Wales. The family of Knight intermarried with those of Rogers, of Hollow's End, near Stourbridge, and Johns of Havod, in Cardiganshire, celebrated improvers of the mountainous district of that county.

(q) Whateley's English Gazetteer, 1751, &c.

(r) See also, Crowley, in connexion with the Society of Friends. It does not appear that the members of this family conducted any iron works in this neighbourhood.

Nails constituted one of the principal articles of their trade, here and at Wolverhampton.

“ An Ambrose Crowley, A. D. 1691, established extensive iron works at Smallwell, and other parts of the bishopric of Durham, to which were attached excellent institutions for the benefit of the labourers, producing the most beneficial effects in after times ;” (s) the duration of this economical system being nearly a century.

In addition to the above names of eminent iron masters, which might have been considerably augmented, we have in modern times to insert the name of James Foster, Esq. resident at Park-house, on the border of the Stour, at the lower end of the town, proprietor of immense works in the two opposite adjoining hamlets ; and also in the parish of King Swinford, and some parts of the county of Salop.

The woollen manufactory planted within the precincts of this town, cannot be traced to its source, but evidence is extant of its existing in 1693, 4th William and Mary. (t) Mr. Whitaker, (u) and many other authors, have largely expatiated on the very high antiquity of this manufactory, forming in subsequent times the staple trade of England.

Proofs have been adduced from holy writ of its establishment in Palestine, (v) 1500 years before the christian era, showing, that the people of that country knew the value of the fleece, and had their seasons for collecting it. That

(s) *Beauties of England and Wales*, art. Durham. Some individuals of this name, (probably of the same family) have, at no very distant time, been resident in Stourbridge.

(t) *Journal of William Scott*, clothier, second of the name in Stourbridge.

(u) *History of Manchester*.

(v) *Genesis xxxi. 9.—xxxviii. 12.*

weaving was also known in early times, is proved by the same authority. (w)

The ancient Britons, particularly the Belgic tribes, (whose emporium was *Venta Belgarum*, the present Winchester,) (x) are asserted by the last cited author, to have been great proficient in the art of manufacturing wool, particularly at the time of Cæsar's invasion. Their intercourse with the Romans stimulated their endeavours to excel in this as in numerous other branches of the useful arts.

“ At so early a period as 1106, 27th Ethelred II. a tremendous storm and inundation drove a colony of Flemings to the northern counties of England, from whence they were removed to the district of Roos in Pembrokeshire. (y) In 1113, they had disappeared, and another body settled there in a similar manner, Henry I. engaged them to oppose the rising power of Gryffyd ap Rhys, in South Wales.”

Lancarvan Myfyrian Archeology.

During the reigns of the early English monarchs, the wool of this country was exported to Calais and other parts of the continent, for the use of the Flemings, who returned to this country their manufactured articles.

Ghent, and Louvain one of the principal towns of Brabant, were seats of this manufactory. (z) Padua and Ravenna, had once a considerable share of it. Edward I. removed

(w) Genesis xiv. 23.

(x) The Romans established an imperial manufactory at Winchester.

(y) Camden also relates, that William Rufus, placed a colony of Flemings at Carlisle, which he removed to Pembrokeshire.

(z) “ John IV. duke of Brabant, to supply the loss occasioned by the decline of the staple, founded, at Louvain, one of the most considerable universities in Europe.”

Bernard Gilpin's Life.

the wool marts from the continent, and fixed them at Westminster, Chichester, Bristol, Lincoln, and Canterbury. In 1319, 12th Edward II. the Guild of merchants of the staple, the first commercial association in the kingdom, was formed. Edward III. and his immediate successor Richard II. were great promoters of the woollen manufactory.

The former of these monarchs, 1331, patronised John Kemp, a celebrated manufacturer from Flanders, and caused him to settle in England, with a body of artists and seventy Walloon families; hence the establishment of this branch in the vicinity of Bristol, (a) and in some other parts. The same monarch also invited John and William Uninam, and John Lutwytt of Delft. (b) The parliament powerfully seconded the views of the king, making it felony to export wool.

Stowe relates, that in this reign, the towns of Flanders broke their promise made by James Hartnell, and favoured the French party; on which occasion, Edward removed the market staple to England, A. D. 1354. Winchester was one of its stations. In the reign of Edward IV. kersies were manufactured at Exeter and other parts of the west.

The civil contests between the rival houses of York and Lancaster, had the baneful effect of checking the progress of the woollen manufactory, but in 1500, 15th Henry VII. a revival took place, and many persons of great consideration entered into it.

Camden represents the woollen trade as in a flourishing state at Leeds, Wakefield, Halifax, and other towns in Yorkshire, A. D. 1533, temp. Henry VIII.

(a) Worsley's Observations.

(b) Rymer's Fœdera. According to an account in a public journal, the staple was fixed at Westminster, 1353.

Worcestershire is also said to have abounded in woollen manufactories, at the same period. Leland observes—"The wealth of Worcester standeth most by draperynge, no town in England maketh so much cloth yearly, viz. broad cloth, as this town doth." The manufactories of broad cloth here received their first charter of incorporation in the second year of this reign. (c) The trade considerably increased in after times.

Bromsgrove, in the language of Leland, "standeth by clothing." Another author observes, "that this town had once a manufactory of broad and narrow cloth."

Kidderminster had also a manufactory of broad cloth in after times, succeeded by those of stuffs and carpets. (d)

The complete and permanent settlement of the woollen manufactory in England, was however reserved for the glorious reign of Elizabeth. (e) About the middle of the 16th century, the united provinces being subject to the crown of Spain, Charles Vth, delivered them over to Philip, who appointed the Duke of Alva Vice Roy, A. D. 1567.

During five and a half years, a most dreadful persecution raged in these provinces, in consequence of which, numerous exiles repaired to England, not fewer than 5000 families, who received the kind protection of Elizabeth, and proved a powerful accession to the strength of her kingdom. (f) In

(c) Beauties of England and Wales.

(d) Wolverhampton appears to have been a considerable station of the wool trade. Turton's hall, formerly a moated mansion, the town residence of the Levesons, merchants of the staple, is now a hardware manufactory.

(e) President Thannus gives to this princess the sole credit of introducing it, though it had been established in London before her reign.

(f) Stowe observes, that Elizabeth would not suffer wool to be exported, or to pass towards Bruges; and that Philip would gladly have received the English wools.

that beautiful but neglected poem "The Fleece" of Dyer, this event is commemorated with great force of language, and with great historical accuracy.

To attempt a brief comment on the narrative of the poet; the eastern coast appears to have been first peopled by these continental artizans. Colchester, Sudbury, and Norwich, with their respective environs, shared largely in the benefits resulting from this source of industry. (g) The counties containing these stations, together with Kent, afforded considerable facilities to the settlement of the Flemings, arising from their nearness to the continent. Canterbury, Maidstone, Tenterdon, &c. became industrious and opulent.

Reading, in Berks, is mentioned by Ptolemy, and also by Camden, as a seat of the woollen manufactory. In process of time, the west of England rose into eminence. Devon and its adjacent counties have long enjoyed the manifold advantages of this staple manufactory.

The fine provinces of Gloucester and Hereford partook largely of the benefits accruing from the production of the fleece; the employment which its numerous manipulations afforded to their population, and the consequent opulence which the commerce of its fabricks presented to the ardour of mercantile ambition.

Wilts and Gloucester still retain a more considerable portion of the British staple manufactory than many of the counties enumerated as its original seats. The exquisitely beautiful region of Stroudwater is still enlivened by its multiform

(g) Norwich had its worsted manufactory, established by the Flemings, temp. Edward III. which was improved by the Dutch emigrants in the reign of Elizabeth. Camden, alluding to the town of Wursted in that county, near to North Walsham, observes, that it was the original seat of the woollen article bearing its name.

processes. (h) Cotswold has long been celebrated for its admirable fleece.

Ledbury, Herefordshire, is noticed as having been a clothing town.

Southall's Malvern.

In the 15th century, the merchants of Cotswold interchanged their fleecy stores with those of Flanders, for articles of brass. Hence the rich sepulchral brasses prevalent in that district, adorning the churches of Campden, &c. The Herefordian Ryeland fleeces, as Leominster ore, &c. are eulogised by Camden, being inferior only to those of Apulea and Tarentum.

Yarranton, in his "England's Improvements," enumerates the counties of Gloucester, Worcester, Salop, Stafford, part of Warwick, Suffolk, Essex, Derby, Nottingham, and York, as districts in which the woollen manufactory prevailed in his time.

To recur to the woollen trade of Stourbridge, in which the neighbouring town of Kinver also participated, it appears to have flourished till the close of the 18th century; subsequently to this period, the rivalry of the iron trade, and the concentration of the various branches of the woollen manufactory in the county of York, have tended to effect its extirpation, in this and many other English towns. (i)

(h) Not only the well-known clothing district, comprising Nailsworth, Rodborough, Stroud, &c. &c. but Tewkesbury is spoken of by Camden, as engaged in the clothing trade.

(i) The establishment of the linen manufactory in Ireland, during the administration of Wentworth, afterwards Earl of Strafford, about 1640, encouraged by Lord Grovesnor, had the effect of considerably depressing the woollen branch.

For a brief account of the silk and some other branches of manufactory, see Appendix, E. No. 5.

The town of Stourbridge, during several years previous to 1830, has been in a state of rapid improvement. Many new buildings have arisen in the precincts, & Baptist chapel is intended to be erected in the New Road, to accommodate the congregation now assembling in the Hempland, near to Nodland school.

The Improvement act, by causing a considerable demolition of houses in the centre of the town, led to the establishment of shops, with elegant fronts, in remoter situations.

Facilities for intercourse with distant parts of the kingdom are afforded by numerous public vehicles. A daily mail coach from Birmingham to Kidderminster, returns each evening. A daily stage to and from Birmingham, through Halesowen, has been long established. Two daily coaches run from Wolverhampton, through Dudley, Stourbridge, Kidderminster, and Stourport, to Worcester, and contrariwise; four others from Birmingham, through Dudley and Stourbridge, to Kidderminster, and return.

POST OFFICE.

Mails.

The London mail arrives every morning at half-past ten, and departs at half-past three, by coach. Worcester, Bristol, Bath,

Lord Ormond, about 1667, then Lieutenant, revived the woollen branch, and 500 Walloon families were removed hither from Canterbury. The same Nobleman also encouraged the linen manufactory, for which purpose he brought 500 families from the Netherlands, and others from France.

In 1698, both branches became very productive, but some ensuing legislative enactments, both of England and Ireland, caused, in the opinion of some, its removal to France.

South Wales, &c. mail, at half-past five, A. M. and departs a quarter before eleven; Manchester, Liverpool, and all parts of the north, at half-past ten, A. M. and departs at half-past six the following morning.

Canal boats are established for conveyance of Goods to London, by Paddington; Liverpool, Manchester, Chester, &c.; Stourport, Shrewsbury, Bristol, &c.

Stage waggons travel to London, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Worcester, Dudley, Walsall, Bromsgrove, Bridgnorth, Bewdley, Kidderminster, &c.

HAMLETS OF SWINFORD.

THE HAMLETS OF SWINFORD,

CONSISTING OF

Swinford proper,
Wollaston,
Wollescot, and
Lye ;

form a district commonly called "The Parish;" in contradistinction from the real entire parish. (k)

SWINFORD PROPER.

This hamlet principally consists of a tract occupying the southern counterpart of three elevations, in which the town of Stourbridge is in part situated, (l) with several elongations about to be described.

The western hill, Hanbury, presents to view a beautiful terrace, continuous to the south western part of the township, already described.

An indentation in the centre is observable, deepened by an excavation made for the purpose of lowering a bye road, beyond which, to the south, is the second or Swinford summit. On the eastern declivity of the first, is situated Foley's Hospital.

(k) Viz. the township of Stourbridge }
Hamlets of Swinford } Worcestershire.
Hamlet of Amblecoat, Staffordshire.

The Worcestershire portions considered manorially, are thus designated: Manor of Old Swinford, the four hamlets; and manor of Bedcote, the township of Stourbridge still retaining this its ancient name.

(l) See page 37.

The Swinford portion of Red hill commences at an indented central space contiguous to the township. It is the site of several elegant villas—a charity school, (Glover and Wheeler's)—a newly erected Sunday school building; and of the northern extremity of the village bearing the name of the parish at large, a pleasing and picturesque object as viewed through the rugged vista of an holloway.

The remaining elevation designated Hungary, is part of the mining tract.

Percote Grainge, (m) formerly belonging to the abbey of Halesowen, is situated on this eminence, commanding an extensive prospect, now the residence of a private gentleman. Also Prescot.

In a deep recess, surrounded by the above described eminences and other rising ground, is situated the village of Old Swinford, sometimes termed Lower Swinford, the upper branch bordering the Bromsgrove road. The ancient parish church, surrounded by a spacious cemetery; a graduation of eminences, terminating in the pre-eminent ones of Clent and Wichbury, the intervening glens, and the mansions interspersed through the whole scene; constitute a *tout ensemble* of no mean interest.

Dr. Plot speaks of a glass-house at Swinford, and tradition assigns two works of this description to glass-house hill, and the road side to the east.

Two branches of this hamlet extend to the east and west; the former to the boundary of the adjoining one of Wollescot, the latter to Iverley hill, issuing as from a common stem.

(m) So called in a record dated 1597, containing evidence produced before the court of Marches, Maidston versus Lyttelton.

To the east, separated by a small brook, is Chawnel, or Chinhill, (an eminence of this name as laid down in an ancient map bearing this name, from which the appellation is probably derived.) Chawnel is a large and populous village, occupying not only the acclivity on the last-mentioned elevation, but the glen between it and Hungary.

The opposite branch of Swinford extends to that part of Iverley of which Stourbridge common once formed a principal part. On the site of this tract, now completely inclosed, is (o) High park, an allotment of the waste to the late Thomas Hill, Esq.; it was by that gentleman fenced and well planted with trees for the protection of game; and is now in possession of the earl of Dudley.

No mansion as yet adorns this pleasant and desirable site. At the south western point of this tract, the name of Hay occurs, denoting as in other instances elsewhere alluded to, a mark or boundary.

At this extremity is Iverley proper, the highest hill of the range, affording one of the richest panoramic prospects in the vicinity,—the heights of Clent, Rowley, Dudley, &c. of course excepted.

To the left of Malvern, Bredon appears in view. The late William Waldron, Esq. banker of Stourbridge, ornamented this pleasant spot with numerous plantations and clumps of trees.

The ancient race course was situated on this common, between the Kinver and Bridgnorth roads. The equestrian exercises appear to have been discontinued from about 1742, but were revived on Pedmore common, 1821, and have been continued to the present day.

(o) Act of 17—, by which the whole of the Worcestershire portion of the parish was exonerated from tithe.

To the north of the tract just described, is the Heath, still so called, though included in the enclosure of Stourbridge common. On a rising ground bordered on one side by a fine sheet of water, is an elegant residence.

Adjoining to the site of Studley gate, (so the former entrance to the Heath was denominated, but the name is not perpetuated, though a toll bar is there erected;) is a group of private houses, with a glass work, and its numerous exterior appurtenances.

The northern point of the hamlet of Swinford, reaches to the road to Bridgnorth, where that of Wollaston commences.

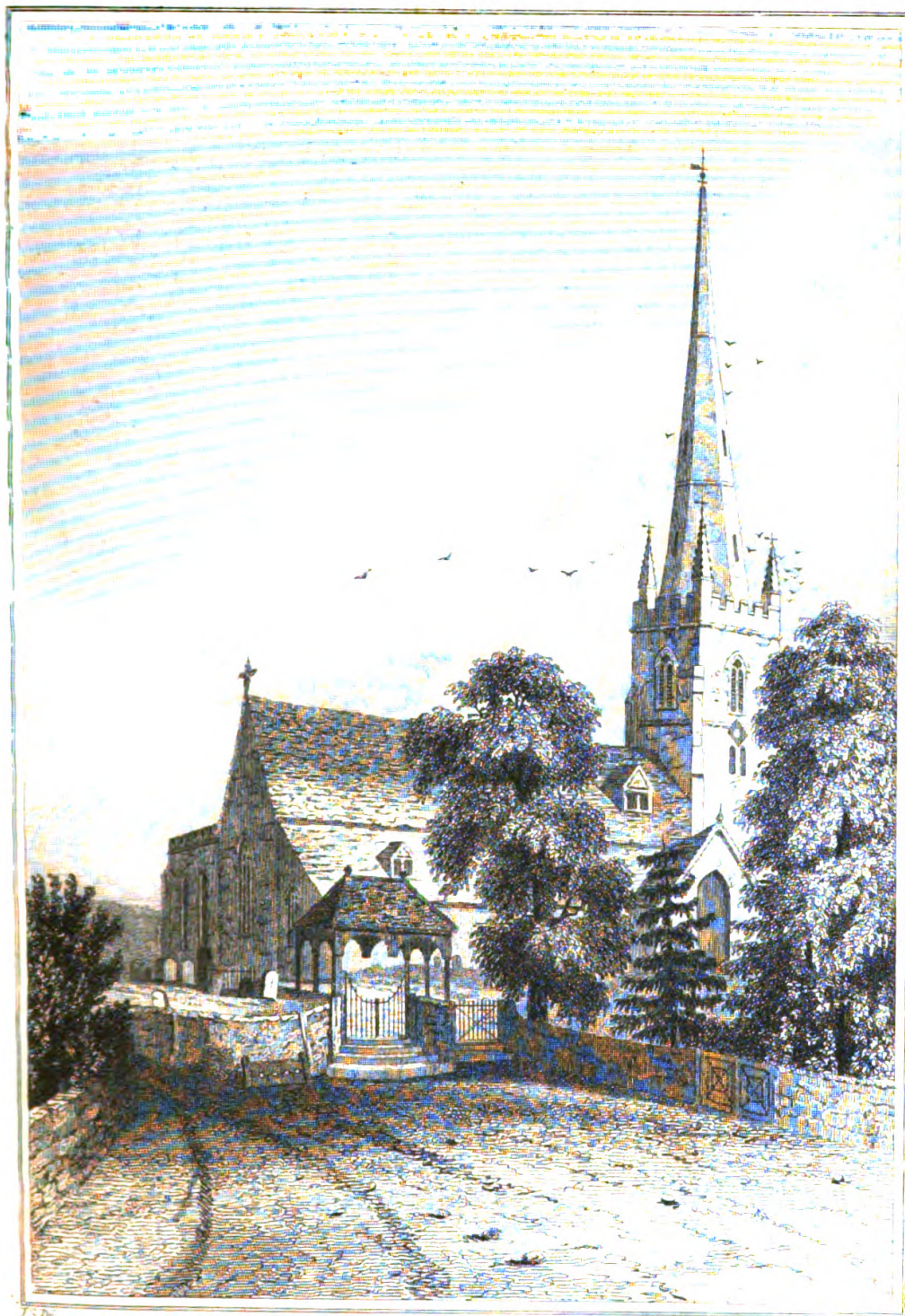
PLACE OF WORSHIP.

Parish Church of Saint Mary.

This church is, with respect to its tower, northern front, and eastern termination, an edifice of great antiquity. The southern side of the building having been nearly re-edified in modern times, not entirely in the gothic style; and the spire claiming no higher antiquity than 1810; (p) form exceptions to this remark.

The cemetery is spacious, having been twice enlarged, first about the middle of the last century, and also in 1807, when the additional ground was consecrated by the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, Dr. Cornwallis.

(p) The melancholy catastrophe which befel the spire of the church of St. Nicholas, in Liverpool, occasioned an examination of similar structures through the kingdom, and led to the re-building of this. It is restored in a style conformable to that of the ancient part of the building.



J.S.D.

1847

OLDSWINFORD CHURCH.

In front of the church-yard, is a commodious rectory-house, built 1700, a licence being obtained by the then rector, Dr. Hallifax, for that purpose.

On the south wall of the body of the church, (r) near to the pulpit, is an inscription, to the memory of Dr. Simon Ford, 22 years rector, who died April 7th, 1699, in the 80th year of his age;—he was born at East Oghwell, near Newton Bushell, Devon.

This divine, a descendent of Nicholas Wadham, founder of the college in Oxford (s) which bears his name, was successively lecturer at Newington green, vicar of St. Lawrence, Reading; vicar of All Saints, Northampton, king's chaplain, &c. &c. He accepted the living of Oldswinford, the air of the metropolis not agreeing with his health.

He was esteemed as a very able scholar, a celebrated preacher, and a most eloquent Latin poet. His publications were numerous, not to mention a number of sermons, polemical pieces, and translations from Plutarch, enumerated by Wood. (t) The fires of London and Northampton furnished him with subjects for two Latin poems.

In 1678, he published a discourse concerning God's Judgments, accompanying the narrative of the case of John Dun-calfe, of King Swinford, by the Rev. James Illingworth. This unhappy person, (as was the case with a similar offender, whose presumption is recorded in the market place

(r) A tomb stone also in the churchyard contains memorials of the family. A view of Old Swinford church is given in "Beauties of England and Wales." Worcestershire, vol. xv. p. 229.

(s) Nash Wor. II. 213.

(t) Ath. Ox. II. 1114.

at Devizes,) suffered the punishment he had imprecated on himself.

A neat marble monument is inscribed with the name of Dr. George Wigan, 54 years rector, who died Nov. 11th, 1776, aged 85. Dr. Wigan was esteemed as an eminent preacher, yet adapting his discourses to the most illiterate of his auditors. He was a man of great erudition, but entirely unostentatious in the display of his powers.

Several monuments of the Foley family are observable in the chancel, on the north of which is a stone inscribed to the memory of John Wheeler, Esq. of Wollaston, justice of the peace for the county of Worcester, who died Nov. 27th, 1708, aged 63. This memorial is encircled by effigies of his numerous family of children. The name of Wheeler, associated with that of Glover, is handed down to posterity as a beneficent donator to the parish in which he was resident. The united munificence of these gentlemen forms a respectable establishment, for the education and eleemosynary relief of the poor.

PATRONS AND RECTORS.

<i>Patrons.</i>	<i>Rectors.</i>
Bernard de Bruys. (u)	Rev. Robert de Norwyco 1285.
	Robert Dunclent 1331.
Hugh Burnel de Holgot and Weoley.	Philip Lee 1386.
Hugh Burnel.	John Hulle ib.
	Nicholas Aston 1401.

(u) Robert de Brus, Lord of Gisborough, Yorkshire, 1119, is spoken of by Camden. See also description of property, Oldswinford and Lye hamlet.

<i>Patrons.</i>	<i>Rectors.</i>
Johanna de Beauchamp.	Rev. John Burton .....1426.
Lady de Bergavenny.	John Hunt.....1438.
	Roger Tyrehare .....1480.
Dean & Chapter of Windsor.	Thomas Pereson .....1483.
Anna Seyntleger & Margaret	Richard Kynges .....1515.
Boleyn, wid. daughter of	
Thomas Lord Ormond.	John Mungie.....
Winefred Jerveys, wid.	Richard Hall.....1557.
John Seyntleger.	John Lawherne .....1560.
John Lyttelton.	Richard Mauncell ....1573.
Muriel Lyttelton.	Richard Holteste .....1602.
Eliz. R.	Richard Holteste ib.
John Hope and Joh. Best	William Harewell, M. A. 1641.
one turn.	
	Jervis Bryan,* ejected
	in 1662.
Thos. Foley, Witley Court.	Edward Eccleston ....1673.
Thos. Foley, Jun. de Kid-	Simon Ford, D. D. ....1676.
derminster.	
Thomas Foley, de Witley, Esq.	William Hallifax.....1699.
Thos. Foley, Baron of Kid-	
derminster, 1st Lord Foley.	George Wigan, D. D. ..1722.
Thomas, 2d Lord Foley.	Robert Foley, M. A. ..1777.
Thomas, 4th Lord Foley.	Thomas Philip Foley, M. A.
	Vicar of Womborne 1797.

The register of marriages, baptisms, and burials, commences A. D. 1602, the former being entered in a separate book from the time of the marriage act, 1752. A perambulation roll, date 1733, records the bounderies of the parish at that time.

* Calamy asserts, that Mr. Bryan was succeeded in this living by Mr. R. Pierson. This name is not inserted in Nash.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

On the public road connecting Upper Swinford with Stourbridge, (v) on the declivity of Hanbury, stands a noble ancient edifice, having a respectable collegiate appearance; Foley's Hospital. The building, seen through an open vista of elms, has a pleasing and venerable appearance. A spacious court appears in front, and extensive gardens are contiguous to the mansion.

Appropriate eulogies of Thomas Foley, Esq. the founder of this extensive charity, are to be found in various authors. (w) Several portraits, (one executed by William Trubate, a young artist in the saloon of the hospital) of this excellent gentleman, are extant, more than one at the family seat of Lord Foley, at Witley; another in Nash's Worcestershire.

Mr. Thomas Foley was born on the 15th of James I. 1618, from which time to the year 1670, when the hospital was founded, few transactions of his life are mentioned by the historian, but it may be reasonably supposed that during that interval, he was actively engaged in commercial pursuits.

About 1675, 26th Charles II. the year of his serving the office of High Sheriff for the county of Worcester, he is represented as taking an active part in public affairs. Mr. Baxter, the eminent nonconformist minister, frequently speaks of him in his "Life and Times," as an intimate friend.

He officiated as chaplain to Mr. Foley during his sheriffalty, and a petition in favour of tithes and the ministry, drawn up by this divine, was presented to the long parliament by Mr. Foley and colonel John Brydges.

(v) Near to the boundery line of the districts.

(w) Nash Wor. art. Old Swinford and Witley.

Mr. Baxter proceeds to relate that Mr. Foley purchased the advowsons of Kidderminster and Old Swinford, placing therein the best conformable ministers he could procure. (x) His private character is drawn as truly excellent. By settling his eldest son, father of the first Lord Foley, at Kidderminster, he was considered as conferring a great blessing upon that town.

He died October 1st, 1677, aged 59. (y) A monument to his memory is erected in the church of Witley, the place of his residence, with an inscription, recorded in Nash. (z)

The founding of old Swinford Hospital, as already observed, took place A. D. 1670, 21st Charles II. The original feoffees, whose names are painted on the portrait, were Thomas, Paul, and Philip, sons of the founder, Robert Foley, Thomas Jolliff, William Talbot, Leonard Simpson, Esq. Henry Glover, Richard Amphlett, Nicholas Addenbrooke, Joshua Newbrough, William Winchurst, John Davis, and Edward Paston, Gentlemen; Thomas Wright, Robert Pierson, Ambrose Sparrey, and John Taylor, ministers. Many of the beneficiaries of this charity have acquired large fortunes, and filled respectable situations in society.

On the picture is also inscribed,—“To my faithful relatives and Friends, the Feoffees, that are or ever shall be chosen on this Trust. It is my last and earnest desire, that you suffer not through any neglect or unfaithfulness, this house, or the means thereunto settled in you, to be disposed

(x) Aged 61 according to Shaw.

(y) Rev. Richard White, Kidderminster, 1677. Rev. Edward Eccleston, Old Swinford, 1673.

(z) An article in Nash's "Supplement to Collections for Worcestershire," by the Rev. Robert Foley, contains amplifications upon, and continuations of the family pedigree.

of otherwise than is expressed in the settlement thereof; and that no boys be chosen into it but such as are real objects of charity, and that they may be taught by such masters as may breed them up in the fear of God; and that when they shall be fit to be apprentices, care may be taken to place them with such masters as may answer my great end, being the glory of God, and their real good."

The benefaction is stated to consist of 1500 acres of land let on long leases, together with tithes, so that the property is in a state of progressive improvement. The establishment, till very lately, has consisted of sixty boys, who have been fed, clothed, and apprenticed, elected in the following manner:—

Representative of the founder's family	14
Old Swinford	3
Stourbridge township	4
Kidderminster borough 3, Kidderminster foreign 3,	6
Bewdley	4
Dudley	4
Great Witley, King's Swinford, Kinver, Harbourne, Halesowen, West Bromwich, Bromsgrove, Rowley, Wednesbury, Sedgley, 2 each	20
Hagley Little Witley, Alvechurch, Pedmore, and Wom- borne, one each	5

60

On the notification of a vacancy, each district makes a double return for the choice of the feoffees. The feoffees have recently provided for the reception of more scholars.

GLOVER AND WHEELER'S CHARITY. (z)

On the church road, connecting Lower Swinford with Stourbridge, nearly parallel with the hospital, and verging on the boundery line ; stands Red Hill School, a monument of the united munificence of two respectable Gentlemen, alluded to in the foregoing pages.

Henry Glover, Gent. of this parish, gave £400. which sum has been laid out in lands, and vested in the governors of the Free Grammar School, founded by Edward VI. in Stourbridge. The income was directed to be appropriated to the instruction of six boys, one to be annually apprenticed with a premium of £5.

Secondly, to the distribution of alms ; both to extend to that part of the parish comprised within the county of Worcester. A further appropriation of this charity is to the allowing £1. per annum, for a speech on the subject of education, to be spoken at the Free School, a little before Christmas.

Wheeler's charity, the other branch of Red Hill foundation, consists of land and houses, the rents of which are appropriated to the instruction of twenty poor boys of Stourbridge and Old Swinford, in reading, writing, arithmetic, the principles contained in the catechism of the church of England, &c. The building consists of a good dwelling house, with school room included, which has been lately enlarged.

(z) See Abstract of Returns of Charitable Donations, 1787,—1788, printed 1816, by order of the House of Commons ; also Digest of Parochial Returns made to the Select Committee for enquiring into the education of the Poor, 1818, printed 1819, in which Red Hill School is said to consist of twenty boys, the master also taking boarders on his own account.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

A spacious building is erected on an elevated site, on one of the roads connecting Upper with Lower Swinford, for the purpose of accommodating two parochial sunday schools, date, 1825.



WOLLASTON.



Nothing occurs respecting the derivation of this name; it has however some affinity to that of other districts of the neighbourhood, Wollescot and Wolverley; the latter, supposed to have received its appellation from Wulfur, king of Mercia, (a) who reigned from 639 to 675. The terminating syllable, ton, is universally significative of a town or vil. Thus, Aston is east town. This hamlet is a continuation of the sandy tract just described; the same continuous line, after separating Swinford from Kinver becomes the boundary between Wollaston and that parish; the Stour being its opposite or eastern limit, dividing it from Amblecoat and King Swinford.

More particularly to describe the promontory bearing this name;—the range of rocks overlooking the vale consist of

(a) The ancient name of Wollaston, in Staffordshire, was Ullavestone. Terra Roberti de Stadford.

Eardeswick's Antiquities of Staff. Harwood's ed. p. 416.

Wulfur, the persecutor of the venerable Cedda, and murderer of his two sons Wolfadus and Rufinus, became the first Christian king of Mercia, and founded several churches and religious houses, among which was the Abbey of Peterborough. Ermenilda his wife, daughter of Egbert, king of Kent, founded a nunnery at Stone, Staffordshire. Wulfur also founded a college, for secular canons about A. D. 670, at Stone, as an atonement for the murder of his sons.

Werbung, daughter of Wulfur, and sister of Ethelred, king of Mercia, was abbess of Hanbury, Staff. where she died, and was buried at Chester, where a splendd shrine was erected in honour of her. Eardeswick.

Wollashull, in Nafford, is supposed to have taken its name from the prevalence of wolves in its vicinity, before the conquest.

Nash, Wor. II. 180.

Mount Carmel to the south, and three wooded knolls, the northern extremity forming the north-west point of the mainland of Worcestershire, as Yardley constitutes the opposite south-western promontory of that irregularly shaped county.

The central knoll is the site of Wollaston hall, the adjacent garden, laid out in a gradation of terraces, covering the descent to the meadows beneath.

The Rough, (b) (so the intervening rock between the site of the mansion and Carmel is termed,) is traversed by a winding path, exhibiting through several avenues in different directions, a pleasing prospect of the subjacent vale, with manifold meanderings of the river, bordered by opposite acclivities, extending into the mining and manufacturing parts of the country, to which the ornamented heights of Hagley and its vicinity are contiguous. The churches of Stourbridge and Old Swinford are conspicuous objects.

This miniature picture, previously to the establishment of extensive iron works near the base of the brow, possessed a more beautiful exterior. The northern acclivity forms a more rural appendage to the demesne than the last described eminence. It is well planted with timber, and its various undulations admit of a tasteful display of landscape gardening.

Some years ago a winding path was conducted through this minute woodland, pursuing the course marked out by nature, with gentle touches of assistant art.

The ancient rural village of Wollaston, is situated near to the turnpike road from Stourbridge to Bridgnorth, and contiguous to a branch of the first district of Stourbridge roads, leading from Kidderminster to Dudley.

(b) An appellation frequently bestowed on the wooded brow of a rock.

The mansion called the Hall, of the Elizabethan age, according to Shaw, is dated 1617. An avenue of Sychamors, in the style (from which the gothic architecture is supposed to have derived its origin,) fronted by two pillars surmounted by two figures of lions rampant, forms the side entrance; the front is half timbered, with a lawn at the entrance. The scenery on the eastern side of the house, has been described in a foregoing page.

The families of Wheeler, Foley, Homfray, and Addenbrook, have been successive residents here.

The site of the Barley Mow, in the centre of the village, is supposed by some, to have been that of an ancient family residence.



WOLLESCOT.



Parallel to Hungary and Chin hills, on the ancient high road from Stourbridge through Swinford to Birmingham, (c) (crossing the turnpike from Dudley through Pedmore to Bromsgrove,) forming an elevated tract, is the hamlet of Wollescot. The conjectural remarks on the etymology of Wolleston, appear to be equally applicable to the proper name of this hamlet, adding that its terminating syllable is probably the Saxon rural term cote.

Near to the summit stands Wollescot hall, an ancient mansion, once the residence of — Millward, Esq. whose collection of evidences relating to various transactions of this county, have proved a valuable repository, in connexion with those of Hagley, &c. to the topographical historian. Wollescot house occupies another part of the site.

These residences of George Bate and Henry Bradley, Esqrs. together with the Grange, T. Badger, and Prescott, Francis Rufford, Esqrs.; have recently received considerable improvements.

From the highest point of this tract, a prospect of uncommon extent and beauty presents itself. To the south the hilly region, so often alluded to, Hagley, Clent, &c. is apparent. In the opposite direction, a part of the vale of Stour is overlooked, continuous to which, in an oblique direction, an opening occurs, displaying a view of several distant minor

(c) Parts of this road are still conspicuous, leading from hence to Cradley field, several consisting of deep narrow holloways.

Salopian hills, as Wenlock edge, &c. &c. These objects, though visible from the higher grounds near Dudley, as well as from the more mountainous parts, being generally concealed from view by Iverley, Ashwood, (d) and other intervening undulations, which do not however obscure the view of Wrekin, Clee, &c. their summits being conspicuous in the distant horizon.

The foreground to the north is occupied by the large village of Lye, which is surprisingly concealed by a profusion of hedge-row timber in the adjoining fields. In the distance, bounded on the east by Rowley hills, a manufacturing country is surveyed, the new church of Netherton being a conspicuous object.

(d) The pass between these hills forms the avenue here described.



LYE.

Ley or Lay, a pasturage, Saxon, furnishes an obvious etymology of Lye. (e) It is also the terminating syllable of many names of places in Worcestershire, as Dudley, Hagley, Cradley, &c. &c.

Unlike the divisions treated of in the foregoing pages, this mining and populous hamlet exhibits few or no remains of original rural decoration—it is universally a manufacturing site, laterally partitioned from Hungary hill, and from Cradley, by small rivulets, winding their way to the Stour; which from their respective confluences, forms a wider border to its northern limit. This tract assumes a degree of elevation, as it approximates to the hilly region.

About the centre of this hamlet, at the junction of four branches of turnpike road, is The Lye, or Lye proper; it would however be difficult to prove the claim which this spot possesses to the exclusive denomination of the village, as it has no discernable limits of separation from the rest of the peopled tract, of which it forms a part.

(e) Legh, Ley, Lea, according to Verstegan, were of similar import, “ground that lieth unmanured, and wildly overgrown.” Hence the woodland glade appears to be designated by the term, rather than pasture.

If a further conjecture may be allowed, may not the frequent occurrence of the termination ley, in the county of Worcester, indicate its woodland character in early times? The sylvan glade may be thus designated, in contradistinction from Hay, the artificial inclosure or boundary.—See next article. The village of Lea or Ley, near Gainsborough, Linc. is said to take its name from its marshy meadows watered by the river Trent.

Proceeding from this point of union, to the south, by the turnpike road leading from Dudley to Bromsgrove, we descend to the Lower Lye, and on crossing Shepherd's brook, arrive at the limit of Swinford. Pursuing an opposite course, along the same road, northward, a bridge over the Stour conducts to the border of King Swinford.

The road from Stourbridge to Halesowen and Birmingham, forming the other intersecting line, enters this hamlet near to Stambourn mill, where the bounding rivulet swells into a pool of moderate size ; its superabundant water resuming on a lower level, its course to the river beneath.

On ascending an inconsiderable steep, an open space occurs called Hays Green. Regaining the point of union of the roads described above, and proceeding from west to east, the course of the traveller is directed to a very remarkable populous village, on the acclivity of a hill, the Lye Waste. On a retrospection of the four lines of road, bearing to the four points of the compass, just described, one uniform scene of manufacturing industry is observable, calling for little or no variation in the language of the describer.

It may however merit observation, that these lines of road converging towards their centre, cross the oval tract fraught with that unrivalled argillaceous substance, the fire clay ; and that diverging therefrom, they also traverse the contiguous tract of red clay, the exterior border of which is the more extensive sand and sandstone formation of the surrounding country.

The crater-shaped subterranean basin containing the fire clay in this locality, its deepest part ; reminds the observer of the sunken volcano ; as Turner's hill, Rowley, presents indications of the mountainous phenomenon of the same class.

To the synonymous appellations of Stourbridge and Amblecoat, applied to this valuable mineral, that of Lye is sometimes added. The two Swinfords, though sharing in the honour of producing it, have never yet conferred their names upon this inestimable product.

This neighbourhood, in addition to its extensive manufactory of Nails, and other articles formed out of the iron produced within its boundaries, possesses also several potteries and manufactories of tobacco pipes. Clay from Biddeford and Pool, in the counties of Devon and Dorset, is the material of which the latter articles are composed.

The LYE-WASTE, so denominated from its once forming an uncultivated appendage to the above-named tract, assumed the appearance of a rude irregular village, on the original settlement of a numerous body of men, whose rights to separate freeholds were substantiated in the event of an enclosure, A. D. 1781. From an heterogeneous assemblage of original settlers, arose a population of a very peculiar description. In 1650, a few scattered houses are said to have occupied this portion of waste land.

Had a line of circumvallation separated this rude settlement from the rest of the hamlet and parish, a more marked distinction in manners, and in the general state of society, could scarcely have subsisted; the population of the exterior borders of such an imaginary boundery, exhibiting no singularities of habit or demeanour, but exactly resembling that of other portions of the manufacturing districts, where the same occupations prevail.

During the last thirty years, however, (f) a considerable

(f) The barbarous practice of bull baiting is not entirely discontinued in this neighbourhood, and some others at no very considerable distance.

Similar conflicts are represented as taking place in modern Rome, within

amelioration of manners, and of the general state of society, has taken place in this village, no disposition to popular tumult having manifested itself.

Some remains of incivilization apparent in the inhabitants, together with the mean appearance of their clay-built cottages, have led several authors to indulge in the ludicrous; hence several caricaturing representations of the Mud City have made their appearance. The buildings, many of which are of confessedly mean appearance, have been compared to the miserable cabins of the wild Irish, (g) though upon a par with the inferior cottages observable in many parts of the coasts of Lancashire, Lincolnshire, Devon, &c.

Houses of the ancient Greeks, and early English are represented as having consisted of earthy substances blended with vegetable ones.

Adjoining the upper part of the Waste, (a brow covered with clay-built cottages, both single and in irregular groups, rising above the straggling street, which traverses the lower part of the village,) is Carless Green, a tract of similar description; beyond which is Foxcote, partly in this hamlet.

The interval between the two villages of Lye and Waste, is occupied by a church and another place of worship. At the opposite extremity of the latter bearing towards the

the arena contiguous to the Mausoleum of Augustus; the bull fights in Spain also continue to the present day.

“Rome in XIX century.”

(g) Mr. Trotter describes the cabins in some parts of Ireland as having no gardens, no poultry, and too often exhibiting the sad evidence of a joyless existence, the smoke issuing from the doors and windows of the cottages.

Hayes, a remarkable stone quarry occurs, demanding a more minute description under Natural History.

The HAYES, OLDENHALL, &c. Haga, the Saxon term for boundary, fence, enclosure, partition, &c. ; appears to be synonymous with the Latin domus manse, also, with the Scottish haugh, and the Danish haw, (whence hawthorn). (h) Hagley is similarly compounded of Haga, and lega, leger, locus, or ley, a pasturage.

Under Ashwood, we meet with hayes, in contradistinction from forests, &c. Fotheringhay, and Featherstone haugh, are likewise to our purpose.

Geologically considered, the Hayes, together with Oldenhall, form a ridge of limestone, &c. serving as the eastern bulwark of the hamlet and parish under review, separated on either side partly by hedge row fences, and partly by small rills issuing from minute springs and land floods, descending rather circuitously to the Stour. On the east is Cradley park, in the opposite direction is the Lye-Waste. A branch of the calcareous rock extends to Cradley.

United to the uplands, as to a trunk, the lime rock of the Hayes exhibits on its highest point, Oldenhall, the small remains of whose scattered buildings furnish no indications of the antiquity and dignity implied in its name.

On the eastern flank of this ridge, mines of coal, ironstone, &c. are situated. A section of rock on each side of the turn-

(h) The Scottish term haugh applies to a bank or terrace, receding at a short distance from the margin of a river, and conforming to the sinuosities both of the vale and stream.

“How sweet are Coila’s haughs and woods.”—BURN.

pike road is here exhibited. (i) Commencing on the western flank, lime, the principal substance, is succeeded by coal in wavy lines; clay, with nodules of iron-stone imbedded; coal; sandstone grit; marl; clay of several qualities and colours, &c. &c. These substances, alike on each side, display curiously variegated inclined strata, all dipping to the east, and serving as an index to the various lateral formations, of which the promontory consists.

The continuity of the lime rock at this place with those of Dudley, and some in an opposite direction, has been asserted by some writers; though intervening and differing strata oppose an obstacle to the obtaining of ocular demonstration. The consideration of this topic, together with an account of the specimens collected at the Hayes, must be referred to our article Mineralogy.

PLACES OF WORSHIP.

LYE CHURCH.

In the interval between the two villages, Lye, and Lye-Waste, stands the Lye church, (k) erected 1813, by the munificence of the late Thomas Hill, Esq. for the accommodation of those populous villages and their vicinities. This gentleman, like the man of Ross, celebrated by Pope, was also founder and supporter of numerous and extensive charities; he died September 17th, 1824, aged 87.

(i) In 1824 a lowering of the Hayes rock took place, causing a perforation both of the calcareous rock, and the continuous one of clay, &c.

(k) A church at Blennavon, in Monmouthshire, said to be an exact counterpart of this, was likewise erected at the sole expense of Mr. Hill.

The edifice is only licensed according to the rites of the church of England; the spacious enclosure, recently planted with rows of trees in several directions, is therefore not a cemetery. A commodious parsonage adjoins, and an adequate endowment is provided by the founder, for the future support of the establishment.

MINISTERS.

Rev. Matthew Booker, 1813,—1817, when obit, aged 68.

— John Hodgson, 1817.

PRESBYTERIAN CHAPEL,

Lye-Waste.

In 1790, some attempts were made to promote the religious instruction of the inhabitants of this place, which were resumed in 1792. In 1806, the Rev. James Scott, with the aid of some friends, founded this, the original place of worship of the village. Dimensions, 36 by 20 feet, total 720 ft. From that time service has been regularly performed here on Sunday evenings. (1)

A plain tablet, erected by the trustees, 1828, on the north wall of the building, briefly records the services of the founder and first minister, and also his bequest of Two Hundred Pounds for the future support of this interest.

(1) A sermon preached in this chapel by the minister, January 4th, 1824, and afterwards published, contains a very particular account of the transactions connected with the rise, progress, &c. of this establishment. MS. Records of Stourbridge and Cradley, contain the same and other facts. In the language of the Rev. John Kentish, "A moral creation was here produced."

MINISTERS.

Rev. James Scott,.....1806.

— William Bowen1829.

 INDEPENDENT CHAPEL,

Mount Sion, Lye.

This place of worship, nearly opposite to the church, was erected in 1827, contiguous to a smaller one founded 1821, which is now converted into apartments, serving the purposes of vestry and school room.

MINISTER.

Rev. James Eddy, 1829.

 WESLEYAN CHAPEL,

Lye-Waste, date 1822.

About the same time a society denominated Primitive Methodists, established themselves in this village, and various other parts of the neighbourhood. A. D. 1830, a place of worship for the accommodation of this body is in progress of erection on the Waste Bank.

 CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

The charities of this part of the district of Swinford, are for the most part enjoyed in common by the inhabitants of the parish at large ; as Sunday Schools, Provident Societies, miscellaneous endowments, &c. ; to be recorded under a more

general description. A legacy of the late Mr. Batchelor, (m) is the foundation of a Day School Charity, for boys.

A building, on the summit of the Waste bank, is appropriated to this purpose. The Sunday School charity is in some degree engrafted upon this original stock; voluntary subscriptions, and recently a public collection at the parish church, have contributed jointly to the support of these united institutions.

At Haye Green, a small endowment affords instruction to a few children of the poor. In 1813, some active members of the Bible Society enumerated the inhabitants of the two villages, producing the following result, viz.

	<i>Families.</i>	<i>Population.</i>
Lye.....	254.....	1272
Lye-Waste.....	287.....	1554
	<hr style="width: 50px; margin: 0 auto;"/> 541	<hr style="width: 50px; margin: 0 auto;"/> 2826

In attempting to trace the antiquities of this district to remote periods, we find names of some eminence, mansions also of apparent antiquity present themselves to view, exhibiting numerous transmutations and vicissitudes of time; but it would be extremely difficult in each case to assign the ancient demesne to its proper original possessor.

The document alluded to, page 29, by which Bernardus de Brus, son of Bernardus, lord of Old Swinford, (n) and

(m) An ancestor of the late Mr. Hill.

(n) It may not be irrelevant here to refer back to Robert de Brus, "Capitatus Justiciarius Curie Domini Regis, 1267, 51st Henry III."

Previous to this time, the King, or his deputy, presided in the court, "Justiciarius Angliæ."

Camden alludes to services performed by Sir John Birmingham, Earl of Louth, who discomfited and slew Edward de Brus; he is described as a tur-

patron of the living, became grantor of certain lands in Haya; brings to our notice Richard de la Leye, with whom Richard de la Haya was contemporary. (o)

In the centre of the Lye, a large ancient dwelling bearing marks of antiquity, now attached to the pottery of Mr. Brocksop, may claim attention as indicating former splendour.

At the summit of the lime rock at the Hayes is a range of building, probably a single mansion of consequence in olden times. This manse, with the adjoining estate, is recorded to have belonged to Dr. Samuel Foley.

Oldenhall, the adjoining tract, is vested in the feoffees of Foley's hospital. It is probable that both of these properties were once vested in the noble family of the Foley. In after times, a respectable family of the name of Badger occupied the Hayes. It is now, with the adjacent lime quarries, mines of iron, coal, &c. in possession of Mathias Attwood, Esq. of Hawn, near Halesowen.

The name of Witton, of the Lye, is still held in great and deserved respect. Their place of abode, now in no wise distinguished from the line of buildings bordering the road to Wollescot, once stood single and conspicuous. Two venerable yews marked the entrance.

balent chief, assuming the title of King of Ireland. De Bruys is sometimes the orthography of this name.

(o) Richard, Henry, Edmund, and Philip de Haggeley, furnish other instances of the nom de terre.

Population of the Four Hamlets.

A. D. 1801.	1811.	1821.
3766.	4380.	4980.

Dimensions.

A.	R.	P.
2157.	2.	16.



HAMLET OF AMBLECOAT.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

Third general division of the Parish.

This hamlet is bounded on the N. & E. by King Swinford ; in other directions, it is separated by the Stour from the two other divisions of Old Swinford.

“Am-bel coit, ad caput Sylvæ, Elme le cote,” (p) (Doomsday,) are given as furnishing its etymology. It is recorded as a separate manor in the general survey.

In 20th of the conqueror; A. D. 1086, Pagan held it of William Fitz Ansculph ; but 9th Edward II. it was in the hands of the Staffords of Sandon. From Sir William it descended to William his son, and afterwards to Sir James ; after whose death, it became an object of litigation between the families of Stafford and Eardeswick, Sir John Stafford, brother of the deceased, and Thomas Eardeswick, who married the daughter and heir of Sir James. The Staffords prevailing carried away the title.

Since that time, Amblecoat came into possession of the

(p) Coit, or Coed (British) enters into the etymology of many proper names of places ; as Lind-coit, Linden-wood, Lincoln ; also Bettus Coed, &c. &c. &c. in Wales. By adopting this etymology in preference to the Saxon cote, applied to that of several other places, a superior antiquity is awarded to the history of this hamlet. It seems also to be in unison with the Sylvan appellations prevalent in this vicinity, and the numerous remnants of woods remaining amidst the devastating effects produced by mining and manufacturing establishments.

Greys of Enfield, and to the present time, this lordship has continued in the family of Grey, being invested in George Henry, sixth earl of Stamford, second of Stamford and Warrington, who inherits a considerable paternal estate in the hamlet. (q)

More particularly to describe the district under review, it may be observed, that its form is peninsular, principally bounded by the Stour, which by its numberless meanders, affords an outline of no ordinary beauty and variety; sometimes rising in precipitous rocks from the borders of the current; at others, expanding in verdant meadows, whose sinuosities correspond with those of the opposite bank, delineating the confines of Worcestershire.

Amblecoat, according to the lineaments impressed by

(q) The above account of the descent of property is taken from Shaw's Staffordshire, II. 236, art. Swinford Regis.

Dr. Nash incidentally alludes to Amblecoat, Hist Wor. II. 212, art. Old Swinford. Also Supplement, pa. 57.

In Harwood's edition of Eardeswick. pa. 256, it is mentioned as standing on the north bank of Stour; and also as possessed by Lord Dudley, temp. Edward VI.

The circumstance of a sum of money issuing out of the lordship of Bedcote, to Thomas Grey, Esq. for that of Amblecoat, has given to some discussion relative to the intermixture of property.

A rental, 12th Elizabeth, shows, that certain meadows called Wildings and Mariounstrone, were held by Mr. Jervoice, as part of the manor of Amblecoat. About one acre in Worcestershire is asserted by Nash to belong to Lord Stamford, and still remains in the family. This is situated in the fire-clay district, in the hamlet of Swinford, nearly opposite to the Thorns.

Dr. Nash observes, that as during the reigns of Henry V. and VI. the Staffords were in possession of two contiguous manors; some lands in one might be annexed to a farm in the other; and that when the manors were severed, (Strangeways and Grey becoming respectively Lords of Bedcote and Amblecoat,) a rent from the former might be reserved in behalf of the latter.

nature on its surface, consists of two divisions. First the upland country, rising in graduated elevations above the semicircle of sand rocks (r) rooted in the subjacent plain, and irregularly approaching to, or receding from, the margin of the stream. (s)

The hills forming the upland group, may be described as forming a frontier opposite to the town of Stourbridge east and north, whence it is viewed through various openings of streets, &c.

The first elevation which occurs after passing the Stour—Bridge to the north, is that of Amblecoat proper, having on its summit (a commanding eminence) the ancient hall bearing the same name. This formerly manorial residence is now a farm house of no remarkable exterior.

The western spur of this hill has been, by reiterated perforations, formed into a spacious holloway, part of the turnpike road from Stourbridge to Wolverhampton and Dudley. A severed portion of the rock extends to the margin of the Stourbridge canal.

At the head of the holloway commences another elevation called the Hill, being the site of a gentleman's mansion. Amblecoat lane intervenes between the two last mentioned

(r) One of these is known by the name of Paukmore. For a short space the Stour rolls under the clay rocks of this hamlet, previously to its entering on the sandy border.

(s) To delineate the boundary line by which the two extreme points bordering on the river are connected together; a trench passing near to Audenham, joined by an invisible line in the centre of Brettell Lane, thence crossing Dennis park, and also Amblecoat bank; and continued by a minute rivulet issuing from the uplands, passing the pottery of Ravensitch, and descending thence near to the Lye Bridge: this line will complete the circuit of the hamlet.

bastions of the range; ending in Amblecoat bank, a lofty table land, traversed by a spacious bye road, and extending into King Swinford; having various minor promontories, affording commanding prospects of considerable compass.

This upland region, with the exception of a few of its nethermost rocks, is in the clay district, abounding in mineral substances of inestimable value. (t)

The uplands of this tract may also be considered as constituting a range parallel with that of Brierley to a certain extent.

Second.—The lower division of the hamlet comprises that portion of meadow land which is commensurate with its bordering stream, and some interior tracts of lowland. Commencing our survey at the town bridge, a row of houses in front of the canal wharf, and some others on the opposite side of the road to Wolverhampton, &c. with the extensive Iron Work of Messrs. Foster and Orme, present themselves to view. This apparent continuation of Stourbridge, though beyond its northern pale, may not inaptly be termed Stafford road, as bearing towards the county town.

This first of a series of minute vills, exhibits some marks of modern improvement, as raised foot causeways, lamps, &c. in unison with those of the adjacent town; extending to the opposite extremity of the district on the north. At the base of the rock, at the entrance of the holloway, stands the National School, with a house adjoining for the master. The

(t) In addition to the authors already referred to, Pitt, in his Topographical History of Staffordshire, page 123, speaks highly of the mineral productions of this part of the parish of Old Swinford, quoting also the historian Dr. Plot. A deed of 46th Edward III. is here cited, showing that iron stone was raised here at that time, and pit, then called *sea coal*.

same sand rock, in its section to the right, displays one of those cavernous recesses, oftentimes found in masses of this formation. The cavity is however, in a great measure, planed out and obliterated by repeated widenings of the road.

Dr. Plot alludes to caverns at Holloway, near Stourbridge, as hewn into habitations much resembling those of the Ethiopian Troglodites, a subterranean common wealth, bordering on the Arabian Sinus, and the empire of Habessia.

Nat. Hist. Staffordshire, p. 172.

Later authors have cited the passages from Plot, as Conybeare and Phillips.

Outlines of Geology of England and Wales, p. 254.

Similar caverns will hereafter fall under notice.

The next inhabited spot is **HOLLOW'S END**, synonymous with Holloway head, on the road from Birmingham to Edgbaston. The house and glass work of Benjamin Littlewood, Esq. are here situated, the former, once the residence of James Keir, Esq. an eminent philosopher, the latter the laboratory wherein some of his ingenious experiments were conducted.

Rising above the vil of Hollow's End, on the summit of "The Hill," heretofore alluded to, approached by a long and lofty avenue of Sycamores, is a spacious brick mansion long the residence of the family of Rogers, since of London, and of White Hall, Old Swinford, subsequently of Homfray, Lee, Addenbrooke.

COALBOURN and DENNIS.—The brook bearing the former name is not liminary in respect to parochial jurisdiction, but points out the border of a coal field, abutting upon the sandy tract, a part of which is traversed by a rail-way.

A deep narrow valley stretches along the line of this rivulet, terminating eastward, at the foot of the hill on which Brierley church stands. (u) Here the parallelism of Amblecoat promontory with that of Brierley ceases, the latter extending to the vicinity of Dudley.

A bar of slight elevation, here connects the two hills, but its height is considerably augmented by an artificial embankment, forming a high road from Brierley to Amblecoat bank, The Thorns, &c.

On the right bank of this rivulet, traversing the valley or comb designated Coalbourn, stands Dennis house and park, the seat of the late Thomas Hill, Esq. whose name is so intimately and variously identified with the history of this vicinity; now the residence of W. S. Wheelley, Esq. Resuming the high road, we have a partial view of this mansion through surrounding plantations, with a sheet of water in front, overshadowed by lofty trees, producing a sombre effect.

On the left is Coalbourn hill, the site of two glass works, and of the house of W. H. Cope, Esq.; and nearly adjoining, in an extensive lawn, The Platts, long the residence of the family of Pidcock. It will be necessary to return to the Stour—Bridge, in order to continue our survey of the lower part of this hamlet.

A very spacious wharf borders on both sides the head of the Stourbridge canal, commencing in the rear of the line of houses on the left of Stafford road. This space is not exclusively devoted to the formation and accommodations appur-

(u) Contiguous to this valley is Wittymoor, still so called, though enclosed subsequently to the exhaustion of its coal mines.

Near to a foot path on this tract, is a spring, having a slight chalybeate tinge.

tenant to an inland port. The ground on each side is well-formed for an indefinite extension of wharfs, especially on the right bank, belonging to the Earl of Stamford and Warrington.

On the left bank of the canal, occupying a space intervening between its channel and that of the Stour, being the south side of the wharf; stands the vast range of buildings denominated Stourbridge Iron Works, conducted under the firm of John Bradley and Co. This extensive concern, generally considered as belonging to James Foster, Esq. comprehends all the various parts of the iron processes with the exception of the incipient one of smelting the ore, the pigs being obtained from distant localities.

Every species of requisite machinery, from the potent Leviathan of the mechanic arts, to the minutest instrument, is here in full operation, and the multiform articles demanded by the artisan, are completely prepared and supplied. Under the same firm, large works in the county of Salop and elsewhere are carried on; as also extensive collieries at Shuttend, Kingswinford, and in the vicinity of Dudley.

On the opposite bank of the Stour, connected with the above-mentioned premises by a bridge, stands the large iron foundery of Foster, Rastrick, and Co. in the district of Swinford.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

MADRAS SCHOOL, date 1815.—Dimensions, 222 Square Yards.

This establishment, in which various minor institutions once supported by the liberality of Mr. Hill, have eventually

merged, is conducted upon the system first promulgated by the Rev. Dr. Bell. From the circumstance of the founder establishing his primary school at Egmore, near Madras, A. D. 1789, the institution obtained its appellation, though the system was also adopted in a very short period in the presidencies of Bombay and Bengal. In 1797, Outlines of the system were published by the founder, followed by other works on the same subject, 1805, 1807, &c.

The central metropolitan school, in Baldwin's Gardens, was instituted 1810, and in 1811 the "National Society for educating the Poor, in the principles of the Church of England," was established; by means of which a very powerful external impulse was given to the vast phalanx then in existence; and numerous additional branches successively engrafted on the parent stock.

The potent mechanism of the Madras system has been applied not only to many seminaries previously endowed, but to various classes of metropolitan, regimental, parochial establishments, &c. The system has obtained a general prevalence through the united kingdom, and many foreign countries.

Edifices of considerable magnitude have been erected in many parts of the kingdom, for the reception of the multitudinous beneficiaries of this extensive charity.

Population of Amblecoat.

A. D. 1801.	1811.	1821.
1002.	1002.	1157.

Dimensions.

A.	R.	P.
513.	0	19.

It will naturally excite surprize in the mind of the reader, to find so small a population in such a district as the hamlet of Amblecoat, especially as the surrounding tracts are, for the most part, densely inhabited. A large portion of the land in this division of the parish, is in possession of the Stamford family, and under settlement. The upland parts contain single cottages thinly scattered over the mining tract.

Other parts are occupied by paddocks, gardens, and pleasure grounds of different descriptions; and in the line of turnpike road, bordered by several clusters of houses, there is no density of population.

Even the influx of inhabitants occasioned by the recent erection of extensive iron works, has produced a very small increase of dwellings for their accommodation, as they are principally resident in the adjacent town, and various parts of the neighbourhood.

The poor of this division are maintained separately from those of the other Hamlets, and no house for their reception is provided.

The operation of the inclosure bill, by which the Worcestershire part of the parish is exempted from tithe, does not extend to Amblecoat.

PARISH OF OLD SWINFORD RESUMED.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

ALMS.

Bequests recorded on Tablets in the Parish Church.

	<i>Capital.</i>			<i>Income.</i>		
	<i>£.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Archbault Nicholas, Worcester.....	20	0	0			
Archbault Edward.....				2	0	0
Brand Edward.....				0	6	8
Compson John, Wollaston.....	5	0	0			
Dallyber Mary, Gloucestershire (v).....	10	0	0			
Foley Richard, Stourbridge.....	20	0	0			
Glover Henry ditto.....	100	0	0			
Hickman Dorothy ditto.....	20	0	0			
Hickman Mary ditto.....	5	0	0			
Holtost Rev. Richard, Rector.....	10	0	0			
Lloyd, Ombersley.....	10	0	0			
Liddiatt John, Wollaston.....	10	0	0			

(v) An allusion to the name of De-la-Bere of Southam, in the Parish of Cleeve, near Cheltenham, may not be entirely irrelevant in this place, although the identity of the lady's name recorded above with that of this ancient family, cannot be fully ascertained, there being a slight variation in the orthography.

Edward III. presented a crest of five ostrich feathers issuing out of a ducal coronet, to Sir Richard De-la-Bere, for the signal service of rescuing the Black Prince, at the battle of Cressey.

T. Bagshot, De-la-Bere, Esq. the last lineal descendent of the family, was visited by George III. when he resorted to the waters of Cheltenham, in 1788, he died December 5th, 1821, in his 93d year.

The family claim descent from William, King of Scotland, and union with the line of Plantagenet.

Cheltenham Guide.

	<i>Capital.</i>			<i>Income.</i>		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Oliver Thomas, Stourbridge	20	0	0			
Seabright William, London (w)				3	0	0
Sperry John, Stourbridge				0	15	0
Winshart John. Stourbridge				0	6	8

Saint Thomas' Church.

Wells John, Stourbridge, date 1781, vested in the Governors of the Free School	400	0	0
Lea Joseph, Esq. Amblecoat, 1820, vested in the Trustees of the Free School	1000	0	0

EDUCATION.

	<i>Date.</i>	<i>No. of Scholars.</i>
Foley's Hospital	1670.	70
Glover and Wheeler's Charity, vested in Free School Trust,	1708.	32
Batchelor, &c. Lye, &c. Day and Sunday (x)		120
Scott's Charity, Education and Alms	1793.	60
Madras School, supported by voluntary sub- scriptions	1815.	325

Sunday Schools.

Parochial—11, instituted Nov. 1785, augmented by two more 1792, discontinued in 1795, a revival took place 1825, when a spacious building was erected for their reception. 1825. 400

(w) The name of Seabright also claims particular notice; John Seabrist, or Seabright, is frequently mentioned in ancient records, as seated at Wolverley, this William also conferred benefactions upon the Parishes of Wolverley, Kidderminster, Ribbesford, Chaddesley-Corbet, and Alveley.

In 1618, he founded and endowed the Free School at Wolverley. Since his time maintaining on elevated rank amongst similar establishments of the vicinity, he died in 1620, his will is copied in the parish register of Old Swinford. From 1626, we read of the heads of this family as baronets, and of their intermarriages with several houses of great consideration.

(x) Thomas Hill, Esq. bequeathed £130 for educating poor children of this neighbourhood.

PARISH RESUMED.

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	<i>Date.</i>	<i>No. of Scholars.</i>
Presbyterian Chapel, June,.....	1785.	60
Lynell's Mrs. Margaret, 1797, date of Will 1779. (y)		
Independent Chapel, Stourbridge,.....	1800.	133
————— Lye,.....		180
Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, Stourbridge,..	1809.	240
————— Lye-Waste. (z)	1822.	200
Baptist Chapel, Stourbridge,.....	1828.	32
Roman Catholic, ditto.....	1827.	36

REVERSIONARY CHARITIES,

From a Report of Benefit Societies, date 1810.

<i>Societies.</i>	<i>Members.</i>
22.	1566, of whom 119 were females.

It may be presumed that the societies of the present time, 1830, are superior in strength and numbers to those of the above date ; many new ones have arisen, whose transactions are conducted upon a larger scale of income and expenditure than that of the common Benefit Societies, considerable portions of their funds have been invested in lands, and recently erected buildings.

MISCELLANEOUS CHARITIES.

—◆—

SOCIETIES, &c.

Missionary Society—a branch of the Wesleyan, instituted in London in 1786.

Missionary Society—a branch of an Auxiliary for the counties of Worcester, Warwick, and Stafford, connected with the London Missionary Society, instituted 1795.

(y) See also Dovey, Lynall, &c. pa. 45, and art. Education.
 (z) In Stourbridge Circuit.

Bible Society, date 1812,—auxiliary to the British and Foreign Bible Society. Endowed with £100 by the late Rev. James Scott.

Christian Knowledge, Society for Promoting, a branch of the auxiliary, belonging to the Deanery of Kidderminster, 1817, cooperating with the general society, London.—Meetings of the Deanery Committee held quarterly at Hagley.

Clothing Society conducted by Ladies, date 1826.

Dorcas Society, and Benevolent Society, supported by Wesleyan Methodists.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT.

The Justices of the Peace for the adjoining counties of Worcester and Stafford, have jurisdiction through this and many other neighbouring districts.

Magistrates of Stourbridge and its vicinity, 1830.

Thomas Biggs, Esq. Pedmore.

Lord Lyttleton, Hagley.

John A. Addenbrooke, Esq. Hill.

John Hodgetts Hodgetts Foley, Esq. Prestwood.

Rev. Joseph Taylor, Stourbridge.

William Robins, Esq. Hagley.

John Pidcock, Esq. Platts.

Francis Rufford, Esq. Prescott.

Abiathar Hawkes, Esq. Dudley.

Thomas Hawkes, Esq. Himley.

Joseph Lane, Esq. near ditto.

Thomas Pargeter, Esq. Foxcote.

Meetings of Magistrates are held weekly, on Fridays, at the court house, for the administration of justice.

At the Court Leet, for the united manors (y) of Swinford and Bedcote, or Stourbridge, the appointment of officers

(y) "Manours," observes Mr. Whitaker, (Hist. Manchester) "occur one hundred and twenty years before the conquest." In the ancient British

takes place.(z) The election of constable for the whole of the Worcestershire district of the parish falls upon Stourbridge every second year, the four hamlets comprising the district of Swinford, taking it in rotation every alternate one; the victual taster and leather sealer are appointed in the same manner. The township and Swinford hamlets annually appoint headboroughs, viz. for Stourbridge two, Wollescot two, Swinford, Lye, and Wollaston, one each. These officers have the jurisdiction similar to that of constable, within their respective bounds.

An act of 1777, 17th George III. established a court of requests, for the recovering of small debts.

Population.

A. D. 1801.	1811.	1821.
8199.	9454.	11227.

Dimensions.

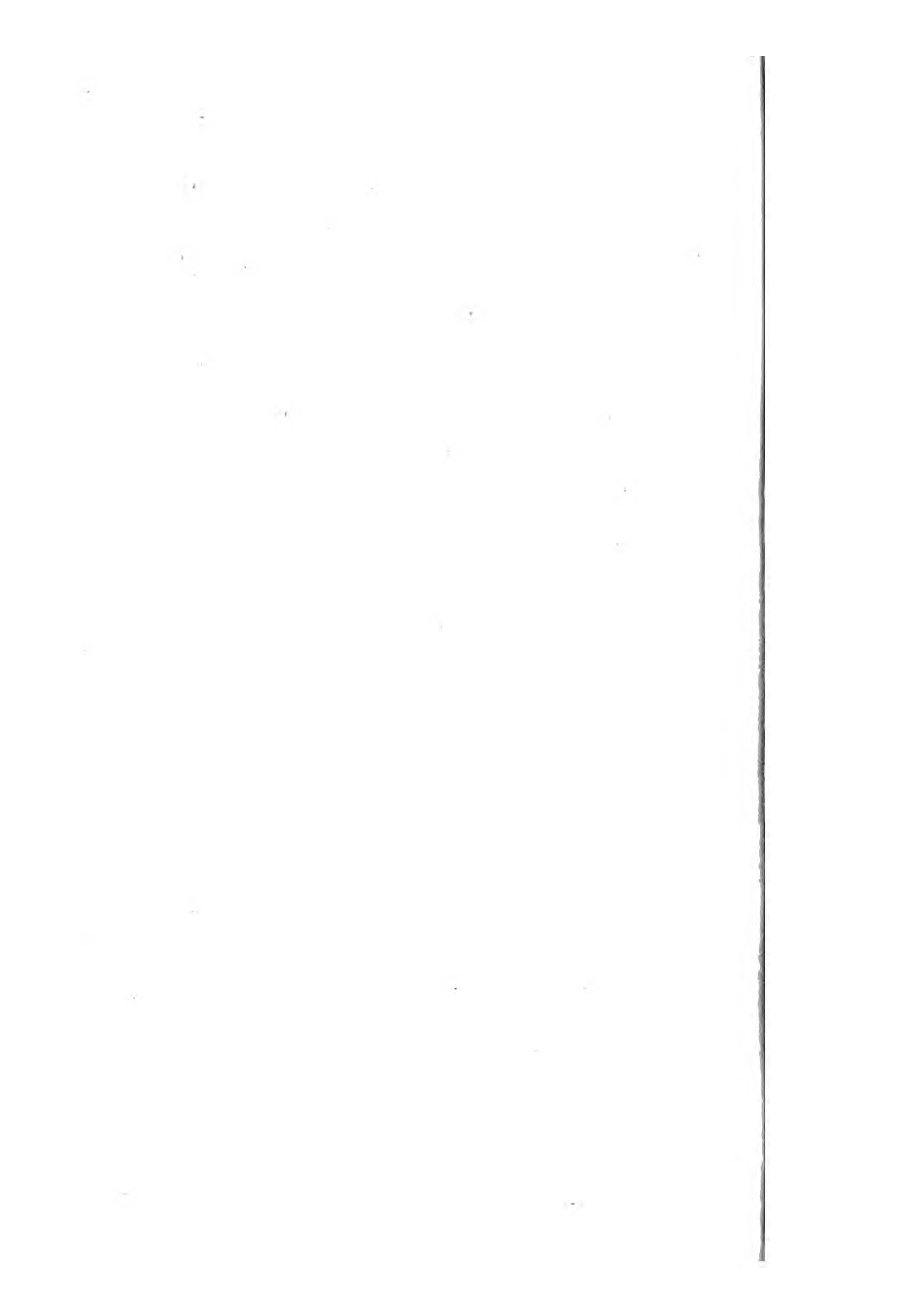
A.	R.	P.
3034.	2	25.

Institutes, Barwyn and Maenawr, a military man and a distriet are observable, the former the only freeholder of those days.

“Manor, a manendo,” according to Mr. Sanders, (Hist. of Shenstone,) “was a baronial residence,” hence courts baron,—and the terms lord and lordship still remain. “Mana was also manse. The laws of Edward the Confessor, confirmed by William I. established hundred courts, the privileges of which were subsequently purchased by lords of manors, afterwards transferred to county courts, of which the sheriffs became judges.

Frank-pledge was esteemed good security, comprehending the administration of justice in hundred courts.”

(z) See page 35.



KING SWINFORD.

CHAPTER II.

King Swinford, Staffordshire.

KING SWINFORD, or Swinford Regis, is bounded on the south and west, by Kinver and Enville; on the north, by Himley and Sedgley, all in Staffordshire; on the east by the Dudley district of Worcestershire, and Rowley Regis, Staffordshire; on the south, by the hamlet of Cradley, in the Worcestershire part of Halesowen; also by Amblecoat in Old Swinford, Staffordshire, and part of the Worcestershire district of Swinford, bordering on the Stour, in the same parish.

This parish is in the diocess of Litchfield and Coventry, archdeaconry of Stafford, and deanery of Lapley and Trysul.

King Swinford, previously to the conquest, was successively in possession of King Ethelred, Egelsius (a) dean of Worcester, who presented it to the monastery in that city; and Eire, sheriff of Staffordshire, who during the wars between Kings Edmund and Canute, seized upon this and several places in the vicinity. At the time of the general survey, William the Conqueror was in possession of this lordship,

(a) Cir. 1016, Agelfi bought this lordship with Clent and Tardebige.

which in the record of Doomsday is described as consisting of 5 hides "which Edward the Confessor formerly had."(b)

King John gave it with Mere and Clent, to Ralph Somery, baron of Dudley, in whose family it has ever since continued, the present Lord Viscount Dudley and Ward being the principal proprietor of lands, mines, &c. and patron of the living.

Shaw Staff. II. 226.

The etymology of Swinford will be found under the chapter treating of Old Swinford and King Swinford, the distinctive appellations of the two parishes are sufficiently obvious.

Populous as the greater part of this parish unquestionably is, yet to the west, &c. of the turnpike road from Stourbridge to Wolverhampton, it possesses features of a very different kind from those of a mining and manufacturing country, forming a part of that agricultural district already described.

In attempting a topographical survey of this extensive parish, the tract principally devoted to agriculture claims our first attention.

PRESTWOOD (c) AND ASHWOOD.

Prestwood House, the principal mansion of the vil bearing this name, is beautifully situated on the verdant banks of Stour, above the junction of the Smestal, with the former river and that of the Stourbridge canal, with the Trent and Severn navigation.

(b) In Eardeswick, Kingswinford falls under the division Terra Regis.

"By Terra Edwardi Regis," the editor observes, "is meant, demesne lands, formerly belonging to king Edward; and by Terræ Regis, lands forfeited by those who took the side of Harold against the conqueror."

(c) There is Prestwood near Wednesfield in this county.

Dugdale asserts that Prestwood and Rowley-Somery passed, 1223, temp Henry III. on the death of John de Somery, to Thomas Bototourt, with his daughter Joan,—all his other lands going with the other sister to John de Sutton.

Eardeswick says, that Sir Roger de Hillary who bore arms under Edward III. was Lord of the manor of Prestwood, the families of Dudley and Lyttelton follow as possessors.

Huntbatch is much more explicit than the foregoing authors; tracing the possession up to the Somery's, lords of Dudley—from whom it passed by marriage to John de Sutton, who became Lord of Dudley in right of his wife, and owner of the place.

19th Edward II. the estate was extorted from the last-mentioned proprietor, in favour of Hugh Despenser, but 1st Edward III. was again restored to the family.

The Suttons continued to be possessors of Prestwood till the reign of Edward VI. when John Dudley, duke of Northumberland, found means to obtain it. On the attainder of that nobleman, 1st Mary, it came to the crown. Other property of the duke's was restored by the queen to Edward lord Dudley his son, but this was granted by patent to Sir Edward Hastings, knight, master of the horse, by the name of Prestwood farm, which he passed by licence to John Lyttelton, Esq. (d) for life, and then to Gilbert, his son and heir.

John, afterwards knight, died at Frankley, February 15th, 1589-90, aged 60, seised inter alia, of manors of Over Arley, Clent, and Prestwood, with lands in Sedgley, King's-Swin-

(d) Sir John Lyttelton built the house.

ford, and Kinver. Gilbert his son succeeded John, and to him John his son, who married Muriell, daughter of Lord Chancellor Bromley. In the 42d Elizabeth, this estate again reverted to the crown.

James I. soon after his accession, granted to Muriell, then widow of Sir John, his estate inter alia. This monarch, about the 15th year of his reign, granted it to Thomas Eley and Robert Lucey, subject to a rent of 18s. 2d. due to Muriell Lyttelton, who, on the following year, purchased their interest therein, in behalf of herself and her heirs.

Sir Thomas Lyttelton, son and heir of Sir John Muriell, afterwards sold the property to Edward Seabright, Esq. His successor, Sir Edward Seabright, about 20th Charles II. sold it to Thomas father of the first Lord Foley, whose youngest son Philip became heir thereof, and resided in the mansion for many years.

John Hodgetts, Esq. of Shutt end, by marriage with Elizabeth, great grand daughter of Philip Foley, came into possession of Prestwood, A. D. 1776; he died May 4th, 1783, aged 63.

The Hon. Edward Foley, a descendent of Paul Foley, of Stoke Edith, in the county of Hereford, and member for the county of Worcester in several parliaments; marrying, 1790, Eliza Maria, sole daughter and heir of Mr. Hodgetts, became possessed of Prestwood. His son, John H. H. Foley, Esq. M. P. is the present proprietor. (e)

The house erected by Sir John Lyttelton, in the 16th century, is the edifice of which Dr. Plot has given an engraving.

(e) Thomas Hill, Esq. and the Rev. Charles Hill, have been in succession, tenants of Prestwood, during several years.

ing in his history of the county—also inserted in Shaw's Staffordshire. The modern mansion, on the same site, was built at a much later period. The chapel surmounting a gothic gateway, in front of the house, was taken down in 1821, when the mansion was stuccoed.

In addition to the natural beauties of this demesne, the masterly hand of a Repton has been applied, to confer upon the scene, the various beauties of the English garden.

ASHWOOD.

Roger, son and heir of Roger Hillary, 32d Edward III. held a messuage and some lands in Eastwood or Ashwood, of the king in capite, by service of keeping the King's hay of Ashwood. John Lyttelton, Esq. also held several neighbouring manors by the same service. In the reigns of Henry VII. and Mary I. lands in Prestwood were granted for the same purpose.

Ashwood was once comprehended, together with Pensnet, within the forest of Kinfare. At the beginning of the 18th century, it appears to have retained its woodland character. Subsequently to that period, it exhibited a wide range of cultivated open field, which at a still later time has been enclosed, 1788, and its elevations adorned by plantations; while public roads, on a wide scale, have been formed in various directions.

The boundaries of Ashwood are principally natural ones, as the Stour and Smestall on two sides, a chain of hills extending from the village of Kingswinford to Wordsley, &c. A range of central elevations, Ashwood proper, forms a line from N. to S. well planted with timber, the principal of which is called Rudge. (f)

(f) This name occurs as that of a heath near to Chesterton camp.

The southern extremity overlooking the pass through which the Stour flows, between Ashwood and Iverley, is generally termed Green Hill, at the base of which is a fountain, issuing from the sand rock, in numerous ebullitions, much resorted to in the time of Dr. Plot, and again in 1777, for the cure of various diseases; but its celebrity has since ceased. Parallel to the central ridge, (a narrow valley intervening,) is Summer Hill, the site of several elegant residences, Dixon, Briscoe, Davis, Dudley, &c. Esquires.

On the opposite or western side, the descent is gradual to the bank of Smestal, bordered by the Staffordshire and Worcestershire canal. Across the northern extremity extends a lofty embankment, traversed by a recently constructed railroad, commencing at Shutt end, and reaching to Flotheridge wharf, near Green's forge, a distance of three miles. At the same extremity of the parish, on a site once part of a Roman road, the vicinal Watling; is a faint vestige of a camp. Previously to the inclosure of the common, the lines of this intrenchment were probably conspicuous, at present they almost elude the search of the antiquarian traveller.

A wide and lofty rampart, leading from Wall Heath to Enville, bounded by tall hedges, crosses the castramentation, leaving two of its extremities unequal in dimension, severed from the main body.

The northern, and larger division, is bounded by lines more conspicuous than those of the opposite one, nearly obliterated by the plough; for the exterior of its mound blends with the artificial cliffs of the canal, once forming a continuous slope to the Smestal. Several rivulets tributary to the small river just mentioned, descending from the upper lands

According to Gibson's Saxon Chronicle, the term rudge and ridge are synonymous, significative of a rising ground promontory shaped.

of Himley and sedgley, exhibit on their margins some ancient iron works. (g)

Near to Green's forge was Green's lodge, one of the residences of the ingenious artist, of whom the following is a memoir. (h)

Mr. Dudley was born 1599, he studied at Baliol college, Oxford, from whence, he informs us, he was fetched in 1619, to manage three iron works of his father's, one furnace and two forges, in the chace of Pensnet.

The scarcity of timber, and consequently of charcoal in the neighbourhood, at the same time that a vast abundance of coal was at hand, suggested to this gentleman, the necessity and desirableness of attempting to substitute mineral for vegetable carbon. Animated by the result of his first trial, he proceeded to a second, when the feasibility of the scheme became apparent. The quality of his article proving satisfactory, he did not despair of obtaining, also, a sufficient quantity to answer his purpose.

In the 19th of James I. 1622, a patent was obtained for a term of 31 years, on the authority of which Mr. Dudley made repeated trials of his art at various works, as Pensnet furnace, Cradley forges, and several cast-iron works. Great opposition was made to his attempts, by the iron masters (i)

(g) As Himley Heath, Holbeach, Wall Heath, Hinckesford, &c.

(h) *Metallum Mortis*, or iron made with pit coal, sea coal, &c. appears to have been composed by Mr. Dudley, about A. D. 1644, by desire of a friend. There is an elegant Glasgow edition of the work, containing also the Marquis of Worcester's Century of Inventions, and an Abstract of the same in Shaw's Staffordshire, from which the following account is taken. Mr. Dudley had a house at Worcester.

(i) The term iron master is retained to the present day,—glass master also occurs here.

of the neighbourhood, and a flood on the Stour, 1623, much injured his works.

After the necessary repairs had been effected, the artist continued to prosecute his labours, but a competition still prevailing, and complaints being made to the king, representing his iron as not merchantable, an order was issued commanding Mr. Dudley to send the various articles of his manufactory to the tower of London, with a view to their being wrought into musquets, carbines, &c. On a trial, the parties of iron masters and mongers were silenced, until the 21st of King James, when by an act of Parliament, all monopolies were made null.

On this occasion attempts were made to bring the invention in question within the meaning of that act, Lord Dudley and the author however prevailed, yet the patent was limited to 14 years. After this, Mr. Dudley went on with cheerfulness, making annually considerable quantities of merchantable iron, at £12 per ton, and also a great variety of wares on reasonable terms. It was however his unfortunate lot to be thrown out of his works by the malignity of rivals; yet being unwilling that his inventions, after so much labour and expence, should die with him, he resumed his operations at Himley furnace, but was obliged to dispose of his articles to the charcoal iron masters, who did him great injury by detaining his stock, and disparaging his iron.

Hasco-bridge was the next scene of the author's labours. Here he erected a large furnace, with apparatus every way suited to conduct the intended process, and the profits were considerable. In this situation Mr. Dudley discovered many new mines of coal, with ironstone underneath, but was prevented from prosecuting his designs, by riots, law-suits, and also by wrongful imprisonment. In the mean time his patent

became extinct, without his having received adequate advantage from it.

In 1639, 14th Charles I. Mr. Dudley obtained a new patent "for making iron into cast works and bars, as also for melting, extracting, refining, &c. for the preservation of the timber of this island." (k) To fortify himself against the hostility of powerful opponents, after experiencing sufferings from various quarters, he entered into partnership with David Ramsey, Esq. a resident at court, Sir George Horsey, M. P. Roger Foulke, Esq. Counsellor of the Temple, &c. a neighbouring iron master, who was well acquainted with the nature of his inventions, and was a witness to his sufferings.

Opposition still pursued the undertakings of Mr. Dudley. Sir Philiboard Vernot, a Dutchman, and captain Whitmore, obtained a patent for the same invention, whereupon the original patentee and his associates presented a petition to the King, who at his court at Greenwich, May 20th, 1630, referred the case to the Attorney and Solicitor general, but by the non appearance of the opposite party, the affair subsided.

On the commencement of the civil wars, Mr. Dudley's coadjutors desisted from their undertaking, and in a short time afterwards they died, when the estate "for loyalty to his late sacred majesty and master, was sold." Still unwilling to bury his talent, Mr. Dudley admitted into partnership, Mr. Walter Soven, linen draper, and Mr. John Stone, merchant, both of Bristow.

(k) Mr. Penn, of Birch-hills, near Walsall, in a letter to a committee in London, 1819, on the subject of a projected coal-tax, alludes to Mr. Dudley's invention; observing that charcoal furnaces produced weekly but 20 tons of pig iron; coke ones, 60 or 70, but generally 50 tons.

In 1651, a work was erected near Bristol, and £700 invested by the three partners, as a capital. These parties are represented as seizing upon the whole property after signing the bond, and as unjustly entering staple actions of great value against Mr. Dudley, because he was of the King's party, to the great injury of his inventions and proceedings, for which he was obliged to sue them in chancery, at a time when his patent was almost extinct.

Another patent, embracing the same objects, aided by an act of parliament was granted to Captain Buck, Major Wildman, and others, in which Cromwell, several of his officers, many physicians, merchants, &c. were participators; who established divers works and furnaces in the forest of Dean, at a vast charge. After making various experiments in spacious wind furnaces, and pots of glasshouse clay, calling to their assistance Mr. Dagney, a glass manufacturer, and Mr. Dudley himself; this company desisted from their attempt, 1656.

Captain John Copley appears as the next adventurer, who with a partner, established works near to the forest of Kingwood, in the vicinity of Bristol. They failed both in exciting the necessary blast, by means of bellows, and likewise in performing their operations at large; the former difficulty was however overcome by the aid of Mr. Dudley, as acknowledged by a note dated Dec. 30th, 1656. Mr. Copley failing of success removed to Ireland, and "all men desisted from practising the art of converting coal into coke, for the purpose of preparing iron."

In this state of things, Mr. Dudley was moved with compassion, on observing no one was able to prosecute his art; and although he had attained the age of 61, presented a petition to Charles II. upon his landing at the time of the resto-

ration, imploring the immediate revival of his patent, and setting forth the objects to be accomplished by his inventions; representing, that "no other person in England, Scotland, or Wales, had as yet brought those arts to perfection, though those countries amply abounded in fuel, which was exported in too great quantities to other kingdoms."

He proceeded to urge a more economical use of native coal, particularly the small coal usually wasted upon the former system, extending his remarks to the works for converting of iron into steel, and observing that the refining of tin would be much facilitated by his art.

Some account of the mining district of Staffordshire and Worcestershire succeeds, and additional considerations are subjoined, showing the advantages to be derived from the adoption of his processes. Reciting the objects proposed to be attained by his invention of the coking process, in 1618, for making iron from pit coal, sea coal, peat, and turf, for the preservation of timber, &c. &c. the author proceeds to enumerate brick making, glass making, refining of salt, casting of metals, &c. &c.; as arts receiving improvements from his methods. (1)

On a large monument in the church of St. Helen, Worcester, are memorial inscriptions, in two columns, of Dud Dudley and Eleanor his wife.

Passing the Himley boundary, with the vicinage of King-

(1) Simon Sturtevant is alluded to by our author, as giving, in his *Metallica*, a statement of the iron works in England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales, 12th Jacobi I. viz. 800 furnaces, forges, or iron mills, making iron with charcoal.

Bishop Watson observes, that pit coal was first used in fluxing of tin, by Beecher, who died 1682, aged 57, but that the effectual application of it to this purpose, did not take place till the reign of queen Anne.

swinford village, we proceed to observe, that the topographical and the geological line, terminating Ashwood on the east, are identical, viz. the limit of the sandy and gravelly deposit, extending longitudinally along the flank of Stand hill, and bearing to Wordsley.

The village of Wordsley is situated in a deep valley, traversed by a brook of the same name, and ascending both to the north and south. Cooken hill, crowned with a plantation of Firs, &c. stands opposite to that of Stand, to the north of the village, (the interval presenting to view a narrow vista,) but soon ceases to be parallel therewith; the former elongating to the north, while an eastern ramification styled Burroughs, stretches diagonally to Bromley and Brockmoor in the mining district.

In the foreground of the latter is Dobb hill, excavated by the sinking of a gravel pit. Cooken hill on its acclivity, commencing at the level of the stream, exhibits an Independent chapel, and on its upper part, a very elegant gothic church, the tower, (autumn, 1830,) not rising above the general level of its roof, with several good houses.

In addition to the road leading in opposite directions to Stourbridge and Wolverhampton, is a third, Moor lane, conducting eastward to Brierley.

In the former direction, at a short distance, stand three glass works, besides three at and near Audenham. Commanding a view of the village and neighbourhood, to a considerable extent, stands the residence of William Foster, Esquire. Audenham is that of the family of Grazebrook. Wordsley is populous, excepting on the western side; the green bearing its name extends for a short distance on the Prestwood road.

New buildings, as in most parts of this parish are here continually rising to view.

PENSNET.

The chace bearing that name now enclosed, occupied a large proportion to the parish of Kingswinford.

Penn, Penne, subdivided into Over and Nether, (m) is supposed by Dr. Booker, to have formed a part of this chace. A passage in the Norman survey, purporting that William Fitz-Ansculph the same individual who held Dudley castle with its surrounding parks and Pensnet, had also in Penne five hides; leads to this conclusion. Moreover, the similarity of name, and the British monosyllable pen being expressive of high ground, seems to offer some corroboration of the conjecture, (n) and to supply in part the etymology of Pensnet

An agreement between Roger de Somery and William Burdet, temp Henry III. about 1220, penes William Hamper, Esq. surrenders all right and title to the wood of Pennak, Penn wood of the present day.

 VILLAGE OF KING'S SWINFORD AND ITS VICINITY.

Nearly adjoining to Ashwood, and probably on the boundary of the ancient chace of Pensnet, stands the pleasant village of King's Swinford. In the centre thereof stands the parish church, an ancient structure, recently much enlarged

(m) Shaw's Staffordshire, II. 218.—Booker's Dudley Castle, 63.

(n) From the commanding eminence of Sedgley beacon, the minor picturesque hill of Penn appears to great advantage.

and ornamented, (o) particularly by representations of arms of the Dudley family, emblazoned in stained glass on the south windows.

The rectory house nearly adjoining is an elegant structure, much improved by several successive rectors.

Within this village is Bradley hall, an ancient mansion in the half-timber style, date 1596. Mr. Shaw relates, that part of this house was once used as a Catholic chapel. It is also on record, that it was used as a place of worship in the times of the early Nonconformists. (p) The residence of Edward Addenbrooke, Esq. is also in the village.

On the road to Dudley is Shutt end, where formerly several mansions presented themselves to view. (q) The first was the ancient seat of the Bendys; William Bendy, Esq. leaving two co-heiresses, Margaret, wife of the Rev. Mr. Dolman, of Aldridge, and Mary, who married John Hodgetts, Esq. this estate came to the former, whose daughter and heir, Mary, relict of Edward Whitby, Esq. afterwards inherited it. This lady was joint heiress with Mrs. Foley, of the estates of Thomas Hoo, Esq. of Barr. The mansion is described as of the style of Elizabeth's reign, rendered pleasingly picturesque by a fir of extraordinary size, and an adjacent group of elms and other trees.

The other mansion was the residence of Thomas Dudley,

(o) The cemetery has been recently enlarged.

(p) Stallings estate, at a short distance from Kingswinford, was a meeting for religious worship among protestant dissenters, Mr. John Parkes then resided there. The income of this estate for a term of years, was appropriated by Mr. Mollineux, 1711, to the support of public worship.

(q) Extensive collieries have, of late years, destroyed the rural scenery of this district, and the residences themselves have become dilapidated.

Esq. descended from an ancient family of Tipton, brother to the Rev. John Dudley, rector of Himley. It was formerly in the family of Hodgetts, afterwards in that of Foley.

A third residence, in the same vicinity, is that of Benjamin Gibbons, Esq. Corbin's Hall, the property of the last-mentioned gentleman, who purchased it of the family of Hodgetts, is nearly adjacent.

The Gentleman's Magazine, 1820, records the fact of a mizen mast, that of the Three Sisters merchant vessel being erected near Corbin's Hall. It has no date, but commemorates the brave and successful resistance made by the commander and eight men against a french frigate of 20 guns and 40 men.

Mr. Payton, History of Dudley Castle, &c. relates that "the superfluous part of an oak table, consisting of one entire plank, 17 yards long, and one broad, placed in the hall of Dudley castle, was converted into a table for the hall of Mr. Corbin, a neighbouring Gentleman." (r)

This mansion took its name from the family who held possession thereof, from the reign of Edward III. when William, son of William Corbin de Birmingham, descendant of Robert, who lived in the reign of Henry II.

The pedigree exhibits a regular line of descent, to "Thomas Corbin, nat 1624, superstes, 1668." The late — James, Esq. was for some years resident here.

Bromley, at a short distance, contains several buildings

(r) Mr. Hamper, in his Life and Correspondence of Sir William Dugdale, introduces a letter from Thomas Corbyn, Esq. of this place and Polesworth to Mr. Dugdale, date 1653, last male representative of the family. Arch Bishop Sheldon seems to have been an acquaintance of his.

worthy of notice. The Tiled House, late residence of T. Brettell, Esq. according to Dr. Plot, was once a work for the conversion of iron into steel. The account given by this author, of the process, would appear very imperfect to a chemist of the present day, since little more is described than the application of coal and fire clay, the duration heat, &c. nothing being intimated of the infusion of carbon into the ferruginous mass.

Slater's hall, now a farm house, containing several rows of Saxon arches, (s) is in this neighbourhood; also Bromley hall, in a partially ruined state. Stand hill, the connecting link between Wordsley and Kingswinford, and overlooking the latter village is the residence of George Firmstone, Esq. Other residences are interspersed over the high ground.

To the north of Kingswinford, on the rivulet which separates the parish from that of Himley, is Holbeach house, formerly belonging to the family of Lyttelton. This mansion 3d James I. afforded an assylum to some of the conspirators concerned in the gunpowder plot, who were apprehended upon the spot. The house and estate afterwards, belonged to the Bendy's of Shut end, from whom the property came, by the marriage of Mary second daughter of William Bendy, to John Hodgetts, Esq. whose son, John Hodgetts, Esq. of Prestwood, left it to Eliza Maria, his only daughter, afterwards the Hon. Mrs. Foley, by whom it was sold to Mr. Peshall.

Another house on the opposite side of the road, and nearer to the village, was the residence of the late venerable Mr. Bendy. One of this family, with Colonel Simon Rugeley,

(s) Modern embellishment has effaced the marks of antiquity here observable.

and others, belonged to the committee who dismantled Stafford castle, 1643.

On the turnpike road from Kingswinford to Holly-hall and Dudley, overlooking a deep valley, containing extensive canal reservoirs, stand Barrow hills, tumular in form, of considerable dimension and elevation; (t) one planted with timber, the other exhibiting a grassy surface. Dr. Plot was of opinion, that these barrows were converted from an earthy to a rocky state, by the subterranean heat of bituminous substances, enkindled within their internal recesses, such processes being in continual operation in this mineralogical vicinity. (u)

Barrow hills, on a recent minute inspection of them, appear to have nothing tumular but in their form. Both have indications of having been, previous to the operations of the miner, solid basaltic hills, which seems to preclude the idea of their serving as burial places, and also that of their becoming indurated by subterranean fires. (v)

The western hill has been so quarried in its centre, that the crags of basalt, exhibiting various hues, surrounding the internal excavated plain, resemble a druidical circle.—One of these rocks rises in a beautiful peak, apparently detached from, but united to the rocky wall by a slender ledge. Trees on the exterior are so tastefully planted as to preserve the ori-

(t) Among various eminences of this name, there is one in Staffordshire, near Uttoxeter, and another decidedly tumular near to Drayton, in Chaddesley Corbet, Worcestershire.

(u) Indications of pseudo volcanos, (wild fires) are prevalent near to these hills.

(v) Dr. Plot, speaking of a Roman tumulus at Hints, Staff. observes that "it may have been a heap of earth turned into stone by subterraneous fires operating upon bituminous substances." Probably there is no basaltic formation at Hints, as at Barrow hill.

ginal appearance of the hill; of those in the interior, some insinuate their roots into the fissures of the craigs; others rise gracefully from the plain.

The eastern hill is perforated in various directions, consisting of several old quarries, and one in present use, producing a substance exactly similar to Rowley rag, used for the roads.

Some lows of a similar character are supposed to have been exploratory elevations. From examination of these hills, they appear to be of the number of independent basaltic formations occasionally occurring in this district, in addition to the principal mass in the Rowley range.

Pursuing the turnpike road from Holly-hall towards Brierley, the parish of Dudley forming an insolated portion of Worcestershire, extends on the left to the end of a remnant of woodland still bearing that name.

Pensnet, forming a curvature contiguous to its border, extends to the east and south east, leaving the Brierley ridge to the right, and stretching to Rowley, and also to the district of Swinford at the Lye bridge over the Stour. This tract is intersected by the turnpike road from Dudley through Pedmore to Bromsgrove.

On this line are Merry-hill and Pensnet Spa, contiguous to each other.

Merry-hill is but an inconsiderable elevation, crowned with a clump of trees. The section of a quarry, seldom resorted to in the present day, produces a stone, formerly in considerable request, under the name of hone-stone. On a minute examination of the substances therein contained, indications of that species of fire, commonly denominated

wild fire, are apparent. Great part of the perpendicular rock is evidently cinder; the hone-stone, (for it might be presuming to call it novaculite,) is a red substance, sometimes inclining to brown.

Camden mentions a subteranean fire existing in Pensnet.

It has been asserted, that the effects of former fires of this description extend, though invisible, from this place, to a considerable distance, in two opposite directions, N. and S. Dr. Plot enumerates Pensnet with Wednesbury, Coseley, and Etingsal, as the site of a wild fire; he also mentions Broadhurst, on Pensnet, as on fire. The stone, marbled with red, blue, and gray tinges, is scattered in various fragments over the adjoining fields.

The hill itself being but a small specimen of the exhausted artificial volcano, it may not be improper to extend our remarks to others of greater magnitude.

The vicinity of Dudley is well known to abound in wild fires, the tepid vapours arising from which promote early vegetation.

Porcelanite is asserted by Mr. Phillips, to prevail at Dudley, and Madeley, Salop.

The pseudo-volcano, at Bradley, in the vicinity of Bilston, still in active operation over a tract of land one and half mile in length, and one mile in breadth, (w) appears to be of a similar description to those already mentioned; but abounding in much greater variety of mineral substances.

The wild fires at this place are said to have been of more

(w) Annals Philos. II. 342.

than forty years standing, and to have reduced six acres of land to a mere calx, used for repairing of roads. (x)

In the neighbourhood of Newcastle upon Tyne, three miles on the Berwick road, a tract of twelve acres is occupied by two immense fires. 100,000 chaldrons of coal are supposed to be thus annually consumed on the Tyne and the Were.

Pennant relates, that some collieries in Scotland on fire in 1781, had been in that state from the time of Agricola. At Solfatera, near Naples, alum is produced by covering with earth crevices steaming with sulphureous vapour.

PENSNET SPA.

This saline spring is situated near to the margin of a rivulet Archill, serving as a bourne to the counties of Stafford and Worcester, in the former of which it is situated.

The spot is approached by a wood, but the principal woodlands rise on a bold eminence on the opposite side of the deep valley through which the stream winds its way to the expanse of water below. (y)

Several wooded knolls and other varieties of sylvan scenery, conspire to form a picture of no ordinary beauty. The extensive plantations, within the parish of Dudley, extend over a spacious acclivity, on the ledge of which is an inn. Near to the northern extremity of the plantation is the lodge, a neat whited mansion. The curious lime caverns of Dudley, are but a few miles from the Spa.

(x) Beaut. England and Wales.

(y) These now beautiful woodlands, were planted about 1765, by Mary, consort of John, first Viscount Dudley and Ward.

To the south, the woodland descends to a large sheet of water, 47 acres in extent. (z) On the Staffordshire side of the pool, a walk of considerable length (once a rail road,) is finely sheltered on the one side by the wood, and commands on the other a view of the water.

Fed by two streams descending from the uplands on the north, and pouring its superabundant water by a rapid cataract into the Stour; this spacious pool answers to the definition of a lake, as given by Mr. Gilpin, contra distinguished from the fen or pool by the ingress and egress of a stream. Throughout the extent of this sequestered scene, nothing occurs to diminish the tranquility it inspires, though on gaining its confines the beholder is suddenly presented with features of a country bearing a strong contrast to those of the interior region.

During the summer of 1820, a committee was formed for the purpose of promoting an enquiry into the qualities of the Pensnet saline spring, who submitted a report to the noble proprietor, Lord Dudley. Application was then made to an

(z) This water, usually called New Pool, is one of the largest in this part of the country.* Within the fork of the New Pool, formed by the rivulets about to be noticed, stands the irregularly-built village of Musham in Dudley. Archill brook, issuing from a rising ground of that name, near to Holly-hall, serves as the bourne, separating the isolated parish of Dudley, from that of King Swinford; also as a county boundary.

Soon after its conjunction with Knowle-brook, it proceeds by a narrow channel to the New Pool. An opposite rivulet, Watchern, divides Dudley from Rowley, flowing in a direction parallel to Archill, to the head of the same general receptacle. These brooks form the principal sources of this large body of water.

* Pensnet and Smethwick reservoirs, see Itinerary, art. Canals, are very spacious. Himley pool covers fifteen acres. Acqualate Mere, also in this county, though near to Newport, Salop, is 250 acres in extent.

eminent chemist in London, who produced an analysis of the water.

In 1823, a neat row of building was erected over the spring, containing hot and cold baths on a small scale, supplied from a new shaft; but much remains to be accomplished in order to render this salubrious spring, already beneficial to many individuals resorting thereto, a public benefit, and to prepare its environs for the reception of company.

At the extremity of the tract called the Thorns, near to the Lye bridge over the Stour, is Tintam abbey colliery, more generally known as the site of the Lye forge.

This name, though long in use, has been in a great measure obsolete, till its recent revival, on opening some new mines on the spot.

No researches into topographical or antiquarian histories of the county have been available in proving the existence of a religious house at any period in this part of the district.

Caledonia and Mousul are clusters of cottages in the same neighbourhood. On a branch of road emanating from the Dudley and Pedmore turnpike, is Quarry-bank, covered with new buildings, descending to the bridge over the Stour, connecting this parish with the township of Cradley.

On the right bank is Pensnet Wesleyan chapel, also, at a short distance, that of Mount Pleasant. See places of Worship.

BRIERLEY.

Though the former divisions of Kingswinford comprehend the whole parish, yet a striking geological feature, the promontory of Brierley must not be overlooked.

The central height, the foundation of the church, and an iron work near to Brettell-lane, only bear this name, another sylvan appellation, in addition to several before-noticed. Considered however as a natural feature, Brierley extends from the centre, by Dudley wood to Bloor's Green, near Holly-hall, when after a gentle descent, the Stourbridge and Dudley high road again becomes acclivous, commencing the ascent of Dudley town hill.

In the opposite direction, Brierley descends gradually from the church-yard to the vale of Stour, having Brettell-lane (a) on its surface, part of which road is in the hamlet of Amblecoat, Oldswinford. On each side of this elevated ridge is a deep valley; that on the north containing the Fens, the southern one, the Level.

Brierley-hill, commanding a very extensive prospect, is situate within a fork formed by the two branches of the Stour-bridge canal; one extending through the populous and manufacturing villages of Brockmoor and Bromley, and thence ascending to the reservoir in the fens: the other winding round part of the base of the hill, ascends and unites with the Dudley canal, at Black Delph. (b) Throughout the whole of the five mile stage from Dudley to Stourbridge, a vast population is scattered.

(a) Or Brittwell, as laid down in a map appended to Gibson's edition of Camden. An ancient mansion, of the family of Brettell, is here apparent.

(b) Camden observes, that *delfe* or *delph* is synonymous with *mine*, as *delph* of copper, *stanni fodinæ delphs* of tin. The following stanza occurs in the only poem written by Bentley,—

Who nature's treasures would explore,
Her mysteries and arcana know;
Must high with lofty Newton soar,
Must stoop as delving Woodward low.

The immediate vicinity of the church hill, however, claims particular mention. A very long irregular street, continually receiving new accessions of buildings, stretches for more than a mile along the turnpike rampart. Shops, exhibiting various articles of trade, are annually increasing.

Many of the private houses are decorated by contiguous plantations; a post office is established, and all the indications of approximation to a townlike state are observable.

Two chapels of the primitive and Wesleyan Methodists are erected near to the Round Oak.

At the Level, on the side of the canal, a few vestiges were lately visible of the works established by Lord Dundonald, for the extraction of tar from pit coal. Bishop Watson observes that Beacher, in the reign of Charles II. attempted to make pitch and tar from coal. (c)

In the bishopric of Liege and several other parts of Germany, similar efforts have been made, and also in several parts of the British empire, as Upper Cranston, in Mid Lothian, Culross, in Perthshire, (d) Broseley, in Salop, (e) Bristol, &c.

As in the usual process of charring coal, volatile products of considerable value, are suffered to escape; the object of the Earl of Dundonald was to preserve them, by burning coal in a range of eighteen or twenty stoves.

(c) A person in France had a patent for making charbon de terre from pit coal, Lord Dundonald first introduced the art into England. Five pounds are said to be the produce of an hundred weight.

(d) Traveller's Guide through Scotland, II. 64.

(e) Petroleum, so called from its exudation from rocks, as an oily liquid, has been found issuing from a sand rock at Coalbrook dale.

By preventing, in a great measure, the access of air at the bottom of the stoves, and conducting the smoke through horizontal pipes, to a capacious brick tunnel, 100 yards or more in length, supported by arches and covered by a shallow pond of water; the bitumen is condensed by this process in the form of tar.

From 120 tons of coal, the produce of tar is about three and a half, though some are said to be so bituminous as to yield one eighth of their weight. Part of the tar is inspissated into pitch, of which substance 21 barrels are made from 28 of tar, and the volatile parts arising therefrom are condensed into a varnish. (f)

The similarity of the modern apparatus for the production of gas, applicable to the illumination of large towns, to that already described, will be obvious.

Descending from this incipient town to Brettell-lane, a continuous line of buildings, with a vast population, still occupies the public road, the two market towns are, indeed, nearly united, not to mention similar approximations in various other parts of the neighbourhood.

Brettell-lane is the site of two glass works, Moor-lane adjoining, of two others; potteries are also here established, on an extensive scale, for the manufactory of numerous articles of earthenware, and from the spirit of improvement manifested by Messrs. Smith, Edge, and others, reasonable expectations may be indulged respecting the progressive improvement of this ancient useful and elegant art in the vicinity under consideration.

(f) Nicholson's Dictionary, art. Coke. Mr. Parkes makes a distinction between tar produced from pyroligneous acid, and that distilled from mineral coal.

Articles of stone ware are also manufactured by Smith and Co. and cement in requisition for stuccoing buildings and various other purposes. A steam mill at Porto Bello on the eastern side of Stourbridge, is also appropriated to the preparation of cement, wrought into vessels of various descriptions.

The manufactory of glass (g) having been alluded to in the foregoing pages, as prevalent in this vicinity, it may not be improper to introduce some particulars relative to the ancient and modern history of this most elegant of the composite minerals, combining the products of the vegetable and mineral kingdoms, into one compact and brilliant mass.

Some authors suppose glass to have been known to the Antedeluvians, alledging in proof, the tendency to vitrification which exists in inflamed masses of argillacious and calcareous bodies, which would suggest to the inhabitants of the old world, the elementary principles of glass making. (h)

The chrystal mentioned in the book of Job, (i) is supposed by some to allude to glass; while others are of opinion that it applies to other beautiful and transparent substances. Egypt claims the discovery of glass-making, acknowledging the celebrated Hermes as her instructor in the art. (k)

(g) Glasshouses, A. D. 1830:—

Swinford.....	1
Amblecoat	3
Kingswinford	10

for crown, bottle, and flint glass, or chrystal. Dudley and Birmingham are also seats of the glass manufactory.

(h) The vitrified forts in Scotland are supposed to have been glazed by the action of fire on their building materials when signals were made on an enemy's approach.

(i) Job xxviii. 17.

(k) The Emperor Adrian, in a letter to his brother in law, Servianus,

Aristophanes and Aristotle inform us that glass was known in their days, and the works of Lucian, Plutarch, and Lucretius, contain similar testimonies. In the Apocalypse it is likewise mentioned by St. John the divine. (l)

Pliny, and other eminent writers, (m) attribute the invention of glass to some merchants, who in conveying a cargo of soda from Egypt, cast anchor at the mouth of the river Belus, near the base of Carmel, in Phœnicia. “Using large masses of soda to support their culinary vessels on the sand, and lighting fires underneath, the heat brought into fusion the sodaic and silicious particles; the result was glass.” (n)

Belus, deriving its name from the great Pagan arch-idol Baal, as did many Phœnician kings and cities of the east; issuing from lake Candevia, and pursuing a parallel course with Kishon; falls into the bay of Acre, about 300 paces from the city.

Padiga, mentioned by Le Clerk, appears to be the same stream, its Arabic appellation is Kardane. Tacitus asserts, that “the sands of this river, being mixed with nitre, dissolve by the action of fire, and harden into glass; and that the shore, though of small extent, yields inexhaustible supplies of this valuable article;” in which opinion Strabo concurs, as does Josephus. (o)

dated, A. D. 134, incidentally mentions the manufactory of this article in Egypt. Amulets have been found in that country, tending to prove the fact, and Strabo speaks of coloured glass made there.

(l) Rev. iv. 6.

(m) Pliny Nat. Hist. LXXXVI. chap. 26. Strabo, lib XVI.; Tacitus, Hist. I. V. chap. 7.

(n) Dr. Daniel Clark cites the works of Strabo, to show, that Sidon was supplied with this ingredient from the shores of Belus,—as were Venice and Genoa in after times.

(o) Wars of the Jews, Whiston’s edition, b. II. chap. 10

A very curious remark of Jonathan Ben-Uzziel, occurs on a passage of scripture, (p) "The abundance of the seas, and treasures hid in the sands," which latter expression is supposed by the writer, to refer to the elements of glass, profusely scattered over the sandy shores of Palestine.

Pliny informs us, that vessels of glass were made in the city of Sidon, the inhabitants of which, he extols as eminently skilful in the arts, even before the time of Homer, (q) and through many following years, before the implantation of the useful and elegant arts in Greece.

The first mention of glass during the reigns of the Roman emperors, refers to a transaction in that of Tiberius Cæsar.

The existence of glass in early times has been inferred by Mr. Nixon, from a plate of this substance being found amidst the ruins of Herculaneum, on its destruction, A. D. 179, on which occasion, the elder Pliny lost his life.

In the reign of Nero, two small cups of this material were sold for 6000 sestertiae, nearly £50,000 sterling; (r) Cassius and Isidorus speak of glass.

Venice (s) is generally considered as the original European

(p) Deut. xxxiii. 19.

(q) This immortal poet, who flourished, according to some authors, about the time of Joshua, and in the opinion of others, in that of the Israelitish judges; speaks of Sidon without noticing Tyre, which was unknown till A. M. 2760. The Sidonians are represented as the earliest improvers of glass, after its discovery at the Belus.

(r) Pliny, lib. XXXVI. ch. 26.

(s) Murano, one of the isles of the Adriatic, composing the Venetian territory, was the first site of the works, and Molomocca, the port of Venice celebrated for the export of this brilliant article.

seat of this elegant art; though some opinions are in favour of its earlier establishment in Britain, (t) Gaul, Spain, and Italy, before the period of the Roman conquest. Mr. Lysol maintains that the art was transplanted hither by refugee artists, directly from Phænecia, in the 13th century.

Early in the 14th century, great encouragement was given in the kingdom of France, to the implanting of this elegant branch of the arts, within its territories; and in 1453, Anthony de Brassard, Lord of St. Martin's and St. Brice was privileged to establish a glass manufactory.

At various subsequent periods, similar licences were granted to the nobility and gentry, who enjoyed the advantages accruing therefrom, without derogation from their respective dignities. The celebrated manufactory of plate glass, at St. Gobins, (u) is asserted to have been removed from Paris, where it was established in 1688, by Abraham Thevert; to this place, in 1693, by some of the above-named parties. (v)

In 1695, an union of two houses took place, from which time the concern has not ceased to flourish. (w) Blancourt

(t) Mr. Hughes, (*Horæ Britannicæ*,) argues that as the manufacture of glass was carried on in Gaul and Spain, temp Tiberius; it was probably introduced also into Britain.

(u) In addition to St. Gobins, near to Lyons, in the forest of Rouen, stations of the glass manufactory are established, as at St. Quentin, Comentry, Premontè, and Nevers in Lorraine. Holland has also long enjoyed its advantages, and North America, particularly at Pittsburg. Munich is famous for telescopes.

(v) Mr. Scott, in his "Visit to Paris, 1814," observes, that he found this work in full activity. The plates, according to this author, are polished in Paris, and in general use.

(w) Blancourt's "Art of Glass," is dated 1699. Neris' Treatise of the Composition of Glass, translated into English by Christopher Merret, was published in 1662. Both of these works are considered as standard ones.

relates, that in the reign of Louis the just, an artist presented to Cardinal Richlieu, an image of glass, which proved to be perfectly malleable ; for which act he was doomed to perpetual imprisonment.

The introduction of this art into England, took place, according to various authors, A. D. 1557, 4th Mary I. Crutched Friars, (x) the site of the present East India house, was that of the original work. The building being consumed by fire, a similar one was erected in the Strand, which afterwards met with considerable encouragement from James I. and Charles I. (y)

In 1673, a plate glass manufactory was established at Lambeth, under the patronage of the Duke of Buckingham, who by the aid of Venetian artists, had introduced it into the kingdom three years previous to that time.

In the reign of William III. a considerable progress was observable, for in 1696, the kingdom contained ninety works, situated at the following places :—

(x) Dr. Campbell Pol. Survey, II. 27, asserts, that coarse glass was first made in London, 1574.

(y) Bede asserts that the art of glass making was unknown in England in the seventh century, but that A. D. 674, Abbot Benedict sent for articles from abroad, to glaze the church and monastery of Wearmouth, in the county of Durham.* According to other authors, Wilfrid, Bishop of Worcester, introduced the glazing of windows about the same period, and in 1180, glass became common in Britain. Encyclopædia Britannica.

James I. granted a patent to Sir Robert Mansell, Vice Admiral of England, for making and importing this article ; Sir Robert is also represented as having founded glass works at Newcastle upon Tyne, 1619.

Beaut. of Eng. and Wales, XII. 23.

* The artificers employed by the Abbot, are said by Hearne to have been brought from France.

London and Southwark.....	24	Consisting of	Bottle houses	42
Stourbridge.....	17		Crown glass	5
Newcastle upon Tyne	11		Flint, &c.	27
Bristol.....	9		Mirrors, &c.....	2
Various coal districts.....	29		Window glass	14
	<hr/>			<hr/>
	90			90*

The plate glass manufactory at Ravenhead, Lancashire, was established 1773, and continues to rival the most celebrated continental ones.

The introduction of the glass manufactory into the vicinity of Stourbridge, appears to have been coeval with the implantation of that art on the soil of England. That it was brought hither directly from Lorrin, A. D. 1557, we have the testimony of various authors.

In that part of Normandy, the art had been carried to great perfection, the substance produced being peculiarly adapted to the reception of colours.

Great inducements presented themselves to attempt the establishment of manufactories in this part of the Kingdom, as the plentiful supply of coal, and especially, the facility of procuring that most essential ingredient in the formation of earthen vessels, calculated to endure long continuance of heat without fusion, the Argillum Leucargillum—fire clay. An equalization of these advantages, has however taken place in modern times, occasioned by the extension of inland navigation.

Eminent French protestant refugees of the names of Henzoll, Tyzak, and Tyttery, (z) (near relatives ;)—after a tem-

* Parkes' Chymical Essays, III. 406.

(z) Beauties of England and Wales XII. 23.

porary residence at Woolwich, settled at Newcastle upon Tyne and Stourbridge, who established, probably, the earliest glass works in both vicinities.

From the former of these branches, Henzoll, now written Henzey, (a name still in preservation,) are maternally descended, the family of Pidcock, of the Platts, "Ut Vitrum, sic Vita," is the appropriate motto inscribed on a dial plate, pourtrayed on one of the glass works belonging to the house of Pidcock.

The district under consideration, has been not only a station of the Manufactory, but a nursery for artists. In modern times the names of Ensell, Keir, Hill, Pidcock, Honeybourne, Holt, Littlewood, Grazebrook, Rufford, Wheeley, Westwood, Cope, Wainwright, and Silver, have been conspicuous.

The former artist excelled in the colouring or staining of glass, as have some in modern times. (a)

The technical terms still used to designate the implements of the glass-maker, are said to be of Italian, German, and Norman extraction.

A memorable experiment in the philosophy of vitrification, tending to confirm the Huttonian theory, is recorded by Dr. Darwin, (b) as taking place in this vicinity, under the inspection of the late venerable James Keir, Esq. This philosopher observed, that in the glass which had long remained at the bottom of the earthen pots in a fusing heat, chrystals

(a) "Metallic oxides," Dr. Thompson observes, "added to the principal ingredients of glass, assist fusion like the alkalies, and communicate peculiar colours.

(b) Darwin's Botanic Garden, II. 188, also, Philosophical Transactions.

were produced similar in form to those of the basaltic columns of the Giant's Causeway.

The Doctor compares these chrySTALLIZATIONS to those of the cave of Fingal, to which might be added, those of Castleton Cave valley, and Miller's dale, both in Derbyshire; Teesdale, Durham; Pouck-hill, Staffordshire; lakes of Bolsanna, Italy; of Sweden, and of Genesereth Holy land; Auvergne, &c. (c)

Sir James Hall, and Gregory Watt, Esq. pursued this experiment, and having reduced the vitreous substance to a state of fusion, suffered it to remain at rest till gradually cooled, when spheroids of two inches in diameter were formed, of concentric radiated coats. In other instances by the enlargement of the spheroids, the sides were compressed, and prisms or polygons appeared. (d)

Dec. 31st, 1821, a very curious specimen, presented by Benjamin Littlewood, Esq. proprietor of the same glass work over which Mr. Keir presided, came to hand. This specimen is strikingly illustrative of the foregoing remarks.

Apparently it is about one third of a globule, having con-

(c) Basaltic forms have been recognized at the bottom of a furnace, as well as on the borders of a lake; a specimen, formed in an iron furnace, is preserved in the royal collection at Stockholm.

Dr. Daniel Clerke.

(d) Bakewell's Geol. 125,—418,—420.

Dr. Brewster found, that by heating glass, and cooling it on cold iron, it became chrySTALIZED.

Mr. Bakewell observes, that a mass of green glass, exposed to long-continued heat, will exhibit white chrySTALS. This author has many curious observations on the analogy between basaltic and vitreous chrySTALS. Mr. Keir, in Mineralogy of Staffordshire, I. 125, notices the resemblance of columnar and spherical basaltic stones, to the artificial chrySTALLIZATION observed in glass.

centric prisms terminating in a central point. These issue at the opposite termination in a smooth convex surface, exhibiting, as in a picture, the pentagonal, and other figures of the chrystals.

The art of the potter having some analogy to that of glass making, (e) may here claim a brief notice. The Umbri and Etrusci, from whom the Celts deduce their origin, and to whom the Greeks and Romans were considerably indebted for their knowledge of civilization; were eminent artists in this branch. Their territory comprehended within its bounds, Arno, the Italian-Arcadia, and Vallebrosa, both celebrated by Milton, (f) with Veii, now a scene of solitude and desolation.

The splendid museums of Florence, Rome, and Naples, contain specimens of Etruscan vases, while their scattered fragments abound throughout the cities of Greece, amidst ruined stuctures, and at the sites of wells, fountains, &c.

The Britons, previous to the conquest of their territory by the Romans, practised the arts of the potter in a rude way. In modern times, we have seen the British Etruria rise in the north of Staffordshire; Ridghouse, purchased by Josiah Wedgwood, Esq. becoming the repository of the choicest

(e) Dr. Darwin considers the processes of steel conversion from iron, and those of porcelain, and glass making, as bearing a striking resemblance to each other, all being, in some degree, vitrified.

(f) In Paradise Lost the poet speaks of—

“ Autumnal leaves that strew the brooks
In Vallombrosa, where th’ Etrurian shades
High over-arch’d embower.”

“ Elate with joy, Etruscan Tiber views
Her spreading scenes enamelling his waves,
Her huts, and yellow dells, and flocks and herds.”

DYER.

specimens of British art, and well meriting the name it bears. (g) The porcelain works of Derby and Worcester, date their respective establishments from the years 1750, and 1751. The latter, founded by Dr. Wall, is said, by a late tourist, to produce specimens rivalling both in beauty of material and in decoration, those of the celebrated manufactory of Sevre, in France, founded by royal munificence.

The Chinese porcelain, though possessing a greater degree of infusibility, is considered to be inferior to that of the last mentioned stations, in the arts of design and painting. Coal-port, near Broseley, in Shropshire, is become celebrated for earthen wares of superior quality. (h)

As a principal seat of the nail manufactory, this neighbourhood, claims particular attention.

Mr. Dud Dudley, at the commencement of the 17th century, asserted that there were 20,000 smiths of all sorts within twenty miles of Dudley castle; and in Baxter's "Life and Times," similar observations occur.

In both of the Swinfords, this manufactory is very prevalent, as also in Halesowen, to be described hereafter.

Dudley, Rowley, and other parts of the mining district, contain also immense bodies of labourers so employed, and in some degree, the parishes considered as agricultural.

From viewing this simple manipulation, the celebrated

(g) Editor of Eardeswick.

The Staffordshire potteries are asserted by some to have been in existence for two centuries; facilities for procuring materials being at hand and labour cheap. The coarser articles of earthen ware-must have been their earliest products.

(h) Scott's Visit to Paris, 1814.

political economist, Dr. Adam Smith, is said to have taken his first ideas of the advantages resulting from the division of labour. The scene of his observation was Peterhead, in Fifeshire. (i)

Mr. Keir remarks, that "the simplicity of the nail manufactory, and its existence in cottages, independent of towns, is a great recommendation of it." The morals of the mechanics engaged in this department of labour, are not liable to the same contamination as those of the congregated masses of population who occupy large factories.

PLACES OF WORSHIP.

PARISH CHURCH OF SAINT MATTHEW,

Kingswinford.

By a late act of Parliament, this church is about to become a chapel of ease to the new church, building at Wordsley; with a perpetual curacy.

RECTOR—1830.

Rev. N. Hynde.

CURATES.

Rev. Edward Davies.

— James Alexander Baxter.

(i) Traveller's Guide through Scotland.



WESLEY CHURCH.

BRIERLEY CHURCH, ERECTED 1767,

is a chapel of ease to the above. This edifice was considerably enlarged, A. D. 1823, by the addition of a transept. The very extensive cemetery in which it stands, is the largest in the neighbourhood. It has lately been more securely fenced than heretofore, and the walks shaded by double rows of trees. The church is a conspicuous object at a considerable distance, the prospect from the church yard is very extensive.

MINISTERS.

Rev. Thomas Moss.

— Charles Neve.

The first minister of this chapel was the Rev. Thomas Moss, A. B. who for a time was minister of Trentham, and domestic chaplain to the Marquiss of Stafford.

After a lapse of some years, he returned to Brierley, and resumed his pastoral charge there.

Mr. Moss was a native of Wolverhampton. At the age of 23 he composed that popular poem the "Beggar's Petition," and sold the copy with several other poems to a bookseller of Wolverhampton, stipulating that his name should be affixed to no more than twenty copies.

In Gentleman's Magazine, vol. LXIX. p. 1004, it is anonymously asserted, that Dr. Joshua Webster was the author of this poem.

In a subsequent volume of the same journal, a clergyman of the name of Garret is presumed to have been the author. Mr. Moss declared himself the author of the piece in question. Dr. Enfield, whose taste in selecting has generally been applauded, gave great offence to Mr. Moss, by introducing

material alterations into his poem, and, unfortunately, the innovations became permanent.

For "channel to a stream of tears," Enfield has substituted—"channel to a flood," &c. which has been condemned as a great deterioration of the beauty of the poem. For "source of every grief," an emendation is attempted, in "sources of my grief," with other variations. (k)

The poems alluded to above were published by Mr. Moss, 1769. In 1783, he published "The Imperfections of human Enjoyments," by the author of the "Beggar's Petition," in blank verse. This gentleman died at Stourbridge, 1808, at an advanced age, his remains are deposited at Kingswinford.

The following unpublished poem was addressed to his pupil, Lord Granville Somerset, second son of the Duke of Beaufort, on his beginning to learn the Latin grammar:—

'Tis with such little principles as these,
 The mind of early genius must be fraught ;
 Till time enriches it by slow degrees,
 With all the varied luxuries of thought.
 Thus from some little source, yon river flows,
 Which now with soft expansion glides along ;
 And yon tall oak that on the mountain grows
 In ample foliage—from an acorn sprung.
 Like these, may Somerset, led on by truth,
 Pursue with growing zeal, the classic plan ;
 And may the rudiments he learns in youth,
 By age matur'd, be perfected in man.

An edition of Mr. Moss's Poems was published, 1827, by Guy Phillips, Esq. of the Inner Temple, his great nephew, printed by Bentley, Dorset street, London.

(k) See Month. Mag. 1824, a paper by the Rev. James Scott. Also Christian Moderator, II. 345, where numerous particulars are stated.

WORDSLEY CHURCH.

This edifice, noticed elsewhere, is intended to be the mother church of the parish. The commissioners, under an act of Parliament for providing additional churches in populous districts, have granted a considerable aid towards its erection.

 INDEPENDENT CHAPEL,

Wordsley, founded 1808,

in connexion with that of High street, Stourbridge, till 1819.

MINISTERS.

Rev. John Richards 1808.

— Theophilus Davies 1825.

— Bassano 1829.

separate from Stourbridge.

 BAPTIST CHAPEL, (k)

Brettell Lane, date 1805.

MINISTERS.

Rev. William Muckley 1808.

— Daniel Morell 1820.

— William S. H. Miles .. 1829.

(k) The Baptist interest has been established in this neighbourhood for more than four score years.

WESLEYAN CHAPELS,

*Gosta-bank, near the Round Oak, 1829, and**Mount Pleasant,*

both within the Stourbridge circuit.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPELS,

Gosta-bank, and Pensnet, near the Stour.

the latter occupied previous to 1796, by the Presbyterian congregation, now assembling at Park-lane chapel, Cradley.

KILLHAMITE, OR METHODIST NEW CONNEXION,

Brockmoor.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

The parochial charities of this parish are extensive and liberal. A school for more than 100 children, uniting the advantages of daily with weekly instruction, is established in the village, attending public worship at the parish church. The Sunday schools in connexion with Brierley church are numerously attended.

The Dissenters' places of worship have also large establishments. Reversionary schemes, on a very extensive scale, for relieving the sick and aged, are also established throughout the parish.

On the western side of Stand-hill, is a spacious poor house, erected in modern times.



Population.—Census of 1801.

<i>Houses.</i>		<i>Inhabitants.</i>
1242		6464.
	1811.	
1657		8267.
	1821.	
.....		11,022.

Dimensions.

A.	R.	P.
7315	1	34.

An elegant map of the parish, on a large scale, by Mr. Fowler, was published 1825.



KINVER.

CHAPTER III.

Kinver, (a) Staffordshire, Hundred of Seisdon.

THE parish of Kinver is bounded on the N. by Kingswinford, E. by Old Swinford and Pedmore, S. by Churchill and Wolverley, and W. by Enville.

Kinver, in point of ecclesiastical division, agrees with Kingswinford, (see page 119,) Litchfield, &c. &c. (b)

Several etymologies of Kinver present themselves to notice.—Chenevare is its designation in Domesday, compounded, as Mr. Shaw supposes, of Keun and vaur, signifying, in the British language,—a lofty mountain, indicative of its site. (c)

(a) A river in Cardiganshire bears the name of Kinver. Kingsley manor in Tettenhall is also so called. In the enumeration of lordships, compiled at the time of the conquest, Chenevare is classed under Terra Regis.

Eardeswick.

(b) Litchfield, in the reign of Offa, king of Mercia, 8th century, A. D. 785, was exalted to an archiepiscopal see of which Adulph was the only primate, with six suffragans; the province comprising Mercia and East Anglia. Athelred, archbishop Canterbury, Kenulph, king of Mercia, and Pope Leo, restored the province to Canterbury, on the death of Offa.

(c) Keun, Norman Chevn; ridge, back, edge, top of a hill. Var, vaur, synonymous with mor, maur, great, high, lofty.

A Saxon derivation of the term is found in *Cyne, Chine, or Chene*, royal, great, &c.—and *fare*, a road thoroughfare, toll, &c. in allusion to the Roman vicinal road, which crossed the adjacent forest, at a short distance from the town.

It may possibly admit of a conjecture, whether the grant of land by Ethelbald to Earl Cynebert, for the purpose of founding a monastery at *Usmere*, bordering on *Kinver wood*, might not supply the etymology of *Kinver*. (d)

Previous to the conquest, *Algar*, Earl of *Mercia*, held *Chenevere*.

In the reign of *Henry II.* *Philip Holgate* held both the manor and forest of *Kinver*. *Richard I.* (e) gave the town and forest of *Kynefare* and *Storton*, to *Philip* son of *Holgate*, (f) and his heirs, in which family they continued during a considerable period.

The name of *Hugo de Kinver*, appears in a deed, temp. *Edward I.* or *Henry III.*

Erdeswick.

In the reign of *Edward II.* *John de Vause* was Lord of *Kinver*, and *34th Edward III.* *Tyrell* was in possession both of *Kinver* and *Stourton*. (g) In *Edward IV.*'s time, *John Hampton* was Lord of *Stourton* and its castle.

(d) A wood near *Kidderminster* being in early times called *Cymbre*, or *Kynber*.

Nash II. 35.

(e) A. D. 1190, 1st *Richard I.* *Osbert de Kenefora* gave *Saredun* with its appendices, to the *Priory of Dudley*.

(f) The *Holgates* took the name of *Bobbington*, a neighbouring parish.

(g) *John* brother of *Roger Somery*, died 1393, 15th *Edward II.* seized of lands inter alia in the forest of *Kinfare*, also in *Prestwood*.

A deed, 27th Henry VI. reciting a former one of Richard I. appears to have confirmed to the family of Hampton privileges which were also expressed in a subsequent deed of Henry VIII.

It does not appear how long this family continued in possession of these lordships, which have in modern times become the property of the family of Foley.

FOREST.

The hill and forest bearing the appellation of Kinver, as original features of the district, will demand an early attention.

The vast tract of woodland constituting the latter, will present to the reader some idea of the state of this part of the country, when in possession of the British tribe Cornavii.

That the midland district of England was one vast forest, at the period alluded to, may be inferred from its state in subsequent times. Henry II. afforested Kinver; (h) this circumstance is mentioned in a perambulation roll of John, afterwards confirmed by a roll of 29th Edward I. (i)

In this record several parishes in Worcestershire, as Pedmore, Hagley, Old Swinford, Chaddesley, Kidderminster, Wolverley, Churchill, and part of Feckenham, (k) also Tardebig, in Warwickshire, were included in Kinver.

(h) Kinver was disafforested by virtue of the charta de forestis, granted 9th Henry III. Prior to the date of this charter, forests were made in any part of the kingdom, at the pleasure of the monarch.

(i) In the 28th of Edward I. a perambulation was made of the forests of Cank and Kinver, with the Hayes thereunto belonging.

(k) The forest of Feckenham, including Pyperode, is said to have contained parts of Elmley Lovet, Rushook, Bromsgrove, Alvechurch, and Bellbroughton.

Also in Shropshire, part of Morve; and in Staffordshire, part of Arley, (k) with Ashwood, and the chace of Pensnet. If to this extensive woodland tract, the forests of Wyre, Malvern, (l) &c. be added, with those of Cannock and Needwood, to the north; a vast sylvan scene will present itself to view.

Arden in Warwickshire also nearly approximates to the above-mentioned forests; its name derived from Ard, high, and den, a hill or woodland. (m)

The name of Eardington, near Birmingham, is said by Hutton to have some affinity thereto, also Ardwick, near Manchester, and Arduan or Arden, in Scotland. A forest of the Celtæ, in Gaul, 500 miles in length, bore this name.

At Arduenna or Arduen, in the Hercynian forest, places were set apart for human sacrifices.

Hughes' *Horæ Brit.*

Concerning forests see Nash *Wor.* I. lxxv. Shaw *Staff.* II. 233—254—276. Plot *Staff.* 412—413.

Ombersley forest commenced at the north gate of the city of Worcester, that of Horewell at the south gate; thence taking a S. E. direction to Spotchley, &c.

(k) Arley was manorially divided between Kinver and Wyre.

(l) The forests of Malvern and Corse passing from Edward I. to a subject, Gilbert Clare, Earl of Gloucester, assumed the names of chace and lawn, as more appropriate to the station of the new proprietor. Wyre extended near to Worcester.

(m) "In the reign of Charles II. Lord Oxford, Justice in Eyre, or Iter, assisted by Lord keeper Guilford, Serjeant Maynard, and other counsel for the king; visited the forests south of the Trent."

North's *Life of Lord keeper Guilford.*

The author laments the subsequent decay of timber, occasioned by the neglect of forests.

KINVER EDGE.

The mountain so termed, with its continuous ridge, forms to the north a natural glacis a mile in length, the western extremity being crowned with a spacious entrenchment, the eastern one forming the site of the parish church.

The glacis is a spacious hilly terrace, in form of a crescent, two subordinate hills emanate from the steep part of the ridge. Another ridge, forming together with the first described, a diagonal figure, extends due south from the camp, stretching towards Wolverley. The prospects on every side are extensive and beautiful.

The edge or escarpment assumes the character of a bold eminence, and together with other western hills, forms a picture reminding the beholder of the minor scenery of Wales, (particularly the vicinity of Abergeley). A clump of trees, at the base of the southern ridge, points out the site of a lodge, formerly conspicuous on the spot,—a ruined edifice on its summit, (o) directs the eye to the castramentation.

In surveying the landscape a feature of some interest remains to be noticed.—Many of the cottages interspersed through this vicinity, consist of caverns in sand rocks.

Dunsley hill or bank contains no inconsiderable proportion of these cavernous dwellings.

In a rural recess, situate within one of the minor eminences which approximate to the principal hill, is a solitary cottage, singularly remote from “the busy hum of man.” On the western side of the edge stands a curious square mass of

(o) A summer house erected by the late Mr. Brindley.

hard sand-stone rock, containing seven tenements formed by excavations.

The side of the rock opposite to the edge is vertical, probably so hewn by art, the intervening mass of the promontory having probably been removed by human labour.

Several tall firs, whose roots insinuate themselves into the fissures of the rock, sloping gardens, and plantation grounds filled with fruit trees occupying various indentations of this obdurate mass, produce a striking effect, while the perpendicular cliffs which present themselves to the eye in several directions, give to the rock the semblance of a large edifice.

The side of the rock opposite to the edge is vertical, probably so hewn by art; the intervening mass of the promontory having probably been removed by human labour.

Recurring to the rocky formation forming an elongation of the western bastion, this eminence, more than a mile in length, displays a gentle declivous plain, from the summit of its rocky wall forming the western limit, to the plains on the borders of Stour. Objects interesting to the antiquary abound in this neighbourhood, to be described hereafter.

To the south the hill also graduates into the sandy district of Wolverley. The whole of this surface is now under enclosure. The soil, of an extremely arid nature, nevertheless is so improved, as to produce good crops of rye, barley, turnips, &c.

In this description of land is included the once sandy

desert noticed by several authors. Sandy town, (p) contiguous to Blakesall, (q) belongs to this tract, but is situated on the Worcestershire border.

The western side of Kinver ridge, (for so may the extensive elevation under notice be justly termed), exhibits an almost perpendicular wall, occasionally swelling into rugged protuberances. Desolate as is the exterior appearance of this rough line of obdurate rock, its various intumescences are formed into rustic dwellings, resembling those already noticed in other parts of this district.

One of the cavernous habitations of the ridge is the natural recess still bearing, as in olden times, the name of Meg o' Fox hole, (r) supposed by Dr. Wilkes to have been the retreat of some christian hermit.

The various inequalities of rocky surface surrounding the cottage, forming garden ground, have a curious appearance. In a steeper part of the rock is Fox's Harbour, and a group of cottages, of the most romantic cast, form a neighbourhood.

In pa. 107, the almost obliterated cavern at Holloway, near Stourbridge, is noticed. The present state of those in the neighbourhood of Kinver, above described, exhibits a truer picture of the Troglodyte station.

(p) At Sandy town is a small plain covered with sand, compared by some authors to the deserts of Africa, the particles driven by the wind sometimes obliterating the traces of the public road.

(q) Blakesall is situated at the southern termination of the range, late the residence of a gentleman of the name of Smith.

(r) A name much more elegant, and not less appropriate, (Reynard's hall,) is assigned to the elevated cavern in Dove-dale.

Blackstone, near Bewdley, on the side of the Severn opposite to Ribbesford; and Redstone, near Stourport, on the same river, exhibit curious specimens of sand-rock caverns. The former by art is converted into a cider mill, with several rocky recesses branching from the principal room or hall.

Redstone also bears evident marks of human labour, for many grotesque fronts of dwellings at a considerable elevation are apparent on one side; while extensive galleries are excavated in the interior, leading to numerous habitations.

Lime rocks in various parts of the kingdom, and of the world at large, contain also cavernous recesses, sometimes rendered habitable. Those of Castleton, Speedwell, &c. &c. in Derbyshire, are well known.

The subterranean population of a spacious acclivity nearly contiguous to Buxton, is seated in various concavities formed by quarrying; the detritus of the adjoining lime-works, wrought into a strong cement, furnishes a material for the formation of roofs, internal walls, &c.

Yorkshire, Lancashire, Staffordshire, &c. &c. furnish curious and magnificent recesses of this description; the latter county has subterranean rivers, most poetically described by the pen of Dr. Darwin. To the numerous caverns of the interior might be added those of the sea cliffs surrounding the kingdom.

A deep glen intervenes between Enville, with its continuous ridge, Compton, &c. and that of Kinver. The passage of country south of these parallel ridges, is of a very picturesque cast; another rocky glen succeeding in the direction of Wolverley, Trimpley green, &c.; at its apparent termina-

tion, the wooded hill of Wassell or Habberley, rises to view, from the base of which another romantic comb stretches to the south, falling into the extensive vale of Severn. (s)

TOWN AND HAMLET OF KINVER.

The expressive and compendious term which has been shown to designate a large extent of woodland, a mountainous range, and a parochial division of a province; remains to be considered as that of an ancient town, with its appendant hamlet. The handsome parish church of St. Peter on the rock, is finely situated.

From its cemetery, (t) a very extensive prospect of the surrounding country presents itself to view, a striking passage of which is a complete panoramic view of the subjacent town. The Church-hill and holloway adjoining contain several handsome houses.

To a native who should re-visit this spot, after absence of half a century, a pleasing contrast could not fail to be apparent between the uncultivated wastes formerly interspersed with the richer portions devoted to agriculture; and the recent, though partial, restoration to its sylvan honours of the surrounding tract. Several extensive woodlands rise to view amidst the sandy regions approximating to the Edge.

(s) A continuation of this romantic scenery is observable around the hill of little Habberley, from the base of which extends the giant's or gigantic grave, possessing a traditional celebrity as the vast receptacle of numerous bodies of soldiers slain on the adjoining fortified hill.

Viewing the scenery of this valley from its interior, a fine amphitheatre presents itself to view, full of rugged masses of sand-rock, having for a centre the pyramidal fragment called the Peak rock.

(t) This church yard is finely shaded by trees, forming an avenue on the north side.

The woodlands of Enville extend themselves on every side, augmented by the continually progressive plantations of the Earl of Stamford and Warrington. Ashwood and Iverley enter into the prospect.

The town of Kinver, as already intimated, is seated at the base of the mountain, on the right bank of the Stour, and near to the Trent and Severn canal. From several of the documents already cited, it appears to have been of great antiquity. (u) The market, formerly held on Tuesday, is now discontinued. Fairs are still held on May 14th, and Dec. 14th.

The town hall or market house, which once contained some ancient pieces of armour, has in modern times been taken down, and its reconstructed timber frame work occupies a solitary corner of an inclosure on the Stourbridge road near to Barret's coppice.

For many years after the discontinuance of the Roman road, the great Irish road from Chester to Bath, and other parts of the west, passed through this place, to the great emolument of the town and neighbourhood; but a variety of modern arrangements have tended to supersede this line of road.

Chester, and its out port Park gate, no longer receive the packets of the sister kingdom. The turnpike road from Wolverhampton to Kidderminster, is frequented by travellers who deviate in a southern and western direction from the line of the Roman rampart, once passing through or near Kinver; and the communication between Kidderminster and Bridgnorth, thence extending to different parts of Shropshire,

(u) A charter granted by John, son of John, son of Philip Holgate, is inserted in Shaw, II. 262.

also tends to set aside the Kinver road. That through Patteshul to Burnhall-green is still in use.

This town has been noticed in history, as a seat of the woollen manufactory, which it retained till the middle of the 18th century. During a very considerable period, it has partaken in common with other towns and villages on the banks of Stour, of the advantages of the iron trade.

A work of this description, situated at the south eastern extremity of the town, at the Hide, (v) about a mile from hence, probably one of the divisions of that name belonging to Chenevere; was the first rolling and slitting mill erected in England. A gentleman of the name of Brindley introduced this machine from Germany, whose posterity enjoyed its advantages for many years.

It is asserted in the Gentleman's Magazine, 1821, that Robert Parr, great grandson of the celebrated Thomas, resided at Kinver, where he died, 1757, aged 124. Thomas resided at Winnington, Salop, he died 1635, aged 152.

COMPTON.

This district adjoins that of Kinver on the east, and the pastoral grounds of Enville on the west.

The name appears to be synonymous with Comberton. Two parishes of the latter designation, Great and Little, are situate east of Bredon-hill; and the name occurs in the vicinity of Kidderminster.

Compton, two miles from Wolverhampton, on the road to Bridgnorth, the Contone of Doomsday may furnish the ety-

(v) Probably from hyde of land.

mology of this hamlet, cum, valley, British, similar to comber comp, narrow and deep, Saxon.

Compton is divided into Upper and Lower. The village contains an ancient mansion, once the residence of the family of Whorwood, who intermarried with the house of Grey.

Compton hall, the residence of the family of Whorwood, much reduced in size, appears in the present day, as a substantial farm house; the residence of this family at Compton in the reign of Edward VI. is alluded to under Stourton castle, of which they were also lords at that time and during subsequent years. An adjoining tract is still called the park.

Under Bobbington, is a pedigree commencing with Richard, younger brother of Whorwood, of Whorwood; and intermarriages of this family with those of Grey cir. Edward IV. and also Corbyn, of Corbyn's-hall, cir. Henry VIII. are also recorded.

Union hall, the residence of T. Brindley, Esq. is situated at the extremity of the village. (y) This mansion was erected by the late W. Hodgetts, Esq. the first resident there. This family, originally of Shutt-End, Kingswinford, have resided at Prestwood, Gothersley, &c.

From the sandy tract, flanking the ridge of Kinver to the west, the transition is remarkably abrupt to deep red clay, which prevails over a considerable part of Compton, Enville, &c. &c. forms part of a large tract extending to the Severn.

Coal has sometimes been found amidst this argillaceous formation, and lime in some parts.

(y) From Compton, the county of Stafford takes a south western direction, in a figure resembling a horn or promontory, this tract is crossed by the Severn at Arley,—the lowest level 60 feet above the level of the sea.

The contiguity of Compton to the beautiful sheep walks, forming the southern extremity of the classic grounds of Enville, with Birchwood in the back ground, renders the situation pleasant and interesting. Scattered over several fields and roads between Compton and Kinver, are numerous fragments of ferruginous sand-stone. (z)

STOURTON.

Adjoining the manor of Kinver on the north, and near to the point of junction formed by the crossing of two turnpike roads, (Stourbridge and Bridgnorth, and Kidderminster and Wolverhampton,) on both banks of the Stour, and intersected also by the Trent and Severn canal: stands the pleasant village of Stourton. (a)

The etymology of Stourton is obvious. Ton, with its synonyms haga, &c. is curiously explained by Verstegan.

Hedging and tyning, he observes, were terms used by our ancestors, signifying the raising of a fence, and forming of a trench.

These boundaries, serving the purpose of pallisadoes, at length obtained the name of tune, toun, including the few

(z) See Mineralogy.

(a) Conspicuous in Stourton, is that ancient and respectable Inn, Stewpony, a term sometimes used as the designation of the village itself. To account for this singular name, recourse has been had to the supposition, that among many Inns bearing the name of Pony, that of Stourton, from its proximity to a celebrated receptacle for fish, was pre-eminently distinguished; hence the union of the two names.

A Gentleman who made particular enquiries in the neighbourhood, agrees to this derivation of Stewpony, adding to the above account some particulars of the master of the inn and his pony. The master, it appears, was a successful competitor at Stourbridge races, hence, and from the piscatory entertainment of the place, the house acquired its celebrity.

houses sheltered by them. Norton and Sutton denote towns in the opposite directions, therein expressed.

Towns of the same name are to be found in Wilts and Dorset. A village of this name is situated on the Warwickshire Stour.

Stourton castle, as well as that of Dudley, according to Ellis's British Atlas, gave title to a nobleman. Leland, as quoted in a modern publication, makes the same assertion. The biographical Index to the House of Lords, on the contrary, represents the present Baron Stourton as descending through a long line of ancestry, from Botolph Stourton, of Stourton, in the county of Wilts, who obliged the Norman conqueror to make terms with him by breaking down the sea walls of Severn.

On a commanding eminence to the west of the river stands the ancient castle overlooking a verdant vale beneath; while at a short distance to the S. W. the bold edge of Kinver, with its contiguous range of hills, rises majestically to view. Nor is the opposite acclivity on the left bank of the river deficient in picturesque effect.

A range of minor eminences branching from Dunsley-bank, site of the villa of — Hancox, Esq. and crowned with clumps of trees, flank the road which leads to Kidderminster, from whence a branch from Dunsley to the town of Kinver, rises above the village.

Part of a sand-rock intercepting the view down the valley, being excavated by art, affords a passage for the channel of the canal. The entire coup d'oeul of Stourton, with its extensive wharf and rural accompaniments, with the parallel

rivers, the respective formations of nature and art, stretching to the town of Kinver, is pleasing and interesting.

STOURTON CASTLE, (b)

The fortress on the eminence commanding the village already alluded to, is recorded to have been in possession of John Hampton, Lord also of Kinver, in the reign of Edward IV. he died 1472.

The birth of Cardinal Pole, A D. 1500, is the next event noticed.—This celebrated man was son of Sir Richard Pole, Lord Montague, by Margaret Plantagenet, Countess of Salisbury, daughter of George, Duke of Clarence, brother of Edward IV. (c)

After receiving part of his education in the Carthusian monastery, at Shene, he went to Oxford and became fellow of Corpus Christi College. Henry VIII. sent him to pursue his studies on the continent; he resided several years at Padua. In 1536, he was elected Cardinal.

The hostility manifested by Cardinal Pole, to the divorce of Henry VIII. from Catherine of Arragon, drew upon him the displeasure of that monarch, and the resentment of the King was probably heightened by a publication of the Cardinal's, entitled, "Pro Unitate Ecclesiastica," in which the King was reproved for assuming the title of head of the church.

On the demise of Paul III. he was twice elected Pope, by

(b) Two plates of this Castle, an elevation and a N. E. view, are given in Shaw. Plot supposes it to be of great antiquity, but he could not fully trace its antiquity. Tradition confidently asserts, that it was either the native place, or the residence of King John, but history is silent on this topic. That Worcester cathedral was his burial place is an acknowledged fact.

(c) Cousin German to Henry VII.

the conclave, but declined of accepting that dignity. In 1543, the Cardinal was appointed Legate to the council of Trent, and in 1554, arrived in England, being invested with the legantine power by Paul IV. He succeeded in reconciling the King, Queen, and Parliament, to the see of Rome.

In 1555, he succeeded the venerable martyr Cranmer in the see of Centerbury, which high station he occupied till the time of his death, which took place 1558, sixteen hours after that of the queen—he was the last archbishop whose remains were deposited in the metropolitan church of Canterbury.

According to Wood this prelate possessed many valuable qualities including that of eminent moderation.

Mr. Eustace, speaking of the council of Trent, assembled 1542, observes, that this assembly combined the benevolence, the sanctity, and the moderation of Cardinals Pole, Sadolati, Centareni, and Scripando.

Several eminent families of the name of Pole, unallied to each other, are mentioned by Mr. Shaw, as that of the Cardinal of Welsh extraction; the de la Poles, Earls and Dukes of Suffolk, who sprung from those of Hull; and those of Cheshire and Devonshire.

The family of Whorwood (c) who also held Kinver and Compton, (d) were proprietors of this estate, temp. Edward

(c) See Compton.

(d) From the Whorwoods or Harwoods of Compton, &c. as above, also of Sandwell and Hagbourne, Berks, temp. Elizabeth, descends the Rev. Thos. Harwood, D. D. editor of Eardeswick.

Dr. Harwood, under several articles, as Shenstone, 313; Stourton, 276; Kinver, 278; Enville, 282-283; and Sandwell, 289; gives a full account of the Whorwoods or Harwoods; also Shaw Staff. II. Bobbington, 278; Stourton, 265; Enville, 276; West-Bromwich, 129—132.

VI. Edward Whorwood deceased (e) in the first year of the reign of that monarch, Thomas his son being then seven years of age.

1st & 2d Philip and Mary, this Thomas held, (inter alia,) Stourton, of Margaret Whorwood, by fealty. Sir Thomas Whorwood who resided at Compton park, (probably the last mentioned member of the family,) was living 1601, at which time, Gerard his son was of the age of 38. John, son of Gerard, living, 1641, or Sir William his son, sold Compton to Thomas Foley, Esq. about 1650 ; and Wortley, son of Sir William, sold the remaining family patrimony of Stourton castle and Kinver to Philip Foley, Esq.

From 1679, the family of Whorwood resided at Denton, near Canterbury. (f)

Stourton castle, together with Tutbury, Dudley, and Hartlebury, were garrisons at the period of the civil wars between Charles I. and the Parliament. The former surrendered to Gilbert Gerard, for the King, March 23d, 1644. (g)

Another family of distinction, resident at this castle, was that of Talbot. William, son of Sherington Talbot, previously of Litchfield and Whittington, died here, 1686, to whose memory a monument is erected in Kinver church.

Stourton castle was also the birth place, 1659, of Dr.

(e) Edward was son of John Whorwood, his brother's family resided at Sandwell.

(f) In Denton Church is a monument of Wortley Whorwood, Esq. Sir Simon Degge speaks of Sir Francis Lawley, as of Stourton castle, but Mr. Shaw thinks that he was only tenant in the minority of Wortley Whorwood.

(g) Dudley castle, after being twice besieged, was relieved 1644 ;—it surrendered to Brereton, 1646. Many of these fortresses were dismantled at the restoration.

William Talbot, successively Bishop of Oxford, Salisbury, and Durham, 1699, 1715, and 1721, father of Lord Chancellor Talbot, (h) who died October 10th, 1730. He descended from Sir Gilbert Talbot, of Grafton Wor, who was youngest son of John, second Earl of Shrewsbury.

The manor and castle purchased as before shown from the Whorwoods, continue in the family of Foley of Prestwood, at the present day.

Dr. Wilkes says, that the castle in his time was a farmhouse. Shaw adds, that it has since been occupied by several respectable families, as tenants, last, by Thomas Sellick Brome, Esq. (i) then by Mrs. Stewart. The late Thomas Grazebrook, Esq. resided there many years. Mrs. Grazebrook, his relict, occupies it at the present time.

The principal entrance to the mansion is by a gateway on the western side, under the sole remaining tower; two other towers are said to have been destroyed at the period of the civil wars.

(h) Charles Talbot, Lord Chancellor, and his brother Edward were early patrons of Bishop Butler, the former appointed him his chaplain. Lord Chancellor Talbot is thus characterised by Thompson, in a poetical address to his son:—

“ In Talbot we united saw
The piercing eye, the quick enlightened soul,
The graceful ease, the flowing tongue of grace,
Join'd to the virtues and the force of Rome.”

“ Thy praise the widow's sighs,
And orphan's tears embalm.”

The present Earl Talbot is a lineal descendant of this nobleman, and the Earl of Shrewsbury descends from a collateral branch.

(i) Noticed by Erdeswick as descending from the Skeffington family.

The large massive door is much perforated by balls. On the opposite side of the inner court is a fine brick arch, over which are several tiles of Mosaic and other figures.

The eastern part of the building contains a noble range of apartments rising boldly from the valley, and environed by a fine terrace of garden ground. On a minute examination it appears that the tower is built of stone, as also a part of the northern side wall of the interior of the area. The remaining buildings, consisting of a capacious mansion, with appurtenances, are entirely of brick. This part, though ancient, is probably of a date considerably later than the period when the towers were erected, the latter may be conjectured to have been constituent parts of the original fortress.

DUNSLEY AND WHITTINGTON. (k)

The former of these vils has for its site the rock before described, which commands, in various points of view, the subjacent vale, a scene of picturesque beauty. The latter intervenes between Dunsley and Wolverley, occupying at a lower level the margins of the same waters.

The village of Whittington is of a rural cast, containing a distinguished mansion. Mr. Shaw supposes Whittington

(k) Whittington occurs in Derbyshire, Shropshire near Oswestry, and also in the vicinity of Lichfield. The former of these villages is celebrated in English history as the spot on which the plan of the glorious revolution on the accession of William III. 1688, was concerted.

The centenary of this great event, was observed here as well as throughout the nation at large, A. D. 1788. It is not exactly ascertained whether Robert Whittington, the grammarian and poet laureat, was a native of Lichfield, or of the village described in the text.—His grammar was published in 1517.—Wittington, near Worcester, is in Domesday spelt Widdington.

Nash.

to have been a member of Kinfare at the time of the conquest.

“Sir William de Whittenton,” he asserts, “was owner of it, 1st Edward II. whose son Sir William sold the manor, 25th Edward III. to Thomas de la Lowe.

A MS. is alluded to by the same author, wherein Richard Whittington, Lord Mayor of London, who died about 7th Henry V. is mentioned after the last William.

Highmore “*Pietas Londinensis*,” relates that Sir Richard Whittington, thrice Lord Mayor of London, founded an alms house, 1413, for thirteen poor men, arising out of a college he had previously founded in London.

In the monthly magazine, March, 1823, is a brief memoir of Sir Richard, stating, that according to the City Records, he was sheriff in 1389, and Lord Mayor in 1397, 1408, and 1425; and that a stone, at the foot of Highgate hill, commemorates his approach to London. The writer adds, that having lent £60,000, to assist Henry V. in equipping his army, he magnanimously burnt the King’s bond at a city feast, on Henry’s returning from the conquest of France, exclaiming, “never before had subject such a King!” a compliment which Henry returned by rejoining “Nor King such a subject!” An accompanying plate represents the original mansion of Sir Richard, in Smith’s passage, Moor Lane, an irregular fabrick, principally constructed of timber.

In Dean’s account of Croome, D’Abitot, 1824, John Coventry, Sheriff of London, 1416, Lord Mayor 1426, is said to have been one of the three executors of Sir Richard Whittington, appointed to carry on the building of Guild Hall, Newgate, and the library at Grey’s Inn.

Mr. Shaw gives the pedigree of Whittington, including the Lord mayor under Whittington in Kinver.

Other members of the family of Whittington, as Robert, William, John, Guido, Elizabeth who married Humphrey Blount, of Soddington, are recorded ; to these succeed some account from Huntbatch, of the family of Lowe, (1) as Edmund de la Lowe, Esq. Lord of Whittington. 22d Richard II. and in some following reigns, Humphrey Lowe, son of John, Lord of Whittington, 8th Henry VI. From this time the manor, together with Enfield, passed to the family of Grey.

Whether the mansion already mentioned, once the residence of the family of Dean, now of Bonaker, occupies the site of the ancient seat of the Whittington's, Lowe's, Talbot, &c. does not fully appear. This house, although fronted in the modern style, possesses, nevertheless, marks of antiquity, which entitle it to consideration, as the ancient residence of the Lord of the village and manor.

The village contains iron works, belonging to the family of Knight, one of which has long been remarkable for wheels of uncommon dimension, and extraordinary velocity of motion ; its celebrity however is somewhat diminished by the improvements of modern times. (m)

Other works of Mr. Knight are interspersed through the neighbourhood at Cookley, &c.

(1) "Adam de la Lowe, infra manerium de Kinfare," was father of William and Richard, the former of whom is mentioned in a writ, temp. Edward II. William had three sons, viz. Adam, who married the relict of William de Whittington the younger, 32d Edward III. John, and Thomas, who purchased this manor 25th Edward III.

(m) See also page 64.

The family of Knight, long resident in the neighbouring villages of Wolverley and Cookley, have, during a considerable period, been ranked amongst the most eminent iron masters which this country has produced.

John Knight, Esq. its present representative, lately resided at Lee castle, in Wolverley; he made considerable improvements in the adjacent domain.

Whittington, though founded on a rock of hard sand-stone, of some extent, yet borders upon rich loamy land, which to the east is succeeded by a sterile peaty soil.

HALFCOT (n) AND STAPENHALL.

The north extremity of the parish of Kinver, (o) bordering east on Prestwood, is occupied by tracts bearing these names.

At Stapenhall is a small wharf on the Stourbridge canal, nearly adjoining to which is a bed of fine red sand, 4000 tons of which are annually used for casting. A few houses near to the wharf bear the name of New Town.

IVERLEY. (p)

Under this appellation the eastern extremity of Kinver, longitudinally bordering on Old Swinford, and touching upon Pedmore and Churchill, is known. The boundary line of the two parishes extends along the summit of the ridge, excepting that Pedmore, near to the southern extremity, abuts

(n) Halfcourt in some publications, similar to Hircourt, near Kidderminster.

(o) The north-west point runs parallel with Enville.

(p) See also page 77.

thereon, with a semicircular sweep containing a deep sand and gravel pit.

No village occupies the site; a range of hills, moderate in elevation, with a continuous ridge extending from south to north, having a gentle declivity to the west, and terminating in a plain, form the entire district.

The southern extremity of Iverley consists of old enclosures; of the remaining part the greater portion has been recently enclosed—some acres still remain in the state of waste land, subject to the claims of common right appertaining to two farms.

Iverley, or High house, of grotesque architecture, situated on the brow of the Hay-hill, was built by Thomas, son of Edward Millward, Esq. (n) of Wollescot. The former of these gentlemen having a large portion of this district on a long lease from the Foley family, was a considerable improver of the vicinity. (o)

A line of detached plantations, commencing at the southernmost hill of Iverley, and extending over Ashwood, (the different portions of woodland apparently blending in one,) has a pleasing effect when viewed in perspective. (p)

The course of the vicinal Roman road, extending over a

(n) Of the Millward Evidences, see Introduction, pa. xxiii.

(o) Evidence of Edward Oliver, Esq. grandson of Thomas Millward, Esq. Mr. Waldron* had also a part of the tract, and afterwards came into possession of the whole estate. From him it passed by inheritance to the family of Baker. The Park, &c. lately belonging to the Hill family, now of the Earl of Dudley, extends into the parish of Kinver.

* See page 77.

(p) HILLS.—Iverley proper, or Hay, Bunker's wooded, High Park, Ridge Top, New wood; Ashwood is on opposite side of the pass.

part of this tract, will, in consideration of its continuity through other parishes, be reserved for a separate chapter.

In Highdown, the southern extremity of Iverley, and also Blakedown, in the neighbouring parish of Hagley; the ancient Celtic term *dun* or *down*, a sand-bank, is retained. Dunkirk, church among the sands, is adduced by St. Pierre as an example in point. *Blake*, *blac*, *black*, importing the deep gloom of trees, is said by Mr. Whitaker to furnish the derivation of many proper names of places, thus *Blakelands* near to *Enville*. (q)

PLACE OF WORSHIP.

The parish church of Kinver is a neat structure, containing several vestiges of antiquity. (r) Bishop Lyttelton considers the circular form of the arch over the north windows to be indicative of priority to the conquest, or at least coeval with that event; the chapel adjoining to the chancel, he supposes to have been erected by the Hamptons, who were lords of Kinver, temp. Edward III. Monuments with arms of the families of Hamptons, Grey, Whorwood, of Compton, in-

(q) Viz. in Bobington. Mansions in this parish, as Bobington-hall belonging to the earl of Stamford, and the two Blakelands properties of Brooks and Corbet, are noticed by Mr. Shaw. One of these, a curious half-timbered house is mentioned by this historian, as the former residence of Mr. Levingston, well adapted to his taste and studies, as an antiquary and collector of coins. This Gentleman, as is known to some few of his friends who are his survivors, was also a collector of minerals, particularly those of his vicinity.

(r) At the termination of an avenue in the church yard is the tomb of John Brindley, Esq. of Union Hall, who died 1807, aged 80. He was of the family of the great engineer of that name, and has been eulogised as a great improver of the neighbourhood.

scribed Horde, Comber, of Kinfare hall, Talbot, with several ministers of the parish; are described by the historian of the county.

The living is a perpetual curacy, in the gift of the family of Foley.

MINISTERS.

“ Rev. Richard Moreton, ejected1662.
 — Jonathan Newey, Rector.1664.
 — ——— Bate, about1749.” (s)

ADDITIONS.

Rev. — White
 — — Downing
 — — Davis, assisted by Houseman 1830, and some years previous.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

An endowed Grammar school of long standing is on record. A new school building has been recently erected, Rev. J. Hallifax, master.

Parochial Sunday Schools.

	<i>Population.</i>	
A. D. 1801.	1811.	1821.
1655.		1735.

(s) Shaw Staff. II. 265.

REPORT

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PEDMORE.

CHAPTER IV.

Pedmore, Worcestershire.

PEDMORE, formerly in the hundred of Clent, is now a part of the lower division of Halfshire in the county of Worcester, and of the deanery of Kidderminster. It is bounded E. by Cradley and Ludley, divisions of Halesowen; W. by Churchill, N. by Old Swinford, and a narrow part of Kinver, and S. and S. E. by Hagley.

Neither the ancient appellations Pevemoor, Pebbemore, nor its modern one, furnish grounds for conjecture concerning its etymology; there is, indeed, a common, near to its western extremity, contiguous to which are meadows once forming a morass, from whence the terminating syllable might possibly be derived.

In the reign of Edward the Confessor, this lordship was held by Turgar. Domesday book (Tab. xi.) represents it as held by Acard, under William Fitz Ansculf. From this time till the reign of Henry VI. little is known of its history.

At the latter period, we find it in the family of Arden, who were united by marriage to that of Clodshale, both of which names appear in the list of the patrons of the living.

Robert Arden, of Park hall, (s) Warwickshire, married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Richard Clodshale. He died seised of Pedmore, Yardley, and Stockton, 1453, 32d Henry VI. To the following names in succession, the subjoined dates are affixed:—

William Arden	1455.
John.....	1468 & 1483.
Thomas	1530.
Edward.....	1589.
Robert	1621.

On the decease of the latter, in 1643, Pedmore was divided between his four sisters and coheiresses. Thomas Foley, Esq. afterwards purchased it, and it has for many years belonged to the Hospital founded by that gentleman, at Old Swinford.

The parish of Pedmore is a narrow tract of an oblong form, possessing, like many of the districts of this vicinity, a great variety of surface.

Its boundary, on the side adjoining to Hagley, intersects the acclivity of Wichbury-hill and the summit of Hodge-hill, marked by a row of trees.

On the Ludley and Cradley border it retains its upland features, forming part of the red clay formation. Amidst this tract, several calcareous masses of rock are observable, assimilating to those of the adjoining hamlet. At the foot of the small hill of Jassamer abutting upon Wollescot, a coarse grit stone rises out of the red clay.

On the slope of Hodge-hill is a quarry producing calcareous breccia. Near to Foxcote, residence of Thomas Par-

(s) Dugdale's Warwickshire, p. 621. This historian alludes to the same family under Pedimore, p. 649.

geter, Esq. is a stratum of free stone, frequently used in buildings.

The opposite or western border belongs to the large tract of red sand stone and gravel, frequently mentioned in the course of this work.

A rocky ridge, appertaining to Swinford and Iverley, by an easy curvature, takes the form of a crescent in passing through a part of Churchill, and terminates within the parish of Pedmore. (t) The intervening lowlands consist both of sandy and loamy soil; the narrow marsh already described, and the small tract of uninclosed land, serving as a race course for the town of Stourbridge, (u) belonging to the former description of land.

The village of Pedmore is situated on the road from Stourbridge to Bromsgrove, one and a half mile from the former town. The site of the parish church, which together with its cemetery, is in a rural style, is peculiarly pleasing, on the gentle acclivity of Wichbury, crowned with woodland.

The surrounding scenery is much in unison with that described by Gray, (v) in his celebrated popular poem the "Country Church Yard."

(t) The Watling street vicinal road must have passed through the border of Pedmore, adjoining Iverley, according to the traces of that rampart which recent enquirers have been able to ascertain. See antiquities.

A lane crossing the turnpike road from Stourbridge to Kidderminster, and extending to the deep holloway where the three parishes of Pedmore, Hagley, and Kinver, meet, is supposed to have been in the line of this ancient road.

(u) In 1822, October 28th and 29th, after some less effectual attempts made during two preceding years, horse races were established at this place, and have, to the present time, been well attended.

(v) Thus Mr. Field, (Hist. Warwick.) Speaking of Bishops Tachbrook,

The neighbourhood is adorned by several Gentlemen's residences, as the rectory, Pedmore hall, R. Homer, Esq. the village, Thomas Biggs, Esq ; the Quarry, C. Roberts, Esq.

PLACE OF WORSHIP.*

The church is dedicated to St. Peter, a great part of its exterior being mantled with ivy, exhibits a pleasing appearance. The south porch, unfortunately rebuilt with brick, contains a piece of rude sculpture, but highly curious as a relic of Saxon architecture. The Deity, surrounded by symbols of the four evangelists, is said to be the subject of this piece, antiquaries have, however, different opinions on the subject.

The sculpture over the south porch of St Kenelm's chapel is very similar to the above.

In the church St. Sepulchre, at Northampton, is an ancient curving bearing a strong resemblance to this, but with this difference, that a child is on the arm of the principal figure.

PATRONS AND RECTORS.

<i>Patrons.</i>	<i>Rectors.</i>	<i>A. D.</i>
Willus Schymplingford.	Rev. John Batesford.....	1304.
Richard Clodshale.	Hugh Cordewanes ...	1349.

is reminded of Sweet Auburn, the celebrated village of Goldsmith, in its pristine state of rural beauty.

* A N. E. view of Pedmore church is to be found in the Gentleman's Magazine, vol. LXVII. p. 105. An engraving of the porch is given in Nash.

<i>Patrons.</i>	<i>Rev.</i>	<i>Rectors.</i>	<i>A. D.</i>
.....	Roger de Wonburne	..	1361.
Walter Arden.	John Chamberleyn	....	1455.
W. Arden.	Henry Loned	.....	1457.
.....	Nicholas Clerke	.....	1467.
John Arden.	Roger Flemyng	.....	1468.
John Arden.	Roger Pulter	.....	1493.
Thomas Arden.	Thomas Tyrax	.....	1530.
Rowland Fowler.	Richard Harvy	.....	1556.
Richard Alchurch.	John Rushton	.....	1589.
.....	Robert Rushton	.....	1594.
Walter Ferrers.	Thomas Malpas	.....	1621.
.....	George Tongue	.....
Maria Broughton.	George Southall	.....	1666.
Thomas Foley de Witley....	George Nelson	.....	1686.
.....	George Nelson	.....	1699.
Thomas Foley, baron of Kidderminster	Thomas Philpot	.....	1721.
Thomas Lord Foley.	Other Philpot	.....	1754.
.....	Thomas Philpot	.....	1791.

Pedmore, though by no means remote from a manufacturing part of the country, has, nevertheless, much of the agricultural character; the following statements of its population, &c., is in accordance with this remark.

<i>Population.</i>		
A. D. 1801.	1811.	1821. (w)
306.	284.	276.
Houses 51. (x)		Houses 57.

(w) Greenwood's Index to Map of Worcestershire.

(x) Capper's Topo. Dict.

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PEDMORE.

Dimensions.

A.	R.	P.
1100.	0.	0.

HALESOWEN.

CHAPTER V.

Halesowen, Salop.

THIS very extensive parish is bounded N. E. by the Staffordshire parishes of West-Bromwich and Rowley; N. W. by Kingswinford, the Stour being the boundary line; E. by Harborne, in the same county; S. by Clent, Staffordshire, and Frankley, Worcestershire; W. by Hagley, Pedmore, and Old Swinford, in the latter county.

The Shropshire part, in the hundred of Brinstry; and the Worcestershire ones in that of Halfshire, both in the diocess of Worcester, formerly in the hundred of Clent, (Wor.) forming three longitudinal stripes.

The Shropshire division of Halesowen, the only part recorded in Doomsday, consists of three manors:—

1st, Halesowen, including the Borough, Hasbury, or Haselbury, Hala, or Hawn, Cakemore, Hill, Warley-Salop, Ridgacre, Lappall, and Ylley: also Hunnington, Langley, and Wallaxhall.

2d, Romsley.

3d, Oldbury.

No part of this division is less than ten and a half miles, from the nearest part of the main land of Shropshire, viz. part of Bobington.

The Worcestershire portion contains the hamlet of Warley-Wigorn, township of Cradley, and Hamlet of Ludley.

Concerning the derivation of Hales, no satisfactory information is at hand; with respect to the additional name of Owen, it does not occur till after the conquest, the earliest mention of it on record being a writ of 56th Henry III. it has been supposed to have been added to the original appellation in contradistinction from Hayles in Gloucestershire, abbeys having been founded at both places. (a) Owen, as Dr. Nash supposes, might be the first abbot.

SALOPIAN DISTRICT.

Olwin or Ulwin, a thane of Edwin, Earl of Mercia, is represented as holding the lordship of Halesowen, in the time of Edward the Confessor. In Field's History of Warwick he is mentioned as sixth earl of Warwick.

The next name that occurs is that of a very potent chieftain, Roger Montgomery, earl of Shrewsbury, who succeeded at the conquest to the lordship of Halesowen.

Rogerus Comes de Monte Gomerico was descended, according to Mr. Shaw, from Gunnara, duchess of Normandy, great grandmother of the conqueror. William I. created him earl of Shrewsbury, Arundel, and Chichester, 1067, for his

(a) Hayles or Hales, Gloucestershire, is situated near to Winchcomb. The abbey was founded about A. D. 1246, for Cistercian Monks, by Henry III.* In 1271, it was destroyed by fire, but afterwards restored. Some ruins remain of a once noble edifice, adorning a beautiful site. We read also of Sheriff Hales, in Shropshire, and Hales near Tirley, Terra Rogeri, also of Willo de Hales, in a deed of Henry I. or II. Eardeswick.

* According to Tanner, Richard, Earl of Cornwall, was founder.

great services at the battles of Hastings and York. (b) In conjunction with Hugh Lupus, earl of Chester, and William Fitzosborne, earl of Hereford, also relatives of the king; he was entrusted with the care of the government of the western parts of England, to secure them from the incursions of the Welsh. (c)

Montgomery, in the principality of Wales, formerly Baldwin's town, from Baldwin, lieutenant of the marches under William I. took the name of this chief which was of Norman extraction, he having estates in Normandy.

(b) As earl of Shrewsbury, he succeeded Edric styled the Forrester, duke of Mercia, and son-in-law of Ethelred, who though one of the last to yield to his sway, yet he obtained favourable terms from the conqueror, being suffered to retain his possessions exclusive of the lordship of Shrewsbury. A. D. 1069, Shrewsbury was besieged by Edric and Owen Gwynnedd; but it was relieved, and the Welsh defeated with great slaughter.

Rapin gives an account of the progress of William I. from Durham to York and Chester, at which city and also at Stafford, he built a castle, Edric having made his peace with him. Wigmore castle also belonged to him.

Rapin I. 172. Gent. May 1821.—Cambrian Guide.

(c) Rainold de Bailgiote, who married Aimeria, grand daughter of Count Roger, was invested with eight lordships, (including that of Sheriff Hales) which he held under Roger. Robert de Toni was also a relation of King William, who created him earl of Stafford, and conferred upon him various other lordships. Among the numerous possessions of earl Roger, were nearly all the domains of Shropshire, including the town of Shrewsbury, with fifteen manors in other counties, and some in Wales. In Worcestershire he held Salwarp, with a salt work at Wich, and a house at Worcester, as well as Halesowen,—157, exclusive of Salop.

Among his Staffordshire possessions, thirty in number, was Claverlege, Claverley, now in Salop, Alveley, &c. suit and service, were owing from these places to the lord of Shrewsbury.

N. B. Worfield, also transferred by the transit of land from Saxon to Norman possessors, became the property of Hugh de Montgomery, whose brother was Urso de Abitot, vice comes de Wircestre. Emeline, his only daughter, married William de Beauchamp, whose family became earls of Warwick.

Earl Roger, by consent of his consort Adelaisa, founded the abbey of Shrewsbury, 1083, of which he became a monk, and where his remains were deposited. He died 6th kalends of August, 1094. On an altar tomb in the abbey-church his figure, in a recumbent posture, met the eye of the writer 1829, but the inscription (supplied by the Cambrian Guide, p. 1178,) was here wanting.

By this we are informed, that his remains were removed from the adjacent abbey, to this place, by directions of his Majesty's Heralds at arms, A. D. 1622; likewise, that he built the castle on the isthmus at Shrewsbury, and those of Ludlow and Bridgnorth; the monastery at Wenlock, also, owed its foundation to this Nobleman.

In modern times, the earldom of Shrewsbury has been vested in the noble family of Talbot, who flourished in England prior to the conquest.

On entering into possession of Hales, then in the Worcestershire hundred of Clent, Roger annexed it, as was the case in many other instances, to his earldom of Shrewsbury, from which time it became part of the hundred of Brimstry.

Nash II. 15—17.

On the demise of Roger, 8th William II. Hugh his second son succeeded to this earldom, the elder branch of the family inheriting his father's possessions in Normandy. Robert de Belesmo, on the death of Hugh, became his successor, purchasing the inheritance for £300 of William II. (d) He adhering to the cause of Robert Curthose, the lordship of Halesowen was confiscated to the crown, as also his other lands,

(d) Abbé Millot relates, that Rob. Belesme, Earl of Shrewsbury, Warren, Earl of Surrey, and many other nobles, invited Duke Robert, of Normandy, to make an attempt upon England; that their estates were consequently con-

and remained in this state till 16th John, 1215, when that monarch granted them to Peter de Rapibus, bishop of Winchester, for the purpose of founding an abbey in this place.

The abbot and convent remained in full possession till the general dissolution of religious houses in the reign of Henry VIII. This monarch granted Halesowen, with its adjoining manors, to Sir John Dudley, who by a deed dated 3d Edward VI. (then styling himself earl of Warwick,) afterwards Duke of Northumberland, granted a part of these possessions to George Tuckye, in consideration of his good services for twenty-one years.

On the accession of Mary, this nobleman suffered death for endeavouring to support the pretensions of his daughter-in-law, Lady Jane Grey, to the crown of England, whereupon, all his lands and manors, comprising that of Hales, were confiscated.

Ambrose Dudley, his son, buried in Beauchamp chapel, Warwick, was called the good earl of Warwick.

Joan, Duchess of Northumberland, A. D. 1553, 1st Mary, producing a deed, by which her late husband conveyed to Edward Blount, and George Willoughby, Esqrs. recovered the Property, which was vested in her in fee, but she enjoyed it for a very short time, dying 1554-5.

Ambrose Dudley, her son, inherited part of the property, by bequest; another part was bequeathed to her daughter

confiscated by Henry I. and that in a battle, which afterwards took place, A. D. 1106, Robert was worsted, being but ill seconded by his friend, Earl Belesme.

In the reign of Henry I. we read of Arnulph de Montgomery. Shaw speaks of Arnold, brother of Robert de Belesme as co-operating with him in invading England, with an army of Normans and Welshmen.

Katherine, and two thirds of Hales were devised to her executors,—Sir Henry Sidney and Sir George Blount, knights, John Somerville and Thomas Manow, Esqrs.

On the attainder of Ambrose Dudley, during the life of his mother, his property became escheated to the crown, though his life was spared, and was granted to the above-named executors.

By a deed 1555, Sir Robert Dudley, afterwards Earl of Leicester, celebrated in English History as the favourite of Queen Elizabeth, obtained possession of Hales, who afterwards alienated it to Thomas Blount, and George Tuckey, Esqrs. 4th and 5th Mary. (e)

In the same year these gentlemen sold Halesowen, with all its members and appurtenances, to John Lyttelton, of Frankley, Esq. lineal ancestor to Lords Lyttelton.

BOROUGH AND MANOR.

Halesowen is finely situated in a rich country, on the two rivulets issuing from the primary sources of the Stour. It was constituted a borough at the close of the reign of Henry III. not by prescription, or by royal charter, the usual mode, but by a delegation of the royal authority to Abbot Nicholas and the convent, empowering that ecclesiastical body to confer upon this town, privileges similar to those bestowed upon Hereford.

It is styled a borough, 5th Edward I. The magisterial habits, worn on public occasions, by the principal officers of this borough, were disused early in the 18th century. Grants

(e) The manor of Oldbury, with Langley and Wallaxhall, were not included in Blount and Tuckey's purchase.

are on record of fairs appointed to be holden in Halesowen by Edward III. 1344, April 12th, June 22d. (g)

In addition to the above account of Halesowen, it may be remarked, that the advantages of inland navigation have in modern times been extended to its vicinity. One of the levels of the Dudley and Netherton canal, conducted along the acclivity of the opposite hill, Mucklow, or Halesowen, forms Heywood wharf, serving as a suitable appendage to the town; but the extension of the formal channel, of the artificial river, through the classic region of the Leasows, is subversive of that rural elegance which reigned through the paradise of the poet. (f)

Halesowen exhibits, in several of its streets, specimens of the gloomy antique in architecture, modern buildings adorn its principal ones, which have increased during several past years. Its relative position to Birmingham, with various facilities favourable to commercial intercourse, point it out (should the prosperity of that central metropolis be identified in future with that of the nation,) as a station of considerable importance.

Added to these advantages, the continual discoveries of coal and other valuable minerals in the adjacent vale of Stour, appear to furnish new germs of future and not very distant prosperity. The rail road from the mines of Mathias Attwood, Esq. already reaches the precincts of the town.

(f) A gentleman of Birmingham recollects that at the time when this embankment was in contemplation, a proposal was said to have been made to the canal company to span the valley by a noble aqueduct.

(g) These days vary from those appointed by grants of Henry III. and Edward III.

EMINENT NATIVES OF HALESOWEN.

Dr. Adam Lyttelton, son of the Rev. T. Lyttelton, vicar, was born at this place, A. D. 1624, he was ejected by the parliament visitors from Christ church, and afterwards appointed second master of Westminster school. He died 1694, and was interred at Chelsea, of which parish he was rector. His character is that of an eminent scholar, a charitable and humane man. A Latin and English dictionary transmits his name to posterity,—several other works also attest his fame. Nash.

William Caslon, the celebrated letter founder, was born at Halesowen, A. D. 1692. Although justly entitled to be considered as the first in his profession, this gentleman was not brought up with a view to it, having served a regular apprenticeship to an engraver on gun barrels, which branch of business he afterwards carried on upon his own account. Not however confining himself to one branch, he also engaged in the occupation of making tools for book-binders.

Mr. Bowyer the printer admiring the letters cast by Mr. Caslon, encouraged him to turn his attention to the cutting of types, and offered him his assistance in the undertaking. Requesting a single day for deliberation, he acceded to the proposal of his patron.

Messrs. Bowyer, Bettenham, and Watts, supplied the young artist with £500, to enable him to commence the undertaking. Mr. Caslon applying himself with equal assiduity and success to the business in hand, soon produced types of a quality superior to those of other founders.

Removing, in 1735, from Helmet-row, near Old-street, to Chiswell-street, Moor-fields, he there established a more extensive concern in his line, than had ever been founded in

this or any other country. Opulence succeeded, and in a course of years, he was appointed justice of the peace for the county of Middlesex, in which office he died, January 23d, 1766, aged 74.

Alexander Hales, Dr. Irrefragabilis, is conjectured by Nash to have been a native of this town, though Camden and Rapin place him at Hales, in Gloucestershire; but the dates of the respective religious foundations corroborate the former supposition. (g)

Alexander had for pupils Bonaventure and Thomas Aquinas. He was author of "Notes on the Bible," and a "Commentary on The Master of the Sentences." He died Professor of Divinity, in the University of Paris, August 27th, 1245, and lies buried in the church of the Cordeliers in that city.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT.

The magistracy of the adjacent counties, together with several resident justices of the peace for the counties of Salop, have jurisdiction here.

The Lord's court, and another for the recovery of small debts, are of early origin, as was the appointment of Bailiffs, high and low, constable, victualtaster, &c. Constables are annually elected for the borough and manor, the latter extending over the Shropshire townships, with the exception of Oldbury, which chooses one of its own.

Thirdboroughs are also chosen at the manor court, for the Hill quarter, Ridgacre, Hawn, Hasbury, Cakemere, Warley-Salop, Lappall, Ylley, Romsley, and Hunnington.

(g) Halesowen abbey, of which he is said to have been a monk, A. D. 1218.
Hales, Gloucestershire 1246.

A large poor house, with suitable appartments, was founded by Sir Thomas Lyttelton, 1730, as an inscription in front of the building imports.

PLACES OF WORSHIP.

The PARISH CHURCH of St. John, said to be on the site of a former one, occupies a commanding eminence, on the eastern side of which is a deep ravine. The advowson, together with St. Kenelm's and Frankley, (the latter founded in the reign of Richard I.) was granted at the close of the reign of John, by Peter de Rupibus, to the abbey, in consequence of the king's grant to him. In the same year, Walter de Grey, bishop of Worcester, confirmed the grant, with a reservation of its continuing subject to the see of Worcester.

Succeeding prelates confirmed the grant, and 54th Henry III. the church with its chapels, became appropriated to the abbot and convent. The convent becoming invested, both with the presentation and tythes, procured a bull from Pope Martin, for the further confirmation of their title.

This ecclesiastical body continued to present to the vicarage, from 1270, to the dissolution, when Henry VIII. granted the advowson and the rectory impropriate to Sir John Dudley, from whom they passed by sale to Sir John Lyttelton, in whose family the property remains invested at the present time. (h)

The church has many specimens of Saxon, or early Norman, and also of the style prevalent in the reigns of John

(h) In the reign of Edward IV. William Pipewell, founded a chantry in this church. In Warley chancel, the family of that name were anciently buried.

and Henry III. of which the window over the west door is an example.

Dr. Nash is of opinion, that the common practice of transferring the ornamental parts of old ecclesiastical edifices to new churches, has been introduced here; so that architectural specimens of different periods are to be sought for in unconnected parts of the same pile.

A handsome tower, surmounted by a fine stone spire, is considered as Saxon; part of the nave, with the west front, exhibiting massive round arches; the south door way; the row of ornamental columns now placed over the great window on the outside of the east front; together with the font: are all ascribed to the times of the Saxons, or early Normans. A south-east view of the edifice was taken by a youth of the name of Green, aged 17. Several of the family of Lyttelton are interred within the walls of this church, but few, if any memorials of them remain at the present day—

John Lyttelton, 1530, (a carved stone figure, supposed to be in memory of him.)

Edward, son of John and Muriel, 1614.

Sir John, knight, of Frankley, 1589-90.

And Gilbert, his son and heir, 1599, were buried here.

Armorial bearings in the windows have disappeared, with the exception of those of Lyttelton impaling Burley, the arms of the eminent judge of that name, Knight of the Bath, and justice of the court of Common Pleas, in the reigns of Henry VI. and Edward IV. also Joan Burley, his wife.

The shield was accompanied by their portraitures, to which Lord Coke refers in the Proemium to his first institute, observing that the countenance of that great man may be seen as represented in the churches of Frankley and Hales-

owen. The families of Peshall, Ferdinando Dudley Lea, Lord Dudley, &c. &c. have also sepulture within these walls. An elegant urn, standing on a pedestal, and inscribed with an appropriate poetic tribute of respect, is erected in the church to the memory of the pastoral poet, William Shenstone, who died February 11th, 1763, aged 48.

INSCRIPTION

On the Monument of Shenstone.

Who'e'er thou art, with rev'ence tread
 These sacred mansions of the dead ;
 Not that the monumental bust
 Of sumptuous tomb here guards the dust
 Of rich or great : (let wealth, rank, birth,
 Sleep undistinguish'd in the earth ;)
 This simple urn records a name
 That shines with more exalted fame.
 Reader—if genius, taste refined,
 A native elegance of mind ;
 If virtue, science, manly sense,
 If wit that never-gave offence,
 The clearest head, the tend'rest heart,
 In thy esteem e'er claim'd a part ;
 Ah ! smite thy breast and drop a tear ;
 For know——thy Shenstone's dust lies here.

R. Gs. & T. I. Hodgetts.

The remains of the bard were deposited on the south side of the churchyard, near to those of his brother. Opposite to the urn of Shenstone, is a sumptuous monument, by Banks, erected to the memory of the family of Halliday, who in later times resided at the Leasows, date, 1795.

“The lower part of the monument has the appearance of a tomb, to which the vestry door seems to be the entrance. In

the centre is the inscription in Roman capitals, on a square pilaster, with an urn at the top, on which is a bass relief, representing Benevolence clothing the naked. On the left side is the figure of John Delap, Halliday, Esq.; on the right, a female figure, with a dog at her feet, and in a kneeling posture, seems to represent fidelity, paying her devotions at his tomb. The major is dressed in that clothing which represents him as having just put off mortality, yet sympathising with, and feeling that attention which is paid to his memory." Memorials of Green, Underhill, Powell, &c. are also erected in this church.

PATRONS AND VICARS.

<i>Patrons.</i>	<i>Rev.</i>	<i>Vicars.</i>	A. D.
Abbot and convent of Halesowen.	Robert de Crowle	1st vicar,	1282.
.....	William de Frankley	.....	1306.
.....	Philip de Bromwich	.....	—11.
.....	Richard de Hampton	....	—49.
.....	Roger del Ree	.....	—69.
.....	John Poole	.....	—75.
.....	William Edgbaston	.....	1424.
.....	Richard Hull	.....	—68.
.....	Roger Walshale	.....	1501.
Viscount Lilse.....	John Legh	.....	—42.
Sir John Lyttelton, Knight	Humphrey Lyttelton,	A. B.	—81.
Thomas Chaunce, by grant from Sir Jno. Lyttelton	Ralph Mallet	.....	—84.
Sir Thos. Lyttelton, Knt. and Muriel Lyttelton, widow.	Thomas Lyttelton	.....	1620.
(Time of the common- wealth.)	Edward Paston ejected by the act of Uniformity	....	—62.

<i>Patrons.</i>	<i>Rev.</i>	<i>Vicars.</i>	<i>A. D.</i>
Sir Henry Lyttelton, Bart.	John Westwood	.....	1662.
.....	Francis Peirce	.....	—76.
.....	William Hume	.....	—85.
Sir Chas. Lyttelton, Bart.	Thomas Jewkes	.....	—96.
Sir Thos. Lyttelton, Bart.	John Amphlett	.....	1719.
Lords Lyttelton.....	Josiah Durant	.....	—31.
.....	Pynson Wilmot, A. B.....		ib.
.....	Samuel Griffiths, D. D.....		—84.
.....	William Sutton	.....	—88.
.....	George Biggs	.....	1805.
.....	G. Sproston, curate	.....	1821.

INDEPENDENT CHAPEL. Date 1810.

Rev. James Angear....	1811, to 1816.
Vacant	1816, — 1823.
Rev. Charles Evans.	1823 — 1828.
— Edward Reave. ..	—1829 1830.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL,

Town of Halesowen, purchased of another denomination,
1830.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL,

founded between 1643, and 1660. This foundation received an augmentation in 1672, from land anciently given to the church, but appropriated by a decree of Chancery, to the support of a school.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS,

parochial and others are established here, and throughout the parish.

PROVIDENT SOCIETIES,

on a large scale, also prevail.

THE LEASOWS.

On the declivity of one of those minor eminences intersecting the midland district of the kingdom from N. to S. (i) is situated that celebrated Ferme Ornée, denominated The Leasows, the paternal inheritance of the immortal pastoral poet Shenstone, and whose scenes of rural elegance were adorned by his masterly hand.

Irrespective of parochial or other divisions, this celebrated region demands distinct notice.—

(i) The prospect from this elevated spot is rich and extensive, its features are identified with those elsewhere described in different parts of this work. Clee-hills are about forty miles distant, the mountains of Radnorshire, eighty miles, Wrekin, thirty-five. The hill is 438 feet high, according to Mr. Luckock, Monthly Magazine, Dec. 1824. A poetical description of the Leasows is to be found in Woodhouse's Poems, and in Giles's Miscellany.

Leasow, though a common provincial term, is, nevertheless, of Anglo-Saxon derivation, it is often to be found in legal writings, but perhaps never received so classical an application as in the present instance. (k)

Mr. Dodsley, in fulfilling the duties of an ardent friendship towards the illustrious bard, has also conferred an high obligation on the public, by presenting them with a complete edition of his works, and subjoining a ground plan of the Leasows, "serving to perpetuate the remembrance of their distinguished beauties, which the lapse of years, and the different tastes of subsequent proprietors might diminish or destroy."

In the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, printed 1761, (l) article farm, these scenes of rural simplicity are brought forward, as an example of the embellishment of which the English garden is susceptible, and as forming a picture emblematic of the mind of the bard—simple, elegant, and amiable.

In the minuter passages of country, intervening amidst scenes of the most sublime description, as those of the Cumbrian and Cambrian Alps; striking resemblances of Shennonian pictures will present themselves to notice.

The stream produced by the cataract of Stock Gill force, in its passage to Winandermere, has similar accompaniments of woodland and fragments of rock, to the foaming rivulet at the entrance of the Leasows: which to the minor cascades of

(k) See Rev. Edward Lye's *Saxon Lexicon*, published at Oxford, 1743. Lewis, in Sussex, according to some antiquaries, derived its name from leasow, a meadow or pasturage; also Somner's "*Dictionarium Saxonico Latino Anglicum*," Oxon, 1659.

(l) Dr. Aikin observes, "that the Leasows exhibit a model of that picturesque style in laying out ground, now almost a national feature."

the mountains, bears a striking resemblance, as do also the limpid and sportive rills, which enliven these sacred recesses.

Descending to minuter particulars, the writer observes, "that one of the distinguishing beauties of this spot is, the art with which the divisions of the fields are diversified, assuming various forms distinguished from each other, as the common quickset, the lofty hedgerow, the continued range of trees, admitting light through the intervals of their boughs; while, in other parts, groups of trees at irregular distances, a wood, a grove, a coppice or a thicket will sometimes form the apparent boundary, so that the shape and style of the inclosures are particularly varied."

The inscriptions which abound in this place, are here represented as another striking peculiarity; they are well known, and justly admired, and in the elegance of the poetry, and the aptness of the quotations, atone for their length and number. (m)

The allusions to ancient and modern fables are likewise noticed as forming, in a great measure, the character of the place; the scenes, imitative of the ancient scenery of the country, and those borrowed from Arcadia, forming separate beauties, yet both in unison with each other.

Of the former description, are the priory, the gothic alcove, and particularly the inscription in obsolete language, and black letter; while the urns, interspersed through the grounds, Virgil's obelisk, and the temple of Pan, exhibit pleasing specimens of the latter kind. (n)

(m) Mr. Whateley submits it as a query, whether the spot inspired the verse of the poet, or in the scenes which he formed, he only realized the pastoral images abounding in his songs.

(n) As an effort exhibiting congenial taste to that displayed at the Lea-

The celebrated pastoral poet, whose elegant genius gave inspiration to the scenery alluded to, was a native of this place. The paternal grandfather of the poet (o) resided at Ylley, in this immediate vicinity; from thence, with his son Thomas, he retired to the Leasows, which they jointly managed as a grazing farm.

Thomas married Ann, eldest of the three daughters of William Penn, Esq. of Harborough, in the parish of Hagley; his son William, the subject of this memoir, was born November 18th, 1714. He received the first tincture of learning under the person whose memory he has immortalised in his ingenious poem of the "Schoolmistress," imitative of the style and manner of Spencer. (p)

From earliest infancy our poet displayed a remarkable fondness for reading, which was manifest in his abstraction of mind from the passing occurrences of life, and his eagerness to embrace every opportunity of engaging in study. For a short time he attended the grammar school of Halesowen, whence he removed to Solihull, in Warwickshire, where he

sows, Woburn farm, near Weybridge, in Surrey, belonging to Mrs. Southcote, is brought forward by the writer of the article on the ferme ornée above alluded to. In this demesne, consisting of 150 acres, the plan adopted appears to have been carried to a greater extent than in any other instance, yet the Leasows probably excel in simplicity.

Thirty-five acres are highly decorated; of the rest, about two-thirds are in pasturage, the remainder in tillage. The walk encircling the grazing grounds, and intersecting other parts, is properly a garden, all the rest is farm. The entire scene, occupying two sides of a hill, and a plain at its base, exhibits a pleasing view of the ornamented farm, bringing every rural object within the verge of a garden, and combining therewith numerous decorations of art.

(o) William, he occupied a considerable farm of his own at Ylley, and afterwards purchased the Leasows.

(p) Her name is recorded by Shenstone in Letter xx of his Works.

was placed under the care of the Rev. Mr. Crumpton, who at that time had the tuition of many children of the neighbouring nobility and gentry.

His father and grandfather successively deceased, June, 1724, and August, 1726, before he had attained the age of twelve, leaving William and his brother Joseph (q) under the maternal care of Mrs. Shenstone. On the demise of this lady, 1732, the guardianship of her two sons devolved upon the Rev. Thomas Dolman, rector of Brome, his maternal uncle, of whose tender and affectionate treatment, he often spoke in terms of the greatest respect. (r)

In the lover's walk at the Leasows is an elegant urn, erected by the poet to the memory of Mary the daughter of his uncle and guardian, to whom he was much attached.

After making considerable progress in the study of the Latin and Greek classics, Mr. Shenstone was admitted, A. D. 1732, a commoner in Pembroke college, Oxford, where he was resident ten years. (s)

At this period, the small seminary of Pembroke was distinguished by a rising constellation of literati. (t) Dr. William

(q) Joseph was educated as an attorney, at Bridgnorth, but never practised, he died at his brother's house, A. D. 1751.

(r) Mr. Dolman died 1745. The Rev. John Dolman, rector of Aldridge, who died 1746, and his son the Rev. William Dolman, appear to have been relations of the minister of Brome. The presentations to the livings of Aldridge and Brome, have devolved upon Sir Joseph Scott, of Barr, a descendent of the Dolman family.

(s) In this place it will not be entirely irrelevant to allude to a former venerable master of Pembroke. Dr. John Hall, chaplain to Charles II. Margaret professor, and Bishop of Bristol, 1691, in the reign of William and Mary.

(t) The Rev. Richard Jago, of University College, author of "Edge-hill,"

Adams, author of "An Essay on Miracles," and other learned tracts, was a fellow and also a tutor.

Dr. Samuel Johnson, Anthony Whistler, contributor of several elegant Poems to Dodsley's miscellanies; the Rev. Richard Greaves, of Mickleton, author of many ingenious pieces; Rev. Robert Binnell, afterwards rector of Newport, Salop, author of many excellent Notes to "Grainger's Tibullus," &c. &c.; Rev. William Hawkins, afterwards Poetry Professor, and author of three volumes of Miscellaneous works; and that bright luminary of the law, Sir William Blackstone: formed part of the select band who were contemporary collegians with this eminent pastoral poet.

Descending a little lower in the annals of this seminary, we meet with the names of Moore, afterwards Bishop of Bangor, and Archbishop of Canterbury; Newcomb, primate of Ireland; Durell, principal of Hertford college; Griffith, Rector of Bishopstoke, Hants; Lightfoot, author of "Flora, Scotica;" and the celebrated Rev. George Whitfield. While at college, Mr. Shenstone printed, anonymously, "Poems on various occasions." In 1740, he published his poem "The Judgment of Hercules;" and in 1742, his "Schoolmistress;" separately, in 8vo.

During the residence of his relatives of the Shenstone family, at the Leasows, after the decease of his uncle Dolman, our poet, desirous of residing at his paternal estate, became an inmate with them, but shortly became its sole occupier, and by the efforts of his elegant and creative genius, perfected the scenery of his rural domain.

The villa, originally suitable to the surrounding scenes,

a Poem, 1767. "Labour and Genius," a Poem, 1768, was a contemporary, and intimate friend of Shenstone.

was rebuilt by Edward Horne, Esq., a succeeding possessor of the estate, in a style of somewhat superior elegance, but in unison with the prevailing taste of the place, A. D. 1776, and the successive occupiers and proprietors of these rural scenes have suffered them still to remain nearly unaltered. (u)

This celebrated bard is considered as having possessed the virtues appertaining to an easy benevolent disposition, with the imbecilities too commonly incident to such a character. Some troubles clouded the evening of his life; his works though entitled to high distinction among those of classical and poetic authors, are, nevertheless, deteriorated by the insertion of some feebler lucubrations, unfortunately exposed to public view, being disabled, during his life, from making a proper selection, by severe illness.

Of his death and memorial, some notice is taken in the account of the church and cemetery of Halesowen.

SUCCESSIVE OCCUPIERS OF THE LEASOWS.

William Shenstone, Esq.
 — Hodgetts, Esq.
 — Powell, Esq.
 Captain Turnpenny.
 Mrs. Peach, married to Lord Thomas Lyttelton.
 Disney Roebuck, Esq.
 Edward Horne, Esq.
 John Delap Halliday, Esq. Major.
 William Edward Hartop, Esq.
 Charles Hamilton, Esq.
 Matthias Attwood, Esq.

(u) Lady Jane Halliday erected an hermitage in the Leasows.

In pages 193 and 201, the subdivisions of the Salopian portion of the parish are noticed. It is also divided into quarters, the first of which is the borough, described above.

Continuous to the borough, on the east, is Hill quarter—comprising the eminence adorned by the beautiful groves of the Leasows, adjoining which, and commanding the same general prospect, is Belle Vue, a mansion of the late James Male, Esq. now of Michael Grazebrook, Esq. In the same quarter, together with the Leasows, is also Lappall, and in the directions of N. E. and S. E. are Warley Salop, and Ridgacre.

LAPPALL.

Prior to the founding of an abbey in the vicinity of the borough, an ancient manor house, called the King's House, occupied the site; the manor farm and the manor lane, leading from the Halesowen and Bromsgrove road to Northfield, still preserve these appellations.

Lappall is distinguished by a long tunnel bearing its name, forming part of the channel of the Dudley and Netherton canal; also by a chalybeate spring. On the road to Bromsgrove is the Grainge, the residence of Colonel Smith.

ABBEY OF HALESOWEN.

King John, in the 16th year of his reign, A. D. 1215, granted the manor of Halesowen to Peter de Rupibus, Bishop of Winton, for the purpose of founding an Abbey for Premonstratensian canons, the same was confirmed by a subsequent grant of the same monarch, and also by Henry III. A. D. 1226. (w)

(w) Peter de Rupibus is styled the potent bishop of Winton, to whom Robert Marmion, on going into Normandy, 17th Henry III. consigned his

According however to another statement, this religious house was founded on the year immediately following the date of the original grant, 17th John, 1216, and in an ancient record in MS. "Visitation Book of Premonstratensian abbies, deposited in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford;" it is expressly asserted, that the monastery was founded A. D. 1218, and that on 6 kalends of May this year, a company of canons from Wélbeck, Nottinghamshire, settled here, which fixes the date of the foundation 2d Henry III.

The last-mentioned monarch, A. D. 1248. confirmed a grant made by Sir William Rufus, whereby the tithes of Walsall became vested in this monastery, and by the same instrument the vicarage of Walsall (x) was instituted. (y) This religious body had also a temporary interest in Wednesbury and Rushall, notwithstanding a verdict obtained against the abbot respecting the former parish.

Clent, with the appendant parish of Rowley, were also granted to the abbot and convent, by John Lord Botetourt, baron of Weoleigh, and the manor of the latter by John de Hampton, in the reign of Edward III. Thomas, abbot of

estates in England, for the term of seven years, together with the guardianship of his son Philip, heir to the property.*

This order of Canons lived according to the rule of St. Austin, but were reformed by Norbert, Archbishop of Magdeburgh. Promonstre, in Picardy, circa. 1110, was chosen as the site of a monastery of these canons.

Tor abbey, Devon; Titchfield, Hants; Deepdale and Beauchief, Derbyshire; Tupholme, Lincolnshire; Sulby, near Welford, Northamptonshire; Shap, Westmoreland; Dodford, near Bromsgrove, Worcestershire; Tamworth, Warwickshire; together with Tuam, in Ireland: were sites of similar establishment.

(x) The connexion of Walsall and Rushall, with Halesowen abbey, temp. Henry III. is alluded to in Shaw's Staff. II. 67—70. 76.

(y) Pearce's History of Walsall, pa. 30.

* Dugdale.

Halesowen, 1331, granted to John de Hampton an endowment for a chaplaincy, the incumbent of which was to celebrate divine service for the souls of John, and various branches of his family.—*Shaw*.

Various lands and pecuniary bequests became the property of this religious foundation, to which Peter de Rupibus, the founder, Warin de Upton, Lord of Upton-Waren, Roger Roculf, Lord of Church-Lench, John de Luttelton, and William d' Englefield were principal contributors.

Several granges, as those of Warley, Hill, Owley, Farley, Witley, Ussmere, Rudhall, Blakeley, and New-Grange, in Hales, with Pyrcote, in Old Swinford; were also attached to the foundation. (z)

In the reign of Edward IV. the priory of Dodford, near Bromsgrove, was incorporated with the abbey of Halesowen, and that of Titchfield, Hants, of the same order, was also a cell thereto.

It appears by the visitation book of the Premonstratensian abbies, that the establishment in this place never exceeded twenty, including noviciates, though it is asserted by Mr. Willis that thirty-five were resident there in 1538, the period of the dissolution. In addition to the abbot, were a prior, sub-prior, sacrist, chanter, sub-chanter, cellerer, and custos-infirmorum.

The punishment of delinquents consisted of banishment to Croxton, in the moorlands of Staffordshire, Shap, Westmoreland, and other convents.

The remains of several persons of considerable dignity

(z) Nash Wor. II. Ap. xxii. Names of abbots, ib. xxiii.

and eminence, were deposited within the conventual church of Halesowen, as—John Botetourt, Baron of Weoleigh, (z) Sir Hugh Burnell, and Sir William Lyttelton, of Frankley, who by his will dated November, 1507, ordered his body to be deposited in the church, near to that of Ellen his first wife.

The ruin of this once splendid edifice is well represented by the engraving in Nash's *Worcestershire*, nor is its exterior appearance materially altered at the commencement of the 19th century.

On the south side of the ruined pile, is a substantial farm house, sheltered by a lofty fragment of the abbey, containing several gothic window-recesses.

This wall, of considerable length, forms the boundary of a large farm yard with appurtenant buildings, numerous stacks of corn, hay, &c. ; and amidst these humble edifices, two very fine fragments of the ancient church lift up their venerable heads, majestic in decay.

The opposite, or northern wall, resembling that of a quire of a cathedral, fractured towards the east, exhibits one long narrow window recess, and several inferior arches ; it is lofty, and clothed with Ivy. A gable to the east, apparently the termination of a side aisle, is also rich in antique architecture. Both of these principal relics have miserable houses attached to them, and appear to be fast approaching to dilapidation.

Several of the barns and other out houses, have faint traces of gothic architecture in the arches which are over their door-ways and other parts. A foss is very conspicuous,

(z) Baldwin, 4th Lord of Tamworth, married in succession two daughters of Sir John Botetourt. *Shaw Staff. I. 48.*

nearly encompassing the premises and correspondent valley, which have a pleasing appearance. (a)

The house and church, according to ancient records, appear to have been stately edifices ; the chancel was paved with mosaic tiles, some of which have, in modern times, been distributed among the collectors of antique relics.

OLDBURY,

township and manor, including Langley, Wallaxall, and Cakemore.

Old-borough is considered by Mr. Eardeswick as expressive of antiquity.

Castle Leasow and Bury-hill, in this vicinity, are supposed to denote the existence of an ancient fortification, of which no vestiges at present remain. The proximity of Oldbury to the Portway (b) is also corroboratory of this opinion. This manor does not appear to have been distinct from that of Hales till after the dissolution of the monastery. From the reign of Henry III. to that of Henry VIII. it occurs in court rolls as a vill, or township, dependant on Halesowen.

During this period it appears to have been in possession of the Dudley family, who procured in its behalf a royal

(a) A licence was granted by Edward I. to enable the abbot and convent to embattle or fortify some apartments in this religious house, then recently erected. This is considered as a very rare instance, such habitations being seldom so defended. It may, in some degree, corroborate the ideas to which the present vestiges of entrenchments naturally give rise.

(b) The Oldbury of Wilts, those of Gloucestershire and Warwickshire, were undoubtedly Roman stations ; another adjoins Bridgnorth. The peninsular-shaped parish of Oldborough, Wor. appears to derive its name from a tumulus within its bounds.

grant for holding a court leet. The manor subsequently passed, 1648, to Charles Cornwallis, Esq. (c)

Anthony Mingay, and William Featherstone, sons in law of Cornwallis, next became joint lords. It then devolved on Frances, the widow of the latter, and on Ann Addington and Elizabeth Paston, her daughters.

Christopher Wright, of Coventry, gent. and Richard Grimshaw, gent. marrying the two daughters of Addington, became joint owners of the lordship. Wright, by purchasing the moiety belonging to Grimshaw, at length became sole lord of the manor, he was resident at Hawkesbury, near Coventry.

Cakemore, (to adopt the geographical phraseology sometimes resorted to in order to find a simile,) occupies a narrow isthmus, the connecting link between Halesowen proper, and Oldbury; the opposite branches of Stafford and Worcestershire nearly coming into contact.

The river Tame rises near to Oldbury. This appellation, together with Taf, Tav, Tam, Thames, &c. are, according to Whitaker, synonymous terms for water in general. (d)

The Portway here alluded to is supposed to have been a vicinal road branching from the Ikenild, which left Birmingham a little to the right.

(c) Blakeley Grange, the ancient manor house of Oldbury, was once the residence of the family of Cornwallis, who, according to Hutton, also possessed the manors of Smethwick and Harborne.

(d) From the British term Ta, water; the Cambrian rivers, Towy, visiting Caermarthen; Tawy, Swansea; Tivy, Cardigan; Tave, St. Clear; Taff, Llandaff and Cardiff; as also the English rivers—Thames, Tamar, &c., are said to derive their names. Of the two Staffordshire Tames mentioned by Shaw, Walsall water appears to be one.

The situation of the town, the eastern frontier of the Rowley-hills overlooking the extensive vale in which it stands ; is naturally pleasant. Surrounded by very extensive coal fields, and almost encompassed by the Birmingham canal; it is well situated for mining and manufacturing operations. (e)

At the distance of one mile to the west, in the parish of Rowley, is the Brades, celebrated for its iron and steel works. The south Staffordshire mineralogical district, stretches from hence in various directions. A market-house, with accommodations for the Court of Requests, which is much resorted to, has been recently erected in Oldbury. In the same building meetings of the Magistracy are periodically held.

Oldbury is continually receiving new accessions of modern buildings, with an improving frontage of the houses, by opening and decoration of handsome shops, annually assuming more of the appearance of an important town, like numerous of its congeners in the adjoining county ; as Bilson, now of considerable magnitude ; West-Bromwich, Wednesbury, Darlaston, &c. Fairs are held here on May 25th and October 5th.

(e) Reverting to the vicinity of the borough, Hawn or Halen overlooking the vale of Stour, is the residence of Mathias Attwood, Esq. which is described as being within the manor of Oldbury, though near to the road leading from Halesowen to Stourbridge.

PLACES OF WORSHIP.

OLDBURY EPISCOPAL CHAPEL, ST. NICHOLAS'.

This chapel was founded 1529, 25th Henry VIII, by subscription of the inhabitants. The edifice was in possession of the Nonconformists, soon after the revolution, who retained it till the reign of Queen Anne. (f)

Dr. Nash observes, that being destitute of endowment till that time, it obtained the Queen's bounty, and was consecrated by Bishop Lloyd, A. D. 1716. The same bishop licensed Mr. Thorpe to the cure, on the presentation of the vicar of Halesowen, to whom succeeded after 1660 :—

Rev. Thomas Wright	.....29th July,	.....1663.
— Charles Osborn	.....29th Nov.	.....1665.
— John Muckross	.....30th Sep.	.....1674.
— Thomas Stinton	.....28th Oct.	.....1724.
— Joseph Hipkiss	.....15th Jan.	.....1728.
— — Lewis	.....	in .....1821.
	&c.	

PRESBYTERIAN CHAPEL,

Erected on the site of a former one, 1807, dimensions, 38 by 28 ft.

(f) Other similar anomalies occur ; one in this parish, to be noticed under Cradley ; also Chowbent, Lancashire ; three churches in Liverpool, St. Catherine's, lately taken down, St. Stephen's, and St. Matthew's, which were

A society of Protestant Dissenters was established at Oldbury at an early period, as the following list of ministers will show :—

Rev. William Turton, ejected from the parish church of Rowley Regis, 1686, to the time of his decease, 1716.

Rev. Daniel Greenwood.

— Edward Broadhurst.

— Daniel Mattox, 1732 } to 1746.

— Joseph Wilkinson, 1739 } — 1756.

— William Howell...1746 }

— Samuel Clarke....1756 } — 1769.

— — Bradford,..1772.

— William Procter,..1776 to 1806.

— Samuel Griffiths,..1808.

— Timothy Davies, in 1830.

Ministers also of
the Old Meeting
Birmingham.

This place is celebrated among the Dissenters, for an annual meeting of ministers, on the second Tuesday of September, Oldbury double Lecture. (g)

formerly Dissenting places of worship. Toxteth chapel, near Liverpool, remained in the hands of Dissenters after passing the Uniformity Act.

Morley, near Leeds, furnishes an instance of an opposite description.

A curious case of this kind is narrated in reference to Kirkstead, in Lincolnshire. *Beauties of England and Wales*, IX. 708.

(g) The origin of this lecture is differently accounted for; some maintaining that it was instituted in commemoration of Bartholomew Day, 1662; others, that the family of Turton appointed a day of prayer and thanksgiving on account of a memorable deliverance from danger, occasioned by the fall of a stack of chimneys, to which they invited the neighbouring ministers, and which has been continued from the close of the 17th century to the present time.

See Sermon preached at Oldbury lecture, 1817, by the late Rev. J. Scott, with a subjoined list of the preachers (as complete as practicable), during the period of its duration. A similar list of preachers at Dudley Lecture follows. It is customary to have two sermons on each of these occasions.

The family of Turton, of the Brades, in the adjoining parish of Rowley Regis, held, for many years, an eminent station among the nonconformists of this neighbourhood; they were great supporters of the society in Oldbury, and of the double Lecture.

This branch of the family, and also that alluded to in the margin, appear to have been of two distinct lines, proceeding from a common stock.

Of the Brades family was the Rev. William Turton, first minister at Oldbury and Birmingham.—*Palmer II.* 400. 1st ed.

Tablets in the parish church of Rowley, record legacies bequeathed to charitable purposes, by—

John Turton, of the Brades, by deed, 1688, William Turton, of West-Bromwich, and John, gent., will, dated 1714. Many descendants of John Turton, of the Brades, have resided, during the last half century, at the family mansion, also at West-Bromwich, Bromsgrove, Dudley, &c. (h)

(h) Another line of the Turton family was seated at the Oaks, in West-Bromwich. Many dignified persons, as Sir John Turton, knight, baron of the Exchequer, 1689, and Justice of the King's bench, 1696, obit 1707, a. 71. Several private gentlemen and magistrates of the county of Stafford—Sir Thomas Turton, &c. &c. were of this branch, the latter was created baronet 1796.

Sugnal, Arlewas, Orgreave, &c. were also residences of different members of this family,* see those articles in Shaw, Turton's hall, Wolverhampton, now a factory, once belonged to them. †

Individuals both of the Oaks and Brades, lines settled in the latter town; where two almost illegible inscriptions, on altar-tombs, situated near to the Danish monument in St. Peter's church-yard, are still visible. Dr. Turton, physician to the household of George III. was of this family, his wife, formerly Hickman, is buried at Old Swinford.

* See Baronetage of England, date 1806. Noble's Continuation of Grainger's History England, II. 180, Harwood's Eardeswick, p. 232.

† Once a town residence of the family of Leveson. In a map of Wolverhampton, date, 1750, this moated mansion is represented.

To the family of Turton, at the Brades, succeeded that of Hunt, from Birmingham, a branch of which is still resident there, proprietor of the iron and steel works, son of William Hunt, Esq., who died 1808.

LANGLEY GREEN CHAPEL.

Independent.

Rev. — Cotterill.1809.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL.

ROMSLEY QUARTER,

*Also a Manor including Ylley, Hunnington, and Hasbury or
Haselbury.*

This district, previous to the Norman conquest, was not a distinct manor, but being comprised within that of Hales, passed, by the Conqueror's gift, to Roger Montgomery, and afterwards by that of King John, to the abbot and convent. Within its boundaries is a finely wooded hill, bearing the name of the district, having on its acclivity, on the turnpike road from Halesowen to Bromsgrove, the large village of Hunnington. Kenelmstowe, a vill surrounding the ancient chapel of St. Kenelm, with Hampstead, now obliterated from the topographical delineations of this vicinity : are frequently mentioned in ancient writings.

15th Henry VII. a rental of Romsley manor expresses, that Hugh Westwood was rated at £5. per annum, pro hospitio, Sti. Kenelmi.

During the period when the convent of Halesowen was invested with the demesne of Kenelmstowe, a considerable resort of pilgrims to the chapel and adjacent spring took place. This decreased during the episcopate of the venerable Latimer, and was probably nearly, if not entirely, discontinued, when in 30th Henry VIII. the revenues were conferred on Sir John Dudley, Knight, afterwards Duke of Northumberland, from whom the property descended to his youngest son, Robert, Earl of Leicester.

From the latter Nobleman it passed, by successive purchases, to Thomas Blount and George Tuckey, Esqrs. and also to John Lyttelton, of Frankley, Esq., and his posterity.

Adjoining the precincts of the borough, on the road to Hagley and Kidderminster, is Hasbury, famous in ancient times for a well, dedicated to St. Margaret. Some curious stone-work adjoining its margin, was removed, A. D. 1747, its waters form a rill tributary to the Stour.

St. Margaret's hill was formerly the residence of the family of Crane, near to which is that of Powell, formerly Peshall, or Pearsall. The grandfather of Sir John Peshall resided at Hawn.

Hasbury is noticed for a quarry of durable free stone, much used for building, under the name of Halesowen stone.



PLACE OF WORSHIP.

SAINT KENELM'S CHAPEL.

This chapel, dedicated to the young prince of Mercia, whose untimely death is recorded under Clent; is situated in a remarkably sequestered spot. (h)

Cowbatch or Clatterbatch, itself a deep ravine, descends at the cemetery of St. Kenelm, to a still deeper valley, flanking the hill of Romsley, and stretching, in a transverse direction, from the dale just mentioned.

Erected on the steepest part of the declivity, the edifice, when viewed from the east, assumes an elevation superior to that of the opposite point, which is the site of the tower. Bishop Lyttelton considers this rural chapel as a fine specimen of Saxon architecture, mixed with the gothic, the south porch alone remaining of the original structure.

“The tower,” the Bishop observes, “is beautiful gothic, richly adorned with niches and pinnacles.”

The same eminent antiquary describes the carving on the south wall in the following terms:—“A rude figure of a child, with two fingers of the right hand lifted in the form of a benediction; a crown of stone over his head, intended to represent Kenelm, accompanied by symbols of the evangelists, as the eagle, the lion, bull, angel.”

The arch over the door being Saxon, is ascribed by the Bishop to the age when the chapel was founded.—“The very

(h) A plate of the church of St. Kenelm, by Mr. Parkes, of Shrewsbury, is in *Gent. Mag.* vol. LXVIII. pa. 741.

same kind of sculpture, arch, and pillars," he adds, "are observable over the south door of the ancient church of Pedmore." (i)

On a recent visit to this interesting spot, the following observations occurred—On approaching the venerable tower from the narrow holloway, to which it serves as a terminating object, a beautiful front is presented to view. A fine massive arch, occupying a large portion of the tower, is injured as to its effect, by an interior covering of brick-work, in which square windows are inserted.

Four gothic pinnacles are highly ornamental to the corners of the tower, which is also adorned with highly projecting figures in the form of buttresses. The two angles of the pediments at the east and west ends have similar ornaments.

The figure of a child, alluded to by the bishop, is about one and a half foot high, the head is strangely disproportionate to the body, being nearly of an equal size; the left hand holds a book; the crown is like a rude canopy.

The exterior of the porch, like that of Pedmore, is of modern brick-work, but the Saxon arch and pillars remain entire; the carvings, though not defaced by violence, are so obliterated by white-wash, as to be scarcely discernable. No other carving is at the present time observable.

Several particulars relative to the cemetery will be found to possess some degree of interest.—A rude stone of square form in the centre of the front ground, divides the parish of Clent from that of Halesowen; at the period of Doomsday both were in the county of Worcester.

(i) See Pedmore, pa. 190.

No right of sepulture is admitted here ; the ashes of the martyred prince alone, once reposing in these solitary shades. (k)

Kenelm's cum, Frankley, are ecclesiastically connected with Halesowen ; the former, as having the privilege of baptizing, burying, &c. there : the latter styled a limb thereof. Both are generally presented to the rector of Hagley, and held as a donative.

Ministers of St. Kenelm from the period of the Restoration—

- Rev. John Waldron, admitted 4th July,1663.
- Josias Read,..... 27th April,1669.
- Samuel Lloyd, A. B.....23d April,.....1677.
- John Brown, A. B.....27th June,.....1691.
- Robert Durant, A. B. ...31st Aug.1691.
- Josiah Durant, A. B.1730.
- John Durant, LL. B. ..6th April,1764. (l)

(k) A passage in the Monasticon represents the monks of Winchcomb, in Gloucestershire, as obtaining the body of Kenelm, and enshrining it in their own church, built by Kenulph.

A well near to Winchcomb abbey was dedicated to the saint. The parish church of Upton Snodesbury was also dedicated to St. Kenelm.

On visiting this spot, Sep. 1823, a view was taken of the site of Winchcomb abbey, near the modernised residence of — Williams, Esq. A large field, in front of the house, and intervening between the principal part of the town and the suburb in which the parish church is situated, was formerly a cemetery, in which many human remains have been dug up, those of the prince were probably within the building.

Kenelm's well, under a range of the Cotswold hills, still supplies with water conducted by pipes, Sudeley castle, in the chapel appendant to which were deposited the remains of queen Catherine Parr.

At a subsequent period, that of the civil wars, 1654, the last duke of Chandois, a zealous royalist, was interred there in a vault, into which, at a still later period, were received the disinterred ashes of the queen.

(l) The three last incumbents of the name of Durant, occur as rectors

In later times.

- — — Lee.
- John Todd, living in 1830, minister also of Frankley.

The fair of St. Kenelm is held in the chapel yard, 28th July, (feast of St. Kenelm) granted 33d Henry III. to Roger de Somery, then lord of Clent.

Nash II. App. 16.

WORCESTERSHIRE DISTRICT OF HALESOWEN.

— ◆ —

WARLEY-WIGORN. (k)

This manor, formerly Werwelie, retains in its appellation, a vestige of the name of the county in which it is situate.

Ailward held it in the Confessor's reign, and at the period of the conquest, we find it in possession of William Fitz-Ansulph, the Norman baron of Dudley, a contemporary Nobleman with Roger Montgomery, lord of the Salopian manor of Hales.

of Hagley. Frankley has for a long period been united with St. Kenelm's, but no list of incumbents is annexed to the former article in the History of Wor., wherewith to compare the above.

(k) Worcester was termed, by the ancient Britons, *Caer Wragon*; *Ninius* names it *Caer-Guoroun*. *Branonium* was its appellation according to *Antoninus*.

Wigornia, Saxon, occurs in *Florence of Worcester*, latinised *Vigornia*. *Wiccii* was a term bestowed by the Saxons on part of this district, before the division of counties took place.

This part of Worcestershire, in form resembling a promontory, branches northwards from the main body, separating the counties of Salop and Stafford. *Londonderry*, almost approximating thereto, appears to be a detached portion of Worcestershire.

“The heirs of Fitz-Ansculph, were the Paganels and Someries, successive barons of Dudley.”

On the decease of John Somery, 16th Edward II. 1322, his sisters, Joan, wife of Sir John Bottetourt, knight, baron of Weoleigh castle, in Northfield, and Margaret, wife of Sir John de Sutton, knight, baroness of Dudley, in her own right, jointly inherited his domains.

Under these ladies, the family of Fockerham held Warley —part of which was granted by Richard Fockerham, to Sir John de Luttelton, of the Frankley family. The lands remained in the hands of the Lutteltons, Luttelingtons, or Lytteltons, during a long period, as deeds of Hen. VI. Hen. VII. and Edward III. testify.

In the eleventh year of the last-mentioned king, Lady Joan Bottetourt was empowered by a license in mortmain, to grant the manor of Werveley to the abbot and convent of Halysowen, in consideration of certain religious offices to be performed during the lives and after the deaths of King Edward III. and herself.

The ecclesiastical body remained in quiet possession till the dissolution, when the property passed, together with Halesowen, to Sir John Dudley, Sir Robert Dudley, &c. &c. and ultimately to the Lytteltons of Frankley.

Antiquities of this district, whose very vestiges may be said at the present time almost entirely to have disappeared, appear to have a kind of posthumous existence in the pages of the historian.

“The present farm house called Brendhall, seems to have been part of the offices or outbuildings to the ancient seat of

the Fokerhams." Fragments of this ruined edifice occasionally impede or fracture the plough-share in its progress through the adjacent fields. (m)

Bishop Lyttelton mentions a chapel as formerly situate at Warley, and another at Ludley. Ancient records describe one dedicated to St. Katherine, of which Chapel-croft is the supposed site.

St. Michael's is also recorded in the rental of the religious house of Halesowen, 15th Henry VII.

A family of Wyrley nom de terre, from Warley, had (n) once a memorial in the church of Halesowen, now disappeared, (o) for

"Monuments themselves memorials need." (p)

"In the road leading from Causeway Green in Warley Wigorn, towards Oldbury, and near Langley, were found great quantities of iron cinders. Whether they were British, Roman, or Saxon, says Mr. Pennant, I will not affirm, but great quantities have been carried away, and worked over again to advantage. (q)

(m) Of the ancient Warley hall, described in a court roll of 23d Henry VI. there does not appear a minute vestige. Furtherhall manor is mentioned in some ancient evidences.

(n) In Warley chancel, once St. Katherine's.

(o) No intimation is given of this family having any connexion with the respectable family of that name in Staffordshire.

(p) Crabbe.

(q) Similar scoriae have been observed in the forest of Dean, Glo., and in several parts of the counties of Hereford and Monmouth. The very partial and imperfect extraction of iron ore from its stony base, effected by means of the rude and powerless blasts of the Ancient Britons and Romans, has opened a wide field for the persevering efforts of their remote posterity to com-

Coomb's wood, about the year 1777, produced some fossils consisting of flag or jointed reed. This wood is now intersected by the Dudley and Netherton canal, which enters a tunnel at one of its extremities. Near to the Lightwoods in this district is an eminence bearing the ancient appellation of Warley Tor.

Perry-hill, about the centre of the tract, was once the residence of John Shenstone, a distant relation of the poet.

In this neighbourhood the name of Quinton occurs, as that of a small vill, supposed to be derived from the ancient game so called. Running at the quinton formed part of the amusements exhibited at Kenelworth, for the entertainment of Queen Elizabeth.

Bishop Kennet observes, that this ancient Roman sport prevailed only in places where Roman roads were to be traced, or garrisons established.

Portway, a supposed branch of Ikenild, is said to have crossed this district. Crook street, leading from hence to Northfield, and there uniting with the road from Birmingham to Bromsgrove; and Moor street, now obscure lanes, are in this vicinity.

plete their unfinished labours. A verdict was given, 1818, in the Court of Common Pleas, in favour of Anthony Hill, Esq., of Plymouth iron works, on the ground that his patent for an improved method of re-working of the scoriae had been infringed.

A decision of the Court of King's Bench afterwards set aside this verdict, and fully established the right of the manufacturer to extract iron from cinders.

PLACE OF WORSHIP.

—◆—

 QUINTON CHAPEL.

Wesleyan.

CRADLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

This manor is situated in a part of the county of Worcester, formerly in the barony of Dudley, and hundred of Clent, but now of Halfshire, in that tract of peninsular form which branching from Churchill, extends in a northern direction, and is bounded both by the mainland of Stafford, and its insular district of Clent and Brome; as also by the Salopian district of Halesowen.

It is thus spoken of in Domesday: (q) —“ William Fitz-Ans-culph holds Cradlei, and Pagan under him. Wigar held it.” (r)

Descending in the same line as the demesne of Warley, to the Lady of Sir John Bottetourt, baron of Weoleigh; on the decease of Sir John, 9th of Richard II. 1385, Joyce his grand-daughter, wife of Sir Hugh Burnel, knight, became seised of the manor.

She dying, Jan. 1st, 1405, and leaving no issue, the manor of Cradley, instead of passing to her heirs at law, came into possession, (together with Northfield, Clent, Old Swinford,

(q) Domesday Record gives to Cradley one hide, four villans, eleven bordars, with seven ploughs.

(r) Temp. Edward Confessor, also Churchill, near Kidderminster.

and Weoleigh castle,) of Sir Hugh Burnel, in consequence of a fine levied by Joyce.

Joan Beauchamp, Lady Bergavenny, by purchasing the rights of Sir Hugh, and several parties, became possessor of two thirds of this manor, to whom grants were confirmed by deeds signed by him, dated Weoleigh castle, 5th Henry V. She becoming invested with this domain, (to take place on Burnel's decease,) conveyed the same to trustees, who by a joint deed, dated 15th Hen. VI. enfeoffed James Butler, (s) son and heir apparent of James, Earl of Ormond, (t) and grandson to Lady Bergavenny, of the same, which was confirmed to him by her last will and testament. Butler, afterwards created Earl of Wiltshire, retained the property after several contests, till 32d Henry VI. 1454, when he agreed with Maurice Berkley, to divide the lands in question; on which occasion, Cradley, Clent, Old Swinford, and Hagley, were assigned to the said Earl. (See those articles.)

(s) During the reign of Henry VI. previous to the enfeoffment of the property in the family of Butler, a gentleman of some consideration, (as proved by his armorial bearings,) of the name of Bore, styling himself of Cradley, flourished here.

A charter, dated Himley, October, 1493, temp. Henry VII. enumerates sundry inhabitants of Cradley, having right of common on Pensnet chace; being a grant from Edward Sutton, Knight, Lord Duddleley de Duddleley, to Thomas Ormond, Lord of Ormond and Cradley, John Forrest, William Beare, and others.

(t) Ormond, according to Camden, is a district of Tipperary. Edward II. according to this author, granted Carrick to Edmund Botcler or Butler, creating him Earl of that place; and Edward III. conferred the title of Ormond on James Butler. The houses of Stuart and Butler, according to Mr. Whitaker, were known to have derived their appellations from their hereditary offices in the palaces of Scotland and Ireland.

James Butler, one of the Earls of Ormond, and Jasper Tudor, Earl of Pembroke, headed an army of Lancastrians, A. D. 1461, when they were discomfited by Mortimer, the young Earl of March, at Mortimer's cross, three miles from Wigmore.—*Warner's Tour through Wales.*

This nobleman, during the unhappy contests between the houses of York and Lancaster, adhered steadfastly to King Henry VI., and on Edward, Duke of York, gaining the crown, he was beheaded at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, anno. 1461, whereby his lands were forfeited to the crown, and soon after divided among the friends of the dominant party. Edward IV. in the first year of his reign, granted this manor to Fulk Stafford, who dying without issue, the king granted two-thirds of Cradley, and the remaining third, (after the decease of Stafford's widow,) to Thomas Prout, Esq.

The original name of Walter Butler, first Earl of Ormond and Ossory, was Fitz Walter.

One of the Lords Ormond was Lieutenant of Ireland, about the year 1667, a great encourager of the woollen manufactory of that kingdom, now superseded by the linen branch.—*Worsley*.

From that year to 1821, when the Marquis Wellesley was appointed to that high office; it appears to have been held by Noblemen not natives of Ireland.

In the reign of Elizabeth, a quarrel between Thomas, Earl of Ormond, and the Earl of Desmond is spoken of in a letter from the Queen to Sir Henry Sidney, anno 1565.

In 1598, the government of Ireland was committed, for a time, to an Earl of Ormond.—*Miss Aikin's Memoirs of Elizabeth*. See also Oldswinford and Hagley.

In *Gent. Mag.* Nov. 1822, is a pedigree, shewing the descent of William Beckford, Esq., of Fonthill, and of Margaret his wife, from Edward I. through the house of Butler.

In later times we read of the family of Butler, claiming a right to assist at the coronation of George IV. July 19th, 1821. A counter claim was made by Marquis Cornwallis, as descendant of Sir Thomas Boleyn, who officiated in the same capacity at the coronation of Henry VIII.

Ormond, the successful candidate, was on that occasion created a Peer of the united kingdom.

Lady Eleanor Butler, of Plasnewydd, who died June 2d, 1829, was sister to John, who claimed and obtained the earldom of Ormond, in 1791; and aunt to the Marquis of Ormond. This Lady, with her bosom friend Mrs. Ponsonby, were long resident in that beautiful villa, adorning the enchanting vale of Llangollen, surrounded by wonders of nature and art.

13th Edward IV. a grant occurs of two-thirds of this lordship, with reversion as before, to his beloved consort Queen Elizabeth and her assigns for ever.

The queen having built a chapel, dedicated it to Erasmus, adjoining to the abbey church of Westminster, endowed it with the manors of Cradley and Hagley. At the same time the King granted to the convent free warren, return of writs, &c. &c., and also a court leet for the two manors. But the abbot and monks of Westminster enjoyed these manors for a short time only, for Thomas Butler, (r) younger brother of the earl of Wiltshire, becoming a favourite at court, procured the restoration of Cradley, and other forfeited lands.

“ Ample compensation,” adds the historian, “ was doubtless made to the church of Westminster, for the resumption of this grant.”

Thomas Butler, afterwards created Earl of Ormond, after encountering much opposition, obtained an award made by Lord Treasurer Dynham, Lord Daubigny, and the two chief justices, whereby the several lands in question were confirmed to him on paying to his opponent Sir Hugh Willoughby, &c. the sum of £800. (s)

The Earl dying, August 3d, 1515, his daughter Anne, wife of Sir John Seyntleger, of Annary, Devon, inherited Cradley and some other manors.

(r) In Nash Wor., article Hagley, Sir James Boteler, Knight, son and heir of the Earl of Ormond, is mentioned as inheriting Hagley, from Lady Burgavenny, also Old Swinford.

(s) The title of Earl of Wiltshire had been borne by Thomas Boleyn, grandfather of Queen Elizabeth; it was offered by that Princess to Lord Hunsdon, but refused.—*Aikin's Memoirs of the Court of Elizabeth.*

Sir Thomas Butler had also the title of Baron Rochford, in Essex, borne also at another period by the Boleyns.

In 1564, her grandson, Sir John Seyntleger, sold it, together with Old Swinford, Hagley, and Clent, to Sir John Lyttelton, of Frankley, Knight, whose lineal descendant enjoys it at the present time.

This manor and township, containing about 766 acres, may be considered as divided by Homer-hill, into two parts, usually denominated Overend and Netherend; both flanked by the river Stour on the north, which separates it from Rowley and King Swinford.

Overend has for its eastern boundary Drew's brook, falling into the river, and parting it from the Shropshire portion of the parish.

Ludley is the southern limit, and the remaining part of Cradley bears towards Old Swinford, its western point. The ancient town or vill, bearing the name of Cradley, is situated in a deep ravine, at the eastern base of the hill, contiguous also to several minor eminences which intervene between it and Overend, proper, the utmost limit of the district.

Intervening between Overend and the limit, are Colman-hill and Belle-vale. To resume our description of the site, as viewed from the commanding eminence alluded to, Homer-hill (t) completely overlooks a wide range of country, possessing a very numerous and dense population; and animated by manufacturing industry. (u)

(t) On the hill is a substantial dwelling, the property of Thomas Biggs, Esq. once occupied by the family of Hunt, afterwards of Birmingham and the Brades. On the opposite or right bank of the river are Corngreave iron-works, successively in the occupation of the Attwood family, and the British iron company.

(u) The appellations of town and township have time immemorial ap-

Embosomed in extensive woodlands, the principal lake of the vicinity, New Pool, appears to peculiar advantage, and presents a pleasing contrast to the busy scenes of the surrounding tract.

The populous tract just mentioned contains Cradley proper and Overend, in the former was an ancient mansion, of the family of Hickman, (v) now completely despoiled of its antique exterior by modern alterations.

On the opposite bank of the Stour, the tract subjacent to the long range of Rowley-hills, with the continuous district of Nether-ton, and extending along the banks of the canal, reaches to the town of Dudley.

The soil in general is a rich clay, fertile in grain and pasturage. To the north and west of Nether-ton, coal and iron-stone abound.

In a southern direction, a tract of arable land extends towards Ludley, still retaining the appellation of Cradley field, though completely inclosed. Numerous specimens of woodstone, have at different times been found on this spot, as also marine shells and other petrifications; in some situations, lime, supposed to be a continuation of the Dudley strata, makes its appearance. (w)

Nether-ton, so designated from its relative situation, both with respect to the hill and the river, extends to the borders of Old Swinford, and is intersected by the turnpike road from Stour-bridge to Halesowen. Nether-ton proper is a village near to the base of the hill.

pertained to Cradley and its surrounding district. In its present improved state, the main street is uneven and irregular.

(v) A family long seated at Old Swinford and Stour-bridge.

(w) See also Hayes.

Another part of Cradley is situated at the base of the eminence of which Cradley field forms a part. (w) At the descent of the hill, (following the course of the public road,) a pleasing and well-built village presents itself to view, principally known as the site of Colley gate, once the boundary of the second Stourbridge district of turnpike roads. Park-row and Park-side extend from hence to the west.

At the distance of less than half a mile to the west, the traveller is suddenly introduced to the sequestered woodlands of Cradley Park, occupying a considerable tract of land, (x) and bounded by several adjacent copices.

Several rivulets wind their way through this tract to the Stour, one of which is known by the name of Salt-brook, though its water is not known to be impregnated with that mineral. A very minute rill, tributary thereto, issuing from an exhausted coal-mine, is strongly chalybeate, but has never attracted notice.

Cradley Park, with a part of the surrounding lands, was once the demesne of the family of Butler, who were ennobled under the title of Ormond, alluded to in the descent of property, at the commencement of this article.

Several antiquities are recorded in history, as appertaining to this park and its environs.—A mansion house, with a

(w) In 1828, a small coin was found in Cradley field of Titus Vespasian.

(x) The tract at present called the park, is 70 acres, the property of Lord Lyttelton. It probably included many of the adjoining fields in former times.

Notwithstanding its proximity to several seats of manufacturing industry, this spot is of a remarkably sequestered character, the resort of the nightingale in its season. Amidst its shady recesses, the botanist will find no inconsiderable scope for his researches.

chapel annexed, (y) is related to have been situated here. (z) An adjoining house and field still bear the appellation of chapel house and leasow, residence of Joseph Priestley, Esq.

A moated hillock is still visible near to the eastern extremity of the wood, which has sometimes been considered as an entrenchment. It appears to be uncertain at what time these structures fell into decay, but the lands were not disparted 12th Henry VIII. when a lease occurs granted by dame Anne Seyntleger, to a person of the name of Forrest. (a)

PLACES OF WORSHIP.

EPISCOPAL CHAPEL,

Cradley Town, founded 1789, consecrated 1798. This edifice, having three galleries and an organ, is situated on the declivity of Homer-hill, its cemetery adjoining the precincts of the town, and commanding a very extensive prospect.

(y) A grant by King Henry VIII. of lands in Halesowen and elsewhere, to Sir John Dudley, Knight, A. D. 1538, contains the following notices of churches standing at that period :—"Nec non de advocacione ecclesiarum, de Warley, Hales, Ludley, Cradley, et Sti. Kenelmi."

And again—Ac etiam advocaciones et jura patronatus eccles. de Hales, Warley, Ludley, et Cradley, et Sti. Kenelmi, et rectorias de Clent, Wednesbury, et Walshale, Ludley, et Cradley.—*Nash.*

(z) A MS. of Bishop Lyttelton still extant among the Hagley Evidences, describes this part of Cradley.

(a) Though the woodlands of Cradley are in the present day the property of Lord Lyttelton, the adjoining estate, with Chapel house, &c. is in other hands as above intimated.

The founders were of the Independent denomination of Protestant Dissenters, aided by numerous societies and individuals of various persuasions.

The Rev. Thomas Best, then in connexion with the body of religionists patronised by the Countess of Huntingdon, commenced his labours in this place about the year 1783, officiating in several neighbouring villages.

Some years afterwards, the chapel was founded as above mentioned, and settled upon a trust of the Independent denomination. In 1798, the building and appurtenances, as schools, &c., were surrendered to the church of England, and consecrated in the month of September, by Dr. Richard Hurd, bishop of Worcester, Mr. Best at the same time conforming to the church of England, and becoming first minister of the chapel.

The presentation was vested in the incumbent and his heirs, for three turns, provided that they occur within the space of ninety-nine years; after which it will appertain to the heirs of Lord William Henry Lyttelton. (b)

MINISTERS.

Rev. Thomas Best, 1798, to1821.

— John Jones, 1822, author of “Scripture Antiquities, including a summary of the institutions, customs, and manners of the Hebrew Nation,” also of “Life and Times of Dr. Joseph Hall, Bishop of Norwich.”

(b) Act passed 1799.

PRESBYTERIAN CHAPEL,

Park-Lane, Netherend, date 1796, dimensions 45 by 32 ft. with one gallery and organ.

The original place of worship, occupied by this body of Protestant Dissenters, was situated, as intimated under Kingwinford, on the opposite bank of the Stour to Cradley; in Pensnet chace. (c)

At the above-named date, the present chapel was appropriated to the purpose of religious worship. The building stands in a spacious field, partially used as a cemetery, the principal entrance being approached by an avenue of Larches, the vestry by a foot-path leading from the parsonage nearly adjoining. Parsonage built 1753.

These edifices, together with a charity school, form a group of neat and commodious buildings, well adapted to their respective purposes, tending to form, with adjacent dwellings, a compact village.

By laying out and planting the grounds, at the same time widening the roads surrounding the cemetery, a considerable improvement has been effected.

In addition to the monument to the memory of the Rev. James Scott, is one to Nicholas Hancox Pargeter, Esq. of Carless-green.

MINISTERS.

- Rev. Josiah Basset, 1705, to 1735, when obt.
 — Joseph Fownes, .. 1735, to 1748, obt. 1789, a. 75.
 — Noah Jones, 1748, to 1762, — 1785,—60.

(c) Erected 1707.



L. Brady del. Sc.

J. S. D. A.

PARK LANE CHAPEL,

CRADLEY.

- Rev. Joseph Baker, 1762, to 1789, obt. 1805.
 — James Scott, 1789, to 1827, when obt. a. 59.
 — B. Carpenter, co-pastor, 1807, to 1816.
 — Thomas Warren, . . 1817, to 1822.
 — Alexander Patterson, co-pastor, from 1822, to 1827.
 — William Bowen, 1829.

In addition to the brief memoir of the Rev. James Scott, inserted pp. 48, and 98, some further particulars may be inserted, when treating of Cradley, his chosen residence, and the scene of his distinguished usefulness.

A catalogue of his numerous publications, principally consisting of various religious tracts, besides several single sermons; will attest the industry and fidelity of the author as a christian minister. (d)

A folio volume of Cradley Records is still extant, with various other MSS. by the same hand. Not only the proceedings of the body to which the writer belonged are here detailed; but the ancient and modern history of Cradley and its vicinity, extending to that of the neighbourhood at large, with notices of public events, are here to be found. It is almost superfluous to add, that many of the incidents, observations, &c. introduced into the present chapter, are supplied by this manuscript.

The memoir heretofore alluded to of the Rev. James Scott, contains App. p. 38, a brief memoir of his colleague the Rev. Benjamin Carpenter. After enumerating the situations in which he respectively settled as minister; Bloxham, Oxon, 1773; West Bromwich, 1775; Stourbridge, 1778; Clapham, Surrey, 1795; Stourbridge, 1806; at which last place he died, 1816, aged 64: it is added, that "with good abilities, and tal-

(d) See end of his Memoir.

lants highly respectable, improved by long and diligent application, were united a spirit of habitual piety and seriousness." His candid and peaceable disposition, acknowledged by Christians of every denomination, his humility, meekness, patience, &c., are likewise dwelt upon.

Mr. Carpenter's publications, consisting of several series of Sermons, and occasional single ones; Lectures, and various tracts, &c. &c. were numerous.

BAPTIST CHAPEL,

Cradley town, date 1803, since enlarged. In 1654, a society of Baptists occupied a place of Worship at Baptist-end, near Dudley, rebuilt 1762, of which the society in Cradley might be termed a scion, as also probably some others at Brettellane and other places.

For some years previous to 1798, this body of Baptists united with the Independents; they jointly worshipping in the building now an episcopal chapel.

From the time of the consecration till the opening of their own place of worship, the Baptists hired a private house.

MINISTERS.

Rev. B. Cave.

— W. Mathews, in 1830.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL,

near Cradley town, founded 1828.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.**DAY AND SUNDAY SCHOOLS, PAROCHIAL.**

When the edifice now serving as the episcopal chapel of the district, was erected by the Independents, the frequent concomitant of such a structure, a 'charity' school arose within the same inclosure, which continues to supply daily and weekly instruction to the neighbouring poor.

DISSENTERS' DAY AND SUNDAY SCHOOLS,

Park-lane chapel, date of school building 1753, rebuilt 1825.

In the year 1746, a day school was established in this connexion, upon the plan of individual voluntary subscription. The late Mr. John Creswell became a liberal supporter of this and similar charitable schemes in Stourbridge, Clent, and Kingswinford.

The institution, after a short suspension, was revived in 1790, from which time it has not ceased to afford instruction to less than 50 children.

In 1790, two Sunday schools were also founded. In 1826, the new school building was founded for the accommodation of those seminaries, when an address suitable to the occasion was delivered by the Rev. James Scott, which was afterwards printed.

A small school for girls having been established by the late Rev. James Scott, he bequeathed £200 for its future support, and £100 to the Sunday schools. Baptist and Methodist chapels have Sunday schools on a large scale.

COURTS.

A Court Leet and Court Baron, under Lord Lyttelton, are established in this manor.

A new regulating act with respect to the divisions of counties, in reference to the holding of special sessions, has been passed, by which the Stourbridge district is in future to comprise—Bell-Broughton, Churchill, Cradley township, Old Swinford, Frankley, Hagley, Ladley, and Pedmore.

Dudley district to contain—Dudley and Warley-Wigorn. The Act to take date February, 1831.

POOR.

The poor and indigent have a separate provision from the other hamlets. A house of reception is provided for them.

 LUDLEY, (e) WORCESTERSHIRE.

This manor is contiguous to the former; on the south it borders on Hagley and Halesowen liberty; it is divided into Upper and Lower. Wulfruna, relict. of Athelm, Duke of Northampton, (f) founded at Hampton, in the county of Stafford, A. D. 996, in the reign of Ethelred II. a splendid monastery, and endowed it with Arley, in the county of Worcester, and eleven districts in that of Stafford; conferring her name upon the town and cloister, which, with a little varia-

(e) Lutley, or Lutteley, occurs under Enville.

(f) Wulfruna died the same year. In the grant of Arley, the street or branch of Roman road is named as one of its boundaries. See also Introduction, pa. xii.

tion in orthography, it retains at the present day. Wolverhampton.

This grant was confirmed by Edward the confessor, and at the period of the compilation of Domesday, it remained in force. Among other lands held at that time by this religious house, Ludley, near Halesowen, is particularised.

Sir William Dugdale observes, that "the Custos or Dean, is Lord of Wolverhampton, Ludley, &c." (g)

From the period alluded to above to the present day, Ludley appears to have been invested in the same ecclesiastical corporation, who have, for a series of years, leased it to the family of the Earl of Bradford, the tithes still remaining the property of Lord Lyttelton as impropiator.

No capital mansion is known to have been situated on this manor, but A. D. 1655, a Mr. Tyrer was resident there, who being a royalist, compounded for his estate by the payment of £650. This manor has a separate court, and maintains its own poor.

The village of Ludley is very small, and the district, though bordering on a manufacturing country, is of a rural cast.

Several beds of lime-stone occasionally basset in various parts of the inclosures, supposed to form part of an extensive formation, connected with Dudley, Netherton, &c. Beautiful chrystals of sulphate of lime have been found attached to

(g) Erdeswick says the Custos, now Dean of Wolverhampton, is Lord of Codsall, Hatherton, and Pelshall, county of Stafford, and of Ludley in Wigorn.

the masses of lime-stone, some in small cavernous recesses, or geodes.

At Upper Ludley, bordering on the road from Hagley to Halesowen, is a quarry of free stone, probably of the same formation as that of Hasbury.

Ludley, in conjunction with Clent and Hagley, has long maintained a most respectable association for the prosecution of felons.

Population of the Parish.

A. D.	1811.	1821.
	6888.	8187.

Dimensions.

A.	R.	P.
12,061.	1.	19.

HAGLEY, ENVILLE, & HIMLEY.

CHAPTER VI.

HAGLEY, ENVILLE, AND HIMLEY,

Counties of Worcester and Stafford.

THE proximity of these beautiful classic regions, to the passage of country more particularly described in these pages, renders it desirable to attempt, at least, a sketch of their scenery. (a)

The descriptive powers of the historian, the poet, and the engraver, have, indeed, been frequently called forth, to embody in their works, the beauties of these celebrated domains. (b)

(a) See also Leasows, in Halesowen.

(b) County Histories and other topographical works exhibit ample delineations of these memorable specimens of the English garden. In 1777, were published, "Heeley's Letters on the beauties of Hagley, Enville, and the Leasows."

"A Companion to The Leasows, Hagley, and Enville," intended to furnish the tourist with an accurate account of the scenes delineated, and to correct former erroneous representations, with engravings of the three mansions, by the late Mr. Swinney, of Birmingham; supersedes the necessity of entering more fully into the subject.

It would probably be difficult to find, within a circle of equal dimensions, beauties so striking, so various, and so distinctively appertaining to the respective domains they are destined to adorn, as those under consideration.

HAGLEY.

Hagley, independently of its claim to the classical term of "The British Tempé," alluding to the delightful scenery of its ornamented domain, is justly entitled to attention. (c)

Its geographical position, appendant to the midland range, its celebrity as a baronial residence, the numerous vestiges of ancient monuments, to which it forms a central point; the revival of antiquarian science, by some eminent residents, whose memoirs constitute valuable archives, accessible to the public: and finally, the long-continued residence amidst its classic shades, of the noble family of Lyttelton; furnish topics and associations of a nature highly interesting.

Thompson, in *The Seasons*, gives some descriptive sketches of Hagley.

Hagley, a descriptive Poem, by the Rev. T. Maurice, of Oxford, appeared in 1776, or 1777.

Mr. James, of Stourbridge, afterwards of Liverpool, published engravings of these celebrated seats, 1796, with some additional ones in the same vicinity, as—

<i>No.</i>	<i>Engravers.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Engravers.</i>
I. Enville,	Dodd.	IV. The Leasows,	Stadler.
II. Himley,	Cartwright	V. Hagley,	Cartwright.
III. Dudley Castle,..	ditto	VI. Prestwood,	Schutz.

(c) Part of Hagley Park may be said to be on Clent-hill, Staffordshire. Adjacent objects assimilate, and harmoniously blend with its scenery. Harborough, once the seat of the Penn family, will be noticed under Antiquities, art. Roman road.

Wassel, another hamlet, was the residence of that of Grove, from 1370, 44th Edward III. to a late period. A grant of Botetourt, Lord of Weoleigh and Hagley, to Philip, son of Roger atte Grove, is on record.

Previous to the conquest, this lordship was held by Godirc, a thane of King Edward, as recorded in Domesday.

From the residence of so distinguished a personage, holding his lands immediately of the monarch, the term Hagley is supposed to be derived.—Saxon, “Haga domus, also hedge; and leag, or lega locus.” (d)

Hagley is enrolled, in the “Survey,” as one of the fourteen Worcestershire lordships, held by William Fitzansculph as a member of his barony of Dudley.

Without entering into minute particulars relative to the descent of this barony, it will suffice to mention some of the landholders, who, under the families of Somery, &c., assumed the nom de terre of Hagley, as—

William de Hageley, and Philip his son; Roger, Nicholas, and Warren his son, reigns of Stephen and Henry II. The descendants of Roger, conformably to the custom of their times, assumed the same surname, as Sir Henry de Hageley, temp. John and Henry III. whose son of the same name was living 43d Edward III. Another Henry held the lordship 19th Edward I., after the death of Roger Somery, to whom succeeded Richard, who died seized thereof, 5th Edward II.

Edmund, son of Richard, 3d Edward III., granted certain lands in his lordship, to John Taylor, of Hales, witnessed by Edmund de Grove, and Thomas de Penn de Hageley.

Robert, his son, 23d Edward III., granted certain lands called the Vallyngs, and the year following, Edmund passed by fine to Sir John Botetourt, the lord paramount in fee simple, both the manor and advowson, for an hundred marks of silver.

(d) See also Lye, page 92.

John Peoleshale, the next proprietor, enjoyed the property for life; it then reverted to Botetourt, to whom it was confirmed in fee, 23d Edward III.

Henry de Haggeley, heir at law to Edmund, notwithstanding the confirmation to Botetourt, recovered the property by a writ of right, 47th Edward III., together with the advowson, and six acres in Clent, called Cowbatch.

After this we read no more of the landed proprietors bearing the name of Haggeley, excepting that the last-mentioned gentleman, 1411, 13th Henry IV., sold the manor and Advowson, together with Cowbatch, to Thomas Walwyn, Esq. who soon afterwards alienated them to Joan Beauchamp Lady Bergavenny.

The names of Boteler or Butler, Stafford, Prout, with the convent at Westminster, &c. next occur, as under Halesowen, article Cradley; and finally, the family of St. Leger, sold Hagley, with Clent and Oldswinford, to Sir John Lyttelton of Frankley, anno. 1564, 6th Elizabeth. (c)

Frankley, the ancient residence of this family, was held at the period of the conquest, by Baldwin. Philip de Wigornia is the next name occurring as a resident there. (d)

Philip and Simon de Frankley, in the respective reigns of Richard I., and Henry III., are also on record; the latter founded a chantry in Frankley. Philip, of the same place, 1256, 40th Henry III., was father of Emma, consort of

(c) No. 5841, of the Harlean collection, contains a very ancient pedigree of the Lytteltons, with proofs, arms, &c., and also of the Westcotes, with paintings from the windows in Frankley chapel, Worcester cathedral, Halesowen church and abbey, &c.

(d) Pedigree in Nash, in which the orthography of the name is various.

Thomas de Litelton. Ascending to the first of the line of Lyttelton, ancestor of this Thomas, we have the name of Littelton of South Littelton, in the vale of Evesham, (d) four times repeated.

The second of the name, temp. Richard I. bore on his arms the three escalops, having been a soldier in the Holy land, or undertaken a pilgrimage thither.

Thomas de Litelton, above named, third in descent from him, and whose first wife was heiress of Frankley, is the first whose christian name appears in the genealogy, in whom were united the houses of Frankley and Litelton, temp. Henry III. Thomas, grandson of the last named, married Julian, daughter and heiress of Robert Somery. His son, of the same name, recovered Frankley, 9th Henry IV., and was sheriff of the county temp. Henry V.

Elizabeth, a daughter of this Thomas, married Thomas Westcote, of Westcote, county of Devon. Their son Nicholas was ancestor to the Westcotes of Staffordshire. (e)

(d) Although the Litteltons took their name from this place, they resided at Coulesden in Upton Snodsbury, 28th Edward I. which continued A. D. 1780, in possession of a younger branch of the family. In 1793, Lord William Lyttelton visited this ancient seat of his family, but found no vestige of the mansion, though a house called Coulesden had been built with its materials.

(e) Richard, of Pillaton-hall, son of Nicholas, is said to be ancestor of that family. Probably the Littletons of Staffordshire, notwithstanding some variation in orthography, were of the same stock. The arms are nearly alike, un for ung, in the motto, distinguishes the Staffordshire from the Worcestershire branch.

A portrait of the Judge, copied from the painted glass in the hall of the middle temple, by Cornelius Jansen, from a window in Frankley church, is in Hagley Hall.

Thomas Westcote, brother of Nicholas, assumed the name and arms of his mother.

It is not ascertained at what time this eminent luminary of the law was born, but in 1455, 33d Henry VI., it is recorded, that he was appointed King's Serjeant. He was also Judge of the Marshalsea. Harwood, in Preface to Eardeswick, considers this celebrated Judge as a native of Staffordshire.

In 1466 he became a Judge of the Common Pleas, and 15th Edward IV. was created Knight of the Bath: his death took place 1481, and an elegant monument in the cathedral church of Worcester, marks the place of his interment.

This illustrious lawyer is celebrated for his Treatise on Tenures, published 14th Edward IV. Sir Edward Coke, who flourished in the reign of James I. printed at Rouen, in 1533, "Institutes of the Laws of England," the first part of which consists of a comment on Lyttelton. (f)

Camden, in his Britannia, edition of 1603, p. 574, observes, that "the students in the law are no less indebted to the works of Sir Thomas Lyttelton, than the civilians are to the Institutes of Justinian."

"William, eldest son of the Judge, lived in great splendour at Frankley, (g) he died Nov. 8th, 1508, and was interred in the conventual church of Halesowen."

(f) Sir Edward Coke, Chief Justice of the King's Bench, died anno. 1634, aged 83.

(g) The residence at Frankley was burnt down by Prince Rupert, to prevent it from falling into the hands of the Parliament. Thomas, the proprietor at that period, a friend of the King, was made a Baronet, in 1618; he

Another eminent law character of this family, was Sir Edward Lyttelton, Baron Mounslow, county of Salop. That he was a descendant of the learned Judge, is asserted by Dr. Nash, though his name appears in the pedigree, as consort of Ann, daughter of John Lyttelton, of Hagley, Esq. and Muriel, (h) daughter of Sir Thomas Bromley, Lord Chancellor.

Sir Edward was appointed chief Justice of the Common Pleas, by Charles I., 1639, afterwards keeper of the Great Seal, and in 1640, Lord Chancellor ; he died in 1645. (i) The principal work of this distinguished lawyer, is his " Reports in the Common Pleas and Exchequer," published in London, 1683, folio.

Sir Edward Coke, whose opinion is considered as impartial, describes Lord Mounslow as " a well-poised and weighed man, well known to have held the balance of justice, when there was the greatest need of a steady hand. As long as he kept the seal, he was careful not to misapply it ; and when he could keep it no longer, he, with his own hand, delivered it to the King."

died 1650, and was buried at Worcester. Very faint vestiges, even of the garden walls, remain at the present time, A. D. 1830.

(h) Mrs. Muriel Lyttelton is spoken of as a lady of great and amiable accomplishments ; she was buried by her own desire in the church yard at Hagley.

(i) Portrait in Hagley-hall, by Wright, near to which is one of Admiral Smith, by Wilson. This gentleman resided at Rockingham-hall, and formed one of a very select band of friends, in the time of Lord George Lyttelton.

Dr. Harwood, ed. of Eardeswick, speaking of the venerable and Rev. Theophilus Buckeridge, says that " he had, during his visits to Hagley, frequent invitations to the mansion of the accomplished Lord George Lyttelton, where were occasionally assembled the most eminent statesmen, and wits of the age ; and to the hours passed in this elegant and classical society, he was accustomed to recur with peculiar delight."

At the time of his death, he was Colonel of a regiment of foot, in Oxford; his remains were deposited in the cathedral of that city.

Without pursuing the genealogical line with the utmost exactness, through its various ramifications, Charles, Knt., son of Thomas, of Frankley, succeeded his brother Henry; he was a firm adherent to the house of Stewart, which exposed him to sufferings. He died at Hagley, 1716, aged 83, and was buried at Arley. (k)

Sir Thomas his son was the next heir, M. P. for the county of Worcester. (l) He married a daughter of Sir Richard Temple, of Stow, sister to Lord Cobham, and dying, 1748, aged 59, was buried at Hagley, where a monument is erected to his memory.

The eldest son and heir of Sir Thomas, was George, elevated to the peerage anno. 1757, by the title of Baron Lyttelton, of Frankley. This eminent nobleman and scholar was educated at Eton and Christchurch College, Oxford.

On returning from his travels, he became a member of the House of Commons, and 1737, was appointed principal secretary to Frederick, Prince of Wales, son of George II. In 1754, he was admitted as member of the Privy Council, and 1756, received the appointment of Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Lord Lyttelton married, 1741, Lucy, daughter of Hugh Fortescue, Esq. and 2d Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Robert Rich, Fieldmarshall.

(k) Portrait in Hagley-hall, in armour, by Le Fevre. Another of Sir Charles, by Riley.

(l) Portrait, by Van Sommers, and of Catherine his wife.

In the catalogue of his works, are "Observations on the Conversion of St. Paul," 1747, a work highly valued, as an able defence of Christianity; "Dialogues of the Dead," 1756. "History of Henry II." 2 vols. 1767. To these may be added, various Poems, published in Johnson's Works of the Poets, and also in Dodsley's Collection.

Several of these poetic effusions are tributes to the memory of Lucy his beloved consort.

The plaintive Poem, "Adieu to the village delights," might be produced as an hitherto unpublished piece, though a well-known popular air, and set to music.

The monument erected in the church at Hagley, over the remains of this nobleman, is an "unadorned stone" placed by his express direction, near to that of his first wife, (m) to whom a more distinguished memorial is raised. He died August 22d, 1773, aged 64. The Hagley evidences, in the evidence room, are considered as the compilation of Lord George. (n)

Charles, brother of George of the Middle Temple, rector of Alvechurch, county of Worcester, 1742; Dean of Exeter, 1748; and bishop of Carlisle, 1762; was an eminent antiquarian.

Much of his time appears to have been spent at Hagley, and to have been appropriated to researches into the antiqui-

(m) A portrait of this Lady is in Hagley-hall. A monument is erected to her memory, in the church, the work of Dayrolles. Portrait of Lord George, in the Hall, by West, another by Sir Joshua Reynolds, also of his brother, Lieutenant General Sir Richard, by Pompeo Battoni.

(n) The evidence room is on the basement story, near to the bath, in the grotto style.

ties of its vicinity. Frequent insertions of his letters, to the literati of the day, on the various objects of antiquity within the sphere of his observations, are to be found in topographical publications.

Bishop Lyttelton died in 1768. (o) His MSS. are deposited in the library of the Antiquarian society.

Thomas, second Lord Lyttelton, succeeded his father, who possessed many of the talents and accomplishments of Lord George, 1773; he married Aphia, second daughter of Broome Witts, Esq., of Chipping Norton, and relict of Joseph Peach, Esq., governor of Calcutta, he died Nov. 27th, 1779, aged 36. Lady Lyttelton still survives, and is resident at Malvern, 1830.

William Henry, brother of Lord George, succeeded. He was appointed governor of Jamaica, in 1758, envoy extraordinary to Portugal, in 1766, and Lord of the Treasury, during the administration of Lord North. In 1776, he was created Lord Westcote, of the kingdom of Ireland, but the English barony became extinct till revived in the person of this Nobleman, 1794. He died 1808, aged 84, and was succeeded by his son, George Fulke, fourth Lord, who died, Nov. 1828, aged 65, to whom succeeded his half brother, William Henry, 5th Lord, the present representative of the family.

THE PARK.

This demesne, about 300 acres, as shown by a rental in the time of Sir John Botetourt, as early as the reign of Edward III., appears to have been a park at that period, and though for many years disparked, it was restored to its pristine state,

(o) Portrait in Hagley-hall, by Ramsay, with others of the family by various artists.

by Sir Charles Lyttelton, 1694. Several buildings and ornaments were the work of Sir Thomas Lyttelton, the next successor.

The house was erected by the first Lord Lyttelton, near to the site of the old one (p) and at a short distance from the parish church. The latter venerable structure is supposed to have been founded in the reign of Henry III., in succession to a former one of Saxon and early Norman times.

The structure, with its surrounding cemetery, is completely embosomed in trees, part of the park scenery. The painted windows, with armorial bearings, stone pavements, &c. &c. are in perfect accordance with other parts of the edifice. Memorials of Lytteltons, Penns, &c., adorn these ancient walls. (q) A considerable enlargement of the building has taken place in modern times.

The appellation of "British Tempé," has been conferred upon Hagley, though the hand of the designing genius of the place, has only inscribed the name of that celebrated Thessalian vale, on a temple commanding a single scene, which seemed worthy of that classical allusion. (r)

"Viridantia Tempe,
Tempe, quæ Sylvæ cingunt super impendentes."

(p) Whateley, in his work on Gardening, describes the hall with its surrounding scenery. A view of the old Mansion, and also of Rockingham-hall, is mentioned as ornamenting the evidence room.

(q) One of dame Elionora, wife of William Lyttelton, of Frankley, was removed hither, from the conventual church of Halesowen, and placed in the churchyard.

(r) Lord George Lyttelton awarded this honour to Festiniog, in Merionethshire, when he visited that delightful region in 1756.

Gilpin compares the valley of St. John, in Cumberland, to Tempé, repre-

Contemporary poets ascribe to the creative genius of Lord George Lyttelton, the classic and rural beauties of this favoured spot, not unfrequently described as the shades of Hagley.

Shenstone also describes the transition from the state of nature, to that of the English garden, in the following stanza:—

“ But now, nor shaggy hill, nor pathless plain,
Forms the lone refuge of the sylvan game ;
Since Lyttelton has crown'd the sweet domain ;
With softer pleasures and with fairer fame.” (s)

The embellished park is the distinguishing appellation of Hagley, yet its continuity to mountain scenery, assimilates it to passages of that character; Hagley-hill being the link which connects the range of Clent with Wichbury, the uplands thence descending, by manifold gradations, to the vale of Stour.

senting it has containing softer scenery; both are circular. Hafod in Cardiganshire, according to Sir James Smith, is another Tempé.

Tempé is described by Elian and Ovid. A rocky wooded chasm, at the head of the vale through which the river Peneus pours its torrent, makes a part of the scenery.

“ These are the sacred feelings of thy heart,
Thy heart inform'd by reason's purer ray,
O Lyttelton the friend! thy passions thus
And meditations vary, as at large,
Courting the muse through Hagley Park thou stray'st;
The British Tempé! There along the dale,
With woods o'er hung, and shagg'd with mossy rocks,
Whence on each hand the gushing waters play,
And down the rough cascade, white dashing fall,
Or gleam in lengthen'd vista thro' the trees.”

Thompson.

(s) Elegy XXIII.

After passing the avenue conducting from the Inn on the Stourbridge and Bromsgrove road, bearing the armorial devices of the resident noble family ; a spacious lawn, the site of the mansion, is presented to view.

Two bursts of prospect here meet the eye ; part of Clent hill, to the south, separated from the park by a fence, while to the north-east, the hill of Wichbury, with the temple of Theseus in the foreground embosomed in rich plantations, forms a picture of great beauty and magnificence.

Among the various accompaniments to the park, and bordering the road from Kidderminster to Halesowen, (one of the most picturesque stages in the neighbourhood,) may be mentioned, the gardens of Hagley and the wood so named.

The former are embosomed in woodlands on the north side of the park, and intervene between it and the opposite acclivities of Wichbury, the bordering plantations assimilating with that of the classic ground.

Wichbury, shooting out like Clent, into various promontories, has for its satellites several minor eminences, forming beautiful swells, as the wooded one of Foxbreak, Saddleback ; Obelisk-hill, the site of the temple of Theseus, flanked by a beautiful plantation, rising above a piece of water of small dimensions ; and lastly, the tumular-shaped eminence of Rockingham.

The apparently interminable lawn adjacent to the house, (t) (for neither fence, nor the intersecting public road leading

(t) Reversing the landscape, the prospect of Hagley from the camp, on Wichbury, is pleasing and luxuriant. It must be confessed, however, that the waters of Hagley are inferior to those of the other classic scenes, generally associated in description with this noble domain.

to Birmingham, are visible,) with its striking embellishments, the temple, the obelisk, the woodlands crowning the summits ; form most interesting components of this grand coup d'œul.

In unison with the exterior, are the interior uplands of the park, presenting bold and graceful swells, divided by the delightful glades about to be described.

On one of these is a pillar erected to the memory of Frederic, Prince of Wales, son of George II.

The lawns, "the glory of Hagley," just described, taken in all their extent, form the most parkish scenery of the whole domain, plentifully stocked with herds of deer, and exhibiting pastures of great extent.

The central scenes of Hagley are more appropriately its classic shades. A deep dell, with its chain of watery expanses, and umbrageous acclivities, is the Elysium so celebrated by the poets, and whilom imprinted by their footsteps.

"Here Pope has rested, sacred be the shade,
Here hang your garlands every sylvan maid,
Here haste ye muses, and this shady grove,
Henceforth, beyond your own Parnassus love."

Inscription on a Seat behind the Rotunda.

Within this dell, embosomed in mountains, woodlands, and extensive pastoral scenes ; several distinct lawns, in addition to the central Tempé, present themselves to view. A verdant glade to the east, surrounded by woodland scenery, exhibits, on its opposite sides, the doric temples erected to Pope and Thompson ; (u) near to the latter is the gothic parsonage, and

(u) Pope, Thompson, and Shenstone, are honoured by appropriate memorials, in different parts of the shades ; Hammond is said to have been a visitor at Hagley.

the quarry producing Hagley rag-stone, or calcareous breccia. (v)

In Tempé proper, so contradistinguished from the domain in general, a rich variety of scenery abounds; the opposite extremities are bounded by the Ionic Rotunda and the Palladian bridge, the intervening declivity exhibiting a rich view of successive cascades, gushing through a wooded dale.

A meandering path, winding its way through one of the side slopes, called the lovers' walk, is ornamented by numerous specimens of grotto-work.

Parallel with Tempé, is the Tinian lawn, so denominated from its resemblance to scenery described in Lord Anson's voyage. In this woodland glade, the urn dedicated to Pope, is a pleasing and conspicuous object.

Another extensive lawn, commencing near to the brow of a hill, decorated by a seat, inscribed with the sublime passage of Milton—

“These are thy glorious works,” &c.

is also surrounded by woodlands, and crowned by a castellated mansion. (w)

This structure, occupying the summit of Hagley, though inferior in elevation to the adjoining uplands; commands a prospect of great extent and beauty.

Though a modern building, its ivyed, and apparently antique towers, rise with dignified front, above the surround-

(v) Or cornstone.

(w) In Gentleman's Magazine, Nov. 1825, mention is made of a castle at Hagley, erected, probably, by Henry IV. in 1401. Hartlebury, temp. Henry III. and Kidderminster, called Cauldwell, 1404, Henry IV. are also alluded to.

ing woodlands; while the prematurely dilapidated fragments composing the remainder of its quadrangle, are in unison with its bolder lineaments. Real vestiges of antiquity, removed from the ruined convent of Halesowen, blend, by their scattered masses, reality with fiction.

The sequestered glen, forming the southern exterior of the park, forms a kind of precinct, termed the hermitage. Rustic seats, with appropriate inscriptions, as—"Omnia vanitas,"

"May at last my weary age," &c, from the Penseroso of Milton, surrounded by scenery suited to the genius of the place; form the characteristic features of this solitary region, rendered still more sequestered by the overshadowing hills which rise from its boundary.

Crossing the park, and in a transverse direction to the ornamented glades, above described, is a noble natural terrace, that on which Milton's seat, with its animated inscription, is situated. On one part of this eminence is a tumulus, but whether belonging to the class of antique vestiges, does not appear from the narratives of those authors who have introduced the subject.

From this elevation, having for the foreground the extensive lawn in which the mansion is situated; a beautiful and extensive prospect to the west is commanded, though of minor limits to those which bound the scope of vision, from the superior graduated eminences, the castle-hill, the castle-battlements, and the summits of Clent.

The route usually pursued by the visitors of this remarkable spot, is by no means sufficient to display all the beauties of the scenery, which present themselves to view. A perambulation over the adjacent hills, on either side, with a solitary

walk to the sequestered chapel of St. Kenelm, and other deviations from the principal track, are necessary to a complete enjoyment of the region under observation.

It has been justly observed, that even in the classic days of Hagley, the grounds were never in more complete order than at the present time; the wildest scenes having all the neatness of garden grounds.

The following Poems on Churchill and the Leasows, it is hoped will not be inappropriately introduced in this place.—

LINES ON A STREAM AT CHURCHILL, BY THE LATE
DR. GROOM.

SWEET stream ! whose fountain sprung from Hagley's steep,
The wood-nymphs guard in their recesses deep,
Where 'midst the polish'd and the learned throng
Glides the fair season of thy youth along.
Of birth so gentle, nurst with so much care,
Thy fortune could I weep and deem severe ?
Sent from that paradise like one disgrac'd,
To wander through the long and dreary waste,
Midst rural swains neglected and forlorn,
Where none thy murmurs hear, or hear with scorn ;
O cruel fortune ! yet how like my own,
Thus left with deserts to converse alone,
Left the fair seats to all the muses dear,
Left many a friendship, loss, O ! most severe :
Through life's long desert, now a dreary way,
Like thee, forlorn and comfortless I stray.
Then through my Churchill as thou deign'st to glide,
Soft mumuring flows thy sympathizing tide.
Thus oft conversing with the streams, the flowers,
Passes thy visionary friend his hours.
Nor thou reprove the choice, (since fate decrees
The scene must alter,) choice of scenes like these.

Some plants there are whose feeling tempers shun
 The bare exposure of the noon-tide sun,
 Yet spread and flourish in the fostering shade,
 And with their choicest odours scent the glade ;
 To harder natures be the world confin'd,
 Be mine th' indulgence of a pensive mind.

Has e'er thine eye from Hagley's summit view'd,
 Where the lone waste presents a prospect rude,
 Where lakes through sunny vallies seem to glide,
 And counterfeit the river's rolling tide ?
 A village low there lies, obscurely plac'd
 In the surrounding bosom of the waste,
 A cottage with white walls, a hill between,
 And clustering pine trees intercept the scene.
 But smoke from lonely sheds aspiring high,
 To Churchill's lone sojourn directs the eye.
 There in sweet melancholy glides away,
 The precious eve of many a summer's day.
 (So chose our pensive sires their lone abodes
 Near cooling streams, in vales and shelt'ring woods.)
 Though simple be the spot, enough for me,
 It yields the murmuring stream—the shady tree,
 That classic stream in Hagley's region sprung,
 Far humbler scenes here sees, and hears far other song.

Illustrious Hagley ! now each object fades
 Eclips'd and vulgar, nam'd with thy soft shades.
 Hence let the muse to thee the strains transfer,
 Do thou the rural panegyrick share.
 O ! shades to genius dear ! admir'd retreat,
 And late the muses consecrated seat,
 Where Pope has rov'd, his lyre where Thompson strung,
 And all the sons of elegance and song
 Pour'd the full tide of harmony along. }
 Where the sweet Shenstone from the neighbouring grove,
 In soft complaining told his hapless love.
 Nor there was Pollio mute, whose honour'd name,
 Gave Genius lustre—crown'd with various fame,

He speaks, and senates, lords, instructed hear,
 He plants, and lo! a paradise appear.
 Now all is desert, all around is mute;
 Still is the grove, and broken is the flute;
 Shenstone no more, see Lyttelton pursues
 New paths to honour, and forsakes the muse,
 Ingrate to leave her, though with flowers so fair
 She grac'd, O Lucy! thy untimely bier.
 In sweetest nectar sure those tears were steep'd,
 When o'er the grave of virtue genius wept,
 This nightingale now fled, now mute so long,
 The thrush unblam'd may chant his meaner song.*
 No powers of voice he boasts, no rival strains,
 But mourns the silent grove, the desert plains.

* "So when the nightingale to rest removes,
 The thrush may chant to the forsaken groves."—POPE.

STANZAS BY A GENTLEMAN ON A VISIT TO
 THE LEASOWS.

FROM the bold summits where Irene's shore
 Frowns o'er the western wave, a Pilgrim came
 To visit Albion's sons, and hear their lore,
 And catch the sounds which fill her trump with fame.
 And many a vale with rich embroidery gay,
 And many a hill with spreading foliage drest,
 Had the lone Pilgrim travers'd in his way,
 E're the green *Leasows* gave his fancy rest.
 O'er verdant *Leasows* as he freely rov'd,
 The grove, the bower, the winding walks along;
 Soon fancy called the spirit which he lov'd,
 And wak'd the memory of her Shenstone's song;
 For here the bard, true nature's favourite child,
 Attun'd his oaten reed in each lone dell;
 And here with easy grace, and manners mild,
 He taught the swains the art of living well.

For well his life had answer'd to his song,
 And simple ease adorn'd his flowing strain,
 Friend to the honest artless rural throng,
 Foe to the rude, the vicious, and the vain.
 As o'er the fairy ground the Pilgrim stray'd,
 Bright forms arose, and caught his eager eye ;
 Of such as whilom lov'd this solemn shade,
 But now adorn the mansions of the sky.
 There Somerville was heard with rustic cheer,
 To wake the vales, rous'd by his jocund horn ;
 There Thompson sung, and caught the list'ning ear,
 With praise of dusky eve, or blushing morn.
 And round him danc'd the hours with airy tread,
 And ever and anon, the seasons gay,
 With flowers adorn'd their favourite poet's head,
 And sprightly wood-nymphs caught the rural lay.
 And there, where Faunus, near his custom'd seat,
 Attuned the doric pipe to pastoral strains,
 The gentle Dodsley sought a cool retreat,
 And woo'd the silence of those lonely plains.
 And there where reverend oaks o'ershade the stream
 By their wide arms, and mark the tempest's rage,
 Musing on many a learn'd and virtuous theme
 Was seen the form of Lyttelton the sage :
 The muse of history was seen unfold
 The mystic page ; and o'er his favour'd head
 Religion wav'd her cross of purest gold,
 And round his brows her radiant glory spread.
 Hail ! to those hallow'd forms the Pilgrim cried,
 And sacred be the walks in which they rove,
 O ! flourish long ye trees, the poet's pride,
 Spread wide ye branches of his favorite grove.
 There Naiad fair, whose gently flowing rill,
 In lulling murmurs seems his loss to mourn,
 May copious dews and showers thy current fill,
 And purest springs o'erflow thy chrystal urn.
 And you ye monarchs of the waving wood,

Tall oaks who tower your lofty heads on high,
 Long may you stand and brave the rushing flood,
 And skreen the fury of the wintry sky.
 And you ye humbler plants of gentler mien,
 Wild shrubs, or hazles round, or flowery thorn,
 Long may your artless foliage here be seen,
 And long with beautious forms these hills adorn.
 And you ye tenants of this sacred glade,
 Dryades and Naiades, may your guardian care,
 Still unremitted watch your Shenstone's shade,
 And deck his upland lawns with verdure fair.
 And o'er each bough, each leaf, each smiling mead,
 Each tufted hill in vernal beauty's prime,
 May heav'n indulgent all its blessings spread,
 And long protect them from the wastes of time.

It is admitted, by various authors, that the vicinity of Hagley presents interesting objects of attention to the agriculturist, as well as to the antiquarian.

The soil of the district, though gravelly and sandy on its western extremity, is generally of a loamy quality, passing on the uplands into a red clay.

The first Lord Lyttelton promoted the improvement of the country by drainage, an operation in after times more generally and efficaciously introduced. A memorable instance of the introduction of irrigation, long before its general adoption in later times, occurs in this district. (a)

The family of Foley having the command of a stream issuing from Clent-hill, diffused its waters by different channels over eight farms, containing more than three hundred acres

(a) About the year 1682, according to Dr. Nash. See Worcestershire, art. Kidderminster, II. 38, and Dunclent, in Stone, II. 387, also Aubrey's Survey of Surrey.

of barren sandy land. This important improvement was effected under the able direction of Mr. Pratt, ancestor of the gentleman of that name, resident in after times at Dunclent, Bellington, and Sion House ; (b) lately deceased, [1830.]

To close our description of this favoured spot, the village of Hagley extends along the borders of the two principal roads, adorned by elegant villas, residences of Simcox, (Rockingham-hall), Robins, and Hodgetts, Esqs.

Additional accompaniments to the scenery are found in the Druid's temple, erected by George Lord Lyttelton, on Clent-hill, the two northern upright pillars of Hagley rag, the southern ones of sandstone ; and embosomed in a sequestered dell on the southern side, a rural cottage, amidst ornamental plantations.

In the course of descent of property in Hagley, as shown in some preceding pages, Philip de Lotteley, or Lutley, of Enfield, is mentioned as holding a fourth part of a Knight's fee in Haggele, and also a descendant of his of the same name and title, in the respective reigns of Henry III. and Edward III. (c)

“ William Bowles, a man of considerable eminence as a complete scholar and a poet, was a native of this place. He was educated at Eaton, and became Fellow of King's College, Cambridge. In 1687, he was instituted to the rectory of Enville. In 1695, he was collated to the prebend of Gaia-minor, in the cathedral church of Lichfield, which he vacated

(b) Tatham's National Irrigation, and Pitt's View of the Agriculture of Worcestershire.

(c) Nash Wor. I, 487. In this work are several documents relative to the facts connected with the gunpowder plot.

by death, in 1705. Several of his poems and translations are printed in Nichols' 'Select Collection,' 1780, vol. I. pp. 21, 92.

"His elder brother Henry, born also at Hagley, was Moderator in the Sophisters' schools, anno. 1683, senior Fellow of King's college, 1690, Schoolmaster at Stourbridge, 1691, &c., &c.; and succeeded his brother in the Rectory of Enville."

ENVILLE.

THIS celebrated and delightful spot, is situated near to the S. W. border of the county of Stafford. Separate from the midland ridge, the rising grounds of Enville form one of those numerous undulations which intervene between that extensive range, and the Salopian mountains, heretofore described.

Topographical sketches have represented the classic region adorning the summit of this elevation, as only approachable on the eastern side, from Hagley, by an arid desert.

Though the district of Enville is still distinguished by superior fertility, from the adjoining sands of Kinver; yet the extensive enclosures, improved roads, and spreading plantations of the latter tract, have done much to assimilate its scenery with that of its neighbour.

"The extended hill, broken into furrows, and watered by rills," presents to view a sylvan, and likewise a pastoral scene; the beautiful sheep-walks forming a continuous link, uniting Enville with Compton, the whole eminence appearing

strikingly and preeminently conspicuous, amidst the surrounding hills and plains; forming a fine foreground to the mountains of Clee.

Tracing the investment of property to the period when the Norman conqueror swayed the English sceptre, we find Gilbert in occupation, under William Fitzansculph. Whether the heirs of Gilbert assumed the surname of Enfield, does not fully appear, but it was for a long period in possession of persons of that name; for in the times of Henry III., and Edward I., Richard de Evensfield held it; and Walter, son of Richard, formerly Lord of Evensfield. William, with his two sons William and Robert, appears also upon record, designated de Efnefeld.

When Roger Somery died, about 20th Edward I., Andrew de Enfield, son of Richard, and brother of Walter, held it of William de Birmingham, and the said William of Roger de Somery, by the service of a Knight's fee, together with the advowson.

Others of the Enfield or Evenfield family held it, till the 10th of Edward IV.; when Richard was in possession. In a short time afterwards it became the inheritance of Lowe, of Whittington, of which family were—John, the first Lord of Enville bearing that name, and Humphrey his son, whose daughter Eleanor carried the estate to the family of Grey.

There are various branches of this family, those of Ruthin and Pirgo, of the latter house was Sir Henry, created Baron of Groby, Leicestershire, several of which were inheritors of Enville. Many of their successors, under various titles, as Dorset, De Wilton, Kent, &c., were connected with numerous families of nobility and gentry.

Sir Henry Grey, of Pirgo, in Essex, was created Baron of Groby, 1603, by James I., (d) and on failure of issue, to the daughters of his uncle Henry Grey, Duke of Suffolk; became Baron of Bonville and Harrington.

This nobleman dying, 1614, was succeeded by his eldest grandson, son of Sir John Grey, who died during the lifetime of his father, 1611, viz. Henry, first Earl of Stamford, second Lord Groby, who married Anne, daughter of William Cecil, Earl of Exeter, this nobleman had a son John, who was some-time resident at Enville.

Harry, another son, became, as hereafter mentioned, third Earl of Stamford, created 1628, 3d Charles I., he died 1673, and was interred at Bradgate, Leicestershire.

Thomas, the eldest son of the last-mentioned peer, died in his father's lifetime. Thomas, grandson of Henry, and son of Thomas, therefore became second Earl of Stamford, and third Baron of Groby, born 1652; he was appointed, 1696, by William III., Lord-lieutenant, and custos rotulorum of the county of Derby, 1696, and in the following year, Chancellor of the Dutchy of Lancaster, and Lord-lieutenant, &c., of the county of Leicester.

At the funeral of Queen Mary, consort of Willian III. Lord Thomas carried one of the banners of England and France, and on the accession of Anne, was made a privy counsellor. He married twice, and had three sons and one daughter, all of whom he survived; he died 1719-20, where-upon the honours and estates of the family devolved upon his first cousin, Harry, son of John, as before mentioned.

(d) Shaw.

This Harry, third Earl of Stamford, and fourth Lord of Groby, married Dorothy, daughter of Sir Nathan Wrighte, of Caldecote-hall, Warwickshire; he had five sons, of whom the fourth Harry succeeded to the title and property, as fourth Earl, who departed this life in 1739, leaving his fourth, but eldest surviving son, heir to his wealth and honours.

Harry, fourth Earl, was member for the county of Leicester, at the time of his father's death. In 1736, he married Mary, only daughter and heir of George Booth, last Earl of Warrington, (f) dying in 1768, æt. 52, he was succeeded by his son.

George Harry Grey, fifth Earl of Stamford, in whom the title of Earl of Warrington, Baron Delamere was revived, 1796. He married, 1767, Henrietta Cavendish Bentinck, second daughter of the second Duke of Portland. This lady-dowager died, 1827, aged 91. His lordship dying, 1819, aged 82, was succeeded by the present peer, George Harry, who married a daughter of Lord Elcho, son of the earl of Wemys.

Other sons and daughters of the fifth Earl are Henrietta, wife of Sir John Chetwode, Bart.; Maria married to John Cotes, Esq., of Woodcot; Louisa; William Booth; Rev. Anchitel, prebend of Durham; Henry; Sophia; Amelia married to John Lister Keay, Esq., of the Grange, Yorkshire.

Other residences of this family are Dunham Massey, in Cheshire, seat of the Earl of Warrington; and Stewart's Hay, Leicestershire, once the seat of Lady Jane Grey—this seat is noticed by Aikin, under the name of Bradgate, seat of the Marquis of Dorset, Duke of Suffolk, father of that accomplished lady.

(f) See in the sequel, where he is spoken of as an improver of Enville.

Eardeswick relates that "Thomas Grey, who died in 2d Elizabeth, built a very proper brick house, in a goodly manor and park, at Enville."

Plot Staff. p. 121, gives a southern front view of this mansion, dedicated to Harry Grey, Esq. The edifice continued to exhibit the style prevalent in the reign of Henry VIII., in 1759, but many extensive additions and improvements had been made in the grounds by Harry, fourth Earl of Stamford, insomuch, that the demesne has become celebrated for its superior elegance and beauty.

Harry, fifth Earl, and successor, in a great degree re-edified the house, which still "carries with it a respectable air of antiquity, though in part modern, happily corresponding with the venerable aspect of the surrounding woods."

Much of the taste displayed in the formation of these beautiful scenes, is ascribed to the poet Shenstone, in honour of whom, the principal cascade is designated "the Shenstonian." Mr. Shaw asserts, that part of the mansion, the chapel, and the cascade, are confidently ascribed to the poet.

To the Hon. Booth Grey, (h) brother of the 5th Earl, belongs also the honour of contributing largely to the formation of this interesting picture.

In attempting a feeble outline of this elegant specimen of the English garden, reference must be made to the general contour of the place.

The eminence of Enville, Compton, &c., (i) as beheld from

(h) The scenery of Enville is pourtrayed by this gentleman in good drawings, adorning his seat at Caverswell castle, in the county of Stafford.

(i) In Kinver.

the east, has an aspect of uncommon richness and beauty. Luxuriant woodlands occasionally afford openings into verdant upland lawns, presenting to view, not only the appropriate ornamental decorations of the demesne, but edifices devoted to rural economy and charity.

Several respectable farm-houses are pleasingly conspicuous on the borders of the woods; and, embosomed in plantations of pines, stands the charity school, founded by Lady Dorothy Grey, (i) for the instruction of young females in domestic economy, the elements of learning, &c.

Adjacent to the village of Enville, on the south, is the Hall before alluded to, a complete baronial residence; contiguous to which are gardens on a very extensive scale, terminating in an ornamented lawn, forming one of the characteristic beauties of the place.

The whole of the ornamental ground is environed by woodland shades, with the exception of the final scene in returning westward to the mansion, already noticed.

Nearly in the centre of the ground, the gothic archway, situated on a bold eminence, amidst a passage of park scenery, attracts particular notice, its seats commanding a very extensive prospect over the surrounding country.

From this structure a spacious woodland avenue, (k) from whence, (as from a trunk) issue numerous ramifications of similar kind; leads to the southern limit, the entrance of the pastoral ground.

Other decorations of the central scenery, are the rotunda,

(i) Eldest daughter of the third Earl of Stamford, she died 1781.

(k) These avenues afford rides of considerable extent and peculiar beauty.

the portico, several seats in well-chosen situations, &c., &c. On either side of the upland ground we have attempted to describe, is a train of watery expanses, which, with their tributary rivulets, enliven the surrounding shades.

The successive scenes which meet the eye of the observer, on passing the eastern side of the park, cannot fail to excite attention. The lawn intervening between the mansion and the principal sheet of water; that noble expanse, viewed either from the different points of its grassy margin, or from the elegant apartment over the boat-house; particularly the rocky glen which thence opens to view: all powerfully contribute to produce pleasing sensations.

In tracing the rivulet which descends in manifold forms of "cataract, or rolling stream, or bounded, or bursting torrent, through its craggy bed to its parent source;" we contemplate one of the most magnificent and striking beauties of the place. Mr. Shaw describes this cascade, termed, "Shenstonian," as highly picturesque, "the rugged sides of the glen, scarcely hid by the thick laurel, and tufted shrubs which overhang its edge, the foam and spray of the torrent mixing with the foliage of the evergreens," while the view of the ornamented building on the margin of a pellucid lake, completes the picture.

The winding path, in continuation of the scene, is represented by the same author, as bordered by odoriferous shrubs; "passing an artless bridge, consisting of a single plank, which crosses the stream between its first and second fall," he adds, "we look down the dashing stream, between a woody visto, judiciously broken by a kind of arch, formed by an over-bending mossy trunk."

"From a bench, at the foot of a venerable ash, clustered with ivy, we enjoy the second cascade, rushing closely by us,

at the same time retaining our former prospect with added lustre."

" Quitting this environ, we proceed along the edge of the great reservoir, which supplies the principal falls ; from this we behold, over a small cascade, the farm house, or Lynden's hall, nearly enveloped in trees."

Pursuing the same track, amidst the varied woodland scenery, and ascending a winding path, the chapel appears, denominated also " Shenstonian," being dedicated to the bard.

Approaching the boundaries of the pleasure grounds, and leaving the pastoral tract to the left, the opposite woodlands present themselves to view. Here, a continuation of the numerous umbrageous avenues, invites the admirer of sylvan beauties, to pursue his way.

Appropriate decorations, among many others of this embellished scene, are, The Urn, with a figure, in bass-relief, of a " Ram reclining beneath a tree, in which is discovered a nest, with birds feeding their young ; the Cottage, a building in every way characteristic of its design, with every rural accompaniment.

A menagerie once formed a part of this establishment. The winding way from hence to the garden-ground, adjacent to the mansion, containing the billiard-room and green-house, is conducted through the remaining part of the wood, many interesting scenes opening to view during its course. Arrived at this distinguished passage of the landscape, the eye is gratified by the uncommon perfection of the trees, shrubs, &c., which adorn the plantation, the lawn, and the parterre.

As in the Arboreum at Croome, (1) the training of each individual inhabitant of the sylvan precinct seems to have been a prime object of attention, while its separate parts harmonize in the formation of a grand and glowing picture.

THE SHEEP WALK.

The beautiful and rural appendage of an extensive pastoral down, stretching over a great part of the hilly range, and bordered by noble tracts of woodland; has a fine effect as a bold feature of the general landscape, and produces a pleasing contrast to the ornamented region.

From this eminence, a more extensive prospect is obtained than from the site of the gothic arch, the most favourable point for enjoying a prospect within the ornamented grounds. From this spot, the parish church is viewed to great advantage, on the borders of the domain, at the termination of the village.

Part of the central midland range is here displayed to view, while Malvern, and other hills, as in other parts of the country already described, have their respective stations in the landscape. The russet round hill, near the village of Smestal, adjacent to Womborne, appears to peculiar advantage from this point.

A western view of the edge and ridge of Kinver, the latter presenting to the observer, a rocky precipitous wall, of rude magnificence, forming a bold foreground, is almost peculiar to this part of the prospect.

From the extreme southern point of Kinver, several romantic vales give a finish to the picture. On the summit of En-

(1) Seat of the Earl of Coventry, near Worcester.

ville and Compton-hill, the scope of prospect over the Sa-lopian province, is more distinct and extensive, than from other heights which have fallen under our survey ; (m) as also the insight into the Cambrian territory.

The intermediate tract, constituting the foreground, is one of great beauty and fertility. Mansions of the neighbouring gentlemen, as — Campbell, Esq., of the Hollies ; — Grove, Esq., of the Four Ashes ; Rectory-house, &c. ; embellish the vicinity.

To retire within the limits of this rural domain, a striking feature is The Shepherd's Lodge. This truly elegant cottage is strictly in unison with its surrounding scenery. The simple decorations of this gothic structure, (n) the staircase and other parts of the interior being covered with ballads, carols, and similar congenial embellishments, instamp upon it a character much in unison with the genius of the place.

The church of Enville contains numerous memorials of the family of Grey, (o) and other principal ones in the vicinity ; as Whorwood ; Hale, of the Hollies ; Bowles, Bromwich, Wrighte, Amphlett, ancestors of the present family of Grove of Four Ashes ; Moseley, of Mere ; Hickman, of Stour-bridge ; &c., &c.

The structure exhibits a good specimen of Saxon architecture. Two rows of massive pillars, forming a long nave,

(m) From this point are also visible the elevated parts of the road from Kidderminster to Bridgnorth, through Shatterford. Opposite to Enville woods, on the Compton side, is Birch-wood. Plantations of trees in various directions, are annually extending the woodlands of the district.

(n) With the exception of one room elegantly furnished.

(o) Kinver church also contains monuments of the family of Grey, &c., &c.

regularly pewed on each side, have a very pleasing effect. (p)

Several antique carvings, bearing some resemblance to those which decorate the churches of St. Kenelm and Pedmore, attract the notice of the antiquary; and the monuments, according to the present arrangement of the interior, are displayed to great advantage.

The name of Rogerus de Morfe is inscribed on the lid of a stone coffin, with a cross, dug up in 1762, below the foundation of the west end of the church; which, together with an ornamented stone, bearing a cross with a fleur de lis, was deposited at the north entrance of the church; the figures became almost obliterated by the steps of the heedless passenger.

These, and another relic consisting of a large slab of stone, bearing the resemblance of a recumbent human figure, discovered, 1830, on excavating some deep trenches, round the outer wall of the church, for the purpose of drainage; were transferred to the floor of the south porch.

Not to enter into a topographical survey of the parish, it may not be irrelevant to notice some additional antiquities, though this district will again fall under observation when we speak of the Roman Road.

LUTLEY,

or Lutteley is contra-distinguished from Ludley in Halesowen. This tract, not mentioned in the Conqueror's survey, is supposed to have belonged to Enfield, or included in the forest of Kinfare. A succession of Lords, several of

(p) Much improved during a few years preceding, by a complete pewing, and other judicious alterations.

the name of Philip; (a) inherited this domain, from the reign of Henry III., to that of Henry VI., when a female relative of the family of the name of Cole, passed it away to John Stafford, Bishop of Bath and Wells; and in the course of events, it became the property of Whorwood, a branch of the house of Compton, (b) 2d Elizabeth. In 32d of the same reign, it came into the family of Moseley, in which it still remains.

This family, connected with that of Acton, once resided at the Mere, within this manor. Winterdyne, near Bewdley, is the present residence of the family of Moseley.

On visiting Lutley, in 1823, two venerable mansions, at a short distance from each other, presented themselves to view. A third site was that of the ancient moat, once surrounding Lutley house, but now completely drained. A square platform, converted into a garden, rose in its centre. On one side a pile of stones, apparently newly dug up, attracted notice. On examining them, several bore the marks of the chisel, having bevelled cornices. Two distinct pieces, had they been cemented together, would have formed an exact sexagon. (c)

But the most remarkable relick appertaining to this site,

(a) See also Hagley, pa. 270. Philip de Lutteley, 6th Edward III. founded a chantry in the parish church of Enville, the endowment of which was augmented by several successive Lords. King John exchanged Mere, together with Kingswinford and Clent, for Wolverhampton, with Ralph Somery, Baron of Dudley. *Shaw, art. Kingswinford.*

(b) Parts of the pedigree of Whorwood and Moseley are inserted in Shaw, under Enville.

(c) The soil near the stones was plentifully strewn with mortar. A chapel is said to have been attached to this residence, evidently the manor-house alluded to in the county histories.

had been removed to a neighbouring cottage garden. This consisted of a massive circular font, about three feet in diameter, with a small central concavity, hewn out of the solid mass. Near to the base of the vessel, a circular moulding was apparent, the only ornament which it possessed.

A feeling of regret was naturally excited, that this rude massive vestige of antiquity, should not be destined to adorn some more favoured spot; an event which shortly took place, the proprietor of the estate placing it, properly elevated, in front of one of the neighbouring ancient mansions.

A gentleman well-informed respecting the antiquity of this neighbourhood, has noticed some remains of a paved causeway near to the moat, where coins are said to have been found. A silver coin found at this place bearing the effigies of one of the English Kings, crowned, inscription illegible, is in the possession of William Evans, Esq., of Stourbridge. On the obverse, are the armorial bearings of England, agreeing with the plate in Mitchell's Genealogical Table of the Kings of England, from Henry V. to Elizabeth; and also with that of Rapin at the end of Edward IV., the Ryal.

MORFE.

This appellation belongs also to a very extensive quondam forest in the vicinity, extending to the ancient town and borough of Bridgnorth. Morva frequently occurs in the principality of Wales, as Morva Rhuddlan. Pen Morva, British.

This manor, as well as some others in the county of Stafford, is not mentioned in Domesday. William de Birmingham, 19th Edward I., appears to have held half of Morfe of Roger de Somery. The family deriving its name from the

place, is supposed to have held the remaining half, if not the former also, in subordination to the Birmingham family.

Henry, Lord of Morfe, stands upon record prior to the 19th of Edward I. During subsequent periods, we read of Roger de Morfe, memorials of whom are noticed as appertaining to the church; also of Henry de Morfe, who was living 9th Edward II., and John his son, to whom a grant was made by Sir Fulk Birmingham.

Another Henry de la Morfe flourished 16th Richard II., after which the estate came to the Lowes of Whittington by marriage. Also, daughter of Botener of Wythybrook, and widow of Humphrey Lowe, re-marrying with Sir Henry de Everingham, Bart. he became lord of this place 37th Henry VI., in her right. She survived Sir Henry.

Alicia de Everingham, widow, was Lady of this manor, 12th Edward IV.

HIMLEY. (f)

Himley, though less resorted to by the tourist, than the classic shades of Hagley, Enville, and the Leasows; is, nevertheless, entitled to compare with those celebrated domains.

The pleasant village of Himley is delightfully situated

(f) The first mansion, of which a view is given in Shaw's Staffordshire, was an antique moated building, standing near the site of the present noble structure. Two other plates are given, representing the second house with its adjacent scenery, and the reverse of the picture.

between Stourbridge and Wolverhampton, at the junction of the road leading from Dudley to Bridgnorth, at the distance of five miles from each of the three towns, Dudley, Stourbridge, and Wolverhampton. It extends, principally, along the sides of the road; the parish church, rectory-house, and several Gentlemens' residences, &c., form a pleasing line of buildings.

The baronial residence, (with its rich adjacent domain,) is in the midst of an extensive park, near to the border of a magnificent sheet of water, containing fifteen acres, and backed by a bold rocky eminence, highly ornamented, and intersected with shady walks, conducted through various avenues.

Reverting to the period of the reign of William I., Himley, *inter alia*, is found to be in possession of William Fitz Ansculph, in Seisdon, from whom it descended to the family of Somery; and 33d Edward III., it was in possession of the house of Sutton. John de Sutton, Lord Dudley, died at this time.

In subsequent times, we find this lordship to be in possession of the crown, and also of the house of Dudley, Earls of Northumberland, John and Edward. An intermarriage between Frances, heiress of Edward Sutton, Lord Dudley, Baroness of Dudley, and Humble Ward, created Baron Ward, of Birmingham, 1644, vested the inheritance in the latter family.

The manors of Sedgeley, Himley, Swindon, Kingswinford, and Rowley-Regis, are also vested in the same family with Dudley Castle. (g)

(g) The great barony of Dudley, at the period of the conquest, extended over considerable portions of the neighbouring counties; Willengeworth,

John 1st Lord Dudley and Ward, was created Viscount, 1763, died 1774. John, second Viscount, his son, died 1787, and was succeeded by William, he died April 25th, 1823, aged 74.

John William, who succeeded, in addition to the family title, was created, 1827, Earl of Dudley Castle, Staffordshire, as also Viscount Ednam, (g) of Roxburghshire, North Britain, at which place he had recently purchased a large estate. His lordship was, at that time, Secretary of State for the foreign department.

From 1828, to 1830, splendid additions were made to the mansion, constituting it one of the most magnificent residences in this part of Staffordshire.

To revert to the mansion with its surrounding scenery, woods and hills, in manifold gradations, arise towards the east, till bounded by the hilly regions of Sedgley and Dudley, the spire of the former producing a very picturesque effect, and crowning the landscape.

Baggeridge wood, already alluded to, abounds in beautiful rides, not less than seven miles in extent. Several deep ravines, bordering and pervading the woodlands, collect the descending currents from the hills, which are formed into sheets of water, in various parts of the grounds, contributing also to the spacious lake in front of the mansion.

These eminences, and especially their western declivities, form, as has been observed, a barrier, secluding the tranquil

Womborne, Ashwood, Chaspell, &c., &c. have at different times appertained to the barony. See Shaw, art. Himle and Dudley Castle.

(g) Ednam, the birth-place of the poet Thompson.

scenery under review, from the very populous mining and manufacturing district extending in that direction.

The ornamented hill, at the base of which the house is situated, contains fine specimens of venerable trees, the ancient inhabitants of the place, to which appropriate inscriptions are affixed. The park is stocked with deer.

The following poetical effusion, is from the pen of W. T. Fitzgerald, Esq., when on a visit to Himley.

This stately Yew, which has for ages stood,
The gloomy monarch of its native wood ;
Perhaps some Norman baron planted here,
Who liv'd by rapine, and who rul'd by fear.
The tree, a symbol of its master's mind,
Emblem of death, and fatal to mankind !
Beneath its boughs no verdant plants are seen,
Its baneful branches poison every green.
And thus the feudal tyrant's hated reign,
Oppress'd the village, and made waste the plain.
To these dire scenes a happier age succeeds,
No despot threatens, and no vassal bleeds.
At Himley, now, the poor man finds relief,
Forgets his poverty, and checks his grief ;
Raises his languid eyes, and drooping head,
To bless the liberal hand that gives him bread.
While in the mansion, mirth and song attend,
To cheer the stranger, and delight the friend.
But still the Yew, though hasting to decay,
Retains the venom of its pristine day ;
Its branches still their gloomy nature show,
And frown upon the cheerful scene below.

Dr. Booker celebrates the praises of the late Lord Dudley, as a Mæcenas and a Philanthropist, in several poetic effu-

sions; as—“The Scathed Oak, in the park of Mæcenas,” and “The Young Oak Tree,” planted by the same nobleman. (h)

“Robin’s Dell,” a romantic spot in the park, planted by Lady Burgoyne, is also the theme of the poet. The concluding poem, “Himley,” furnishes a suitable extract to close this brief sketch.

If rais'd the eye above the Elysian-bound,
 What grandeur marks the wide horizon 'round !
 Yonder, where Phœbus seeks his golden bed,
 Old Wrekin rears his cloud-encompass'd head.
 Next Clee's twin mountains, towering, meet the skies,
 And far-fam'd Enville's beauteous woods arise.
 Hagley, as emulous, nor so in vain—
 The palm of rural loveliness to gain,
 Lifts her green hills, her columns, and her groves,
 Where many a faunic dryad-spirit roves ;
 Where many a son of sweetest rhyme has stray'd,
 And none more sweet than he those scenes who made. (i)
 Like clustering clouds, irregularly-grand,
 Lo ! far remote, Malvernia's mountains stand :
 Soft welling from whose verdant sides, where flow
 Waters divine, (k) to solace human woe.
 Still more remote, suffus'd with living light,
 Cambria's unnumber'd hills arrest the sight ;
 Which seem a mass of undulating waves,
 Rais'd to the clouds when mighty Boreas raves.

(h) Poems dedicated to William, Lord Viscount Dudley and Ward, Baron of Birmingham, and Recorder of Kidderminster, 1803.

Other poems of Dr. Boöker, are, “The Ruin,” in allusion to Dudley Castle, and “Lines” on planting an Ivy tree, against the wall of the same ruined edifice.

(i) Lord George Lyttelton.

(k) The Holy Well—St. Anne's Well, &c.

A grand display of fire-works, in the midst of which appeared the following inscription :—

Thank heaven, our King is saved !

caused a numerous assemblage of the neighbouring nobility and gentry, with many thousand other spectators, in 1786 ; when a celebration of his Majesty's escape from the hand of an assassin, took place at Himley.

There were frequent musical performances at Himley, under the patronage of the late Lord, in which some of the most eminent professors of the time were engaged. A memorial of Norris, who died here, 1790, is inscribed on a mural tablet in the church.

CLENT.*

THIS romantic district, forming, together with Brome, a portion of the county of Stafford, surrounded by that of Worcester, has already been noticed in the course of this work as the scene of that melancholy tragedy in which a prince of Mercia was immolated, and of whom a memorial is still in preservation in the quarter of Romsley, in Halesowen, viz. St. Kenelm's church.

It is likewise mentioned as a magnificent appendage to Hagley, and in conjunction with surrounding elevations, as forming an alpine picture.

* Once called Cowdale, according to Leland. Kowbatch or Clatterbatch, situate in the vale of Stour, is a synonyme. Trathbach the entrance of the vale of Maentwrog, Merioneth, and Glyderbach, contradistinguished from Glydervawr, occur in the principality of Wales.

Clent, according to most authors, takes its name from the Saxon glyn, or glen—gloam, Irish, a narrow valley encompassed by wood, which etymology is not inconsistent with a record, discovered in the parish church of Leominster, viz. a brass plate, date 1592, the purport of which is that the forefathers of Kenelm, of Leominster, kinsman of Renelmbald, or Renebalt, of Clynton, now Clent, erected numerous buildings, probably religious houses, at Leominster, Kenelmsford, or Chelmsford, Kenilworth, (1) Kenilsham, Kingsland, near Leominster, Clint, Winchcomb, with twenty-two other places.

This inscription was copied by John Hackluyte, of Eaton, near Leominster, and is preserved in a 4to edition of Weaver's Funeral Monuments.

“ This Kenelm,” it is asserted, “ was of the royal race of Mercia, and the property described comprises most of the ancient fortresses and lands of the Mercian kings.” Clent, Staffordshire, according to the writer of this article, is synonymous with Clint and Clynton, from which place the noble family of Newcastle takes its name, the Duke being a lineal descendant of Renebald, named as such in Harleian MSS., No. 4029.

The term glen is strictly appropriate to Cowbatch, a deep ravine extending from the parish church in the village of Clent, to the chapel of St. Kenelm, flanked by the hills of Clent and Walton.

(1) *Gent. Mag. New Series*, vol. XX. pp. 414, 504, 1827. June and July.

Saussure remarks, that the word glen indicates a funnel-formed cavity, or valley, a space enclosed by mountains parallel to each other, and joined at their bases.

Dugdale derives Kenilworth from Kenulph.

Shenstone, in his 23d Elegy, speaks of himself as—

“Born near the spot for Kenelm's fate renown'd.”

This prince only son of Kenulph, king of Mercia, was basely murdered at the age of seven, by Ascobert his guardian and tutor, (m) at the instigation of his sister Quendrida, (n) and buried beneath a thorn tree, anno. 819, according to Rapin.

This atrocious deed, though concealed in England, is represented by Matthew of Westminster, and William of Malmsbury, as miraculously revealed at Rome, a white dove dropping on the altar of St. Peter a narrative of the transaction, in golden letters, as Leo III. was celebrating mass.

“Order was sent by the Pope to Wolfred, Arch-Bishop of Canterbury, and other English Bishops, to search for the body, which having discovered, they caused it to be carried in great state to the abbey of Winchcomb, Gloucestershire,” (o) as related under Romsley, Halesowen. (p)

Many authors, in geographical and other works, have alluded to this sad event, with considerable pathos and simplicity.

In a MS. penes Dec. et cap. Lichf. called “Registr. Album,” is this account of the affair:—

(m) Styled also by Turner, foster-father of the Prince.

(n) Quendrida, in “Williams' History of St. Alban's,” is called Drida Quan Drida, and Petronella. Burganilda, a sister of this cruel Princess, is represented by Mr. Turner, as of an amiable disposition.

(o) Oswald, Bishop of Worcester, on re-building Winchcomb abbey, originally founded by Kenulph, A. D. 798, dedicated it to Kenelm.

(p) Hearne. Testimonies cited by this author, are John Brompton, Capgrave, Nova Legenda, Ang. in vita Sti. Kenelm.

Filius regis Kenelmus, a sorore Quendrida innocué caesus, nomen, et decu. martirij adeptus, ibidem est sepultus, de quo dicitur

In Clent sub-spina, jacet in convalle bovina,
Vertice privatus, Kenelmus rege creatus.

In Clent, in Cowbatch, under a thorn,
Lieth king Kenelm, with his head off shorn. (q)

Milton thus expresses the fact—

Low in the mead of kine, under a thorn,
Of head bereft, lyeth poor Kenelm, king born.

According to the legend which transmits this doleful narrative to after times, a spring of water gushed out upon the spot, where the crime was perpetrated. As no such fountain is apparent, it is supposed by the historian, that the spring to the east of the chapel is the one alluded to. (r)

However this point may be determined, it may not be unworthy of observation, that in a parallel dell to that which is the site of the chapel, at the distance of less than a mile to the south; a most beautiful chrystal fountain arises within the enclosure of a garden, attached to a farm-house, within the precincts of Clent.

Little Pen farm, approximating to the vale, in contradistinction from Great Pen farm, on part of the adjoining hill, supplies another instance of ancient British phraseology prevalent in this sequestered region.

Pen, a head or hill, is a common appellation in Wales, as Pen morfa, (head of the Marsh) Pen or plin limmon, (head of the Beacon) Alpes, Pennines, &c., &c.

(q) Harwood's Eardeswick.

(r) Mr. Hearne is of this opinion.

It is asserted, that the guilty princess succeeded in obtaining the crown to which she so unjustly aspired. This however is at variance with the narrations of Rapin and Turner, who relate, that Ceolwulf, uncle to the Princess, and brother to the late King, succeeded. This Prince was heir to perishing and evanescent honours, for in his second year, he was driven out by Beornulf, who quarrelled with Egbert, and linked the fate of Mercia to his own at the battle of Wilton, A. D. 823.

“ Kenulph, dying before Egbert, (s) the power centred in Wessex ; had the latter first paid the debt of nature, it might have been otherwise, especially in the case of his leaving a feeble successor. After some struggles under Ludecan and Wiglaff, Mercia and East Anglia, fell under the arms of Egbert, A. D. 823.”

Kenelm, according to Millot, succeeded to the kingdom, not the monarchy, and reigned five months.

It is a remarkable circumstance, that in the annals of Saxon times, we read of another martyr, inhumanly immolated by another Quendrida within the same territory.

Quendrida, wife of Offa, King of Mercia, caused Ethelbert, King of East Anglia, her daughter's suitor, to be forelaid and murdered, respecting more the wealth and territories attainable by means of this atrocious deed, than an honourable connexion for her daughter, thus East Anglia was annexed to Mercia, A. D. 792.

Ethelbert being registered in the catalogue of martyrs, a church was erected, and dedicated to him at Hereford, by

(s) He died A. D. 819, and was buried in his abbey of Winchcomb, contiguous to the remains of his martyred son.—*Nash*.

Milfrid, a petty King of the country, and a Bishop's see was established in that province. (t)

This disgraceful transaction is considered by the historian of Warwick, as tarnishing the glory of the otherwise illustrious Offa, one of the most powerful princes of the Heptarchy, distinguished as a bold and successful warrior, and as a wise and able governor, honoured by the friendship and alliance of the Emperor Charlemagne.

The memory of this monarch is perpetuated in modern times by the stupendous dyke which bears his name.

Mr. Hearne, "Ductor Historicus," p. 294, calls this murdered Prince Egilbert, and describes the court of Offa as fixed at Sutton Wallis, Herefordshire.

Clent is adorned by mansions of John Amphlett, Esq.; Miss Liell; Rev. — Durant, &c., &c.; the vicarage is pleasantly situated near a stream issuing from the hills.

CLENT HILLS.*

That cluster of midland elevations standing apart from others of the same chain, of which the Clentine range is the centre; forms an appropriate station, from whence to take a general survey, and form a perspective sketch of the surrounding scenery, nor will the historical events, connected with the various localities described, be totally void of

(t) Camden.

* See Introduction, pp. xiv, and xvi. also pa. 36.

interest to the inhabitant of the extensive tract falling within the scope of vision, or to the tourist.

Walton, the central and loftiest of these elevations, Clent proper, Walton, (t) and Calcot, is the principal point from which the prospect is commanded; though occasional digressions to the eminences of Dudley, Rowley, and Lickey, may facilitate the forming of the sketch. (u) The latter series, viz. Lickey, is at the distance of about four miles.

Taking the Beacon as a centre, the surrounding eminences of the Lickey appear to great advantage. Ruebury, on the N., a round hill detached from the rest, is the site of an encampment.

To the east, the Corfton range rises from an intervening valley, adorned by various clumps of firs, pointing out the site to the distant beholder.

In the direction of Ruebury, on the line of road to Birmingham, is Rednall-hill, beyond which the eminences of Frankley rise to view, crowned by clumps of ashes and beeches. Minor elevations bear the names of Waseley,

(t) Walton-hill is distinguished by a clump of trees, the trunks of which rise on its slope, while their foliage waves above its summit; once the station of a telegraph. It exceeds Clent proper by 15 feet, and is so much lower than Lickey beacon. Rowley and Clent hills may be considered as occupying different parts of parallel lines. These, and also the Lickey-hills, are stated by various authors to rise 900 feet above the level of the sea.

Pitt's Staffordshire, &c.

Clent, from observations recently made, rises 792 feet from the Stour.

(u) The wooded hill of Romsley, in the Salopian portion of Halesowen, is a pleasing feature in the picture; apparently, though not in reality, a link connecting Clent with Lickey; naturally ranging with the former group. The want of water to complete the landscape is here observable, as at Hagley. Dr. Groom's description of lakes in sunny vallies will here apply.

Stonecoat, &c., and a little to the south, the sand hills commence, reaching beyond the town of Bromsgrove, in the direction of Worcester.

Professor Buckland designates the two divisions of the Lickey range, upper and lower; the former stretching from NW., to SE., at the distance of eight miles from the bed of the Severn, and dividing the upper part of the vale of Worcester, from the more elevated plains of Birmingham.

In the opposite direction, this author points out the continuity of the range, south eastward to Tardebig, E. of Bromsgrove, thence stretching by Feckenham forest to the Ridgway W. of Alcester, and then sloping off into the vale of Avon above Evesham. (w)

Surveying the wide expanse of country, from the last-mentioned station, a glance is obtained of

“ The vale of Severn, nature’s garden wide,
By the blue steeps of distant Malvern wall’d,
Solemnly vast ; the trees of various shade,
Scene behind scene, with fair delusive pomp,
Enrich the prospect,” (x) and

“ Huge Bredon’s stony summit.”

(w) Trans. Geol. Soc. V. 507.

(x) “ Dyer’s Fleece.” The noble river Severn, as Mr. Shrine observes, being deeply engulfed within its banks, is less conspicuous in prospects than many other streams of equal or inferior importance. Taking its rise at no great distance from the sea, it takes a wide semicircular course, and dis-embogues into the same sea. Even from Malvern, Wrekin, and other bold eminences in its proximity, it appears as in detached lakes, severed from its winding channel.

Bredon-hill has two encampments, one on that part called Kemmerton, supposed to be Danish or Saxon, rather than Roman. This entrenchment is of a triangular shape, with an area of 21 acres, defended on the N. and W.

In the rear of Bredon, but in fainter lines, the Cotswold hills, with Leckhampton pre-eminent above the rest, bordering the fertile vales of Evesham and Gloucester, present themselves to view. The city of Worcester, with many towns, and other interesting objects, scattered over a rich passage of country, enliven the picture.

*Malvern.**

The majestic range of Malvern, though minute when placed in contrast with the elevations of Alpine regions, nevertheless constitutes a sublime feature in our landscape.

The extent of this mountainous district is stated to be nine miles from Leigh Sinton, Worcestershire, to Broom berrow, Gloucestershire; its breadth unequal.

The North hill, Worcestershire beacon, and Herefordshire

by steep precipices, and in other directions by two ditches, 20 yards in width. Conderton, the other entrenchment, supposed to be Danish, is a small oval camp, about 160 yards in length, and 71 wide. On Leckhampton-hill is a camp formed on a grand terrace, overlooking the vale of Gloucester.

The lofty vallum in front, with the deep aggar in the interior, must have rendered the fortification very strong, in earlier times.

Cleeve-hill, or cloud, in the same vicinity, has on the border of its western precipice, an entrenchment, with a double longitudinal vallum, and an intervening trench.

* The derivation of Malvern from moel, a bald hill, and wherne Alder, British, is similar to that of Shrewsbury Pengwerne, head of the Alder groves. The term Sierra, applied with Leone, to the Busaco-range in Africa, appears to be appropriate to Malvern, and also to that of the hills of Lynn, Carnarvonshire, forming the northern horn of the great bay of Cardigan. This series of hills is furrowed by extensive combs, forming channels for copious rills. Central to the two beacons are the Wytches, greater and lesser.

Another alpine pass separates the Herefordshire beacon from the main body of the range.

beacon, exceed in altitude the remaining eminences, respectively rising to the heights of 1151, 1238, and 1444, feet; though authors are not perfectly agreed respecting their elevations.

On the Herefordshire beacon is one of the noblest castramentations of which the kingdom can boast. The entrenchments extend over a wide compass of mountainous range, not only environing the principal summit, but several minor ones, and their appendant promontories.

The camp consists of a double ditch, having a *prætorium* in the centre, indicating it to have been Roman, though its form does not correspond with the works of that illustrious people.

A circumference of 2970 yards, containing 44 statute acres, will give an idea of its extent; the length is 1100 yards, the longest diameter of the centre, 60 yards, the shortest 40. (a)

These works are, by some authors, supposed to have been constructed at the period when Ostorius Scapula contended with the Britons. On this point there are differences of opinion.

Mr. Whitaker, "History of Manchester," on the authority of Tacitus, asserts that Ostorius fortified the Severn and upper Avon of Gloucestershire, Warwickshire, and Northamptonshire; and afterwards continued his chain of camps along the Nen, to the marshes of the eastern coast. In another passage

(a) Beauties of England and Wales, in which the writer gives it as his opinion, that this is a British entrenchment, being dissimilar to the camps of the Romans, Saxons, and Danes.

he fixes the Antona of Tacitus at Evesham, or Bengworth, between Gloucester and Alcester.

Gale is of opinion that the Warwickshire and Worcestershire Avon, is that designated by Aufona, afterwards changed into Abona.

A passage of Tacitus, purporting that "the Iceni took offence at Ostorius blocking up their countrymen between the rivers Antona and Sabrina," has given rise to difference of opinion respecting the site of the Pro-Prætor's station.

Horseley admits this fact on the authority of Dion and Suetonius.

Field, in his "History of Warwick," (Presidium,) considers that station as one of the fortifications in Ostorius' chain.

Dr. Nash ascribes the formation of the camp at Over Arley to Ostorius, during his conflicts with the Silures and Ordovices.

According to Evans' "Picture of Bristol," the entrenchment at Clifton was the post chosen by that great general, when about A. D. 50, he extended the victories of the Romans to the banks of the Severn, and as a collateral defence, secured the navigation of the Bristol river. Some authors suppose Nen or Avon, to be synonymous with Aufona.

The Herefordshire beacon with its graduated terraces, conspicuous at a distance, presents to the surrounding country, an object of great beauty and magnificence. Salvator-Rosa, and Claude Lorrain, are described as artists to whom the Herefordian and Vigornian landscapes environing these hills, would have respectively afforded appropriate subjects for their unrivalled pencils.

Academicus and Vigorniensis are introduced, as portraying, in elegant dialogue, the same delectable scenes, and giving historic interest to such of them as have been the theatres of eminent achievements. (b)

The memorable battle of Evesham, 1265, was fought within view of these mountains, and it is recorded by Father Daniel, that during the bloody conflict of Tewkesbury, 1471, a dreadful storm arose with thunder and lightening, more disastrous to the rebel party than the death of their chief.

“Malvern’s mountains veil the wearied sun, and yet the conflict rages.”

The trench, formed to adjust a dispute between Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, temp. Edward I. serving also to divide the counties of Worcester and Hereford, is visible over a great part of the hills.

The spacious compartment of our picture, consisting of the vast expanse between Malvern and Abberley-hills, is filled by many apparently minute eminences.

Abergavenny hills are—

	<i>Height.</i>
Sugar-loaf	1852.
Scirryd fawr, or St. Michael’s Mount	1498.
Scirryd fach	765.
Blaurence front ..	1607.
———— rear	1720.(c)

(b) Chambers’ Malvern, including many of the observations of Horner. To the S. W. of Hereford beacon is Eastnor castle, the magnificent modern residence of Lord Somers; near thereto is a pillar, erected in memory of one of the family who fell in the late revolutionary war.

(c) Siluria, the territory of an ancient British kingdom or tribe, consisted

Hatteral Hills, Brecon Beacon.

But the Black mountains, near Brecon, claim particular notice.

“Pleas'd if the glowing landscape wave with corn,
Or the tall oaks, my country's bulwarks, rise ;
Pleas'd, if mine eye o'er thousand vallies borne,
Discern the Cambrian hills support the skies.
'Twas for these mountains clad with lasting snow,
The free-born Britain left his greenest mead,
Receding sullen from the mightier foe,
For here he saw fair liberty recede.” (c)

These beacons, 2862 feet in height, are two contiguous peaks, about five miles S. W. of Brecon, 2550 feet above the level of the Usk, and 3000 above that of the sea, at the junction of this river with the Severn.

The first chain, extending from Carmarthenshire to the Wye, consists of the Eppynt hills. The second chain consists of the Black mountains, some of which have been considered as constituting a third.

Cadair Arthur, or Arthur's chair, is also the designation of one of the beacons, the Welsh traditionary romance assigning this elevated spot to the fabulous prince Arthur. (d)

of the counties of Hereford, Radnor, Brecon, Monmouth, Glamorgan, with part of Gloucester, and Worcester west of the Severn. Venta Silurum, Cærwent in Monmouthshire, was their metropolis.

Pleasant Siluria, land of various views,
Hills, rivers, woods, and lawns, and purple groves,
Pomaceous, mingling with the circling growth
Of tender hops that flaunt upon their poles.

Dyer's Fleece.

(c) Shenstone.

(d) Arthur's seat, near to the city of Edinburgh, is another station allotted to the same hero. It may not be improper to notice the curious coinci-

Towering above the subordinate hills, which compose their base, these peaks form striking and picturesque objects from very distant parts of south Wales, and command prospects of prodigious extent and variety.

Attempts have been made to discriminate between the real Arthur, prince of the Danmonii, and the hero of romance.

The real British prince acquired great celebrity by his valour. About the year 517, on the landing of the Saxons, he was elected pendragon by the British states, and by his intrepidity, protracted for a time the fall of his country. Quarrelling with Modred, his nephew, he came to an untimely end in the ensuing civil war, being slain in the battle of Camlan, in 542.

His remains were deposited at Glastonbury, where they were discovered in 1189. The fabulous Arthur was represented as more than mortal; his name has been celebrated in the farthest parts of Asia, and written on constellations in the heavens. (e)

Several Radnorshire hills may here be noticed:—nearest to Malvern, is the Suckley range of minor hills. Bearing towards Woodbury, and Abberley, is the Round hill, named in most maps Berrow green. (f)

To the south, are discernable, the portals of the Bristol channel. Various eminences, as Kymin, Tedstone-Delamer, Broadwas-terrace, &c., &c., also rise to view.

dence, that those mountains discernable from Tenby, Pembrokeshire, are also visible from Clent.

(e) Biog. Brit. and Turner's Anglo Saxons.

(f) Berrow-hill, according to Sheriff. Near to Martley, are Knightford bridge, Whithorn, Doddenham, &c.

Abberley.

Under the general denomination of Abberley, two fine ranges of hills are comprehended, Abberley and Woodbury. (g) Though two miles asunder, these distinct groups apparently blend their summits, when viewed, as in the present instance, in distant perspective.

Montstrellét and Hall assert, that Woodbury, with Was-sell, Kinver, and Wichbury camps, were outposts of Henry IV., when, in 1405, he pursued that powerful chief of Cambria, Owen Glendwr.

Owen, after plundering the city of Worcester, retreated, being unsuccessfully pursued by the English monarch. (h) The top of the bank on Woodbury hill, contains 26A. 2R. 27P.; or if the dimensions be taken from the centre of the ditch, two acres more.

Abberley to the Clees.

Within the compass of this stretch of prospect, we have

(g) Woodbury is the name of a hill in Dorset.

(h) This potent Cambrian chief, lord of Corwen, and Glyndwr-dwy, was a descendant of the ancient Princes of Wales. The Welsh, after the conquest, fell into a state of great degradation, from which Edward I. attempted to relieve them, but his endeavours were counteracted. Reginald Grey, lord of Ruthen, was his powerful opponent.

Owen was born 1349, he became allied to the house of Hanmer, marrying the daughter of the Chief Justice of the King's Bench, temp. Richard II. He was crowned Prince of Wales at Machynlleth.* Charles, King of France, formed a treaty with him, dated Dolgelle to May, 1404.

Owen died September 20th, 1415, aged 66. He was much attached to Richard II.

Retrospective Review of Glendwr's Life, Feb. 1826.

* David Gam, who attended the coronation, formed the design of murdering Owen, but being instrumental in preserving the life of a warrior, at the battle of Agincourt, he was pardoned.

the south-western Salopian hills of Stiperstones, (i) Longment, &c. Placed in the foreground of this landscape, is the hill of Wassell, Little-Abberley, or Habberley, in the vicinity of Bewdley crowned with an ancient encampment.

The small village of Abberley is parallel to the wooded hill of Wassell, (a beautifully romantic dell intervening,) and connected with Trimpey-green at the base of the hill, by a carriage road. See *pa.* 168.

From the precipitous side of the causeway, a view is obtained of the subjacent vale.

The scenery following the course of the Severn, from Bewdley to Stourport, &c., is of no ordinary beauty—Blackstone rocks, on the left side, and a fine range of rocks backed by the forrest of Wyre, (j) Stagbury rising above the rest, on the opposite shore.

The next majestic features in the prospect, consist of the

Clee Hills.

The Brown Clee hill, the pinnacle of Shropshire, rising to the height of 1805 feet, and the Titterstone of nearly the same elevation, present to view a flat-topped range, of about five or

(i) The Stiperstones mountain is profusely strewed with immense piles of rocky fragments, resembling ruined fortresses. Carneddau-tewin pile is said to have been raised in commemoration of the victory of Harold, in the reign of Edward the Confessor over Gryffydd, reigning Prince of Cambria, when the Britons sent the head of their potent chief as a token of submission to the conqueror.

(j) The existing remnant of this once-extensive sylvan tract, is now designated Bewdley forest. A summit appearing between Clee and Abberley, nearest to the former is formed of the high grounds of Kinlet and Mawley, residences of the Child and Blount families.

six miles long, and half as much in breadth; being four miles apart from each other.

Both have fortifications on their summits, Bruff, and Hoarhead; and together with Malvern and Caradoc, have been considered as affording convenient stations for mutual correspondence by signals.

Mr. Freeman, in his "Sketches in Wales," observes, that the range of Clee hills, terminating with the Brown Clee to the north, and with the Hoar Edge to the south east, has a table land connecting the two extremities, supposed by some to be of volcanic character.

When viewed from the point assumed, the contour of these twin mountains, somewhat resembles that of the cliffs of Calais, as seen from Dover and other parts of the south coast.

Sometimes the Brown hill, with its two summits, as viewed from various proximate positions, appears to resemble the whole group. The Titterstone hill, however, is distinctly visible to the south, and may be known by its bold northern escarpment; its southern extremity is seven miles from Ludlow. Visiting the two mountains in 1828 and 1830, the Titterstone presented to view, an immense wreck of basaltic fragments, provincially Jew stone strewed over its surface; the northern point of the Brown hill, the site of the Bruff, exhibited an area of four acres, within a rude wedge-like wall, in which were numerous circular masses of similar basaltic material. Coal abounds on these mountains and around their bases, as do breccia, sand, and iron-stone. The nearest coal formation is said to be that of Radnorshire.

Clee to Wrekin.

The apparent expanse of this compartment of the landscape, is very considerable; it is best viewed from the hills in the vicinity of Dudley. The foreground exhibits numerous parallel ridges, Ashwood, Kinver, &c., &c., stretching north and south.

To these succeed the rocky borders of Morfe, with the magnificent terrace of Apley, rising from the deep channel of the Severn.

Wenlock edge, composed of numerous heights of limestone rock, assumes the form of mountainous gradations. The ridges of Acton-Burnell, (k) Frodesley, &c., with innumerable others, present a finely undulated surface.

Caer Caradoc, situated near to the conflux of Clun and Temd, with its satellites, Lawley and Hope-Bowdler, form a striking central object in the picture. Many distant indistinct eminences in the rear of this interesting mountain, fill up the remaining space.

The fortification on Caradoc, guarded by natural outworks, dangerous fords, &c., has long been considered as the scene of conflict between the immortal Caractacus, pendragon of Britain, and brother of Corbred I., King of Scotland, and the Roman General Ostorius Scapula, A. D. 53. (1)

(k) Acton-Burnell is celebrated as the seat of a Parliament, held, A. D. 1283, temp. Edward I., which was removed thither from Shrewsbury. David, brother of Llewellyn, last prince of Wales, was here condemned to death. The Statutum Mercatoribus was enacted by this parliament.

(1) Gaer-ditches, three miles south of Clun, on the road to Knighton, is said, by the editor of Camden, to have been the site of this memorable conflict. Other authors have pointed out Coxwell knoll, Herefordshire, Lentwardine, Credon-hill, on the banks of the Wye.

The camp is situated on the point of the hill, defended on the north by deep double ditches, cut in the solid rock ; and fortified by impregnable ramparts of stone on the south and east.

The delivery of the valiant chief to the victors, by Cartimandua, Queen of the Brigantes, to whom he fled for refuge ; the exhibition of him at Rome, to grace the triumph of the Roman general ; the heroic conduct of the sufferer, and the magnanimity of the Emperor Claudius, furnish interesting topics to the historian.

The celebration of the valorous exploits of the Silurian chieftain on this mountain, (m) about the middle of the last century, is recorded in a monthly Journal, together with one of the odes recited at an annual meeting. (n)

A dramatic poem, by Mason, perpetuates the deeds of this illustrious hero.

Wrekin.

This majestic Salopian mountain, 1320 feet in height, is the next object presented to view. Wrekin, together with the contiguous hills of Lawrence and Archall extending to the north, assumes the appearance of one continuous and extensive ridge ; while a planted tumular eminence at its southern extremity, (Knave's castle,) has the semblance of those minor elevations, which stand as out-works of Skiddaw and Snowdon. Like the range of Malvernian hills, the Wrekin, by the happiest efforts of co-operative art, is made completely accessible to the traveller.

(m) Numerous vestiges of antiquity are said to exist in this neighbourhood, as at Norton, Berrow-hill, &c.

(n) Gent. Mag. Nov. and Dec. 1821.

Through the extensive plantations spread over its several acclivities, delightful walks are conducted, terminating in the broad plain, co-extensive with the summit of the mountain. On this inclined plane, rising to the south, is the land-mark, distinguishing, by opposite inscriptions, the respective domains of the Earl of Darlington, now Marquis of Cleveland, and — Cludde, Esq.

Several rocky protuberances of purple hue, on the S. E. produce an highly picturesque effect, even at the distance from which we contemplate this grand boundary of our prospect. The landscape, commanded from the apex of the mountain, is completely panoramic.

The wide plain of Salop, with its bordering hills, exhibiting eminences of various form and magnitude, displays peculiar beauties of landscape.

As some insight into South Wales was obtained, by viewing the intervening compartment between Malvern and Aberberley, so from a north western survey from Clent, but more distinctly from the Dudley and Sedgley hills, 800 feet high, a faint prospect of North Wales is presented to view.

“The heights of Dudley, consisting of the town and castle hills, in a graduated series, with some other of minor elevation; afford prospects of extraordinary extent and variety. A panoramic view of nine counties is here obtained; and beyond their limits, an extent of country of 120 miles, from Brecon mountains, to the peak of Derbyshire; and of a still greater, from Montgomeryshire to Bardon, Leicestershire; is displayed to view.”

Booker's "Dudley Castle," pa. 36.

Between Clee and Wrekin, at a remoter distance than

Caradoc and its satellites, a part of Montgomeryshire must be the district of north Wales to which the eye is directed.

“The lofty mountains of Breidden, provincially Brythan, contradistinguished from Bredon, Worcestershire, the mountain of the Wiccians, (Codeswellen) named in connexion with Norton, as part of a grant made by Offa, A. D. 780.”

Nash.

These majestic portals of Montgomeryshire, if at all visible from the northernmost point of the range, can be but faintly so. (o)

The castellated hill of Cefn'y Castell, (p) with its stately compeer, Moel Golfa, present their bold and finely wooded bastions to the south, bordering the public road from Shrewsbury to Welsh Pool.

An intermediate link of considerable magnitude and elevation, is termed Middleton hill, partaking of the sylvan honours of its more aspiring neighbours.

(o) Dr. Booker has placed these mountains No. 27, in his panoramic sketch of the prospect commanded from Dudley Castle.—Dr. Plot includes part of Montgomeryshire in this survey. By adding to this, another conjecture, formed by the writer on viewing the prospect from the Leeds and Liverpool canal, near the latter town, and also from Toxteth park; a singular coincidence will be produced.

Surveying the opposite shore of the Mersey, in the peninsula of Wirral Cheshire, and that of Flint on the parallel channel of Dee; the portals of the vale of Clwyd were apparent; Moel Famma, rising with awful pre-eminence among the Clwydian hills, having on its summit a column commemorative of the completion of the 50th year of the reign of George III.

Casting an eye over the Cambrian frontier to a considerable distance south, a large mountain became conspicuous. Should this be Breidden, and the first-mentioned conjecture be founded in fact; it will be proved that the same object of perspective is apparent from the vicinities of Liverpool and Dudley.

(p) This British castramentation is supposed to be alluded to by Tacitus.

Breidden proper, or Crag's Freidden, which gives name to the group, crowned with an obelisk in honour of the victory of Lord Rodney, stands in the rear, a deep valley intervening.

Long-Mount runs almost parallel with this range of mountains, and Long-Mynid appears at a short distance. The coup d'œil of this group has a striking resemblance to Snowdon, with its triple summits, as viewed from Nest cliff, on the road from Shrewsbury to Oswestry. From various parts of the adjacent vale of Severn, these mountains are viewed to great advantage.

In 1810, a society of Breiddenites held their first meeting on this hill. Another body commemorates the deeds of the distinguished hero, whose name and exploits are emblazoned on the pillar. A poet-fermant supplies the anniversary ode.

To the north of the Wrekin mountain, it is probable that some part of North Wales may be indistinctly observed; but to pursue the outlines of the prospect, some of the hills in the south of Derbyshire, and to the east, that of Bardon in Leicestershire, visible from most points in the eastern line of this range, constitute its principal features.

Intermediate, however, are the moorlands of Staffordshire, with the uplands bordering the extensive chace of Cannock. On Cannock chace, on the Watling street, between the ancient stations of Pennoerucium and Etocetum, is the tumulus of Knave's castle. This vestige of antiquity, about 162 feet in width, contains a treble vallum and foss, it is still rendered distantly conspicuous by an hillock in its centre, resembling a prætorium, and three trees wave their foliage over its rude and perishable undulation.

A gravel pit, adjacent, is not only extending over the moor,

but threatens to obliterate the few remaining traces of antiquity, still faintly discernable.

On the east are similar antiquities, at Stonnal and Hints castle. Oldfort, at the former place is 160 paces in diameter, supposed to have been a British encampment.

A mile from hence is Cat's or Canute's hill, near the high road. (q) At Hints, (Hendon in Saxon signifying a town,) two tumuli are apparent, on the Roman road. Pigs of lead have been found at this place.

To the north east Barr Beacon, 750 feet in height, with several neighbouring eminences rise to view. Bara, or Barr, is supposed to have derived its name from an Hebrew word, signifying an uncultivated field; or from a Saxon term, importing purification, in reference to sacrifices performed upon the spot.

The hill, having Aldridge and Barr north and south, standing west of Sutton Coldfield, has been considered as favourable for making astronomical observations, and from being the site of a beacon subservient to political purposes, also affording facilities for displaying signals, indicating the approach of an enemy.

This summit has likewise been considered as the seat of the Druidical metropolitan, whose winter residence was fixed at the distance of two miles from hence, on the street way. (r) The minute dimensions of this station, seemed to incapacitate it for the reception of an army, while the British characteristic of a treble foss, unknown to Greek and Roman defensive economy, point out its appropriate period.

(q) Sanders' Shenstone.

(r) Probably Druid heath, near Aldridge.

At Druid heath is a small area, 80 by 25 feet, encircled by a treble ditch. 200 or 300 yards to the south, is a round hill, with a single ditch seven or eight feet in depth. As this station in modern times has been occupied by the learned and ingenious Major Mudge, when engaged in his trigonometrical survey; many interesting observations have been made with respect to it.

On visiting Barr Beacon hill, October, 1818, no vestiges of antiquity appeared. A square platform, about 180 feet in width, thickly planted with trees, rose above the level of the ridge. An interior platform of the same form, about 75 feet across, contains a modern beacon, on which a flag was frequently hoisted by a neighbouring Baronet, the late Sir Joseph Scott, of Barr hall, announcing his residence and hospitalities.

To conclude this account of antiquities dispersed over the wide expanse of the Coldfield, the almost obliterated tumulus of King's standing must be noticed.

Like Knave's castle, the site of King's standing is marked by a circular clump of trees at a short distance, the property of — Gough, Esq., of Perry hall. Mr. Hutton, the historian of Birmingham, speaks with rapture of his survey of the Ikenild rampart, from King's standing, near the ridgway, illuminated by the transverse rays of a November sun.

Entering the Coldfield from Quieslet lane, the hillock is barely perceptible; deviating from the Sutton road about half a mile to the south, the point is gained. Nothing can be more desolate than the appearance of this vestige of antiquity, 1818. Though its general outline is preserved, yet it is rendered rugged by the burrowing and trampling of animals, in common with other portions of this extensive heath.

Its elevation above the waste is little more than sufficient to display, in their full size, the plants of *Erica*, that vegetate on its surface.

King's standing obtained its present name from the circumstance of Charles I. standing upon the tumulus to harangue the troops which he brought out of Shropshire at the commencement of the civil wars, A. D. 1642. At a short distance to the south, is the town of Birmingham, with its populous vicinity, more completely commanded from the lofty observatory on the Ikenild street, part of which road is from that structure denominated Monument lane.

The stretch of prospect from thence into Warwickshire is very extensive; Warwick and Coventry, with the intermediate towns of Solihull, Coleshill, &c., being comprehended in the scope of vision.

To conclude this imperfect sketch, Bardon, pre-eminent among the hills of Leicestershire, (s) commands a prospect of remarkable extent and variety; the most noted land-mark in the county, according to Burton, and one of the most extraordinary points of view in nature, as nearly one fourth of England and Wales, is visible from hence. Numerous western mountains, Lincoln cathedral, Dunstable hills, &c., &c., enter into the landscape.

This eminence is discernable from some parts of Birmingham, from the Lickey, near Bromsgrove; and various other parts of the central tract.

(s) Other Charnwood hills standing at a considerable distance.

ANTIQUITIES ; ROMAN ROADS, &c.

Prefatory Observations.

ROMAN ROADS.

“THESE almost interminable roads,” says Mr. Eustace, “intersected the immensity of the empire, from the border of Persia to the Orcades, from the Tanais to the Nile, opening a communication through all parts of the civilized world.”

The second æra of Roman history, commencing with the restoration of the city, and extending to the fall of the commonwealth, the period when the Etruscan architecture, having for its characteristics solidity and grandeur, was prevalent; is celebrated as that distinguished by the formation of these magnificent roads. (t)

At a subsequent period, the *Milliarium Aureum* erected by Augustus in the Forum, on which were inscribed the distances of cities from the capital, to every part of the empire; formed a noble addition to the system.

The term *Watling*, applied to one of the four *Prætorian*

(t) Those constructed by the conquerors of the world, being undertaken for military purposes, were more artificial in their formation than similar works of former periods; they had stages and stations.

Unless the track of a British causeway was adopted, they rather avoided than led through towns not naturally fortified. With respect to *castramentations*, those of the Britons and Danes were generally aided by natural fortifications, the latter of oval form, though their forts were square. Roman camps were square, composed of a ditch or foss, a parapet or vallum generally on the side of great roads, often abounding in the vicinities of temples, as in the plain of Sarum. The Saxons generally used moated hills.

roads, and also to several others, as in Yorkshire, Durham, Cluy'd's-dale, &c., has been the subject of various controversies, among the antiquarian literati.

In order to exhibit a general view of the opinions prevailing on this topic, it will be necessary to advert to the very luminous account of British and Romano-British ramparts, by Mr. Whitaker, in his history of Manchester.

“ Five hundred years before the christian æra, and before the time of Herodotus, the Phœnicians, (u) having planted colonies at Carthage and Cadiz, reached the S. W. promontory of Britain. Midacritus, who arrived with the first vessel on our coasts, returned with a valuable cargo.

The commerce in tin, between this nation and the Cassiterides, (v) Scilly isles,) was most beneficial to Europe during three centuries. (w) The isle of Siluria, consisting of Brehar, Guel, Trescaw, St. Martin's, St. Sampson's, with their rocks and islets; and also of St. Mary's and the eastern isles; was first reached by these merchants.

During the reign of the emperor Augustus, the whole current of British traffick, at that time very considerable, was di-

(u) The territories of Phœnicia consisted of Phœnicia, the country of Sidon, and the coasts of the Mediterranean sea, from the Palestine boundaries to mount Libanus.

(v) Solinus terms the principal of the Cassiterides, Siluria, and Richard of Cirencester applies to the Silures, what the former author has spoken of those resident in the isle, so denominated.—These islands, originally ten, are asserted by the author to have been broken into 140.

(w) The Greeks of Marseilles followed the course of the Phœnician voyagers, and largely partook of their commerce, about 200 years before the Christian æra, and after the fall of Carthage.

verted into this channel, and the emporium was removed to the Isle of Wight. (x)

Two roads, the one from Sandwich to Carnarvon, the other from Dorsetshire to Suffolk, facilitated the conveyance of stores to different parts of the island. The former of these ramparts, according to Bede, and Richard of Cirencester, was distinguished by the British name of Guetheling or Watling (y) street; expressive of its bearing towards the Guetheli, or Gatheli of Ireland; as the Ikening confessedly signifies, the way leading towards the Iceni of the eastern coast."

The British appellations, therefore, of the Prætorian roads, just named, in contradistinction from those which are purely Roman, as Julian, Foss, &c., lead this ingenious author to the conclusion, that they were undertaken previously to the Roman invasion, for the purposes of British conveniency, and executed in the style of British simplicity.

(x) Southampton subsequently enjoyed this trade, even so late as the 15th century. The removal of the emporium to this place is supposed to have been occasioned by the bursting asunder of the connecting isthmus, by which the western coast of Vecta was united to the British mainland.

(y) Guathelin, Vitellanus, and Gwath Leon, (opus legionis) are given as Roman derivations of Watling; Wadla, or the verb to wattle, as the Saxon etymology, being significative of deviation from a direct line, characteristic of the prætorian and vicinal Watlings as distinguished from the rectilinear courses of the Ikenild, Ermine, and Fossway.

Molmutius, according to Harrison, was founder; and Gutheline or Belinus his son finisher of this causeway.* Hoveden derives this name from Wattle, a king, whose sons constructed the rampart. Romano-British roads are assigned to the period when Agriolela governed the country; also to the reigns of Trajan, Honorius, and Arcadius. The first Roman colony was planted by Caius Gracchus, on the site of the memorable Carthage. Those of Britain were established soon after. *Cambrian Register.*

* Jeffery of Monmouth speaks of the laws instituted by Dunwallo Molmutius and revived by Belinus, some of which regulated the highways. Roads from Cornwall to Caithness, from Menevia to Hamos port, (Southampton,) and two passing obliquely through the land; are said to have been constructed by Belinus.

To the Belgæ of the southern Counties, the honour of constructing these noble works is awarded by this author as before their arrival, a very considerable commerce was pursued by the islanders, confined to a few promontories (z) on the S. W. coast, and a few vessels from Phœnicia.

But the Belgic people, actuated by a commercial spirit, in the course of a century, carried on a considerable trade with the Phœnicians, and a still greater with the Romans of Narbonne, and the Greeks of Marseilles.

The Durotriges residing nearer to the animating centre of commerce, are supposed to have preceded their brethren the Cantii, in the formation of public roads, and have commenced the Ikening at an earlier period than that assigned to the formation of the Guetheling.

But the latter people, who at the period of Cæsar's invasion, rivalled the western tribes, copied their example in a bolder style, and upon a larger scale.

Another event recorded in the history of the ancient Britons, appears to throw some light upon this subject. About half a century before Christ, the Cornabii of Cheshire invaded the kingdom of the Ordovices, on which occasion, the inhabitants of the north of Shropshire, and of the vicinity of Mediolanum, in Montgomeryshire, emigrated to Ireland, where

(z) Not only the Scilly isles, but the promontory of Bolerium was also included in the Cassiterides. Publius Crassus, after the first Punic war, encouraged the mining interest here, under the Roman government. The Saxons neglected it.

"Such roads as were primarily constructed in this island by the Romans, like the fortresses of the same origin, are distinguished from those which they found already laid out by the obvious discriminations of their names."

Watlinga-castor near St. Alban's, must necessarily be derived from Watling.

Saunders.

they retained the memorial of their origin in the name of their capital, Eblana, Mediolanum, (a) (Dublin.) These historical particulars premised, the following conclusion is advanced by our author.

“About fifty or sixty years after the settlement of those Mediolanenses on the coast, (about the commencement of the Christian æra, or its tenth year;) the Guetheling or Watling was probably constructed, and carried from the Rhutupæ of the Cantii, to the Segontium of the Ordovices, in order to traffic with the transplanted Ordovices of Ireland.”

ADDITIONAL ANTIQUITIES.

Vicinal Watling Street.

IN various parts of this work, particularly in the foregoing perspective sketch; the consideration of the antiquities of the tracts described, naturally claimed attention. A more compendious view of these interesting vestiges, may be taken on pursuing an examination of the vicinal rampart now to be noticed, and it is not unworthy of remark, that a variety of ancient relicks, unconnected with the system of Roman roads, will fall under review, approximating at various distances to the principal object of our research, many of them in the last stages of decay.

(a) Several cities of Italy and the Netherlands have been called Mediolanum, particularly Milan, situated on the banks of Ticinus and Adder. Mathraval became the capital of Powisland, when the Angles became masters of Pengwerne—it is situated between two rivers bearing the name of Vrynn. Llanfyllan, near the vale of Meviad, is supposed to have been the Mediolanum of the Romans; and the Mathraval to which the Britons retired.

Though it does not appear that this rampart is laid down in any map hitherto consulted, or that any full description thereof is extant; yet there are partial ones, as quoted in the sequel, as minute, distinct, and satisfactory as could be desired. (c)

The scattered links of a brilliant chain, whose intervening constituent parts have been corroded or annihilated during the lapse of ages, afford a faint image of the component vestiges, which this monument of antiquity displays to the view of the modern philosopher.

Indubitable evidence may be collected from various writers on antiquities, topography, &c., of a vicinal Roman road, having extended from Uriconium to Brannogenium, (d) and that the term Watling, a designation borrowed from that

(c) The road alluded to by Mr. Brewer, as skirting the western side of the island, as the Ermine street did the eastern; extending from the mouth of the Ex, to the interior of Scotland; parts of which approach Worcester, and Claverley, (Salop;) whether adopted or not by the Romans, appears to fall in with the vicinal road now described.

See Leman's Map of the Celtic and Belgic tribes, with their towns and trackways existing at the time of the first invasion of Julius Cæsar, in Brewer's Introduction to Beauties of England and Wales.

In the same map, the two Saltways are described. The upper Saltway extending from Salinæ, Droitwich, over the Lickey to Birmingham, and taking a north easterly direction to Stanisfield, Lincolnshire.

The lower Saltway* bearing from Droitwich towards Evesham, and there crossing the Avon, extended to Coln, St. Aldwin's, on the Ikeman street, and thence to the sea coast of Hampshire. The viæ salinæ by which the Britons conveyed salt from the interior of the coast were not like most other British roads, made use of by the Romans.

(d) Nash Worcestershire, II. cvii., &c. Shaw Staffordshire, 1—16, &c. Those works containing the principal evidences relating to the rampart under consideration having become extremely scarce; points out the necessity of attempting to revive, in some measure, its obliterated traces.

* It has been asserted on the authority of Sir Richard Colt Hoare, that Over Arley was no one of the Saltways.

of one of the four great prætorian roads was applied to this as well as to several others of the second order of ramparts. (e)

It has been supposed by some authors, that Agricola, when stationed with the 20th legion at Deva, (Chester) as head quarters, (f) was the constructor of this causeway ; (g) by others, that Vespasian, or some other Roman General, stationed at Uriconium directed it to be made.

In the course of a correspondence between Dr. Charles Mason, of Trinity college, Cambridge, and Mr. Whitfield, 1754, and also of the former gentleman with Dr. Wilkes, 1758, to which may be added, that of Bishop Lyttelton with Mr. Wise, of the Radcliffe library, at Oxford ; various notices are given respecting the course of this road, and of the stations appendant to it.

To exhibit, in one point of view, the remaining vestiges of this rampart, to cite such testimonies as are extant, and to add such personal observations as may tend to revive some of its obliterated traces, is the object of the following survey.

Stations, &c. on Watling Street.

I. Uriconium, a Roman city and station (Wroxeter). (h)

(e) The vicinal Watling, though inferior in antiquity to its magnificent prototype, appears to be more exclusively Roman. The same remark will obviously apply to their respective appendant castramentations.

(f) Mancunium, Manchester as well as Chester, was also founded by the same Roman General, according to Whitaker.

(g) A. D. 79, after his campaign of that year. This event occurred early in the reign of Titus, at the time of that memorable eruption of Vesuvius, which occasioned the destruction of Herculaneum.

(h) See Introduction, pa. XI.

II. Street-way, rather more than a mile from Wellington, where the greater and lesser Watling cross each other. The present great road from Wolverhampton to Shrewsbury, near to the base of the Wrekin mountain, may be supposed to be part of the track of the consular way; at this particular spot, a large village has risen up, bearing the name of Watling street, in contradistinction from the causeway in general and other parts of the same road. (i)

The vicinal way is said to be visible as far as Madeley, where it is lost in a clayey country. (k)

III. Chesterton, a station, (l) situate in the county of Salop, once belonging to Staffordshire, viz. at the time of the Conqueror's survey.

(i) This spot is probably the Wattlesbury mentioned by Sanders, Hist. of Shenstone.

(k) A correspondent thus traces the road from Uriconium to Rudge-heath. Uriconium, Norton-camp, Uppington, Watling consular street near Wellington, Ketley, parish of Dawley, Madeley, under the aqueduct, Sutton-Maddock, Stockton, Stableford, township of Ackleton, where it crossed the river Worfe, Ackleton common, or Crow's-heath, passing between Hilton and Chesterton, to the above-named Rudge heath. Site of a mansion, — Bycott, Esq.

In the opinion of Mr. Whitfield, Dr. Mason's enquiries lead to the supposition of a road once passing through Beckbury and Worville-holm, to Rutinium, and other stations in the direction of Deva.

(l) Chesterton is, by one author, styled Mediolanum, which name occurs as that of a Roman station, six miles from Warwick, supposed by some authors to have been the Præsidium of the Notitia Imperii, a designation given by other antiquarians to the town of Warwick.

Mr. Field supposes that this Chesterton was an intermediate station between High cross, Leicestershire, and Alcester, situated on the Foss way. Striking remains of the entrenchment are still visible. In Wilts is a camp bearing the name. Chesterton, near Newcastle, Staffordshire, was, anterior to the conquest, a town and fortress of some strength. Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, temp. Henry III., raised Newcastle on its ruins. *Erdeswick.*

This castramentation is described by Mr. Shaw, and other authors, to be as complete a Roman camp as any in England, containing within its area, 25 acres, situated on a hill, inaccessible on every side, by means of perpendicular rocks, excepting by one of the four gateways, intended, by its superior width, to facilitate the approach of an army.

The historian adds, that the entrenchment is 200 or 300 yards distant from the vicinal road, and that a brook runs under the hill on the S. and S. W. sides. (m)

Visits to Chesterton, 1818, and 1827, enable the writer to add the following particulars, which though savouring less of antiquarian lore, than some of former date, yet attempt more minutely to describe the beauties of the place.

A rapid stream issuing from the pools at Patteshull, Staff. in the vicinity, meanders through a deep dell of uncommon beauty and verdure.

By this rivulet the fortress is so invested as to be thereby rendered completely peninsular. The acclivities of opposite

(m) Mr. Shaw, on the supposition that 20 acres and upwards, as at Chesterton, accommodated one cohort with horse, auxiliaries, &c., argues that a whole legion would occupy, at least, 200 acres. Speaking of the three camps in this country, Mr. Shaw represents Chesterton as the largest: Chesterfield, near Wall, and Ashwood, are the remaining ones.

In 1700, this author relates, that a Roman torques was found about a mile from Chesterton, in a field called Fantley-hill, near Pattingham church; also in 1780, a piece of gold, like a pig of lead, worth £152. sold by the ploughman who discovered it for 1 : 18 : 0. A gentleman observes, that a field near Pattingham is distinguished by the epithet, "golden."

Chesterton, "Beaut. of Eng. &c.," XIII. 231. art. Shropshire, is spoken of in reference to Quatford, about four miles westward thereto. Five tumuli in a quincunx, are here mentioned as observable on the neighbouring forest of Morfe.

elevations mingling their summits with that of the fortified rock, and assimilating with the general undulating appearance of the neighbourhood, conspire to cast the whole scene into deep obscurity, contrary to the appearances assumed by similar fortifications in some parts of the kingdom, which rise in individual grandeur amidst vast expanses of uncultivated deserts.

The whole of the scenery of this spot, on the contrary, is richly wooded, and otherwise cultivated; with the exception of Rudge heath.

More particularly to describe the camp, about a mile from the New Inns, (n) is the fortification, termed the "Walls of Chesterton," almost contiguous to the village bearing the same name, which is the residence of — Bache, Esq., proprietor of this curious vestige of antiquity.

In addition to the walls of Chesterton, we have in the same vicinity the walls of Hilton, though it does not fully appear to what the term wall alludes. Hilton also gives name to a brook.

Stratford, at a short distance from hence, bears in its name some vestige of antiquity. The walls of this neighbourhood, according to subsequent information, appear to refer to various entrenchments.

Entering at the gateway described by the above cited authors, on the north, the large area appears to great advantage, consisting of rich inclosures, one of considerable ex-

(n) In the parish of Claverley, only one house of entertainment remains at the present day.

tent. (o) The exterior of the summit exhibits an excellent foot-path, bordered by trees, with occasional openings, through one of which is a noble burst of prospect, comprehending part of the extensive plain and majestic hills of Salop. Steps carved in the declivity of the rock, sometimes conduct to a middle path, and others again branch out to a lower one, but in many parts the descent is precipitous.

The midway walk is highly picturesque, winding beneath large projecting ledges of sandstone, (the rocky wall occasionally a little indented by art to give space to the path,) (p) and exhibiting, in perspective, a long line of cliff-like craigs.

The lower path, bordering the verdant glen, affords a fine view of the steep bulwark rising majestically from its level; but in some parts, a foss of considerable depth prevents its continuation. A double vallum is sometimes conspicuous, graduating into slopes.

Converted as is this stupendous monument of Roman skill and prowess, to a peaceful region exhibiting the various beauties of the English garden; the proprietor has ad-

(o) Twenty acres—from information of Mr. Bache the proprietor. The late Rev. Mr. Dickinson, of Blymhill, in this neighbourhood, visited this curious spot in order to procure the requisite information for Mr. Shaw's History of Staffordshire.

(p) The excavations are natural ones, according to the Gentlemen above alluded to, whose father also inherited the estate. This curious vestige is less valuable to the proprietor, as it is situated at some distance from Mr. Bache's residence in the village; hence the access to it is easy and unrestrained; the approach is by lanes and field footpaths.

At a short distance from Chesterton is Wykin, on the road from Bridgnorth to Wolverhampton, the residence of John Bache, Esq., and near the village of Claverley, Woodfield, that of Richard Cotton, Esq., a villa surrounded by rich scenery, amply displaying the beauties of the mineral and vegetable kingdoms.

mirably displayed modern taste, as the handmaid of antiquity. (q)

(q) It is hoped that the introduction of matter somewhat extraneous from our present topic, will not be thought unwarrantable, since the attention of the reader will be thereby directed to the following interesting objects.

BADGER.

About three miles to the north of Chesterton is Badger, the seat of the late Isaac Hawkins Brown, Esq., M. P. This beautiful spot has indeed no vestiges of antiquity to boast of.*

Adjoining a handsome brick mansion, contiguous to the village, are extensive gardens, plantations, &c., a terrace rising in the midst of a fertile country, and terminating in the justly celebrated Badger dingle.

A sudden descent here introduces the visitor to a dell of spacious dimensions† and profound depth. Whichever course he may take, (for there is choice of two paths) his circuitous perambulation terminates at the point from whence it commences. These parallel pathways extend the whole length of the ornamented cultivated side of the dingle, overlooking the opposite purely sylvan bank of the intervening stream.

In addition to the track above alluded to, describing an oblong figure, there are other paths traversing the side of the rock, conducted at different levels, and exhibiting the scenery in various points of view.

From the lowermost of these, the rocks rise to a stupendous height,‡ indented by numerous natural caverns, clothed with verdure, overhung by lofty trees. The occasional intermixture of choice shrubs, as Rhododendron, &c., of uncommon luxuriance, forms a rich contrast to the wild scenery on the opposite side.

But the most striking feature of this interesting dell, is the ample expanse of water at a profound depth appearing in distant perspective from the heights of the rock. The same body of water pervading the whole scene, assumes every imaginable shape; it is a wide expanse of pellucid lake, a rapid stream, a bubbling brook, a placid canal, a cataract, or a gentle rill; according to the variations of ground, or to the position taken by the beholder, and reflecting on its bosom innumerable natural objects, of the most picturesque description.

* The parish church contains a statue of the late proprietor of the domain, by Chantry.

† Two miles in length, according to information obtained on the spot.

‡ On the highest point of rock stands an ornamental building, commanding a beautiful view of the scenery, which is indeed entirely internal.

ABBOT'S CASTLE.

From Chesterton to the minor station of Ashwood, the road has been described as entering Staffordshire at Rudge-

Badger, though destitute of mountainous accompaniments, forcibly reminded the visitor of one of the sublimest scenes in Snowdonia, the romantic dell traversed by the alpine current of the Conway river.

APLEY.

This beautiful seat of the ancient family of Whitmore,* now of Thomas Whitmore, Esq. is situated on the bank of Severn, three miles above the town of Bridgnorth, amidst a spacious park, rising in amphitheatrical form from the mansion; terminating on the east is the celebrated terrace bearing the name of Apley; and in the opposite direction, at the summit of the rising woodlands, which adorn the right bank of the river.†

The ascent to the terrace, (sometimes called the Red Deer park,) is gentle, and the road bordered by verdant lawns, clothed with luxuriant timber. The summit gained, prospects of uncommon extent and beauty, open to view.‡ The expanse of prospect on the eastern side is very extensive, commanding a rich country, bounded by the south Staffordshire mining and manufacturing district. This scenery, however, can by no means vie with the Salopian region in the opposite direction.

Throughout the whole length of the terrace, the profound depth of the valley of the Severn, forms a striking contrast to the distant scenery beyond. The noble modern mansion, with its rich surrounding demesne, imparts an air of grandeur to the foreground.

So varied is the picture exhibited in the profound dell at the base of the

* Dudmaston, the residence of another branch of the same family, W. Woolrych Whitmore, Esq. M. P. for Bridgnorth, is also near to Bridgnorth, on the road from thence to Kidderminster.

† At a short distance below Apley, the whorf, which gives name to the parish and village of Wirfield, rolls its rapid and pellucid torrent into the Severn.

‡ The high rock and its appendant eminences, occupying the space between the town and the scene we are describing; may be said to be in union with the sylvan scenes of Apley. Such was the taste with which the late enclosures of the ancient forest of Morfe were conducted, that the fine effect produced by the lofty rocks of sand was preserved; and ornamented by the judicious plantations which crown their summits. Lower down the river, the lofty rock forming the site of the romantic town of Bridgnorth, appears on the opposite bank, the whole scenery forming a picture of uncommon magnificence.

heath, thence passing by New Inn. In taking this course, it must necessarily have approached near to Abbot's Castle. (r)

The entire steep from Ape-wood promontory to Clasp-hill, (a mile in length) having the two hills for bastions, is considered, by Dr. Plot, as a continued fortification of British construction.

"The entrenchment," observes this author, "is but small, and in various parts of it are cavities in the ground, over which it is supposed that anciently the tents were pitched."

The modern aspect of this crescent-shaped hill, presents a bold ridge, discernable at considerable distance, having numerous rock cottages, with appendant gardens scattered over it.

lofty rocks, over which the terrace extends, that the eye is never satiated in beholding its verdant expanse. Different compartments of the vale of Severn, are viewed from different points. The northern expanse of the river is from one prominence of rock completely commanded; from another, the beautiful reach of vale and rock landscape, extending to the town, is as fully displayed. Other points of eminence present to view the varied beauties of the spot in harmonious combination.

To recur to the sylvan decorations of the opposite shore, Stanley, the demesne of Sir Tyrwit Jones, and Willey, that of Lord Forrester, claim the attention of the beholder; beyond which, the Salopian mountains and other scenery, bounded by the Cambrian Alps, complete the picture.

The sand rock of this vicinity, with its lofty peaks and cavernous indentations, furnishes a feature common to numerous situations where the rocky borders of rivers are adorned by the hand of taste.

(r) A passage in Shaw's Staffordshire, under Himley, alludes to hays, forests, or chases of Ashwood, and Chaspel or Jaspel, with lands in some adjoining lordships, as forfeited to the crown by John, Earl of Northumberland, and afterwards granted by Philip and Mary to Edward, heir of Lord Dudley. See pa. 286. The common adjoining Abbot's-hill is probably the chase referred to in that grant. Human bones are said to have been found at this place. Abbot's castle is near to the village of Seisdon, which gives name to the hundred.

White rock is the usual appellation of this eminence—sometimes Jaspel. The space intervening between this hill and Ashwood, affords no trace of the causeway, excepting Highgate, an eminence in the parish of Enville, near to Green's forge. (s)

In traversing this part of the road, two sites affording vestiges of antiquity occur.—

TRYSULL.

On the right, at the base of Black-hill, (t) on the road from Dudley through Heathton to Bridgnorth, is an hoar-stone, situate in Trysull, and serving as a boundary to that parish, and those of Bobington, Womborne, and Himley.

Mr. Hamper, "Observations on Hoar-stones, 1820," enumerates those of Halesowen, Northfield, Hilton near Wolverhampton, Foreign of Kidderminster, near Bewdley; in addition to Trysull—as belonging to the midland counties, to which may be added, Worstone on the Ikenild, near Birmingham, and Horestone near Harborough in Hagley. (u)

This author derives the term hoar, from hoar, English; hare, Scotch; (v) maen gwyr, and maen hir; plural, menai heiron; British; adducing whor-edge on the Titterstone Clee hill, as an example. Upright stones are also classed by him with those under consideration.

(s) Mr. Edward Beddard, of Prestwood, aged 85, (1820,) has some idea of an ancient road crossing the premises of Mr. Bryan, and proceeding from thence to Highgate.

(t) See also pa. 279.

(u) Near to the hoar-stone, in the Salopian division of Bobington, Whitimoor-hill, are two small camps.

This stone is supposed by Mr. Hamper to have marked the site of the station Bremenium, it is mentioned in deeds of 1676.

(v) Hoar and Hora, imply boundaries of space and time.

WOMBORNE.

Dr. Wilkes derives this name from won (y) and bourne, in allusion to the victory obtained over the Danes. Dr. Plot considers the tumuli still in some degree apparent, as raised over some eminent commanders, who perished in the arduous conflict sustained by our brave islanders with the conquerors of the world.

Erdeswick considers the lows at Womborne as receptacles of the soldiers slain in the battle of Tettenhall, (z) between Edward the elder and the Northumbrian Danes; the principal one as containing the bodies of the two kings who were slain. Florence of Worcester, and Ralph Higden, speak of Tettenhall as the scene of warfare—another author pronounces it to be Wednesfield—Higden however clears up the point, observing that the Danes were vanquished at both places where there are remains. Two Danish Kings, Eewils and Healfden, two Earls, and six Generals, were slain at Wednesfield, A. D. 911.

Three lows are described as on the waste, now inclosed, between Womborne and Swindon, in a right line E. and W. besides Soldiers'-hill, half a mile to the north.

Of the fortifications constructed by Edward the elder and Ethelfleda, in attention to the advice of their illustrious father Alfred the Great; may be enumerated Wigmore, Herefordshire; Bridgnorth, and Cherbury, Salop; Edesbury, Cheshire; Stafförd, and Wednesbury, Staffordshire.

Bridgnorth and its vicinity are well known to have been the scene of that bloody warfare, which for many years subsisted between the English and their Danish invaders.

(y) Won, or win, from pinnan to fight, formerly used for victory.

(z) Tettenhall, house of the Pagans, or Danes.

Bridgnorth is spoken of by Bishop Gibson as the Ghatbrigge of the Saxon Chronicle, where the Danes built a castle, A. D. 896.

Quatford, according to Turner, (a) was a station in which they fortified themselves as strongly as possible. A Danish camp is also described as situated near to Gattacre-hill.

The rapid marches of these invaders from the neighbourhood of London (b) to this place, have been noticed by numerous writers. Hastings the Dane taking this course when pursued by Alfred.

The original fortress of Bridgnorth, founded by Ethelfleda, was, according to several gentlemen, resident in that ancient borough, situate on the tumulus, still apparent in the neighbouring district of Oldbury, a site commanding both the town of Bridgnorth, and the village of Quatford. (c)

The latter place, denominated by Matthew of Westminster Quatbridge, is by some supposed to have been the original station of the Danes.

(a) Anglo Saxons, vol. II.

(b) Ham in Essex is on the site of Lee or Lea-mouth, from whence the invaders sailed twenty miles up the river. Alfred lowered the stream by cutting trenches which were fortified. The ships of the enemy thus fell a prey to the Londoners.

(c) The founding of the second castle is ascribed to Robert de Belesme, Earl of Shrewsbury, who during the revolt of Robert, Duke of Normandy, maintained a temporary warfare with Henry I. but was at length subdued.

In 1156, 7th Hugh de Mortimer held the fortress against Henry II. In 1170, it was razed to the ground, but speedily re-edified. The present fragment of an edifice apparently tottering to its fall, but abiding amidst the vicissitudes of ages, was reduced to its present state in the 17th century, during the disastrous conflict, between Charles I. and the Parliament. Edifices of a similar description are—the castles of Corfe, Dorset, and Caerphilly, the tower of Temple Church, Bristol, leaning towers of Pisa and Bologna, &c.

The romantic village of Quatford presents objects of uncommon interest, both ancient and modern. (d)

In August, 1829, the writer of this article in company with a party of gentlemen, was present at the opening of a tumulus raised on a massive sand rock, protruding into the channel of the Severn. Transverse trenches had been opened by order of the proprietor of the domain, — Smallman, Esq., perforating the adventitious sandy soil.

No human remains occurred, but the anxiety of the company was in some measure relieved by the appearance of several fragments of Roman pottery, both plain and striped. In 1830, a human skeleton was found in an adjacent field.

The barrow is supposed to have been an exploratory station rather than a place of sepulture. A foss of nearly circular form is visible in an adjoining field, the contents of which have probably been transferred to the tumulus.

(d) A short digression from the subject of antiquities must here be allowed, in order to introduce a sketch of this remarkable spot.

Among the various individual eminences which intervene between the rocky verge of Morfe and the subjacent stream of Severn, none are so remarkable as the two lofty sandrocks, cultivated and adorned by the proprietor of this demesne.

That contiguous to the village of Quatford, at the base of which is situated the family mansion, exhibits even on the loftiest parts of the hill, vegetation in its highest state of luxuriance and vigour; the various gradations of the acclivity producing a rich abundance of fruit, and shades of the deepest hue. At the distance of a quarter of a mile, a similar hill is crowned with a rising castellated mansion, surrounded by woodlands already exhibiting in infinite variety of the forest tribes.

The ancient parish church of Quatford affords curious specimens of architecture, of different periods and orders. The chancel is ascertained to have been built by Robert de Montgomery, of a stone obtained from the vicinity of Berkley, Gloucestershire, of cellular texture.

Wednesbury, as viewed 1826, exhibited no marks of a large graff which once encompassed the hill, and enclosed the fortress, erected A. D. 914. (e)

An enlarged parish cemetery occupies a great part of Wednesbury field. Of similar derivation, viz. from the Saxon idol Woden, is Wednesfield, described as the site of a bloody battle, in which Edward the elder was victorious over the Danes.

North-low, South-low, Horse-low, and Thrombelow, are mentioned as evidences of this being, in former times, a scene of warfare.

On viewing the spot, June, 1829, nothing worthy of observation occurred, though the attention of the visitor was directed to the field to which the inhabitants applied the term litch, or lech.

Willenball, in the immediate vicinity of the places above-named, is supposed to have taken its name from the Saxon win, fight, battle, victory; its original derivation from well, a spring, being exchanged for one of a warlike description. (f)

Wolverhampton contains memorials of these warlike people. The upright monument in the cemetery of St. Peter, is minutely described by Mr. Shaw, (g) to which might be added, Chebsey, having one lofty pyramid; Checkley, three; Draycot and Leek, one each; resembling those of Denmark; all in the County of Stafford. (h)

(e) Shaw, II. 211, 150, 195, &c.—Gibson's Chronicon Saxonicum.

(f) Shaw Staff. II. 147. (g) ib. 161.

(h) Harwood's Eardeswick, pp. 62, 189, 366, 380. To these may be added, the two upright pillars in the church-yard of Penrith, Cumberland,

Of the illustrious Princess, Ethelfleda, so often mentioned in the course of this work, it may be proper in this connexion to give a short account:—she was instructed in the art of war by her father Alfred the Great, whom she accompanied into the field of battle.

She is said to have been present at the battles of Tettenhall and Wednesfield, where her brother Edward the elder effected the total destruction of the Danes.

Her character as a heroine is not inferior to that of Zenobia in the east, or the British Boadicea. She was by Edward, constituted sole governess of Mercia, which she ruled eight years after her husband's decease. (i) Henry of Huntingdon eulogises her in a poem. Tamworth and Tutbury were residences of the Mercian chiefs.

At the former town she rebuilt the fortress, A. D. 913, on the same artificial mount on which the present castle stands. (k)

Camden gives the year 918, as the date of her death, and asserts, that a church of her own erection at Gloucester, was the place of her sepulture.

IV. Ashwood, a station. (l) Dr. Wilkes following the iter of Antoninus through the county, and alluding to the

with illegible inscriptions. The writer of a paper on Irish antiquities, speaks highly of the magnificent remains of Danish monuments, superior to those on English ground. *Natural History of Ireland, 1726.*

(i) Higden's Polychronicon, lib. v. where she is styled Elfleda.

(k) Field's Warwick, pa. 389.

(l) See also the topographical part of this work, art. Kingswinford, pa. 124. This entrenchment is described by Plot, Staff. pa. 406. Shaw, I. 31. II. 233. Pitt. 193. Bloom's Magna Britannia, V. 35.

camps of **Chesterton**, and **Chesterfield** near to **Etocetum** ; describes **Ashwood** as a third Roman entrenchment, and from its low situation in comparison with the former, infers, that it was probably a winter station.

The residence of the Romans on this spot, he considers as fully proved by the fact of a brass coin, about the size of a crown piece, being found near the river **Smestal**, having on one side an head of **Nero**, on the other a cornucopia ; which remained sometime in possession of Mr. **Simon Mountford**.

A mound with a single ditch forms the whole of the entrenchment ; its diameter, according to **Plot**, is 140 paces. (m) It has recently come to the knowledge of the writer, that a portion of the turnpike road from **Wolverhampton** to **Stourbridge**, viz. from **Wall-heath** to **Wordsley**, has, time immemorial, been called **Portway**, or **Streetway**, indicating that the Roman Road pervaded this part of **Ashwood**.

Leaving the station of **Ashwood**, we are informed that the road extended over the forest of **Kinver** to **Stourton**, thence over **Stourbridge heath** (n) to **Hagley**, &c., &c.

(m) In the winter of 1816,-17, the road across the camp was considerably lowered to furnish employment for the poor in a season of distress by which the vestige was considerably deteriorated in the estimation of the antiquary.

(n) Or common, the spot still retains this appellation, although enclosed. Strictly speaking, the Roman road, as above delineated, did not touch upon **Stourbridge common**, but upon the **Kinver** district of the extensive waste, which, from its exterior boundaries not being apparent, was sometimes called **Kinver**, and sometimes called **Stourbridge common** ; the latter tract would, however, more properly have taken its name from **Swinford**.

A passage in **Shaw**, representing the road, after passing **Ashwood camp**, by a square fort under **Ashwood lodge**, as "turning towards **Worcester** by

This devious line does not agree with the description given by Mr. Brown, of High Park, who has been informed that the road proceeded nearly in a straight direction from the last-named camp, to the western side of the New Wood, thence extending along the acclivity of the ridge.

KINVER.

This romantic district, already described, (o) under our topographical survey, remains to be re-visited on account of the branch of Roman rampart once pervading its bounds, the camp crowning the apex of its hilly range, and the curious upright pillar termed bolt-stone.

Two emphatic words, (p) according to Mr. Shaw, indicate both the site of the town, and the rampart once visible in its precincts.

Camp, Kinver Edge.

This encampment is supposed, by Bishop Lyttelton, to have been British, but Dr. Plot supposes it to be of Danish

Mr. Foley's, of Prestwood,* agrees with Mr. Brown's account, rather than with those who describe its course as verging towards the town of Kinver.†

(o) Page 161, &c.

(p) Cyne, Chine, or Cheyne, royal, great, &c., and fare, a road, as in thoroughfare, &c.

* This passage, by Dr. Wilkes, describes two branches of road, one high crested, leading towards Chesterton camp, and thence ascending the hill to Apewood castle.

† The two deviations from the direct line of road leading from city to city, may be here noticed, viz. that by way of Prestwood, Kinver, &c., and the portway of Arley. These two pieces of road described in detached portions, bear towards each other, and may be supposed to have formed part of a collateral branch, emanating from and rejoining the principal rampart.

“A Roman vicinal road,” observes Eardeswick, “which probably led from Brenogenium to Uriconium, passes to the eastern part of Arley. In Arley wood are the remains of a Roman camp.”

origin. The advocates for its Saxon origin, (q) ascribe it to Wulfer, king of Mercia.

This camp, situated on a hill, fortified by nature, with a single graff, is of an oblong form, in length 900 feet, in breadth, 600. To the west, north, and about two-thirds of the eastern side, the entrenchment appears to have derived its security from the precipitous form of the hill. (r)

The vallum, commencing at the south-western point, and continuing its terrace along the southern side of the area, forms a fine object, and bending at the south-eastern corner, completes the line of defence to the remaining third part of the eastern boundary.

The foss, commencing on the eastern side, opposite to Compton farm, a deep ravine, probably excavated by art, proceeding along the southern side of the vallum, and following the curvature of its contiguous terrace; extends to the steep inaccessible part of the eastern border.

Though the entire area of the camp may be termed an inclosure, and is in a state of cultivation; yet all the lines of the fortification remain in as complete a state as those of the memorable vestiges of antiquity which crown the bare and bleak summits of Wilts and Dorset.

In the sheep walk on the east of the camp, is a very faint tumulus, with a small foss, supposed by Dr. Stukeley to be celtic, similar to some on Salisbury plain, burial places of some eminent commanders. This foss was not discernable

(q) Harwood, in his edition of Eardeswick, ascribes the camps of Kinver and Bury-bank, near stone, to the Saxons.

(r) The escarpment of which is to the north; sections of sand rock are apparent at the base. *Shaw Staff. II. 263-7.*

1818. Several undulations of similar form are observable in the same ground.

On a near approach to the eminence under description, the lineaments of the entrenchment became distinctly visible; and even at the distance of four miles, the inclined plane of the hill towards the east, gives a more complete insight into the interior of the camp, than is generally to be obtained in a similar relative position, to antiquities of this description.

Bolt-stone.

In the midst of enclosures, and remote from public view, stands that curious vestige of antiquity, The Bolt, Baston, or Battle-stone, in the language of tradition, The Giant's Thunderbolt; supposed to have been hurled from its native rock, the Edge, about a mile distant, by gigantic prowess.

This rugged pillar is described by Mr. Nightingale, as rising to the height of six feet, and as extending a considerable depth into the earth. Some antiquaries have considered it as similar to the hoar stone.

Dr. Plot describes the pillar as "of a square figure, tapering a little towards the top, two yards and one inch high, and nearly four yards about,; having two clefts in the top, so that at a distance it appears like a triceps; its site in a leasow near to the Comptons."

On personally surveying this relick, 1818, it appeared to be about five feet above the ground, a by-stander observed, that it was three times that depth in the ground, and that no effort had succeeded in attempting to loosen it.

Upright stones, according to Mr. Brewer, are both single and numerous, supposed to have been raised by the ancient

Britons, to commemorate distinguished events, from their unhewn rudeness, solid character, and the absence of tradition concerning them.

The same Britons raised the *carnedd* or *cromlech*, to the memory of the dead, and worshiped in the midst of a stony circle of pillars.

At Rudston, in the east riding of Yorkshire, is a pillar of this kind, twenty feet high. At Trelech, in Monmouthshire, are several, the tallest fifteen feet above the ground. Near to Llanbedr, in Merionethshire, are two upright stones of the heights of six and ten feet; supposed to be memorials of deified warriors.

Five miles from Harlech and Barmouth, near to the village of Llanwr, are two *cromlechs*, based upon barrows of loose stones; one partially supported by pillars of unequal height, the other prostrate on its *carnedd*. So dilapidated are these monuments, that masses of ponderous pebbles cast on the shore by the force of the waves, interspersed with broken slabs of rock from the adjoining cliffs; would scarcely exhibit less of symmetry or order.

Visit to Wales, 1829.

5. Iverley ridge. In the course just described, Mr. Brown considers the lineaments of the road as faintly discernable through the park, and as extending across the road from Stourbridge to Kinver, to an opposite field, beyond which, he is of opinion, that it intersected an angle of Whittington common.

The farm house in the park, he asserts, is upon the site of the Roman road. This deponent lays considerable stress upon the circumstance of part of this district having a gra-

vely appearance, though it would be difficult to distinguish such adventitious gravel from that of the immediate neighbourhood.

Several undulations are observable in the lands adjoining the supposed course of the rampart, bearing a strong resemblance to tumuli; this diversity of surface is characteristic of the tract spreading for several miles to the westward. Very near to the spot under consideration, is the Round-hill, very much in the form of a large tumulus.

From Whittington common, above-mentioned, the causeway is represented as having taken a south-east direction, crossing the Stourbridge and Kidderminster Road, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile from the former town, and immediately entering the parish of Churchill, thence taking its course to Hagley.

From the cross roads, the street takes the southern branch of the highways. Ascending for a few hundred yards, the lane terminates in a very spacious enclosure, flanked, on the right hand, by a deep narrow holloway, at the bottom of which three parishes unite.

Over this field and several adjoining ones, the land has much of the form of a rampart, till it approaches a place called the Brake. From the Brake, a very short lane conducts to Hagley or Harborough common.

6. Hagley. Plot, as quoted by Nash, observes, that "a Roman road passes through a part of Hagley common," on the eastern border of which, bounded by a line of inclosures, formerly Clent heath, (the site of several tumuli) extends a ridge, supposed to be the King's head land, sometimes alluded to by the topographical antiquary.

The historian adds, that Portway (s) the common appellation of Roman military highways, was probably its more ancient name. In confirmation of this opinion, a court roll of the manor of Clent, temp. Elizabeth, is alluded to, describing a road so called, as extending along the Lord's waste, or Clent heath, adjoining to this part of Hagley.

An ornamented hill, planted with a view to improve the prospect from Hagley Park, adorned with two neat cottages, points out, even to a distant beholder, this classic ground. Bishop Lyttelton, in a letter to Dr. Wilkes, 1753, justly observes, that "this road is known but to few antiquaries."

Taking the site of the ancient causeway, crossing Hagley or Harborough common, as a station for observation, the antiquary will find, in every direction, ample scope for his researches. Impinging on the waste, is the isolated district of Clent and Brome. Extending to the east of the mainland of Worcestershire, in form of a promontory, are the hill of Wichbury, and the ornamented uplands of Hagley, bordering upon the range of Clent hills, while to the S. W. is Harborough, a spot by no means uninteresting to the historian.

Wichbury, (the name also of a fortified hill (t) in Wiltshire) has a camp, assigned to the class of Roman antiquities. It consists of a double aggar extending to the south, at the pre-

(s) Respecting the Portway of Arley, there are two testimonies in favour of its being a branch of a separate road from the vicinal Watling street. Nash, art. Wor. II. App. CVII. speaks of it as connecting Worcester and Shrewsbury. In corroboration of this statement, a gentleman of Bridgnorth asserts, that part of the road from the latter town to Kidderminster, near Quat, is still called the Portway, probably in continuation of the Arley road. Nash then proceeds to speak of the road through Green's Forge, and as a third, enumerating Ikenild, Portway, and vicinal Watling.

(t) Of Wichbury, Wassell, &c. see Nash.

sent time covered with wood. While the invading hosts maintained their station on this eminence, the British heroes are supposed, by tradition, to have occupied the rival elevation of Clent before a battle was fought. (u)

Impelled by military ardour, they rolled their adverse forces in torrents down the hills, and deluged the subjacent plain.

“ 'Twas on these downs by Roman hosts annoy'd,
Fought our bold fathers, rustic, unrefined ;
Freedom's bold sons, in martial cares employ'd,
They tinged their bodies, but unmask'd their mind.”

SHENSTONE.

North Clent, in contradistinction from Church Clent, stretching to the west of the village of Hagley, now a cultivated tract, is the site of the ancient Clent heath, memorable for its tumular monumental memorials, and other relics of antiquity.

Dr. Plot speaks of three barrows (v) as conspicuous in his time ; according to Dr. Nash, they are five in number, which

(u) Beaut. Eng. & Wales, XV. 228.

(v) TUMULI, LOWS, BARROWS, &c.

Tumuli, or subordinate beacons, according to Mr. Stackhouse, served not only as monuments of departed heroes, but the British ones, (those at least of the western counties,) as parts of a complete system of vigilatory communication, as mirrors, placed with such skill and accuracy, as to conduct the visual ray from point to point, through the entire space intended for survey.

Various circumstances are indicative of the dignity of the personages whose remains are deposited beneath their verdant hillocks. The proximity of the tumuli of mighty chieftains to their respective camps, of the priests to their temples ; the grouping of barrows in extensive downs ; the lamps, coins, and urns filled with ashes, discoverable in some of them ; the mouldering remains of their faithful chargers, inhumed with equestrian heroes : all these

agrees with the testimony of some respectable individuals. The latter author caused one of these to be opened, which at the depth of fourteen feet, afforded a considerable quantity of burnt wood and ashes. Two others, the author observes, have been since opened, evidently alluding to the researches of Bishop Lyttelton, as the prelate's MS. is quoted as an authority.

In one of the latter, at about the depth of two feet, exactly in the centre, was discovered an urn, filled with small human bones, very white, about the quantity of two quarts. (w) The vessel being broken by the workman's spade, appeared to be of very coarse ill-burnt clay.

discoveries corroborate the presumptive fact, that these eminences are not raised for the mass of population, and that they are not the tumultuary receptacles of soldiers slain in battle, but of the higher orders of military men, who fell in battle.

Various observations follow, as to the number, forms, &c. of these eminences. A pair of tumuli is considered as indicative of more than individual dignity.

Mr. Bowles, in a work,* derives tout, also a term for lowe or barrow, from Teutates, a Celtic deity, the Egyptian Thoth, or Hermes,† the Roman Mercury.

This author observes, that almost every British hill, whose steep declivities rather resemble the shape of an artificial mound, than of an abrupt natural hill, is called tut or tout, and that many in Dorsetshire and other counties are so named.

Other tumuli, denoting the worship of Mercury, are noticed as Tot-hill, near Alford, Lincolnshire; Tut-hill, near Thetford, &c., &c.; to which may be added, Toot-hill Mythe, near Tewkesbury; Toot-hill, Carnarvon, &c. Of the same derivation, it is supposed, are Tothill fields, near Westminster abbey, and Tuttle street, near Waltham cross, Middlesex. Topé, a corruption of a Greek word, used by Homer, is a term sometimes designating tumulus.

(w) The urn contained the bones left unconsumed on the funeral pile.

* Review'd Gent. Mag. March, 1828.

† Cæsar says of the Celts, Deum maxime Mercurius colunt, Livy, that high barrows were erected to his honour.

At about the depth of two feet lower, on the west side of the tumulus, was found a large quantity of bones, ashes, and burnt wood, mingled together. No urn was apparent, but at the depth of two yards, in the centre, was a circular cavity, about a foot in diameter, and nearly of the same depth, filled with human bones and burnt wood. (x)

It is conjectured that the urn in the first of these lows, contained the remains of a Roman general or chief, while the promiscuous ashes, are those of his principal officers.

The contents of the second low are supposed to consist of the remains of common soldiers slain in the action.

The late Mr. Mathews, of Hagley, who was present at this examination, as a juvenile spectator, traced it back to about the year 1755. He remembered seeing the urn with its contents taken in a carriage to Hagley.

Two of the lows are very conspicuous in the present day, 1830. They are situate in a large field, on the right of the great road from Hagley to Kidderminster, near to the common of Harborough. The first is contiguous to the fence and to a cross road leading to the village of Churchill.

(x) Whitaker remarks, that "both Britons and Romans consigned to the earth the bodies of their dead entire, or by previously reducing them to ashes. The latter practice was a refinement to prevent indignities or outrages on these venerable remains. The former mode was generally practised."

The observation of Pliny, that the Scipios had the singular custom of burying instead of burning their dead, seems to militate against the above remark concerning the preference of the one custom to the other. Sylla, a descendent of this illustrious family, departed from that rule, and commanded that his body should be burnt, to preserve it from such indignities that had been shown towards the remains of Marius." Rome in XIX Century.

Two Scotch firs, memorials of the labours of the Bishop, crown its summit. (y)

The second low, at a short distance, bears as a modern trophy, one Scotch fir, and two beeches.

Harborough (z) remains to be noticed in this connexion, with the Hoar stone once observable on the margin of Horstone brook, erected, as is supposed, by the victorious

(y) Rockingham hill, the base of which is contiguous to that of Wichbury, according to the same deponent, was planted with a clump of trees in the same year. Whether this eminence be natural or artificial, it affords a pleasing object when viewed from several parts of the vicinity. This intelligent informant died 1821. See also pa. 261.

(z) Harborough carries in its name something military, being a compound of hore, exercitus, and berie, campus; a plain on which an army is assembled.

Verstegan considers Hereford as derived from ford of an army, when it was sacked by Griffin, Prince of Wales, and Alfgar, Earl of Mercia, during the heptarchy.

This author gives herotoga as the ancient appellation for the chief of an army, to which succeeded Dux and Duke.

In Warwickshire, are Harborough, magna and parva.

A number of houses collected together for safety, were thus designated by the Saxons, who also gave this appellation to hills crowned with entrenchments; e. g. Woodbury, Rewbury, on the Lickey.—Battlesbury, Heytesbury, Wilts, &c., &c., particularly to those previously fortified by the Romans.

Camden observes, that in the times of the latter emperors, "castles meet for war, began to be called burghi," thus, Burgh-under Stanmore, Westmoreland, Burgh on the sands, Cumberland; to which may be added, Borough-hill, near Daventry, Northamptonshire.

Bonaventa, the British name of this entrenchment, and Isavenaria, the Roman name of Daventry; are supposed to designate the higher and lower stations—Borough-hill and Daventry; Bon, or Pon, signifying a head or summit: Venta, as Venta Belgarum, (Winchester,) Venta Icenorum, (Castor near Norwich,) Gwent, &c. being latinized by the Romans into Venta.

To this commixture of British, Saxon, and Roman terms, is added, the

Britons. (a) Barrow, with its synonymes, borough, bury, byrie, burgus, of similar import, are supposed to furnish the etymology of Harborough, Leicestershire; that of Worcestershire, (the subject of the present observations,) and numerous others.

Harborough, the residence of the family of Penn, is thus poetically alluded to by Shenstone:—

Near a shaded pool
A group of ancient elms umbrageous rose,
The flocking rooks by instinct's native rule,
'This peaceful scene for their asylum chose.
'Twas here in happier times, this virtuous race
Of milder merit, fix'd their calm retreat;
War's deadly crimson had forsook the place,
And freedom fondly lov'd the chosen seat.

Their busts are described as,

“Stretch'd on the lattice of th' adjacent fane.”

An image was discovered, A. D. 1752, at Hagley, exhibit-

tre (town,) as in the termination of modern Daventry.—See *Gent. Mag.* Sep. 1827. Account of Borough-hill, one of the largest entrenchments in England.

Boroughbridge, Yorkshire, is named from some rude pyramidal heaps of stone. Cluverius, Du Fresne and Sumner, hold bury to be a German word, and barrow or burrow to be derived from the Saxon word beory, or bury, a hill, hence to bury.

At Meare, twelve miles from Penkridge, fifteen from Uttoxeter, and the same distance from Wroxeter; is a hill fortified with a double trench and a thick wall, called the Borough,* supposed, by Eardeswick, to indicate that some ancient town had been erected on the spot.

(a) On perambulating this part of the country, no vestige of a hoar stone has ever occurred to the writer.

* Burgum is derived by some authors from a Greek word, signifying a tower or strong place; by others, from the Teutonic. The British word caer, and the Latin municipium, are said to be of the same import.

ing a very rude figure of a man, but ending in a term, was found within a rag stone quarry, in Lord Lyttelton's park. The ablest antiquaries pronounced it Phœnician, as no effigiated idol was used by the ancient Britons, and the workmanship was too rude for that of a Roman artist; it agrees, in all respects, with the Teraphim mentioned in Scripture.

A. D. 1738, an iron chain, with a large stone the size of a man's hand, was discovered by a farmer, near Hagley, supposed to be a Roman military weapon, and coins of the lower empire inclosed in a pot near to the same spot.

Nash. Wor. I. 486.

About 1817, a jar was discovered at the Fens, in the parish of Bell Broughton, containing nearly 600 Roman coins, silver and copper. Among the inscriptions were—IMP. ANTONINUS. AUG. IMP. GORDIANUS. IMP. — AUG. IMP. PHILIPPUS. AUG.

On the reverse of one piece is the figure of an elephant. Romulus and Remus are said to be represented on another, but this did not meet the eye of the writer. Whether this coin commemorates Antoninus Pius, the 16th emperor, or Antoninus Philosophus, the 17th, does not fully appear.

Georgianus the 27th emperor, and Philip the 28th, reigned in immediate succession. Another coin bears the name of Valerius.

7. Chaddesley-Corbet. Bluntington, a village near to that of Chaddesley, is the utmost limit to which the present vestiges of the Roman road have been traced, viz. at the Cross roads. From King's head land, already described, (a) the line of Roman causeway, (according to conjectures found-

(a) Under Hagley, pa. 339.

ed on the most satisfactory data attainable) is continued across the Birmingham and Kidderminster great road, through an opposite lane leading to Brome.

A chain of pools on the side of the common, opposite to that before mentioned, next presents itself to view. (b) Crossing one of these waters, or a part of the connecting rivulet, (c) the rampart proceeded to Hill pool, leaving Bellington on the right, and Sion house, the residence of the late — Pratt, Esq. on the left.

From the romantic glen, in which this spacious sheet of water is situated to the termination of the visible traces of this once important causeway, a specimen of the rampart is observable superior to any which have fallen under notice in the course of the present researches, and bearing some comparison to that of Ikenild, extending over Sutton park, and part of the Coldfield.

Three fields, commencing at the southern acclivity, from Hill-pool, and terminating at the cross road from Woodrow to the Drayton and Broughton road, exhibit a fine specimen of the rampart, which is seen in continuation on the opposite side of the lane, extending over a few more fields to Bluntington (d) at a short distance beyond which all traces are lost.

(b) Issuing from the range of Clent hills and extending by Broadwater the ancient Usmere to the Stour.

(c) A labourer residing near to Hill-pool, asserts, that he remembers the road to have crossed Lady pool on Harborough common. In its progress from this piece of water to Hill-pool, as above described, it probably crossed the parish of Brome. A gentleman of the latter place is of opinion, that some appearance of an ancient tumulus is observable in that parish, and also of an excavation from whence the soil employed in its construction was obtained. Bellington appears to have been a place of some antiquity. Mr. Pratt, of this place, late of Sion house, found some coins here.

(d) Taking the part of the rampart near to Drayton for a centre, it extends through about four fields to Bluntington, and three to Hill pool.

It is however confidently asserted that Harvington, (a town on the military road,) was on the Roman road.

Dorrell wood, entirely cleared within the last thirty years, was the site of part of the rampart. Many fine oaks grew thereupon, amidst the strata of stones composing the causeway, (e) the latter are still more abundant in its line, than in the adjacent fields. More gravel is observable in the vicinity of the line of road, than in the surrounding country.

The following are notices of distinct vestiges of antiquity occurring in the parish of Chaddesley—

To the east of the tract just described, at the distance of not more than a mile, are Barrow-hill, Tanwood Green, and Bourn Green. There is every reason to pronounce Barrow-hill a complete tumulus.* It is considerably elevated above the neighbouring fields, adorned with plantations by — Bury, Esq., its present proprietor, and commands a distant prospect of great variety and beauty.

Tanwood Green and Cross, are supposed to have been, in ancient times, sites of considerable population. Bourn's Green, near to the road leading from Bromsgrove to Bell Broughton, about thirty years ago, exhibited a causeway twenty feet wide and two feet in depth.

Pebbles nearly of uniform size, (weighing about 12lb.) scattered in various directions, are said to have formed parts of its components. Within a short distance of Barrow-hill, and consequently of Tanwood, are three excavated spots within the enclosures, having the form of theatres.

(e) These oaks were particularly difficult to eradicate on clearing the ground.

* See page 135.

Each of these is approached by a bevelled or convex kind of rampart on the open side fronting the west. A large fragment of stone was observable in a field near to these excavations.

Many stones of large dimensions have been conveyed from the causeway to the adjoining farms, and employed in the construction of walls, &c. Mr. Wilkes, of Drayton, remembers the stratum in its undisturbed state.

This branch of road is supposed to have taken a collateral course with respect to the Watling street, or to have communicated therewith.

The intervening tract from Blunton to Worcester, furnishes no traces hitherto observed of this vicinal rampart.

VIII. Worcester, final station. Branonium of Antoninus. Brannogenium of Ptolemy. (f)

To enter largely into the subject of antiquities pertaining to this important station would be foreign to the present purpose. Some notices of circumstances recently occurring may however be here introduced.

Visiting this city several times, 1830, attention was drawn to several objects of curiosity which presented themselves to view. Not to dwell on the prospect on the eastern side of the city, commanding the mountainous tract on the opposite direction; Crook barrow, on the London road, one of the noblest of tumuli, is a conspicuous object, probably containing valuable latent treasures.

(f) See also page 229. Leman introduces Brannogenium as in the vicinity of Lantwerdine, and also Brannogena, as on the site of Worcester.

On the nearly parallel road leading to Bristol, &c., about three quarters of a mile from the centre of the city, is a rock, on the right, which superficially viewed, exhibits no features distinguishable from the range of bank which borders the highway; but on examining its circumference, the tumular form is apparent. A perpendicular section, obtained by widening the turnpike road, discloses several novel and unexpected substances.

Gravel, adventitiously deposited on a rich substratum of marl, masses of oak timber, with blackened surfaces, like the similar products of peat mosses, and small layers of osseous matter, supposed to be human; form constituents of this curious mass.

A cannon ball weighing about three pounds has been discovered in this barrow, supposed to have remained there from the days of Cromwell.

The apparently trivial circumstance of finding an iron cinder, on viewing a vertical section of the partially removed tumulus at the castle of Worcester, Aug. 1830, may be some confirmation of the fact of Roman iron works having existed there.—See Yarranton's *England's Improvement*, and works by various authors on this subject.

ITINERARY.

*Roads.*

About the commencement of the 18th century, Mr. Lloyd, of Wolverhampton, projected and executed two plans of roads. One of these from the west to London, was called the Northfield and Wootten Wawen, uniting at the latter place, with the great road from Birmingham to Stratford upon Avon, crossing the Portway, and including part of Ullenhall street.

The other, called Northfield and Stourbridge road, included part if not the whole of Moor street. (g)

Modern Roads.

The Stourbridge districts of Roads were established by the following Acts of Parliament :—

FIRST DISTRICT.

Act of 26th George II.1753.

13th George III.1772. (h)

For making and maintaining a turnpike road from the market-house in Stourbridge, to the town of Bromsgrove; with a branch running parallel with part of the same, commencing at the village of Old Swinford, and extending to the turnpike road leading from Birmingham to Kidderminster, at Clap gate, near to the Spout. (i)

Also from the site of the market house to Iverley hill, on the Kidderminster road, and to Colbourn Brook on the north,

(g) See Introduction, pa. XII. also 232.

(h) A clause in this act authorises the removal of the market house.

(i) This is the direct road to Worcester through Hartlebury.

and from thence to Wordsley Green, both on the road to Wolverhampton; with a branch from the said brook, to Churchill field corner, where it joins the Kidderminster road.

SECOND DISTRICT.

Act of 2d George III.1762.

22d George III.1781.

From the same site to Colley Gate, on the road to Halesowen and Birmingham, also from Colley Gate to Halesowen, included in both acts. These districts were afterwards comprised in one act, viz.

29th George III.1789.

2d George IV. Sess. 1821, Royal Assent, May 28th.

THIRD DIVISION.

Act of 56th George III. Session 1816, term 21 years, for making a turnpike road from High street, Stourbridge, to Bridgnorth, in the county of Salop.

The tolls on these roads are let by auction, according to 13th George III., for amending and reducing to one act, the laws for regulating turnpikes, amended by several subsequent acts.

Produce of Tolls.

<i>A. D.</i>	<i>First District.</i>	<i>Second District.</i>
1825.	£2800	£692.
1826.	2705	760.
1827.	2700	765.
1828.	2390	705.
1829.	2430	710.
1830.	2498	712.

BRIDGNORTH ROAD.

1828. £380

Topographical sketches of these roads, and also of the canals, river Stour, &c., with additional remarks on the whole, are reserved for future pages. (E)

Canals. (f)

Capper, in his Topographical Dictionary, states, that 2400 miles of canal have been cut in England and Wales, at an expence of thirteen millions. He dates the commencement of this grand national work, 1755.

This estimate is exclusive of works of five miles in extent, private ones, and rivers rendered navigable.

Previously to the general extension of the system of inland navigation, Bewdley served as the emporium to this part of the kingdom, from whence goods were conveyed by land carriage into the manufacturing districts.

The memorable undertaking of the Duke of Bridgwater, whose enterprising spirit, aided by the brilliant abilities of the celebrated Brindley, accomplished the stupendous work which bore his name; was the first effort to establish a public canal navigation. Having in the years 1758, and 1759, obtained the necessary acts of Parliament, he commenced this arduous undertaking, and soon brought it to perfection. (g)

The Grand trunk soon followed, and was in part executed

(E) See Appendix, No. V.

(f) Canals are termed, by Baron Du Pin, hydraulic communications; their summits, culminating points; canallization of a country is also a term used by this author, as also right and left bank.

(g) Sir Richard Weston is said to have introduced locks into this country from the Netherlands, between 1645, and 1650. The first lock constructed in England, was on the river Wey, in Surrey. Brittain and Brayley's Beauties of England and Wales.

by the same extraordinary man, who died during its completion, 1772, aet. 56. It was begun 1766, and completed 1777, uniting the ports of Liverpool and Hull. Its length from Runcorn to Shardlow is 93 miles.

TRENT AND SEVERN CANAL.

The Trent and Severn canal, sometimes designated Staffordshire and Worcestershire, and sometimes improperly, the Wolverhampton branch, of the Grand trunk, commenced September 1st, 1766, in a field at Compton, in the parish of Tettenhall, under the inspection of John Baker, Esq., who died 1796, at Wolverhampton. It was completed in 1772, extending 46 miles from Great Haywood to Stourport. It was in part executed by the same eminent mechanic, Brindley.

From Haywood to the Junction, with Birmingham canal,	22m.
Junction to Severn	24m.
	<hr/>
Fall 301 feet. (h)	46m.

In 1786, the proprietors of the Trent and Severn canal, in conjunction with the iron manufacturers of Coalbrookdale, set on foot a project, for improving the navigation of the river Severn. The scheme was opposed by the Gentlemen of

(h) Dr. Thomas Congreave, of Wolverhampton, published a plan for uniting the Trent and Severn, with observations on the rivers between Oxford and Bath, reprinted 1753.

A reservoir of 456 acres, was proposed to be formed, to which 50 more might be added, at the summit, from whence the Penk and Smestall descend in opposite directions, both of which streams were to be rendered navigable, as also the Stour, viz. to Haywood, and to Stourmouth; summit from Whitwick to Galey. In this line is Alderley or Autherley junction with Birmingham canal. See Eardeswick's Survey, and London Magazine for May, 1752, with a map annexed, in which the reservoir is described as extending from Pendeford to Alderley.

Worcestershire and Gloucestershire, and finally proved abortive. (i)

Meetings of Proprietors of the Trent and Severn canal, are held on the third Tuesday in March and September.

Original contribution £140. per share. Value of Shares in May, 1823, £700. Number of shares 700—dividend £40.

STOURBRIDGE CANAL.

The Stourbridge Canal (k) was undertaken under the authority of 16th George III. ch. 28, 1776, for making and maintaining a navigable canal from or near the town of Stourbridge, to join the Staffordshire and Worcestershire canal at or near Stourton; and two collateral cuts, one from Pensnet Chase, to communicate with the intended canal near the junction of Wordsley brook, with the river Stour; and the other from Black Delph, upon the said chase, to join the first-mentioned cut at the Leys, in the parish of Kingswinford. By 22d George III. several amendments were made to the original act.

DUDLEY CANAL.

This canal, which unites with the above at the extremity

(i) Nash Wor. Supplement, pa. 4.

(k) The sum of £43,000, was authorised to be raised in behalf of this undertaking, under different acts. The original sum raised on each share was £100. to which £50. more were subsequently added. Number of Shares, 300, price, 1823, £200.

The Worcester and Birmingham canal guarantees the dividend of the Stourbridge to the amount of £9. per share per annum. Half yearly assemblies of proprietors are held on first Mondays in January and July.

Droitwich canal, from that town to the Severn, is guaranteed by the Worcester to the amount of £8. per share per annum. Act dated 1768—completed 1771.

of the second collateral branch, is likewise on the authority of an act of 16th George III., 1776.

An act for the extension of this canal to Tipton Green, where a union is effected with the Birmingham old canal, passed in 1785, 25th Geo. III.

DUDLEY AND NETHERTON CANAL.

Extends from Netherton to Selly Oak, the point of conjunction with Worcester and Birmingham canal, with three collateral branches. 33d George III. 1793, chap. 121.

Original contributions to Dudley canal as stated in Edmonds' and Wolfe's Report, July, 1823, £100. Number of shares, 2060, price £103.

Baron Dupin observes, that from Selly Oak to the Nine Locks, the canal extends on the same level $10\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and then descends 85 feet. In branching to Dudley, it ascends 31 feet, by five locks, in the space of 4200 feet. Here the tunnel commences.

The tunnel under Dudley is 8778 feet in length, at the end of which, after passing two locks, it reaches the old Birmingham canal, near Tipton.

Another branch, rising 64 feet, by eight locks, $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile in length, with a branch to the collieries of that vicinity, is described as issuing from the main line, previous to entering the tunnel.

BIRMINGHAM CANALS—ACTS RELATIVE THERETO.

Geo. III.

I.

8th, chap. 38. Act for making and maintaining a new canal from Birmingham to Bilston, Wednesbury, &c., thence to Antherley, to communicate with Severn and Trent canal.

II.

9th, chap. 53. Act to rectify a mistake in 8th George III. and to explain and amend the same.

III.

23d, chap. 92. Act to make and maintain a canal from near Rider's Green, Staffordshire, to Broad Water fire engine.

Also six collateral cuts from the same to several coal mines, and a new canal from or near Birmingham, to join Coventry canal at or near Fazeley, parish of Tamworth, county of Stafford, with a collateral cut to lower part of town of Birmingham.

IV.

24th, chap. 4. Act to incorporate proprietors of No. I. 8th George III. and of No. III. 23d George III. to consolidate their shares, and to amend the last-mentioned act.

V.

25th, chap. 99. Act to enable the company of proprietors of the Trent and Mersey canal, and Birmingham and Fazeley, to make a new canal from Trent and Mersey canal on Fradley Heath, county of Stafford, to Fazeley; also for confirming certain articles of agreement between the Trent and Mersey, and Oxford and Coventry canal companies.

VI.

34th, chap. 87. Act for extending and improving the Birmingham canal navigations.

VII.

46th, chap. 92. Act for improving Birmingham canal navigations.

VIII.

51st, chap. 105. Act for enlarging powers of several acts of his present Majesty for making and maintaining the Birmingham canal navigation—also for further extending and improving the same.

IX.

Worcester and Birmingham Canal.

55th, chap. 40. Act for establishing a navigable communication between the Birmingham canal navigations.

58th, Act amending certain acts relative thereto.

An original share in the old Birmingham canal, estimated at the amount of the deposit, as required by act of parliament, was worth £140.

The eighth part or final subdivision has exceeded £300. in value, the same augmentation applying to the whole consolidated concern, including the Fazeley canal, and some minor branches. Number of shares, 4000.

Immense works were completed, 1829, carried on under the direction of Mr. Telford. Not only is the channel of the old canal widened, furnished with double towing paths and lofty iron bridges, extending from Birmingham to the collieries near Wednesbury; but a new one is excavated in many parts, the line straightened, and the high ground near Smithwick cut down to supersede the necessity of numerous locks. (p)

(p) Mr. Gibson's extension of the Birmingham canal to Baskerville place in that town, opened March, 1817, is asserted by some, to be 3000 feet above the Level of the Thames at London, and 12 feet higher than any other canal in the kingdom.

Aris's Gazette, Mar. 3d, 1817.

Others represent a small branch named Calder, issuing from the Grand trunk to a quarry near Leek, to be the summit of inland navigation with respect to the kingdom.

Mr. Hutton, as appears by his *History of Birmingham*, first edition, published many years ago, had a presentiment with respect to the advantages which would attend the adoption of such a plan as is here described.

A very capacious reservoir, (60 acres in the clear) supplied by streams from the base of Rowley hills, forms also an important part of the new works. See also pa. 139.

WORCESTER & BIRMINGHAM CANAL.

Act 31st George III., 1791, chap. 59. Number of shares, 1821, 6000. (q)

A. D. 1786, a bill was brought into parliament for making a navigable canal from the Stourbridge canal to the Severn, near Worcester.

As the line of this canal would have commenced on the Staffordshire side of the Stour, and crossing that river, passed on the western side of the township of Stourbridge, thence taking a southern direction to Bromsgrove; the advantages resulting to the town and vicinity of Stourbridge, would, probably, have been very considerable.

The bill, although warmly opposed, particularly by the Foley interest; passed the Commons by a great majority. In the house of Lords the numbers were, contents 19, non-contents 42, majority 23.

In reference to the interests of Stourport, it may be observed, that the successful project afterwards adopted, had for its object, a parallel line of communication to that of the original rejected one; substituting as the head, Birmingham for

(q) Expense, to 1795, according to Hutton, £265,000.

Stourbridge, the variation imposes upon the projectors of the rival channel, the necessity of keeping further aloof from its competitor, than did the Stourbridge line.

The canal as finished according to the act is in length $31\frac{1}{2}$ miles; level to Tardebig 16m. thence 425 feet fall, by 72 locks.

Subsequent Acts.

38th Geo. III. chap. 31, for amending former act.

44th 35, for raising additional sums and amending former acts.

48th 49, for amending, enlarging, &c. former acts.

The conjunction of the old Birmingham, and Worcester and Birmingham canals, was effected July, 1815, by constructing a lock across the bar, which for many years had separated them. The whole line of the latter was opened for business, Dec. 4th, 1815.

Warwick and Birmingham, length 25 miles.

Warwick and Braunston 20 —

Baron Dupin observes, "that the hydraulic communications connected with Birmingham, which town is the central point, furnish an example of inland navigation, conducted over the higher parts of the kingdom." "They present," he adds, "a total developement of 216 miles, in a radius of 20 miles." (r)

Rail Roads.

To the system of inland navigation, so universally and successfully adopted through the British isle, we have now

(r) "They occupy," observes the author, "the highest situations in England, and nearly in the centre of that vast ridge of mountains, which traverses England and Scotland through their whole length."

superadded, the rail road, facilitating the passage of locomotive and other vehicles, with hitherto unexampled rapidity in various directions.

Aris's Birm. Gazette, Sep. 13th, 1824, announced a project for connecting the towns of Birmingham and Liverpool by this species of communication, stating the great amount and value of mineral productions contained within the proposed tract, comprising the vicinities of Birmingham and Wolverhampton, the collieries of north, south, and central Staffordshire, the salt formations of Cheshire, &c.

In addition to the main trunk, it was proposed to extend branches to the coal and ironworks of Shropshire, the Staffordshire Potteries and Chester, also to Dudley and Stourbridge.

EXPENCE.

Main line	£350,000.
Branches.....	£150,000.
	<hr/>
	Total £500,000.

Rail roads from Darlington to Stockton, and from Liverpool to Manchester, were opened 1825, and 1829.

Amidst the vast multiplicity of rail road-schemes, some having obtained parliamentary sanction, others remaining probationary; several, on a small scale, have been executed in the neighbourhood of Stourbridge.

On the wide water constituting the head of the eastern branch of Stourbridge canal, being the extremity of the summit, and in the district of Brockmoor; spacious wharfs have been formed, and rail roads branched therefrom, to communicate with the collieries in the vicinity of Shutt-end, &c. The first is the property of the Earl of Dudley, extending from Brockmoor bridge to some adjacent mines. The second, or

central one, constructed by Messrs. Gibbons, connects one of the wharfs on the wide water, with the coal and iron mines of the proprietor at Shutt-end. The third that of Messrs. Briscoe and Dudley, emanating from the extreme point of the wide water, takes, like the last mentioned track, a northerly direction, terminating also at Shutt-end, a mile above the village of Kingswinford, and near to Corbyn's hall and the Tiled house.

DENNIS RAIL ROAD.

This new branch of communication, effected by Messrs. Wheeley, 1829, commences by an inclined plane, near that part of the turnpike road from Stourbridge to Dudley called Brettell Lane, near the long bridge, part of the summit of Stourbridge canal. Coals descend from hence in machines suitable to rail-ways, and passing on a level through Dennis valley, arrive at Coalbourn-brook depository.

SHUTT-END AND GREEN'S FORGE RAIL ROAD.

This undertaking, the work of the Earl of Dudley and James Foster, Esq., of Stourbridge, is, in proportion to its extent, three miles and one eighth, a very magnificent work. Commencing at the above-named coal field, Shutt-end, with an inclined plane 1000 yards in length, inclination, 2 feet three tenths in a chain.

From the foot of this declivity a lofty embankment is carried on parallel to the village of Kingswinford, crossing the turnpike road from Stourbridge to Wolverhampton by a bridge, thence continued over the high road from Summer hill to Swindon by another similar bridge; then crossing the long narrow valley of eastern Ashwood, (s) leaving the northern

(s) See vale of Stour Smestal branch.

point of the ridge of that name to the left: it arrives at the head of a second inclined plane, in length 500 yards, inclination 2 feet $\frac{35}{1000}$.

Passing this second declivity, a basin occurs, of 750 yards in length. This expanse of water, occupying a valley contiguous to the Trent and Severn canal, in which Flotheridge pool (now absorbed therein) was once situated; is fed by a brook flowing nearly in the line of the rail road.

Instead of resuming the line of rail way at the foot of the inclined plane at the entrance of the valley, the basin is formed so as to meet the descended carriages, and a branch of additional canal channel is cut to conduct the articles of transit to the main body of the above-mentioned canal.

From the bottom of the upper inclined plane to the head of the lower one, the locomotive engine the Agionoria, "Goddess of Courage and Industry," (as Vacuna is a personification of Indolence,) is brought into operation, pervading the level embankment, and moves with an appendant chain of seven or eight carriages laden with goods, with graceful velocity over its appropriate rampart. (t)

On the 3d of June, 1829, this new and interesting branch of road was opened in the presence of a numerous and respectable assemblage of spectators.

At the western extremity of the basin, the termination of the valley, once the site of an old bridge of one arch over the stream, issuing from Flotheridge pool, and forming part of a high road from Wordsley to Green's forge; a noble bridge of

(t) This and another similar carriage, were built at the foundery of Foster & Co., near Stourbridge.

eleven arches is erected, spanning the whole valley; the central arch of which covers the channel of the new branch of canal, continuous to the rail way. This branch soon reaches the point of junction with the Staffordshire and Worcestershire canal.

The River Stour, with its Vale and Basin.

Concerning the etymology of the word Stour, there is some difference of opinion among British writers. Hollingshed derives the term from Dwr, the British word for water. Camden, Leland, Lombard, and Pennant, as quoted by Brittain and Brayley, adopt this derivation.

Durovernum, Canterbury, so named from its situation on the greater Stour of Kent, seems to favour this idea.

Dwr united to { whern, signifies a rapid stream.
avona, river water.
ar-guerne, water near a fen or marsh.
aber, mouth or discharge of water.

Dor-Dour, the Celtic appellation for water, and synonymous with Stur, Stour, is considered as supplying the name of Dwr-dale, a valley traversed by a stream, hence Dourdale or Doverdale, (u) anciently Dowdale, a parish in the vicinity of Ombersley.

Stormaria on the Elbe near Ditmarsia, takes its name from the river Stoer, supposed by some to be derived from the seditious temper of its inhabitants (Anglo-Saxons.) (v)

(u) Rising near Bellbroughton, passing Chaddesley Corbet and Elmley Lovet, and falling into the Salwarp near Hawford. Nash Wor. I. lxviii.

(v) Turner's Anglo-Saxons. Stoer from Storn. Mersi, with the prefix Stoer, residents in marshes, compose a juster etymology, in the opinion of

Another continental river, of similar appellation, occurs in Stoura, from the sources of which stream, and that of the Var, to Mount Iseron, the Cottian alps extend. (w)

Lluid, Burton, "Com. on Itinerary of Antoninus," and "Baxter, Gloss.," give duran as the ancient Celtic term for rivulus, a small stream.

According to other writers, the word Sture is of Anglo-Saxon origin, being synonymous with ferox, some using it to express a fight.

"That wons in every warlike Stour to win." (x)

Several British rivers are known by this name, as the greater and lesser Stours of Kent; the former visiting in its course the city of Canterbury, and Fordwich celebrated as the site of a battle between the Britons and Romans, and at length forming the haven of Sandwich; and together with the Wantsume, dividing the isle of Thanet from the mainland of Kent. (y)

The lesser Stour flows near Eltham, sometimes almost disappearing, and finally reaches the greater one.

Mr. Turner. See Anglo Saxons 3d ed. 1820. Whitaker, alluding to the Itinerary of Ricardus, Corinensis, speaks of Ad Sturiam amnem. A Londino, Lindum Coloniam, Hist. Manchester, II. 338.

(w) New Monthly Mag. July, 1828.

(x) Fairfax' Translation of Tasso's Jerusalem. Sturius of Kent, that Essex and Suffolk, &c., &c., appear to have been appellations as ancient as the Isca, Alauna, and Camulodunum, &c. &c.

(y) This channel, extending from Portus-Rutupensis, now Richborough, contiguous to Sandwich and to Reculver, was in the time of the Romans, the principal communication between the Downs and the metropolis.

Stour, according to Burn's Glossary, signifies dust.

"I maun crush among the Stoure thy tender stem."

Address to a Mountain Daisy.

The Stour of Essex and Suffolk rises at Sturmer, and after serving as the boundary of these counties, forms a spacious estuary at Harwich.

The river of the same name which rises in the pleasure-grounds of Sir Richard Hoare, at Stourhead, Wilts, after visiting Sturminster, and Blandford Dorset, falls into the sea at Christchurch, Hants. The lesser Stour of Worcestershire, passing by Shipston and Atherston, falls into the Avon at Stratford.

Several rivulets, in different parts of the kingdom, bear this name; as the brook from which Sturbitch, near Cambridge, derives its name; another which unites with the Trent near Nottingham, &c. &c.; there is also Preston upon Stower, in Gloucestershire, and a Leicestershire stream of this name, meeting Trent at Thrumpton.

The river Stour under consideration, (the fourth in the order of Worcestershire rivers,) exhibits a narrow meandering stream, twenty-four miles in extent, occasionally bordering and intersecting the counties of Salop, Stafford, and Worcester.

In its natural state, it must have been a very rapid stream, bearing an appropriate appellation, but when it is considered that thirty-four works, (z) (principally iron works,) have been erected on its banks, exclusive of many others planted on its tributary rivulets; the embankments necessarily accompanying such erections, will sufficiently account for the present gentleness of its general course.

It was the opinion of Dr. Wilkes, whose works form a

(z) Including Bell's mill, and some others now disused.

part of Shaw's History of Staffordshire, that this small river had on its banks a greater number of works than any stream of the same length in England.

The intrinsic value of these establishments is still preserved, and must have increased by the improvement which must have taken place in the value of property; but their relative importance is greatly diminished since the time when this neighbourhood was principally supplied with iron from these sources; and in the present day, a powerful rivalry is established by the stupendous power of steam, which in a great measure operates, independently of natural and local advantages.

An act XIV. Car. II. chap. 46, was passed for rendering the Stour navigable, which was partially executed under the direction of Captain Andrew Yarranton. (a)

(a) Captain Andrew Yarranton was born at Astley, Worcestershire. Encouraged by some neighbouring Gentlemen, he travelled through Holland, Germany, and many foreign countries, A. D. 1670, in order to bring home useful arts.

A. D. 1697, and 1698, he published parts I. and II. of "England's Improvement by Sea and Land."* The projects of Yarranton had similar objects in view to those of the immortal Brindley, but the latter under more

* Other projects of this active improver were, A Public Register for Lands, Plans for employing the Poor, preventing fires in London, and improving the British Navy. It is asserted in his publication, that the existence of iron works in Britain, during the time of the Romans, is proved by the masses of cinder containing iron observable in the Forest of Dean, thrown out by the foot blasts, that people having no water works. The author adds, that some of the best iron has been made from the re-working of these cinders, mixed with the iron-stone of the forest. In the counties of Monmouth and Hereford, are similar piles of cinder, and Mr. Yarranton observed them near to the walls of the city of Worcester.

Bishop Watson eulogises Yarranton, on account of his introducing from Saxony, the art of making tin plates, previously in the exclusive possession of the Saxons.

The project failed, though a portion of the artificial channel then excavated, (b) remained in 1776, when it was included in the main trunk of the Stourbridge canal, forming a wide expanse in the channel thereof, contiguous to Stourbridge wharf.

It is not probable that this and similar works will in future be resumed, as the present system of inland navigation, supersedes the necessity of rendering natural rivers navigable; the modern improvements of which are for the most part confined to harbours situated on their respective estuaries.

The following account of the attempts to render the Stour navigable, as related by Mr. Yarranton himself, will best explain the nature of the undertaking :—

“ But some will say, you projected the making the river Stour navigable in Worcestershire ; what is the reason it was not finished ? I say it was my project and I will tell you why it was not finished. The river Stour, and certain larger rivers were granted by an act of Parliament to certain persons of honour, and some progress was made in the work, but soon after the act passed, it was let fall again. But it being a brat of my own, I was not willing it should be abortive ; therefore I made offers to perfect it, having a third part of the inheritance to me and my heirs for ever, and we came to an agreement. Upon which, I fell on, and made it completely navigable from Stourbridge to Kidderminster, and carried down many hundred tons of coals, and laid out £1000.; and there it was obstructed for want of money.” (c)

favourable auspices, by means of parallel channels, and ultimate confluences, effectually realised his great designs. See also Introduction pa. XVI.

(b) Called the trench. It has been asserted that the works were destroyed by a flood.

Rees's Cyclopædia.

(c) England's Improvement.

Among other projected communications by rivers rendered navigable, that of the Severn, with the Warwickshire, Avon, was a favourite with Captain Yarranton. His scheme has been since realized, 1637, by Mr. Sandys, the artificial navigation extending from Stratford to Tewkesbury.

Description of the River Stour.

In describing the different parts of this interesting river, the basin, the head, the channel, and the point of confluence with the Severn, will fall under notice.

The basin of a river, according to the definition of Baron Dupin, is "all the territory through which a river flows, from its source to its mouth; extending on both sides as far as the declivity of the soil towards its bed. (d)

To apply this description of a basin to the tract of country occupied by the Stour and its tributaries; it may be considered as a part of the "Severn basin, (e) containing 14,146 square miles, and 2,392,400 inhabitants, extending over parts of 16 counties." (f) The Stour basin extends from the midland range on the east, then taking the source of its tributary Smes-tal for the northern point, a line may be drawn from Sea wall, in Bushbury, near Wolverhampton, to Bell Broughton, Worcestershire. (g)

(d) Commercial Power of Great Britain.

(e) Thus sinus Tenbicus forms part of the bay of Carmarthen.

(f) That of Stafford is not here enumerated, though the Severn crosses it at Arley.

(g) Broughton brook, rising on Clent-hills, is the most southerly tributary of the Stour; the streams emanating from the Lickey range, bear to the W. and S., reaching the Salwarp and Avon, the Arrow falling into the latter river; streams on the east and north of those hills flow to the Trent.

Numerous brooks issuing from the midland range, and others from the opposite quarter meet the main stream of the Stour. The Severn basin ac-

The head of the Stour may be described by adverting to its primary and secondary sources. The Salopian source is formed of the springs which arise on Halesowen-hill amidst the beautiful groves of the Leasows. From the summit of this eminence, one of the finest bursts of prospect (exclusive of mountainous ones) of which this vicinity can boast, is displayed.

This branch, emanating from the classic region, once the residence of the immortal Shenstone, and decorated by his elegant taste, is the theme of several of the poetic effusions of the illustrious bard, of which the following is particularly applicable to our present theme :—

O let me haunt this peaceful shade,
Nor let ambition dare invade
The tenant of this leafy bower,
That shuns her paths and slights her power.

According to Obs. of Mr. Aikin, in "Geological Transactions," is of very wide extent.

"Western point," Mr. A. remarks, "300 feet above the level of the sea, and 44 miles from Breidden mountains, is a head, from whence the fall of water must be very considerable to the south. This point, according to a map, on a large scale, is a peninsula, formed by the Mersey and Weaver, near Frodsham.

A view taken from hence towards the south, exhibits the Welsh border on the right, Delamere on the left, Breidden at the termination. The valley or tract thus bounded, separates the waters tributary to the Dee, from those flowing towards the Bristol Channel." The representation above given, does not seem to agree with the observation, that the Penk and Smestall rising near Wolverhampton, flow in opposite directions to the Trent and Severn.

Trentham, the source of the river Trent, from whence this noble stream flows through the midland part of the country to the Humber, ultimately reaching the German ocean, is so situated as to give rise to a stream terminating at the Humber.

Hither the peaceful Halcyon flies,
 From social meads, and open skies,
 Pleas'd by this rill her course to steer,
 And hide her sapphire plumage here.

The trout bedropt with crimson stains,
 Forsakes the river's proud domains,
 Forsakes the sun's unwelcome gleam,
 To lurk beneath this humble stream.

And sure I hear the Naiad say,
 "Flow flow my stream this devious way ;
 Though lovely soft thy murmurs are,
 Thy waters lovely, cool, and fair.

Flow gentle stream, nor let the vain
 Thy small unsull'd stores disdain ;
 Nor let the pensive sage repine,
 Whose latent course resembles thine."

At the western extremity of the Leasows, a beautiful cascade precipitates its waters into a rocky channel below, and here commences the vale of Stour.

The Worcestershire, or secondary branch, rises at the Twylands, near to the village of Frankley, the ancient seat of the noble family of Lyttelton, and pursuing a meandering course to Halesowen, unites with the primary one.

VALE OF STOUR.

The river, after the union of these two branches, pursues its course through a detached part of the county of Salop, till it receives the small rivulet of Drew's brook, at the base of Colman-hill, in the district of Cradley, forming an incurvation round the north point of Homer-hill. Hence it becomes a boundary line for a considerable distance, between the counties of Stafford and Worcester, having the parish of Rowley Regis on its right bank, to which King Swinford is

contiguous ; and part of Old Swinford on its opposite one : hitherto the scenery is more picturesque than is generally supposed, exhibiting considerable diversity of hill, dale, and woodland, with a degree of sequestration remarkable in a manufacturing district.

At this point, the surplus water of an extensive lake called the New Poel, forms a fourth and important source of the river.

Continuing to border the extensive mining and manufacturing parish of King Swinford, and also the hamlet of Amblecoat, its valley becoming somewhat more expansive, it reaches Stourbridge, (h) conferring its name upon that township, as before noticed.

The passage of country just described, and indeed the whole distance from Halesowen-hill to Stourbridge, exhibits a narrow verdant vale, with a meandering stream winding under the dark shades of innumerable poplars, from the hilly range to the site of the town.

Notwithstanding, however, the sinuosities of its bordering rocks, and the serpentine appearance of the stream, the vale may be viewed in a direct line from Iverley ridge, overlooking Stourbridge, and from a few intermediate points ; (i) so that the summits of its sloping banks must be rectilinear.

(h) Eardeswick describes the Stour as the mere between Worcester and Stafford shires, till it comes to Stourbridge. "Stour," observes this author "being past Rowley, receives a little brook from Halesowen, and thence continues its course between Worcestershire and Staffordshire, but for a mile and half hath Amblecote on the north bank thereof, bordering the counties Worcester and Stafford."

(i) Excepting where it forms a curvature at Homer-hill, and deviates a little towards Cradley forge.

The valley of the Neath or Nidd, in Glamorganshire, the Nidum of the Romans, has a strong resemblance to that here described. Arriving at Stourbridge, the river takes a northerly direction sweeping round the promontory formed by Iverley ridge, and thence taking a southerly course. (k) This curvature will, however, demand a more particular description.

Accompanied by the Stourbridge canal, and still serving as a county boundary, the Stour flows to Dividale, where it is crossed by an aqueduct bridge, belonging to that navigation, passing over the northern angular point of the mainland of Worcestershire. (l)

It then immediately becomes a Staffordshire stream, watering the extremities of Kingswinford and Kinver, taking a westerly direction till it reaches Prestwood. Here the small river Smestall forms an important addition to its stream. (m)

(k) Thus the site of Stourbridge might be deemed peninsular, but the line formed by the river is so feint, and its western border so distant, that the term can scarcely be applied.

(l) Hamlet of Wollaston.

(m) This river rises in the parish of Bushbury, in the vicinity of Wolverhampton, near to Showell farm, viz. at Seawall.* The stream of Gosbrook, crossing the road from Wolverhampton to Stafford, appears upon tracing its stream upon the map, to be identical with Smestall.

The rivulet is conducted over one of the summit bridges of the Staffordshire and Worcestershire canal, near to Autherley, it having been judged necessary to preserve its current entire and unmingled on account of numerous waterworks on its banks. Visiting Tettenhall, Perton, and other villages, as Trysul, Seisden, Womborn, Himley, King Swinford, &c., it takes a southerly course, till its arrival at Prestwood, as above described.

To recur to Smestall, after passing over the summit of the canal as above described, then following its level, and descending together with the artificial

* See in Dugdale 434. Eutenden de Sewallus, and Henricus Seawalli, who (4th John,) attended Earl Ferrers to Poictu.

“ ——— though th' industrious muse hath been employ'd so long,
 Yet is she loth to do poor little Smestal wrong ;
 That from her Wulfrune's spring near Hampton plies to pour
 The wealth she there receives into her friendly Stour.”

Drayton's Poly Olbion, 12th Song, p. 302.

This poet, in faint but flowing numbers, delights in personifying the streams of England. The aged hill of Clent from his proud top, is represented as viewing the land where

“ Stour her course doth make ;”

at the same time lamenting the fall of Feckenham forest yielding her woods to the strong fires of Droitwich.

Passing hence through the parish of Kinver, the Stour still continues a Staffordshire river, and takes a southern direction, still accompanied by the Trent and Severn canal. On entering Wolverley, it takes a final leave of the last mentioned provincial district, and to the end of its course is a Worcestershire stream.

The scenery of its banks is extremely pleasing, as it winds through the beautiful woodlands in the vicinity of Wolverley and Lee Castle. Wolverley is the residence of J. Knight,

current into the subjacent vale, it continues to wind through the valley, to which that of the Stour is subsequently continuous.

At Swindon, a narrow valley almost imperceptibly diverges therefrom, stretching in a long line between Ashwood ridge and Summerhill, thence extending west of Stourbridge, under the promontory of Iverley, with an unobstructed avenue, till the westerly prominences emanating from the base of the Clent range, set bounds to its extent. This may be termed a collateral branch of the vale of Stour, since its rivulets, with its opposite descents, N. and S. are tributary to that river.

This vido separately viewed in distant compartments, presents a variety of landscapes, of pleasing features. The summit above mentioned, is on a line with the lowest level of the Birmingham canal, which descends to Autherley by 21 locks, nearly contiguous.

Esq.; Lee castle, once of — Knight, now of — Brown, Esq.; Clee hall, near Cookley, of — Piper, Esq. The village with its parish church, is on a bold eminence, the site of the wooded rocks just mentioned, which overlook a verdant vale watered by the meandering river, the theme of our observations.

Usmere or Broadwaters issuing from the range of Clent, forming a continuous stream and chain of pools through the intermediate distance, supplies a copious stream in aid of the Stour, about a mile on this side of Kidderminster. (n)

Kidderminster, a large and populous town, a seat of the carpet manufactory, is visited by the Stour, which intersects it, and is rendered subservient to its numerous manufactures. Leaving this seat of industry, this meandering stream soon arrives at Mitton, a chapelry to Kidderminster.

(n) Usmere, according to Mr. Wise, took its name from Ouse, or Us, the stream flowing through this valley, with the addition of mere, a lake or morass. A description of the boundary of Cullecliffe, annexed to a grant of that part of Wolverley, to the prior and convent of Worcester, leads to the supposition that Usmere was a rivulet of Wolverley.

During the heptarchy, a monastery was erected on the banks of the Stour, on ground granted by Ethelbald, king of the East Angles, to Earl Cyneberht, for this express purpose.

Bishop Tanner is of opinion that Stourbridge was the site of this monastery of Sture.* Bishop Lyttelton strenuously controverts this opinion, placing the edifice at Broadwater, the Flumen Usmere.

Some etymologists have sought for the derivations of Kidderminster and Kinver, from Cyneberht and some names of places in this vicinity. Ismere, on the road from Kidderminster to Stourbridge, the residence of William Trow, Esq., with a little variation, is the modern Usmere.

* Notitia, p. 620, see also Busching & Britannia Curiosa. Stourbridge not having its present appellation so early as the heptarchy, is considered as a decisive objection to its having been the site of this religious house. *Nash II. 34. Rapin I. 87.*

Stourmouth, in this district, is celebrated in modern times as the site of the new town of Stourport, where both the river and the Trent and Severn canal reach their common and final destination, becoming by artificial lockage and natural descent, confluent with the noble stream of Severn. (o) The completion of the great work, uniting by inland navigation the towns alluded to above, conferred great commercial importance on Stourport, where, A. D. 1771, spacious basins were constructed for the accommodation of the trade, at an expense of £105,000.

A plate, date, 1776, Peter Mozell sculp. James Sheriff del. and scrip. gives a view of the site occupied by the bridge, Stourport Inn, one other finished house, with an half-built mansion, now the residence of J. G. Ames, Esq., together with the incipient basins and wharfs. (p)

Professor Buckland in adducing proofs of the universality of the deluge, uses language which may perhaps be applicable to the district we are exploring, the space comprehended between the midland range and the Severn.

“ First proof of the deluge—

The general shape and position of hills and vallies ; the former having their sides and surfaces universally modified by the action of violent waters, and presenting often the same alternation of salient and retiring angles, that mark the course

(o) Notwithstanding the numerous accessions which the river Stour receives during its progress, little increase of width is perceptible on its approaching to a termination.

(p) Towns of similar origin, enjoying congenial prosperity, and distantly connected with Stourport ; are Runcorn, in Cheshire, and Shardlow, Derbyshire, extreme points of the Grand Trunk canal.

Mr. Skrine, in his elegant work on “ British Rivers,” briefly mentions this Stour, but declines entering upon any particular description thereof.

of a common river ; and the latter in those cases which are called vallies of denudation, being attended with such phenomena, as to show them to owe their existence entirely to their excavation under the action of a flood of waters."

" Second proof.

The almost universal confluence and inosculation of minor vallies with each other, and final termination of them all in some main trunk which conducts their waters to the sea ; and the rare interruption of their courses by transverse vallies producing lakes."

" Alluvial depositions frequently form the talus or slope on the sides of the river." Some philosophers, as in the instance of the Po, have attempted to calculate the period elapsed since the deluge, from these gradual accumulations.

These observations may be applied to the basin of Stour, with its numerous branches. Successive platforms, terraces, or haughs, (as provincially termed in North Britain,) are sometimes observable in the valley of the Stour. These, consisting of alluvion, indicate the different levels over which the stream has flowed at different times, and account for the partial appearance of extraneous soil.

MEMORABLE OCCURRENCES.



1623.

May 1st, an extraordinary inundation took place, (called, in after times, the May-day flood,) which, according to the narration of Mr. Dud Dudley, ruined his works and inventions, with those of several of his neighbours.

He despatched a messenger, with all possible speed, to apprise the inhabitants of Stourbridge of their approaching danger; but considerable damage was done in the town, and the people were obliged to resort to their upper apartments.

Charles I. during his warfare with the Parliament, more than once travelled through several parts of this neighbourhood.

1642.

Sep. 20th, on his progress from Nottingham, through Derby, Stafford, Leicester, &c., (r) to Shrewsbury, the unfortunate Monarch resting at Wellington, assembled his little

(r) The king's visit to Wolverhampton, must have taken place about this time, although no date is given by the writer of "Notes to the Pedigree of Gough." Shaw. Staff. II. 188.

"An aunt or sister of Mr. Henry Gough, Madam St. Andrew, hospitably entertained the king, while his sons, Charles, Prince of Wales, and James, Duke of York, met with a similar reception at the house of Mr. Gough. This Gentleman declined contributing to the exigencies of the King, until admitted to a personal interview at night, when he drew from his cloak a purse containing a large sum of money, (£1200. or more,) and respectfully presented it to his Majesty. This disinterested gentleman refused the honour

army, and caused his military orders to be read in their presence ; at the same time a protestation was issued promising protection to the reformed religion, and security to the liberties and properties of his subjects.

Advancing to Shrewsbury, with his two sons, Charles, the heir apparent, and James, Duke of York, afterwards James II., Prince Rupert, and a numerous body of the nobility and gentry ; the king established a mint there.

October 12th, he marched with the army collected at Shrewsbury, to Bridgnorth ; (s) and on the second, third, and fourth following days, arrived at Wolverhampton, Birmingham, and Kenilworth. (t)

Departing from his original design of marching to London, where his sudden appearance might have excited universal consternation ; he resolved to meet the Earl of Essex, who at the head of the Parliamentary troops had left Worcester and was in search of him.

On the 22d instant, the two hostile armies, nearly of equal strength, were within six miles of each other ; that of the King stationed four miles north of Banbury, while the Parliamentary forces were at Kington.

of Knighthood, which was afterwards accepted by his grandson Henry, of Perry hall, when introduced at the court of Charles II. On this occasion, the distinguished loyalty of his ancestors became the topic of conversation." The family of Gough is now ennobled by the title of Calthorpe.

(s) Can hall, Bridgnorth, was the temporary residence of Prince Rupert.

(t) In the progress of the King from Birmingham to Kenilworth, the circumstance must have occurred of his haranging his troops from a tumulus on Sutton Coldfield, from that time denominated " King's Standing." See pa. 212.

On Sunday, the 23d, so late as three o'clock in the afternoon, an engagement commenced—the disastrous, yet indecisive battle of Edge-hill. (u)

The day after the King left Birmingham on his march from Shrewsbury, his carriages were seized, containing the royal plate and furniture, which were conveyed, for security, to Warwick castle. The hostile party apprehended all messengers and suspected persons, and frequently attacked, and reduced small parties of the royalists, whom they sent prisoners to Coventry.

1643.

Prince Rupert, by order of the King, placed himself at the head of 2000 men, in order to open a communication between London and York. Arriving at Birmingham, Easter Monday, April 3d, with 2000 horse and foot he found there a company of foot in the service of the Parliament, lately reinforced by a troop of horse from the garrison of Lichfield, Captain Greaves commander. (v)

(u) In this contest 20,000 men are said to have been engaged, of whom 5000, according to common statement, perished, subsequent accounts reduce this number to one half. Battle farm shows the exact spot. Two plantations mark the grave of 500 slaughtered victims, and the station where the two young Princes, Charles and James, remained during the battle.

(v) Hutton's Birmingham, pp. 48—168.

Three Tracts relative to the Battle of Birmingham, A. D. 1643, printed in that year by Wright and Underhill, were reprinted by Beilby and Knott, 1815, in one pamphlet.

1. "A true relation of Prince Rupert's cruelty against the town of Birmingham."

2. "A Letter written from Walshall to his friend in Oxford, concerning Birmingham."

3. "Prince Rupert's flaming love to England, discovered in Birmingham's Flames." Mention is made in the last pamphlet, of the plundering of Birmingham, on the King's return from Shrewsbury, before Keynton battle.

An unequal conflict ensued, about 80 houses were burned to ashes, and seventeen of the inhabitants slain. Fielding, Earl of Denbigh, one of the Royalists, lost his life in the conflict, as did Lord John Stewart, and Lord Digby; Prince Rupert marched from hence to the reduction of Lichfield.

A fine was levied upon the town. Camp-hill, on the road to Stratford and Warwick, was the station of the parliamentary camp.

1645.

Sunday, June 15th, Charles I., after the battle of Naseby, left Ashby-de-la-Zouch for Lichfield, where he slept that night. Next day, his Majesty marched to Wolverhampton, and on Tuesday to Bewdley. After a long route through Herefordshire, Wales, and Shropshire, we find him again, August 10th, at Lichfield. He was subsequently defeated, September 24th, at Chester. (v)

1648 to 1672.

During this period, (w) several towns and private persons coined small pieces in brass and copper, for the conveniency of change. Stourbridge had one of the first sort, and Old Swinford of the second.

Another tradesman's token, in possession of Mr. Green, of Lichfield, had for its inscription — Ezerell Partrig, of Stourbridge. Nash Wor. I. XCI. plate of coins, in which Stourbridge is 13, in the series, Old Swinford, 42.

(v) Pitt's Staffordshire, p. 15.

(w) A brass Stourbridge halfpenny was dug up in the town, 1830, and presented to the writer by W. Evans, Esq. A Bilston halfpenny was found in the writer's garden, June 27th, 1831, date 1666. Local copper tokens were prevalent at the commencement of the 19th century.

1651.

Sep. 3d, Charles II., after the disastrous battle of Worcester, by advice of his council, determined to march for Scotland.

By appointment of Lord Talbot, a troop accompanied his Majesty; coming to Kinver Heath, not far from Kidderminster, and darkness approaching, they were much embarrassed. In this dilemma the King consulted with the Earl of Derby, Lord Wilmot, afterwards Earl of Rochester, and others, (x) desiring them to point out a place of safety, where he might enjoy at least some hours rest; when Boscobel house was recommended as suitable.

Mr. Gifford, of Chillington, undertook to be his Majesty's conductor, having with him a servant of the name of Yates, who was well acquainted with the country. Being near to Stourbridge, a consultation was held, whether it was expedient to pass through the town, and it was resolved in the affirmative, and that the party should speak French in order to prevent discovery.

Charles II. himself thus relates the circumstance:— (y)
“ We rode through a town short of Wolverhampton, between that and Worcester. There being a troop of the enemy's horse there that night, we rode very quietly through the

(x) According to tradition, the round hill, in the parish of Kinver, about two miles from Stourbridge, was the place where the king rested.

(y) From a copy of an original MS. in the Pepys Library, given to Magdalen college, Cambridge, entitled, “ An Account of King Charles II's escape from the battle of Worcester till his landing in France, directed to Samuel Pepys, Esq. Secretary of the Admiralty, by the King himself, at the request of the Duke of York; taken down in short hand by Mr. Pepys, on Sunday, October 3d, and Tuesday, October 5th, 1680, and afterwards transcribed by him at length.”

town, the enemy's party having nobody to watch, suspecting us no more than we did them, which I learned afterwards from a country fellow. We went that night to a place called White Ladies, hard by Tong castle, by advice of Mr. Gifford, who was a Shropshire man."

Mean time general Lesley, with the Scottish horse, advanced towards Newport, leaving as attendants on the King, the Duke of Buckingham, the Earls of Derby and Lauderdale, Lords Talbot and Wilmot, Colonels Blague and Roscarrock, Charles Gifford, Esq. and other friends, making, in the whole, about 60 horse.

At a house about a mile beyond Stourbridge, his Majesty partook of a crust of bread, and such beverage as the place afforded. The sufferings he experienced during the subsequent stages of his journey, were extreme, but much alleviated by the kindness of friends, and the hospitable attention of the family of Penderel.

On October 14th, the King arrived at Brighthelmstone, and on the following morning embarked in a small vessel, attended by Captain Nicholas Tattersall; in the course of another day he arrived at Feschamp, near Havre de Grace, in Normandy. (z)

(z) Shaw's Staffordshire, vol. I. p. 73. Also, "Boscobel, or the complete History of the most miraculous preservation of King Charles II., after the battle of Worcester, September 3d, 1651, to which is added, *Clastrum Regale, &c.*, or the King's concealment at Trent." Published by Mrs. Ann Wyndham, 6th edition, 1743.

"Supplement to the above, with the Proclamation by the Parliament, for discovering the King and his friends, prefixed." An edition of Boscobel was printed at Doncaster, 1809, from a former one, date 1660.

A very recent publication, "Hughes' Boscobel Tracts," 8vo, 14s., is announced in the Edinburgh Review, 1831.

1766.

About this time an inundation took place, occasioned by the breaking of the dam at the New Pool, near Cradley.

1788.

November 4th, this year was celebrated through the kingdom as the centenary of the glorious revolution, great rejoicings took place in this neighbourhood on that memorable occasion.

1795, &c. &c.

During this and some following years, (a) great scarcity of the necessaries of life prevailed, liberal subscriptions were entered into in the town of Stourbridge and its vicinity, in order to meet the exigency thereby occasioned.

A meeting was held, June 19th, at the Talbot Inn, Stourbridge, the Earl of Stamford in the chair, when a variety of resolutions were entered into, tending to give effect to the measure.

Soon after the breaking out of the first French revolutionary war, two troops of volunteer cavalry were raised for the protection of the neighbourhood. The late Hon. Edward Foley, M. P. for the county of Worcester, commanded one of them, to whom T. Homfray, Esq. afterwards succeeded.

1808.

Feb. 28th, Sermons were preached in the parish church of Old Swinford, by the Rev. T. P. Foley, M. A. in behalf of the English prisoners in France, enumerated at about 8000, the collections amounted to £120.

(a) 1799 & 1800. Dr. Adam Smith describes the years 1740 & 1756, as times of great scarcity.

1809.

October 25th, a Jubilee in honour of the 50th anniversary of the accession of our venerable Sovereign, George III. was observed by the nation at large; great festivities took place in this town and neighbourhood.

	Years.	Months.	Days.
Henry III. reigned	56	0	28
Edward III. (b)	50	4	27
George III.	49	0	0

from 1760, to the present year.

1811.

March 21st, collections were again made at the parish church, and at St. Thomas's, for the English prisoners in France, amounting to £119. 8s.

1813.

Feb. 20th, a public meeting was held for the purpose of establishing a soup shop for the relief of the poor, when the sum of £992. 10s. 6d. was raised, including several very munificent donations.

Dec. 10th and 11th, great demonstrations of joy were manifested on account of the memorable victory at Leipsic, and other brilliant achievements of the British army.

1814.

June 24th, the glorious event of an honourable peace concluded, May 30th, ulto., (c) on the termination of the second revolutionary war, again called forth the liveliest expressions

(b) The 50th year of this reign was observed as a Jubilee.

Cunningham's Lives.

(c) With the exception of the short period of 18 months, the duration of the peace of Amiens, the nation had been at war for 21 years and upwards.

of joy ; and this neighbourhood, in common with every other part of the British empire, participated in the festivity.

An ox was roasted, and many sheep were also dressed and given to the poor, nor were the numerous beneficiaries of charitable institutions neglected on so joyful an occasion. Peace was proclaimed at the Free School, and opposite the Talbot Hotel, by Joseph Robins, Esq., a numerous party of gentlemen dined together at the Crown Inn, and the day concluded with the greatest harmony.

July 7th was set apart as a day of solemn thanksgiving, for the restoration of general peace, and on Dec. 24th, a treaty was signed at Ghent, by commissioners appointed on the part of Great Britain on the one hand, and the United States of America on the other, by which universal peace was established.

1815.

Monday, June 5th, the anniversary of his Majesty's birthday was celebrated. The two troops of Stourbridge Cavalry who continued their services to the present time, in consideration of the re-commencement of hostilities, (a third revolutionary war having broken out) held a field day, at the usual place of exercise, when a cup, value one hundred guineas, was presented to each of their commanding officers. Appropriate addresses in the name of the corps were severally made to John Addenbrook, and Thos. Homfray, Esqrs., who acknowledged the compliment by suitable replies.

August 27th and September, collections at the three churches, in the parish of Old Swinford, for sufferers at the battle of Waterloo, June 18th, and following days, amounted to £125. 2s. 6d. By this victory a final termination was put to the third war, which unexpectedly broke out at a time

when universal peace seemed to be firmly established. The nation was again called upon to return thanks for the complete restoration of peace.

As is usual after an arduous contest, a state of national depression succeeded to that ardor, which is generally the concomitant of extended warfare. (The interval between the cessation of hostilities and the complete restoration of the relations previously subsisting between different nations, presenting many scenes of deep distress.) Measures relating to peace were commenced in the negociations of Chaumont, matured by the congress of Vienna, and completed by the peace of Paris.

1816.

December, a degree of distress prevailing in Stourbridge, as well as in the country at large, recourse was again had to subscriptions and collections for the support of a soup establishment. Upwards of £100 were collected at the three churches, to which the dissenting chapels added their contributions, and sums were remitted by a committee in London, for the same purpose.

A subscription was raised also for providing clothing for the poor under the patronage of the Ladies.

1817.

November 19th, this day being appointed for the funeral of the Princess Charlotte Augusta, was observed with great solemnity in every part of the kingdom. Service was performed in the parish church of Old Swinford, in the forenoon, and in the evening at six o'clock, at St. Thomas's, Stourbridge.

All the dissenting chapels were open on the occasion, the pulpits were put in mourning.

This amiable Princess, daughter of George Prince of Wales, regent of the united kingdom, was married May, 1816, to Leopold, Prince of Saxe Coburg. She died in childbed on the 6th instant, at 21, having been delivered of a still-born Prince.

November 24th, a meeting was held, when it was resolved to present an address of condolence to the Prince Regent, on the above melancholy occasion.

1819.

June 20th and July 18th, sermons were preached in the chapel of St. Thomas, Stourbridge, and at the parish church of Old Swinford, in behalf of the "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts," incorporated A. D. 1701.

1820.

Feb. 16th, this day being devoted to the funeral obsequies of George III. who died January 29th, in the 82d year of his age, and 60th of his reign; services were performed, in all parts of the kingdom in the different places of worship.

Feb. 11th, the accession of George IV. was proclaimed in due form and solemnity, by Joseph Robins, Henry Roberts, and William Hunt, Esqrs., in five different parts of the town.

1822.

July 21st, sermons were preached in the different places of worship, in behalf of the distressed Irish, the collections at the two churches amounted to nearly £100, totals £114. 4s. 7½d.

1827.

Feb. in consequence of the unexampled distress of the manufacturers in many parts of Great Britain, particularly in Lancashire, Cheshire, and other northern counties, his Ma-

jesty was pleased to issue his letters of recommendation to the Bishops and Clergy in behlf of the sufferers; enjoining them to promote the augmentation of the national fund for administering relief to such distressed persons, by making collections in all churches and chapels throughout England and Wales. Total of collections and donations in Stourbridge, &c., £72. 19s. 7d.

1830.

January 25th, this day a meeting was held at the Court House, for the purpose of relieving the distress of the poor of the township of Stourbridge, &c. when a liberal contribution was commenced, which afterwards became considerably augmented, to be applied to the providing of soup to be sold to the poor at a reduced price, to which bread was afterwards superadded. The N. W. corner of the Market-place furnished a suitable site whereon to erect a convenient interior building, with permanent accommodation for preparing and distributing this species of nutriment, if judged expedient in future time.

July 2d, this day the accession of King William IV. was proclaimed at Stourbridge by John Scott, Esq., High Sheriff, and a numerous body of Gentlemen, attended by a band of music.

Proclamation was made at the upper entrance of the town, at the Free school, and at the bridge. The Sheriff attended at Worcester on the following day for the same purpose.

1831.

April 2d, in compliance with a requisition addressed to the Magistrates, 30th March, a meeting was convened and held this day, of those of the inhabitants of Stourbridge who were favourable to Lord John Russell's bill for Parlia-

mentary Reform, when various resolutions were entered into.

On the 15th, a declaration of Magistrates, Gentry, &c., of the neighbourhood, was circulated, disapproving of the resolutions passed at the above named meeting.

At the close of this month, an iron ball was discovered in the cliff, eastern side of Stourbridge, on digging the foundation of a building; its weight barely three pounds. The site is exactly opposite to the Amblecoat hill called Paukmore.

Since the period when a general peace was established, several bodies of Yeomanry Cavalry have remained embodied in the manufacturing districts of Worcestershire and Staffordshire.

A corps of this description has recently been formed in the neighbourhood of Stourbridge, and similar ones in other parts of the county of Worcester.

PART SECOND.



NATURAL HISTORY.



GEOLOGY, MINERALOGY, AND BOTANY.



GEOLOGY AND MINERALOGY.

IN the introductory pages of this volume, some outlines of the midland mining district of south Staffordshire, Worcestershire, and Salop, have been presented to the notice of the reader.

It is now proposed to offer a series of observations on the mineral productions of the tract described, taking Stourbridge as a central point, occasionally adventuring into a still wider field; for remarks of this description will naturally extend themselves beyond the limits originally assigned; (congeners of proximate and even distant localities irresistably claiming attention.) Voluminous manuscripts on these subjects, consisting of extracts and original observations, accumulated from time to time, form the basis of this division of our work; so that the ensuing facts, observations, &c. may be considered as emanating from the journal of a naturalist, rather than from a treatise systematically and scientifically composed.

Coal.—"Coal," it has been remarked, "exists in most countries between the equator and the poles."—Bakewell.

Theophrastus observes, that "a great line of coal sweeps the globe from north to south; visiting France and Brabant, but avoiding Italy."

"Were a line drawn from the mouth of the Severn to Newcastle upon Tyne, and passed round the globe, coal would be found within a degree of that line, and scarcely in

any other part of the world.”—Sir Robert Atkins’ History of Gloucestershire.

The coal fields of England, according to Conybeare and Phillips’ “Outlines,” p. 326, are thus geographically situated :—

“ I. Great northern district, including all the coal fields north of the Trent.

II. Central district, including the counties of Leicester, Warwick, Salop, and Stafford, to which might have been added, part of Worcester.

III. Western district, comprehending north-western, including North Wales ; and south-western, containing South-Wales, Gloucester, and Somerset shires.”

“ Were a line drawn upon the map of England, across the country from Sunderland to Bristol, all the counties to the west thereof would be found to contain coal.” —Parkes’ Chemical Essays.

The mining district of south Staffordshire, is environed by the large sandy and gravelly tract extending to distant parts of the kingdom. (d)

The most obvious method of distinguishing these respective portions of the country, appears to be that of classing them among the clay and sandy formations, thus designating them by their prevailing soils. (e)

(d) Smith’s Geological map.

(e) The clay district, which we may also designate the mining, is not exactly commensurate with the mining and manufacturing one ; several manufacturing stations being situate beyond its boundary line, within the sandy formation.

Mr. Whitehurst observes, that “ the argillaceous strata alone can be considered as productive of iron and coal, not of the ores of copper, lead, or zinc.”—Enquiry into the formation of the Earth.

Mr. Keir has very minutely described the geological features of the mining portion of S. W. Stafford, &c., (f) as distinguished by a bed of coal of remarkable thickness, generally ten yards, but it has subsequently been found at profounder depths. The formation he represents as extending from Bilston southward to Brettell Lane, Amblecoat, and the Lye near Stourbridge, i. e. seven miles in length, of various breadth, on the average perhaps four miles, forming a tract of 28 square miles. (g)

This writer proceeds to consider the coal district as having in its centre two ranges of mountains, the calcareous one of Dudley, and the basaltic one of Rowley, preventing the spaces they respectively occupy from possessing the benefit resulting from coal mines; and also to enumerate the navigable canals intersecting the tract, and the towns and villages situated thereon. (h)

Beds of thinner coal, from 4 to 8 feet in thickness, are next described, as commencing at the distance of a few miles from the northern termination of the main beds, where, accord-

(f) Shaw's Staff. art. Mineralogy, vol. I. 116.

(g) Mr. Brande observes, that "the road from Wolverhampton to Birmingham crosses its centre, and that its greatest length is from Stourbridge to Cannock; but this is considering the main and the thin coal tract as one and the same. This author describes Staffordshire as the great midland repository, the thickest in England. The union of three small beds, without the interposition of shale or sandstone, is supposed by another author to be the cause of this remarkable thickness.

(h) Canals.—Birmingham with its branches, Dudley, with Netherton, and Stourbridge; forming interior communications with collieries and other works, and ultimately with distant inland towns and seaports.

Towns, &c.—Bilston, Darlaston, Wednesbury, Dudley, Rowley, Oldbury, Tipton, Sedgley including Gornal, part of Westbromwich, Netherton in Dudley, parts of Kingswinford, Amblecoat, Lye, &c., in Old Swinford.

ing to a provincial expression, "the thick coal ceases to crop out," as in the vicinities of Bilston, Darlaston, Wednesbury, &c. (i)

These secondary strata, rising, in the opinion of Mr. Keir, from the ten yard coal, prevail along the banks of the Wyrley and Essington canal, touching the vicinities of Walsall, Lichfield, and Cannock wood. Brown hill, Norton, &c., are sites of some of these collieries.

Another, but very inconsiderable coal formation occurs at Compton, in Kinver, near to which is that of Shatterford, on the road from Kidderminster to Bridgnorth, probably joining the coal fields at the N. W. base of Abberley hills.

Worcestershire, in addition to the coal fields surrounding Dudley and the Lye, (k) with a small part of the township of Stourbridge; has also mines of the same description at Mamble, from whence is a rail road to Leominster, and at Pensax.

Concerning the qualities of the Dudley coal, sometimes called Bilston, many curious particulars are related, as the existence of spin coal, somewhat resembling the cannel coal of Lancashire, and peacock coal.

"The inclination of the coal, corresponding to that of the limestone range between Dudley and Wolverhampton being

(i) In Smith's Geological map, the main tract is represented by a figure nearly heart-shaped; the northern one connected therewith by a subterranean link, by an oval one.

Beyond this formation is that of north Stafford, consisting of the Cheadle and Newcastle coal fields, a triangular area, of which Mole Cop is the apex.

(k) Indications of coal have been observed to the south of the present well-known tract, extending beyond Oldenhall, &c., and others near the Lickey-hills.

broken off near its base, it is inferred that the same convulsion which broke through and raised the limestone strata into the form of mountains, must have elevated the superincumbent strata of which coal is one, and that those strata being softer than the rock, were thrown off, or having been shattered, were washed away by floods; so that the solid ribs of limestone alone remain entire."

The proximity of coal to basalt is instanced in its approach to the hills of Rowley; (1) not cropping out there, but re-appearing on the eastern side, it is considered as problematical whether it perforates the range. As the coal, in approaching the detached hills of Wednesbury and Netherton preserves the same inclination as the strata of those hills, it is concluded that it is cut off, and that the hills are composed of limestone.

A very curious enquiry here presents itself, whether the well known coal formations of Netherton and Tividale are united together by the isthmus-shaped tract which intervenes; i. e. by a link of the coal formation. Mr. Keir's description of this interval is as follows:—

"Between Dudley and Cawney-hill, which is the nearest of the basaltic range, there is a neck or ridge of land, sloping to the east and west, on both sides of which, but not on the ridge itself, coal has been found.

In this respect, then, this ridge, although the limestone does not break out on the surface, corresponds with the limestone range, of which there seems to be a probability, that it is the continuation."

(1) At Windmill-end coal has been found, very near to Turner's and Hailstone hills.

The recent discovery of an extension of coal field, from Brockmoor to Shutt End, 1820, thence supposed to extend to the vicinity of Himley, and there to crop out, throws some additional light on the geological features of the country. This parallel formation to the intervening tract between Dudley and Rowley, presents to view a kind of crescent, embracing the limestone and western basaltic hills of Barrow. Nine hundred acres and upwards of unwrought coal are held out as a temptation to the extension of inland navigation.

NOTE ON COAL.

Coal, *carbo-fossilis* of the mineralogists, is described by different authors as variously compounded of carbon, maltha and asphalt, and earths, with some other occasional admixtures. Carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen, the first greatly predominating, a little azote, bitumen, &c., &c., are mentioned by Dr. Ure as components.

The vegetable origin of this mineral is generally maintained. Dr. Ure, of Glasgow, represents coal as a legacy bequeathed by the antediluvian world to its successor; a rich luxuriance of plants on the borders of inland lakes forming by their exuviae the coal strata, the vegetables being reduced to a pasty state, and elaborated by suitable agents amidst the tepid waters of the primeval globe.

“The flora of coal and other secondary formations, includes products of tropical climates, as arborescent ferns, palms, grasses, &c.”

Werner thinks that the formations have taken place at different periods.

Mr. Bakewell considers alternate layers of aquatic plants and alluvion, as forming coal.

Mr. Murray describes two formations subordinate to the general ones; as the independent, and those approaching the floets trap.

Dr. Thompson derives the term independent from portions of coal being detached over floets rocks, or transition ones, where these are wanting.

This useful fossil was known to the Britons, before the arrival of the Romans, according to Pennant. Theophrastus describes it, accurately, three centuries before the time of Cæsar.

Mr. Brande says that it was burnt also by the Saxons.

In a mine on the Kingswinford side of the Stour, near the Lye, many specimens of nuts have occurred.

Noah's nuts, found in the Isle of Wight, and some coming to light in this neighbourhood during former years, are probably of the same quality.

Another source of information is derived from Geological transactions, vol. II. second series, No. XV. viz. "Observations on the structure of the Border Country of Salop and North Wales; and of some detached Groups of Transition Rocks, in the Midland Counties." By the Rev. James Yates, M. A. F. G. S. Read March 4th and 18th, 1825.

Taking a more extensive survey of coal strata, situated beyond the midland tract, we have, on the north, those of Cheshire, from which parts of the Derbyshire, Yorkshire, and Lancashire tracts are not very remote.

Durham and Northumberland exhibit a formation of well-known importance, extending from a limestone formation near Sunderland to the Tweed and the hills of Cheviot, thence stretching to Liddesdale, on the borders of Cumberland; length, 23 miles, average breadth, 8 miles. (k)

These nuts are not fossilised, like those described by Professor Ure, as those found at Sheppey, Kew, and on the Essex shore; they seem merely to have been long preserved.

Lignites, Cactus, &c., are of frequent occurrence. Large slabs of slaty coal, covered with quartz chrystals, sometimes occur near to the Lye, &c. On one specimen both the nail headed and the pyramidal chrystals abound.

In 1828, a large stem of a tree, from Hungary-hill coal mine, and another of Bamboo, from an excavation occasioned by the formation of a railway near Brettell-Lane, were placed in the writer's garden, both converted into a stony substance.

A vegetable impression of Polypodium, on iron-stone, found on a pile of stones in Mincing lane, near Rowley, seems to answer to the fossil of this kind in slate clay, from the coal measures of Lancashire, considered as tropical by Sir James Edward Smith.

(k) Beauties of England and Wales, XII. 28. Dr. Mc Nab represents this tract as 20 miles by 15 in extent.

London, for some years past, has not been exclusively supplied with sea-borne coal; a limited quantity having been annually conveyed thither by

To describe the commerce in this important article carried on between the ports of the Weir and Tyne, with that of London, and the eastern and southern coasts of the kingdom, affording a nursery of Seamen destined to supply the British navy ; would exceed our plan.

Cumberland, particularly along the western coast from Maryport to Whitehaven, possesses an extensive coal formation, dipping under the sea, to the depth of 120 fathoms. (l) The latter town, a small village in the 16th century, has acquired great commercial importance by the export of its mineral treasures to the sister island.

Proceeding from the north to south east, and midland formations, we traverse the counties of York and Derby, previously to arriving at the separate tract of Ashby-de-la-Zouch, from which Nuneaton, Atherstone, and Tamworth, are not far distant. (m) This latter tract extends from Bedworth to Polesworth, having in its centre a group of green stone rocks.

Apsley, near to Tamworth, is noticed by Dr. Buckland, as probably forming a link in a broken chain of coal measures, of which similar independent formations occur at the Lickey, Salop, &c.

canals from the Staffordshire collieries. A memorable event has recently taken place, 1831, the abolition of the tax on the produce of the northern mines.

(l) Mr. Williams, "Mineral Kingdom," asserts "that the deepest coal mine in Britain, 149 fathom, is near Whitehaven." Though Westmoreland is not considered as a coal country, Bishop Watson observes, "that some of inferior quality is produced on Shapp fell."

(m) Nottinghamshire coal and lime districts are on the western verge of the county, extending from Shire Oaks to the Trent, the vicinity of Mansfield is included therein.

The Gloucestershire localities of Dean forest, and Kingswood, near Bristol, come next under survey, the latter nearly approximating to the immense basin of South Wales.

To the south is Devonshire, celebrated for Bovey coal, the produce of Bovey Heathfield flat, near Exeter. This substance, the carbonated wood of Kirwan, common brown coal of other mineralogists, is found in alluvial land, and is supposed to be the produce of submarine forests.

Returning on a south west direction along the English border, the Shropshire coal formations, (those of the mainland, exclusive of the isolated portion of Halesowen, associated with Worcestershire and Staffordshire,) meet the eye of the geologist.

An intervening sandy tract, twelve miles in breadth, to which the beds of coal dip, in opposite directions, separates these formations.

The plain of Salop, containing the coal fields of Coalbrook dale, is separated by Wenlock edge from another formation, stretching on a long wavy line to the estuary of the Dee, Flintshire, and under that noble river to the peninsula of Wirral.

Clee hills and Billingsley, are also described as coal tracts by Conybeare.

The coal basins of N. and S. Wales, particularly the latter, are of considerable extent. Mr. Brande describes this basin as reaching from St. Bride's bay to Pontypool, nearly 100 miles, surrounded by lime stone, rising every where from the centre to the circumference; bordered on the north by the counties of Pembroke and Carmarthen, with part of

Brecon, on the east by Pontypool, on the south by parts of the counties of Glamorgan and Carmarthen, crossing the bay of Carmarthen.

Mr. Martin gives the average breadth of this mineral basin at from three to five miles in Pembrokeshire, and from 18 to 20 miles in the other counties which it traverses; total 1000 square miles. A very minute topographical account follows.

In Pembrokeshire, culm, a substance resembling Kilkenny coal, is produced. It is identical with stone coal, and being found in a pulverised state is mixed with clay, and formed into balls, termed hovels, for the purpose of fuel.

This coal, (a grand desideratum in countries unpractised in the art of destroying smoke,) is remarkable, not only for cleanliness, but in a great degree for indestructibility, consisting of 49 parts in 50 of carbon, very little bitumen and sulphur; it emits an intense heat. (o) See Ireland below.

Scotland, according to Mr. Williams, possesses more limited coal formations than England, affording a proof of the generally partial distribution of coal strata. (p)

(o) See Beauties of England and Wales. Mr. Warner speaks of the stone coal near Neath as serviceable in coking and malting.

In Month. Mag. it is said to be found three feet from the surface; 23 feet thick in the counties of Pembroke, Glamorgan, and Carmarthen. By improved conveyances, it is there said that the engines in London will receive a plentiful supply.

(p) "It is supposed that the largest untouched field of coal exists in Scotland, in that singular tract of barren country in Carlisle and several other parishes north of the Clyde. .

Curious cliffs on the western coast of Scotland exhibit vertical strata, the violence of the Atlantic having worn away the horizontal ones.

The beds of rivers, particularly that of Leith water, display horizontal measures."—Williams.

A line extending from the mouth of the Tay, on the east coast by Stirling, to the north end of isle of Arran on the west coast, and another from St. Abb's head, on the east coast, to Girvan, in Ayrshire on the west coast; would include almost all the coal of Scotland; Sanquhar on the Nith, Cannoby on the Esk, Dumfriesshire, and parts of the isles of Skye and Mull, forming exceptions.

A very curious process is described as taking place in the coal mine of Hurlet, three miles from Paisley. The inferiority of the fuel here produced confers upon it a peculiar value, for being strongly impregnated with iron pyrites, a stratum of aluminous schistus coming into contact with the decomposing pyrites, the sulphur of the latter is converted into sulphuric acid, part of which combines with the oxide of iron, thus forming sulphate of iron or copperas; while another part of the sulphuric acid combines with the alumina of the schistus, and probably also with an alkali, thus yielding a native alum, the process for the formation of which requires from twelve to twenty years. An alum work, supposed to be the most extensive in Britain has been here established.

As similar circumstances may occur in other situations, this fact may be worthy of attention.—Williams.

Having submitted to the reader a view of the midland coal formations of England, with brief and imperfect sketches of surrounding localities at varying distances; it may not be improper to notice similar ones of the sister island.

The Irish counties of Down, Cavan, Monaghan, Donegal, Clare, Cork, Kilkenny, Queen's county, and Roscommon, are represented as abounding more or less in this valuable commodity. (q)

(q) Williams' "Mineral Kingdom," II. 323.

The Kilkenny formation is supposed, by some authors, to be of such vast extent, as to unite with those of South Wales, Monmouth, &c.; the strata being known to immerge into the sea on the side of Great Britain, though not observed again to emerge on the Irish side of the water.

This substance, the blende of the German school, British blind coal, is considered as having some affinity to that of Bovey. (r)

Anthracite of Kilkenny, according to Kirwan, is almost metallic, emitting neither smoke nor flame. Sir Humphrey Davy describes it as similar to well-burned charcoal.

A very superficial glance over countries extending beyond the limits of the British dominions must suffice.

France, in 47 of its departments, is said, by Mr. Bakewell, to possess coal; (s) as also Spain, the Netherlands, Germany, Bohemia, and Hungary. Sweden is also described as a coal country, as is the isle of Bornholm.

Norway and Finland are considered as a continuation of the range of Scotch highlands. China, according to Parkinson, is a country abounding with coal of prior discovery to that of the western world.

Mr. Barrow and Dr. Anderson allude to coal formations

(r) Grew says, "that Lithanthrax, or black amber, is found in Misnia and Bohemia.

(s) Baron Du Pin speaks of St. Etienne as the chief colliery of France, 35 miles from Lyons, and 18 from the nearest point of the Rhone.—The Birmingham, as Lyons and Bourdeau are the Manchester and Liverpool of that country. Liege, according to Mr. Keir, is the most ancient coal district of Europe, whence we received the art of working mines.

at the Cape of Good Hope and Madagascar. On the trans Atlantic continent, Pittsburgh, Laurel mountain, Mississippi, Ohio, parts of New England, Salisbury in Virginia, Newfoundland, Cape-Breton, and Canada, are enumerated.

Australia, according to Miller, produces coal on the Hunter, now Coal river, New Holland, pervading a mountain and an island in the same vicinity.

In Basil Hall's Travels Velparaiso is spoken of as being supplied with coals from a distance of 200 miles.

Iron.—This metal so important in innumerable processes, is very generally diffused. Being the usual concomitant of coal and clay, it will be unnecessary to trace the existence of its ore through the various localities in which it occupies positions in relation to those substances. (t) Nevertheless, a brief sketch of its history, with some allusion to its nature and properties may not be unacceptable.

“Iron,” as Dr. Thompson observes, “was first discovered by the nations of the east, among whom all the arts and sciences originated.” The sacred writings, those of Moses in particular, make frequent mention of this metal. (u)

(t) A few principal ones may however be enumerated. Russia boasts of Tula the Sheffield of that country surrounded by a highly ferruginous soil, which is also the case with the vicinities of Eletz, Udino on the Don, &c.

Dr. D. E. Clarke's Travels. I. 143.

Sweden, by the aid of Charcoal is enabled to produce an iron of superior quality, used in steel making. France has recently abounded in iron works, Brescia in Italy and Elba isle, noticed by Virgil, are much celebrated.

Several of the United States of north America are likewise stations of iron mines and manufacturies.

(u) A city named Iron, in the tribe of Naphthali, occurs Joshua xix. 38. Iron is the name of a mountain near Jericho, part of a ridge beginning at

The ore is spoken of as one of the products of the land of Ganaan. (v) At an earlier period we meet with Tubalcain, an instructor of every artificer in iron; (w) and offensive weapons are also alluded to in the Pentateuch. (x)

As the writings of the venerable Jewish legislator prove the knowledge of this substance to have prevailed in Egypt and Phœnecia at a very early period; so Hesiod as quoted by Pliny, (y) informs us that it was brought from Phrygia to Greece by the Dactyli who settled in Crete during the reign of Minos, about 1431 years B. C.

During the Trojan war, 200 years after that period, Achilles proposed an iron ball as one of the prizes at the funeral games, which he celebrated in honour of Patroclus.

The effect of the burning brand thrust by Ulysses and his companions into the eye of Polyphemus, is compared by Homer to that of hot iron plunged into water by the smith.

Cæsar relates that the Romans established imperial founderies in Britain.

The prevalence of the iron manufactory in the country above described, has been alluded to in several parts of this work. Its processes of smelting, refining, case-hardening, &c., &c., are fully described by Mr. Collier. (w)

Julias.—Buckingham's "Palestine." Deut. iv. 20. is supposed to refer to iron works in Egypt.

(v) Deut. viii. 9. (w) Gen. iv. 22. (x) Deut. iv. 20.—xxvii. v.—Num. xxxv. 16. (y) lib. viii. chap. 57.

The Dactyli who dwelt around Mount Ida, were, according to Diodorus Siculus, the first inhabitants of Crete, they were regarded as magicians, and even had divine honours decreed to them for their skill in working of metals.

(w) "Manchester Memoirs," V. 109. In "Kidd's Mineralogy," "Imi-

Dr. Thompson thus describes the process :—

Iron or ferrum is obtained from various ores by ignition with carbonaceous substances.

“ The ore, consisting of oxide of iron and clay, is subjected to a violent heat in furnaces constructed for the purpose, mixed with limestone and charcoal.

son’s Elements,” “ Brande’s Catalogue of Minerals” in Royal Institution, and in a Narrative by a Gentleman concerned in the direction of a large iron work in Wales, (Beaut. Eng. & Wales, XVIII. 606,) we have a full account of this interesting process.

NOTE ON IRON.

Division of Iron-stones according to Mr. Muschet.

1st. Argillaceous iron-stone, having clay for its chief component earth, and this clay comparatively pure and free from sand.

2d. Calcareous iron-stone, possessing lime for its chief mixture, and this lime also comparatively destitute of sand.

3d. Siliceous iron-stone, uniting clay and lime, containing large portions of silex.

4th. Iron-stone, containing nearly the same proportions of clay, lime, and silex.

Besides these are described, “ Primary ores of iron,” so named in contradistinction from ores which appear like iron-stones, to have been found by a secondary agency.

Dr. Gregory’s classification of Iron.

1. Native Iron.
2. Iron Pyrites.
3. Magnetic Iron.
4. Magnetic Iron-stone.
5. Iron Glance.
6. Red Iron-stone hematite.
7. Brown Iron-stone.
8. Sparry Iron-stone.
9. Clay Iron-stone, or argillaceous.
10. Bog Iron-stone.
11. Blue Iron earth.
12. Green Iron earth.
13. Cube Ore.

“The charcoal absorbs the oxygen of the oxide, flies off in the state of carbonic acid gas, and leaves the iron in the metallic state; the lime combines with the clay, and both together form a kind of fluid glass. The iron is also melted by the violence of the heat, and being heavier than the glass, falls down and is collected at the bottom of the furnace.”

“Thus the contents of the furnace are separated into two portions; the glass swims on the surface, and the iron rests at the bottom, from whence a vent is prepared, by which it flows into moulds prepared for its reception. The metal thus extracted from its ores, acquires the name of crude, cast, or pig iron; the former term expressive of its imperfectly metallic state, ‘cast,’ implying that it has been moulded while in a state of fusion, and pig is a whimsical allusion to the form of the moulds.”

“The processes which iron undergoes from its native to its perfect state, are

- I. Smelting, or reduction, as above described.
- II. Fusion, by which it is freed from carbon and oxygen, and rendered malleable by a refining process.

This was formerly effected by keeping iron melted for a considerable time in a bed of charcoal ashes and scoriæ of iron, and then forging it repeatedly till it became compact and malleable; but Mr. Cort, about 1791, introduced an improved method which succeeded in converting cast iron of every kind into malleable iron of the best quality.”

“A reverberatory furnace is employed, in which the cast iron is melted by means of a flame which plays upon its surface. The mass is constantly kept in motion, that every part may be equally exposed to the air; the hottest part becomes undulated and emits a lambent flame which continues for an

hour, in which time, the conversion is completed, an emission of the elastic fluid having taken place."

"As the process advances, the iron gradually acquires more consistency, and at last, notwithstanding the continuance of the heat, it congeals altogether. It is then taken, while hot, and submitted to the strokes of a very heavy hammer, by the operation of which, the particles of iron are brought closer together, and the impurities which would otherwise have attached to it, are driven off; thus the carbon and oxygen uniting together, are expelled in the form of carbonic acid gas. In the course of this process plumbago is formed."

"III. Operation, hammering or rolling after which the texture of the iron changes from chrystallized or granular, to fibrous and ductile. In this state posterior to the decomposing and refining processes, we arrive at the (nearly) pure element iron, for it is seldom or never free from other metals, oxygen, carbon, or phosphorus."

To these chemical arts, succeed the mechanical ones which are applied with wonderful facility to the moulding, rolling, &c., of glowing masses at the pleasure of the artist; or to cutting, &c. of the solid metal into rods, bars, &c., calculated to supply the innumerable requisitions of the artist.

The specific gravity of perfect iron is described as varying from 3640, to 3810.

Steel—is described as formed by bedding charcoal in a close furnace with alternate layers of malleable iron, and exposing them to a strong fire for six or eight days; it holds a middle rank between cast iron and forged or malleable iron.

Dr. Darwin represents the conversion of iron into steel as

caused by the total deprivation of vital air, which it previously holds with great avidity, thus acquiring various new qualities. This author also points out the analogy of steel to glass and porcelain. (x) Steel and Plumbago (y) are carburets of iron.

Stations of the steel manufactory.—In the immediate vicinity treated of are Corngreaves, in the township of Cradley; Brades and Brierley, in the parishes of Rowley and Kingwinford; Birmingham; (z) to which may be added more distant localities, as Newcastle upon Tyne, Shatley bridge, Swalwell, and Gateshead, Durham; Sheffield, and Masborough, near Rotherham, Yorkshire. Steel casting was introduced at Sheffield, 1748, by Mr. Walker, and afterwards conducted by Huntsman. The article was previously imported from Germany. To these might be added many others.

Damascus is celebrated for steel sword blades of superior quality. Cairo, according to Dr. Clarke, is another station for the manufactory of sabres.

Motala, near Orebo, in Sweden, possesses one of the largest establishments known for conducting the steel manufactory. Germany, particularly Kershfeld, in Hanover, is

(x) Bot Gar. I. App.

(y) Plumbago is artificially produced in a variety of processes. A small grain of this substance used as a pencil, produced a clear stroke on paper. A bar of iron used in stirring the metal of the smelting furnace became incrustated with plumbago.

(z) At Birmingham, the iron manufactory is ancient beyond research. Mr. Jennings, of Aston furnace, is respectfully mentioned by Hutton. That of steel was introduced in the 17th century by the family of Kettle. The name of Steel-house, previously, Whittal lane, conveys to posterity the situation of the works, the commercial spirit of Birmingham conveys their produce to the antipodes.

famous for steel articles. Liege is esteemed the Birmingham of the low countries.

Abstracting from the south Stafford, &c., district, represented in the map (a) as consisting almost wholly of coal field, spaces otherwise occupied; two bold and magnificent features of the country rise to view; the calcareous and basaltic hills of Dudley and Rowley.

Lime.—Dudley hills, with their extensions, are composed of transition lime stone.

Mr. Yates describes the calcareous hills of Dudley as consisting of four, viz. Dudley castle hill, which might be contradistinguished from the town hill divided therefrom by a slight depression of ground, and consisting of a coarse grit stone; the castle elevation rises to a considerable height, and supplies both from its surface and from profound depths below, vast abundance of limestone.

Hurst hill, the Wren's nest, and Sedgley beacon, are the three remaining. The latter eminence yields lime of a different quality from the former ones, used for building, agricultural purposes, and for setting under water; its fossil productions also differ from those of other parts of the range. (b) These hills are separated by transverse valleys.

A perforation of the castle and other hills, 13 feet in height, 9 in width, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile in extent, occasioned by the

(a) Smith's Geol. Map.

A spot of bright auzure amidst this region of sable carbon, (the lime formation) is indeed conspicuous on the map.

(b) Some minor eminences as Conigre, &c. might be enumerated. These strata have been found to extend in the direction of Tividale, producing beautiful marble.

forming of a tunnel for a canal, displays, to great advantage, the interior of this rock. This excavation is, in some parts, 60 feet below the surface ; four years were employed in its formation.

The castle hill having been recently planted by the late Viscount Dudley and Ward, an agreeable promenade is formed, and its ancient wooded appearance is almost completely restored. Taking the central path leading through the ruins, a chain of lime-stone rock presents itself to view, perforated in many places by the labour of the miner.

These rocks are supposed to form the lowest calcareous formation hitherto known in the district, a circumstance analogous to the coal strata.

Dr. Booker describes four branches of subterranean canal as diverging from the basin, No. 7, in his ground plan ; one for commercial purposes, nearly two miles in length ; and three formed on the same water level, for the conveyance of lime-stone torn by explosion of gunpowder from the bowels of the earth under the neighbouring hills.

The main trunk of the canal is the connecting link between the Birmingham and Dudley navigation, extending from the neighbourhood of Netherton to Tipton. A bridge of timber over one branch of these channels, resembles that conducted over the deep gulph of the Speedwell, Derbyshire, some openings in oblique directions enliven the gloom of the cavities by affording beams of daylight.

Dr. Booker has minutely described every part of the castle demesne, not only the remains of antiquity, but the Cavern walk, Breczy seat, Dark cavern, Belle vale, Ivy bed, Green terrace, Paradise, &c. &c.

One of the cavities to which the road conducts, is a large and lofty cavern, through which the navigable tunnel extends. Pillars of lime, in form of buttresses, are left to support the cavern, giving it an appearance dissimilar to the natural cavities of Castleton, or to the long regular arch of the Speedwell mine; to which the excavations of Dudley, in other respects, have striking resemblances. (c)

On the opposite elevation to the castle hill is the Wren's nest, so called from a supposed resemblance of its exterior to the inverted nest of a bird. The intervening valley contains the site of the ancient priory, with that of a modern castellated mansion. This bold eminence, flanked by inclined strata of lime-stone, displays extensive plantation of trees, interspersed among the fissures and cavities of the rock.

The roofs of the rocks in some instances exhibit contorted strata of lime stone, differing from those of the subjacent mass. On one side is an extensive excavation of several hundred yards, in which are the light caverns.

Massive pillars of the constituent rock inclining from the exterior to the centre of the range, form the cavern into compartments, the whole producing an highly picturesque effect.

In addition to this vast quarry, producing immense quantities of lime stone, a lower tier at a profound depth is in a

(c) Castleton is entirely of natural formation. The Speedwell navigation or level, consists of a long subterranean channel, shaped by art, constructed by a commercial company, perforating the lime rock of Long cliff, and terminating in a profound abyss, which has been proved to have a latent communication with the cavern of Castleton.

course of excavation. An adit is formed on the opposite side of the hill bearing towards Sedgley and Wolverhampton.

The approach to Dudley from the latter town is of a highly picturesque description. The calcareous hills already noticed, one crowned with curious vestiges of antiquity, both clothed with timber; the town, extending over the interval between these and the long range of Rowley mountains, conjointly form a most interesting coup d' œul.

Sedgley beacon, the remotest of the range, affords, perhaps, the finest panoramic view of the South Staffordshire coal fields, with the numerous seats of industry overspreading their surface. On the western side, a more northern view of the Salopian hills, than is elsewhere obtained in this vicinity, is conspicuous to the beholder.

Nor is the foreground destitute of interest, displaying the grounds of Himley, the elevation of Penn, &c., to great advantage.

The limestone formations of Walsall and its vicinity, are supposed to be in continuity with those of Dudley, arising out of the same coal beds.

Hay head rock, about two miles from Walsall, on the road to Coleshill, a probable elongation of the Walsall, Rushall, &c. formation; is celebrated for producing a remarkably tenacious cement; buildings constructed therewith having been demolished with extreme difficulty.

The fossil productions of the Dudley lime formation, are extremely curious, many of them of rare occurrence. Mr. Payton, of Dudley, has favoured the public with the following catalogue:—

TRILOBITES.

SLABS or **FLATSTONES**, covered with a variety of Trilobites, Corallites, Madreporites, and Entrochites, with Snail, Escallop, Spiral, and other Shells.

TESTACEA, detached. Univalves. *Cornu Ammonis*, *Nautili*, *Euomphaili*, *Orthoceros*, and others.

Bivalves Anomias.—1 *Smooth*, 2 *Striated*, 3 *Dentated*.

MADREPORITES.—

1. Catenulata, or Chain Coral, (an elegant fossil.)
2. Astroites, or Star stone, ditto
3. Stellaris, or Star Coral, ditto
4. Pipe Coral, ditto
5. Turbinated Madreporite
6. Porpital ditto
7. Compound Porpital ditto

MILLEPORITE.—One species only.

TUBIPORITE.—Tubipora Ramulosa..

ALCYONITES.—1. *Fungiformed*. 2. *Elongated*.

ENCRINITES.—Lilium Lapideum, Stone Lily, or Lily-shaped Animal; several varieties of this scarce fossil.

ENTROCHITES, Trochites.

Dr. Booker enables us to extend the enumeration by additional varieties as—madroperite, truncata, fungiform, &c. Pectines, halix, and terebratulæ, are also terms designating other fossil productions of this place.

On a visit to the Wren's nest in the summer of 1831, in company with Mr. Twamley, jun. of Dudley, large fungous fossils, one weighing 37¼lbs. another 26¼lbs. occurred. Dark-coloured nodules of lime, firmly infixed in blocks of the same substance, yielding, on polishing, a beautiful marble, also attracted notice. Mr. Twamley has collected many specimens of this description, containing figures of various descriptions.

To recur to the leading articles of the catalogue.—The Trilobite will first claim attention.

This marine animal is unknown among the living inhabitants of our terrestrial globe.

Brongniart places the trilobite in a separate section, under Crustacea, his two first genera being denominated Calymene, Asaphé, &c. ; (d) to the Dudley variety, he has affixed the term Blumenbachii in honour of an eminent veteran naturalist.

Caudatus is an epithet sometimes applied to the Asaphe. Mr. Strangeways uses this term and that of capitatus to designate fossils in the vicinity of Petersburg, as also those of Dudley and South-Wales.

Pediculus marinus of Da Costa Entomolithus parodoxus, (Linneus,) Petrificatum ignotum, Conchites tribus lobis, with various other appellations, have been assigned to this class of natural productions, as Anthropomorphites, Oniseus, Monoculus, Trigonella striata of Baume. Pectunculites trilobos imbricatus of Herman.

“These fossils are found,” observes Mr. Payton, “of various colours, from white to jet black, extended upon stone, from half an inch to four and a half inches long, or coiled up and detached, from the size of a pea to that of a large walnut.”

At a few miles distance from Dudley, some fossils of this description have been found. In 1820, Mr. John Finch, of Birmingham, noticed a trilobite of the kind gene-

(d) So denominated in the Synopsis of the British Museum, 1826.

rally termed Butterfly locust, at the Hayes, it is of triangular form, similar to one represented in Nash's Worcestershire, (e) as found in the lime at Abberley.

From the county historian of Worcestershire, we learn that a *pediculus trilobos* was discovered at Hagley, together with a mass of *entrochi*. (f)

The narrator remarks, that not a morsel of lime excepting this single fossil has ever been apparent in the manor of Hagley; whereas, the site from whence this specimen was obtained was probably the quarry of calcareous breccia, or cornstone, near Thompson's seat.

Among the few localities of this scarce fossil, are Heanor, in Derbyshire, according to Mr. White Watson, who refers to an *Entomolithus*, figured by Martyn, (g) also a variety noticed

(e) Art. Aka, or Rock. In the same plate several Dudley Trilobites are figured.

Dr. Booker's "Descriptive and Historical Account of Dudley Castle, and its surrounding scenery," &c. pa. 120. exhibits specimens of the same fossil *inter alia*

(f) See also page 345, concerning an image.

(g) Martyn's Derbyshire Petrifications, in which Trilobites are said to occur in the carboniferous as well as the transition lime stone, but of different species.

Oniscites Derbiensis is the one above alluded to; another undescribed species occurs in the carboniferous limestone, near Bristol, whose transverse folds are tuberculated.

A gentleman of Dudley possessed a specimen of trilobite, to which the term *menoculus* was particularly applicable. St. Peter's mountain, near Maestricht, has been noticed as a locality of this fossil. Near Bluith, in Brecon, a variety has occurred, imbedded in hardened slate.*

Captain Laskey's descriptive catalogue of the Hunterian museum, Glasgow, contains an excellent account of it..

* In the Edinburgh Philosophical Journal, 1820, and also in a publication of Dr. Ure, the Bluith variety is represented as delicate and beautiful, differing widely from the Dudley one.

by Parkinson as differing from the Dudley, at Llanelly, in Carmarthenshire, a specimen of which is delineated by Parkinson. (h) The Shropshire lime quarries are said to produce it.

Mr. Conybeare speaks of trilobites from Sweden, and the isle of Gothland and Oeland. Germany, and the United States of America, are also noticed by Mr. Payton as localities of this fossil.

A bi-lobed fossil, sometimes of large size, is obtained from Frognal, in the south border of Derbyshire, the exterior of which has some resemblance to the trilobite.

Encrinus.—This curious fossil, the lapidified skeleton of a zoophite, according to Parkinson, having the semblance of a Lily, hence denominated the fossil plant of that genus; has been found in extraordinary perfection in the Dudley lime rocks. (i)

One of the most splendid and complete specimens of encrinus was discovered by Mr. Payton, near to Dudley Castle, A. D. 1825.

Dr. Booker, at the close of his work on Dudley Castle, has inserted a minute account of it.—“Rising from a small coralline, to which it seems rooted or attached, it exhibits a most elegant stem of unbroken form, 22 inches long, sur-

(h) Organic Remains, vol. III. pl. 17. f. 19.

(i) Minute portions of this fossil have obtained appropriate separate appellations. The vertebræ are termed St. Cuthbert's beads, that venerable bishop having composed his rosary thereof. Holy island has since been celebrated for this fossil. Fragments containing stems only, are naturally named worms.

mounted by its plume of feather-like claspers, eight inches in length from the top of the stem. These tentacula or fingers of the animal plant, delicately entwined among each other, show their particular aptitude for seizing food in all directions."

In another variety, the well-known fable of Briarius is considered as virtually realized. (k)

This author proceeds to notice the pelvis with which the animal was gifted to receive its food, and also the vertebral column or tubular spine, communicating to its very termination at the coralline upon which it is seated.

"A defect common to all specimens of this description hitherto known, is also ascribable to the principal figure of this remarkable plate, the pelvis not being visible; but a minor one rising from beneath, affixed to a similar coralline, eight inches in length, supplies the valuable desideratum, retaining its pelvis so complete, as to enable the scientific observer to form an accurate judgment of its use."

"An infant encrinus is likewise observable between the two, and to the right of the larger crest, is the vertebral column of a third, less perfect, terminating at the commencement of the pelvis."

"The number of rings in the principal specimen, exceeds 200, the whole having the appearance of braided heads; and if detached, braided they might be, every ring having a hole, about the size of a pin's head, exactly in the centre."

(k) *Dionæa*, *muscipula*, and *Priapus Polypus*, are alluded to, the former as possessing a sensitive faculty of grasping captured insects, the latter, as having the faculty of casting anchor on a shell or stone, amidst the agitation of the waves.

“ The slab of limestone upon which these beautiful phenomena repose, (and most probably have reposed, ever since ‘ the fountains of the great deep were broken up,’ at the deluge,) is three feet two inches long, 18 inches wide, averaging one inch thick, weighing 53 pounds.”

“ Where these exquisite figures branch not over the stone, it is covered with madrepores of various kinds, corallines of different descriptions, and testaceous substances, many of them finely striated.” (1) In 1825. Mr. Payton published, (together with two plates of Trilobites, exhibiting single specimens in various forms, and congeries of the same expanded on slabs, with intervening testaceous figures,)

“ *Actinocrinites Monileformis.*”

This plate is accompanied by descriptive references.

The general view of the principal specimen is here reduced to one half, the original being 38 inches by 18.

The representation comprehends also portions both of the upper and lower joints of the column, and two heads of the Lily, alluding to its botanical semblance. Parkinson describes a specimen of this description inferior to the present one, having in its plumose or crown part, only, 26,680 pieces, exclusive of the vertebral column.

(1) “ Fossils,” observes an ingenious author, “ are the medals of nature.

Slabs, plates, engravings, (if the latter terms be allowable,) of Dudley fossils, are not only gratifying to the superficial observer, but from their infinite variety of figure, and rich display of animal and mineralized remains; may be justly termed valuable geological lessons, inviting the future investigations of the naturalist.

Reposing on their appropriate pile, in the writer’s garden, many of their latent beauties remained unknown during several years. A friend unexpectedly noticed on one of these fragments, the strawberry trilobite, a very scarce variety of minute size. Each of its lobes resembled the white fruit of that name, the central one more than doubling in dimension those on the two sides.

The last mineralized fossil proposed to be selected from the catalogue, for the purpose of description, is the

Cornu-Ammonis, Ammonite, or Snake stone.—This curious production is of rare occurrence among the calcareous rocks of Dudley.

The figure of Jupiter Ammon, with cornuted head, points out the derivation of this term. (m) Many varieties of it exist in different parts of the kingdom, and elsewhere.

Ammonite, together with Nautilus, is found at Whitby, Yorkshire, and at Keynsham between Bath and Bristol; St. Hilda, at the former place, and St. Keyna at the latter, having been reported to have delivered their vicinities from venomous serpents, entombing the reptiles in their own marble monuments.

Bredon-hill, Worcestershire, particularly at Kearsway, on its western declivity; Bengworth, adjoining Evesham, in a quarry of lias; and hills in the direction of Winchcomb, are localities of this fossil. (n) To the west, the counties of Wilts and Dorset, produce magnificent specimens. Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire also afford them in abundance.

Mr. White, in his "Natural History of Selbourne, Hants," describes the Ammonite, and also Nautuli and Pectines as prevalent there.

(m) *Tortis cornibus Ammon.*—Lucan.

(n) The former site produced a very distinct specimen, the latter, broken fragments of very large snakes. The animal appears to have no living analogue in the present days. Portland, and the shores of Weymouth bay, exhibit immense masses of stone with those figures in relief and some partially and permanently imbedded in the prevailing rock.

Pairs of *Cornu Ammonis*, some containing in their coils extraneous petrifications and spars, frequently adorn the portals of gentlemens' houses in the west of England, 200 varieties are enumerated by naturalists.

The variety prevalent near to the Dhawala, on the White mountains, in India, is worshiped by the Hindus under the name of Sala-grami.—“Annals of Philosophy,” also, “Picture of India.”

An interesting topic remains for consideration; the continuity, and relative positions of other calcareous formations. Taking a cursory survey of the northern formations, emanating from Dudley, as a centre; the Moorlands of Staffordshire, particularly Weaver-hill, meet the eye.

The lime rocks of Derbyshire, part of the midland range, contain most of the mineral substances of that rich district. The counties of York, Durham, Northumberland, and other northern provinces, produce lime, while on the N. E. are Nottingham, Leicester, &c., (o) extending to the E. boundary, of the confines of Warwickshire. In the opposite direction, the formations of N. Wales and Salop.

Pursuing the course of calcareous formations to the south, glancing at the same time over the eastern and western borders of the kingdom, the sides of the Rowley hills afford some strata of this description, as was proved by tunnelling on the excavation of the Netherton canal; marine vestiges were at the same time discovered.

In a valley between Oldbury and Halesowen, a limestone quarry was opened some years ago, but discontinued on account of the inferior quality of the material.

It behoves us particularly to notice the lime rocks of the Hayes, as being the principal ones in the immediate neigh-

(o) The magnesian lime of this county extends from Bredon-hill, and Stockingford, near Hinckley, to the banks of the Trent near Burton.

bourhood of Stourbridge, more especially, as the locality is little known, and as the strata are supposed to have an extensive latent elongation. (p)

The rock crossing the turnpike road from Stourbridge to Halesowen and Birmingham, has a visible extension to Oldenhall, (q) Ludley, and other parts of the neighbourhood. That extending in the direction of Netherend Cradley, is very deeply rooted, and produces, at considerable depth, a bright blue lime stone in which are found the minor trilobite already alluded to, and several shell fossils sometimes displayed on large slabs of stone.

In the heart of the lime rock Pyrites is sometimes discovered, solid, radiated, in balls, and chrystallizing the exterior of the stone. On eminences intervening between the

(p) See also pa. 97.

(q) Some peculiarities in the position of this calcareous ridge may be here noticed, together with the various produce of the adjacent mines and quarries. Mines of coal, ironstone, and clay, surround the promontory of the Hayes.

Arising out of a tract of country extending from Barrow-hill to this place, considered by Mr. Yates, as in a great degree occupied by greenstone rock, on which the clay and other substances repose; in paralellism with the Hayes limestone, and contiguous to the village of the Lye Waste at its eastern extremity; is a very remarkable bed of pebbles quarried as a gravel pit. Mr. Yates, to whom the writer showed this formation a few years ago, observes, that the pebbles of quartz rock are similar to those of Bromsgrove Lickey, which, when struck with a hammer, fall in flakes from the sides of the pit, dividing by cleavages coincident with the greenstone flakes.

These substances, with an exterior appearance of solidity, are of inferior quality to their counter parts at the Lickey, this is supposed to be ascribable to their agglutination with trap.

Some quartz pebbles are however observed here in a state of purity equal to those diffused over the sandy tract. In the adjacent pits bearing to the east, Cone Coralloid, (conestone) in large masses, has occurred, with ironstones of various kinds.

Hayes and Hagley, particularly Hodge-hill, calcareous breccia, of cellular texture is observable.

The continuity of these calcareous strata, not only with those of Dudley and exterior formations ; but also with Bristol, &c., in the opposite direction, has been maintained by some. Without assenting to such an assertion, we may take a superficial glance at such consecutive localities as observation may present to view.

Leaving to the west the hills of Abberley, as also the quarries at Shatterford, on the road from Kidderminster to Bridgnorth ; the calcareous breccia of Hagley, (cornstone,) demands attention. (r)

This substance, sometimes called Hagley rag, is prevalent in several parts of the neighbourhood, as at Frankley, and in four or five quarries on the Lickey range.

Brickwood, near Shatterford, is noticed as a locality, as also Trimpley green. Two of the pillars forming the Druid's temple, on Clent-hill, hewn out of this rag, have been noticed under Hagley. The Lickey hills are represented by Dr. Buckland, as exhibiting small calcareous fragments, yet forming an important link with those of Dudley, Shatterford, Abberley, &c.

Shatterford formation, intervening between Dudley and Wenlock edge, is unnoticed in Smith's map. Abberley range,

(r) Alberbury, on the road from Shrewsbury to Welsh Pool, has a quarry of this conglomerate. Herefordshire, according to Dr. Buckland, produces it plentifully. This geologist describes the cornstone, as resulting from the union of calcareous concretions with marlstone, resembling, in structure, the verd-antique, and some of the Sienna and African marbles, of which the fragments have never been submitted to the process of rolling.

extending almost from Teme to Severn, once formed the boundary of the Wiccian territory.—Mag. Brit.

According to Mr. Brande, this formation crosses the triangle of the coal district, commencing at Newport; and passing by Wenlock edge and Mock-forest, to Mock-tree hills, in the vicinity of Bedstone.

“A vein extends from Pensax, near Abberley, to Ledbury.—Beaut. Eng. Walcs.”

Proceeding southward, the hills of Cotswold, approximating to Bengworth and Evesham, with Bredon hill, and various lias beds in the intermediate distances, &c. offer numerous localities. Malvern range, on the west, is flanked by similar formations.

From the region of Cotswold to the cities of Bath and Bristol, calcareous formations are prevalent. Taking the route of Rodborough, Petty France, &c., curious cellular fragments occur on the sides of the road. This oolitic formation extends from Cotswold to Bath, when it assumes the name of Bath stone, the beautiful material of which that city is built.

From Gloucester to Bristol extends an elevated limestone ridge, commanding the broad estuary of the Severn, with the mountains of Glamorgan, Monmouth, and Brecon, and their beauteous vales. The celebrated rocks of St. Vincent forming a magnificent approach from the channel to the port of Bristol, are too well known to require a description. (s)

Opposite to that of Bristol is the vast formation of South

(s) Gems, spars, fossils, chrystals, &c. pervading these rocks, are innumerable.

Wales, bordering the great coal district. Both divisions of the principality contain extensive formations of lime. That connected with Milford haven, and the counties bordering on Pembroke, yields incalculable supplies; while the range, commencing in the vicinity of Oswestry, having various ramifications into Flint, Derby, Salop, &c.; is also of immense extent.

To pursue the lime strata through the provinces of the west and south of England, including the chalky cliffs of Albion, and the opposite corresponding strata on the territory of France, (t) with innumerable ramifications, extending to distant countries; would be too arduous a task, yet some brief notices of geological facts connected therewith, are subjoined below.

The general prevalence of lime throughout the world has often been the theme of the geologist. Various localities in

(t) Many authors are of opinion, that Britain and France were once united, and that an irruption of the sea swept away the connecting mass, at a very remote period. Mr. Greenough observes, that the formations of France recur in the islands of Jutland, Zealand, and Rugen. Mr. Phillips represents Honiton, Devon, as a point whence the chalk formation commences, extending N. E. through Norfolk and Lincolnshire, to Flamborough, interrupted only by the course of the Humber. Another range issuing from the same point, is described as passing through Purbeck and the centre of the Isle of Wight.

A third, originating at Hungerford, Berks, is noticed as extending by Alton and Rochester to the coast of Kent, its natural section forming the cliffs between Folkstone and Deal. The same author remarks that the sands, clay, &c., within the triangle of which Cromer, Hungerford, and Margate, are the extreme points, lie in an immense hollow in the chalk basin of London.

Brongniart and Cuvier found this basin to agree with the Isle of Wight and Paris basins. The ferruginous cliffs of Hastings, said to have corresponding strata on the opposite coast, present a curious contrast to the white rocks by which they are inclosed on each side.

Scotland and Ireland might be dwelt upon, as the Sutherland and Caithness mountains, Ayrshire, Isley isle, &c., in the former country; the plain of Dublin, vicinity of Belfast, &c., &c., in the latter part of the kingdom.

“The pellucid streams of Ireland, blue as the heavens they reflect, and curling in white pure foam over the rocks that impede them,” are described in “Trotter’s walks through Ireland;” as possessing uncommon beauty. Of such character is the Slaney, at Eniscorthy, nor does the Shannon yield to any stream in the beauty of its colour. The walls and towers of Limerick hang over its azure waves.

From Limestone, we pass to another principal formation, occupying a considerable portion of the tract under description,

Basalt.

The Rowley range of hills forms the principal feature, though not, as sometimes supposed, the only one of trap formation in this part of the country. (u) These hills rising to the height of 900 feet above the level of the Thames, at Brentford, as ascertained by canal levels, extend likewise to unknown depths, a characteristic, as before intimated, of the calcareous rocks at the point, taking Dudley for a centre.

Like other basaltic eminences, these are generally flat topped, seldom rising into natural peaks. Throughout the range, the basalt or trap of the Swedish mineralogist is prevalent. (v)

(u) Minor formations generally unnoticed will hereafter be described.

(v) From trap, a ladder, in the language of Sweden, to which basaltic

The presence of the loadstone in the vicinity of Rowley, is noticed by Dr. Plot, as exemplified 1680, in the deviation of the needle from its point, when an agent of Lord Ward's was employed in measuring land at the lower Moors.

Compass hill, and a rock in the harbour of Canna, in the Hebrides, are noticed by Dr. E. D. Clarke, as phænomena of the same description.

Dr. Mc Cullock observes, "that the disturbance of the magnetic needle is common to all basaltic countries." Castle

rocks bear, occasionally, some resemblance. Whinstone, Ferrilite, Variolite, Mandelstain, (German) are terms applied to this substance.

ANALYSIS.

<i>Klaproth.</i>		<i>Kidd.</i>		<i>Withering.</i> <i>Rowley Rag.</i>	
Silica	44 50	47	5	Silecious earth	475
Alumina.....	16 75	32	5		
Lime	9 50			Argillaceous ditto	325
Magnesia	2 25				
Soda	2 60			Calx of iron	200
Oxide of iron.....	20 00	20			
Ditto of manganese ..	12				
Water.....	2 00			Specific Gravity,	
Loss	2 28			2 86	
	<hr/> 100	<hr/> 99	<hr/> 10		<hr/> 1000

Pliny Nat. Hist. lib. 37, chap. 17, speaks of basalt a black marble, having the colour and hardness of iron. The igneous origin of basalt, is maintained by Professor Playfair, in his "Illustrations of the Huttonian Theory," though this learned author distinguishes it from lava, the latter not presenting to view, on cooling slowly, carbonate of lime, calcareous spar, and zeolite, concomitants of whin; moreover, the physical geography of whinstone countries, is represented as unlike to that of volcanic ones; the graduated terraces, with perpendicular faces, the correspondence of their heights at considerable distances, exhibiting nothing similar to the irregular torrents of volcanic lavas. This author proceeds to distinguish these stony bodies, by designating basalt a subterraneous un-erupted lava.

The experiments of Sir James Hall, and Mr. Gregory Watt, noticed

Simple, Renfrewshire, is described in the "Traveller's Guide through Scotland," as a magnetic rock, affecting the compass 150 yards round.

Basalt, here, as elsewhere, occupies a district of argillaceous surface, though it is sometimes interspersed through other formations.

Fragments of this stone are here frequently seen in a friable decomposing state enveloped in their own dissolving elements. Roach is a mixture of clay and decomposing rag. A fertile soil is produced by this disintegration. Masses of rock, at considerable distances from the mountains, exhibit this appearance, in different degrees of erosion.

The Rev. James Yates considers many of the rugged protuberances of this neighbourhood as decomposing trap; to the formation of Clent and Walton hills, this author assigns the names of porphyritic and amygdaloidal trap, more or less decomposed, the solid rock not being visible, and the soil to the depth of two or three feet, and also the surface, abounding in angular fragments of this substance.

page 151, have been applied to the process of basaltic fusion, and are considered as favouring the opinion, that these rocks have been formed by subterranean or submarine fires.

On the other hand, the incumbency of basalt on coal, in the isle of Mull, is adduced as a strong proof that it is not of volcanic origin, and dissimilar to lava.*

Whinstone, according to Mr. Whitehurst, may be considered as a certain indication of coal in the county of Antrim. From one striking instance of its incumbency upon coal, he infers a similar formation in other parts of Ireland, and in various countries; though from the effects of subterraneous convulsions, he thinks, this arrangement may not universally prevail.

* Traveller's Guide through Scotland, II. 207.

Mr. Pitt, (w) speaking of the Rowley hills, considers them as one insulated mountain, consisting of various peaks. Admitting Turner's hill to be a volcanic crater, a Vesuvian character is given to the elevation. Moreover, if the apparently independent trap formations of the vicinity may be supposed to arise from one vast deep-rooted succumbent mass of basalt; a formation of vast magnitude falls under observation.

Rowley hills, according to Mr. Keir, are eleven in number. Commencing with the nearest to Dudley, and following the line by him described, viz. a S. E. direction from that town (x) to the parish of Halesowen, where they terminate; he designates them by the following names, copied by other authors, "Corney or Cawney, Tansley, Bare, Cook's-Rough, Ash or Cox's-Rough, Turner's, Pearl, Hailstone, Timmin's, Rowley, and Whitworth." As this list of names excludes several which are to be found in published maps, particularly those which bear east towards Oldbury; and as some eminences presented themselves to view during repeated perambulations which do not appear in the enumeration; it may not be improper to report the result of personal observation.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

Dudley hills, geologically, of the Rowley range.

I. Corney or Cawney, third in elevation. (y) A quarry of trap, W. of the hill, and fronting the road from Dudley to Rowley,

(w) Agricultural Survey of Staffordshire, quoted by Shaw, Staff. II. 240, art. Rowley.

(x) The range from Dudley, S. E. may be termed the main trunk, the projection due E. the branch; the former may be said to terminate near to Halesowen, the latter near Oldbury.

(y) See Sheriff's map of the vicinity of Birmingham, Shaw's Staff., &c.

exhibits stone deeply imbedded in clay. This hill approximates to the limestone ones. It is a populous precinct of Dudley.

II. Tansley (z) has also a quarry.

STAFFORDSHIRE PORTION.

III. Bare. Though this rocky eminence presents to view part of a rugged peak rising above surrounding plantations, yet it is only through a narrow avenue that a slight glimpse of its base and interior excavations can be discerned from the fore-mentioned high road.

Quarries on two different levels display beautiful specimens of the columnar basaltic formation. The pillars of the lower level at the base of the rock are nearly horizontal but dip to the east; those of the higher one rising nearly to the middle of the hill are almost vertical, springing from the east but slightly waving towards the opposite point.

This hill having its northern side hewn away by quarrying, exhibits an almost vertical section of basaltic formation. This part assumes the appearance of a conical peak, varying from the flat topped surrounding summits.

From an open space formed by the junction of the Dudley, Rowley, and Oldbury roads,

IV. Hodgetts.

V. Whitehouse, and

VI. Woodhouse, are conspicuous.

As these appellations take their rise rather from the designations of their proprietors, than from permanent local characters; some perplexity is experienced in the course of en-

(z) Also in maps.

quiries. It is conjectured that the last mentioned of the three bearing west to the frontier of the range, may be Cook's Rough, especially as the term "Rough hill" appears in a map to be so situated, (a) a branch issuing from the centre of the range bearing towards Oldbury.

Pursuing the line of road branching out from the main track already alluded to, another series of hills rises to view, as

VII. Cox's Rough, or Ash, Derby's hill, according to Shaw's and Sheriff's map. Though this eminence is a little devious from the road to Oldbury, yet as it is situated in the rear of the first enumerated, and stands fifth in Mr. Keir's list, it seems proper to introduce it in this place.

Cox's Rough, adopting the most popular term, overlooks from its northern declivity, the village of Tipton, (the road from Dudley to Birmingham through West Bromwich intervening.) Amidst the shade formed by the rough, (a provincial term for a plantation bordering the side of a hill,) two basaltic quarries are apparent, the lower one near to the base, the upper rather below the middle of the slope.

A fine example of the aggregated large quadrilateral basaltic masses, with perpendicular and horizontal joints, standing on their edges, generally inclined to N. W. here presents itself, exactly coinciding with the representations of the Swedish mineralogists.

VIII. Oakham, (second in elevation.)

Resuming the point of junction with respect to the three roads, and bearing towards Oldbury, leaving Cox's on the left, the hills of Oakham, Whitehurst, and Wright's soon become apparent.

(a) Map of Dudley and Netherton canal.

Oakham hill, unlike its congeners, (b) rises in a sharp conical summit near to the centre of the chain. The Sugar-loaf point occasionally rises to view, in viewing the outlines of the Rowley range from the subjacent district of Worcestershire. A gentleman's house, with numerous cottages, forming the village of Oakham, are scattered over the surface of the hill.

IX. Whitehouse.

This hill, overlooking the valley in which Oldbury is situated, has on its escarpment, about 60 feet in height fronting to the east, a large quarry exhibiting a complete section, consisting of a lofty, and most magnificent cluster of basaltic columns, little or no articulation, however, is observable in their component parts. (c) Many of the strata are vertical, consisting of rude pillars with five or more sides, and pebbles, both globular and loaf-shaped, imbedded in soft clay, some enveloped by a friable detritus. Large quadrilateral masses are also observable, consisting of bright blue basalt and square laminar plates.

X. Wright's, abutting towards Oldbury.

This eminence, as well as the preceding one, affords a fine prospect to the east, commanding an extensive valley full of manufactories, opposite to which the tor of Warley, with accompanying elevations rise to view. Barr-beacon,

(b) Excepting Tansley, which has the pyramidal form, as also Cawney, decidedly in exterior appearance of volcanic character, according to Dr. Booker.

(c) In respect to crystallization of basalt, Mr. Keir points out a resemblance between that of the Rowley hills and the pillars of the Giant's Causeway, the isle of Staffa, and the extinct volcanoes of Auvergne; remarking that similar ones have also been traced in Etna and Vesuvius.

To recur to the crystallizations above described, Bare hill presents the largest pillars; the three most conspicuous ones having sides each about one foot in width. Those of Whitehouse hill are not more than half that size.

though separated by intervening plains, appears to constitute a part of the chain.

Though neither quarry nor section of any other kind disclose to observation the internal contents of this eminence, yet numerous blocks of trap prevail over its verdant surface sufficiently indicative of its hidden treasures. Wright's hill may be termed a promontory, branching from the breast work terminating the eastern range, consisting of Cox's and Whitehouse hills. This is most conspicuous from the road from Halesowen to Birmingham.

Returning to the triple junction of roads, and resuming the perambulation to the S. E. we arrive at

XI. Turner's hill, the apex of the range. (d)

On the summit of this eminence a large concavity, having the form and appearance of a crater, has induced some mineralogists to infer the volcanic character of the mountain.

Indications of this kind have been considerably obliterated by the free use recently made of the quarry, the contents of which have been transferred to Birmingham for the repair of the public streets. It has been suggested, that, at the base of this hill, a narrow vein of stone of considerable extent discovered on sinking pits at Netherton, was probably a stream of lava.

In pa. 93, a comparison has been made between this upland concavity and the subterranean basin containing fire clay at the Lye and its vicinity.

It may not be improper, in this place, to offer some addi-

(d) A series, according to altitude, would commence with Turner's, adding Oakham, Cawney, &c. the first and last of which are in Greenwood's map of Staffordshire.

tional remarks to those already inserted pa. 428 on the nature of the substance composing the greater part of these hills. (e)

Dr. E. D. Clarke, in his description of Vesuvius, notices a "narrow fissure in the solid lava of the cone of the mountain, the sides of which were smooth and compact, being destitute of that porous appearance which the superficies of lava exhibits when it has cooled under exposure to atmospheric air, resembling the most solid trap or basalt."

Dr. Daubeney, professor of Chemistry at Oxford, observes, that "volcanic and trap rocks appear to be analogous to each other." This author also remarks, that "the rocks of Veley and Vivarais, west of the Rhone, are unstratified; and that a substance here occurs which is a connecting link between lava and trap rock." (f)

(e) Properties of Rowley-rag.

Colour, grayish black; fracture, small, conchoidal, nearly even, with here and there a little tendency to the splintery.

Lustre, glimmering, owing to very small black crystals being interspersed, apparently prisms, indicated by their lustre to be angite, but their colour being black, more probably hornblende. Moreover, this basalt is opaque, brittle, not easily frangible, its fragments sharp-edged, so that it is with difficulty formed into paving stones; it is sufficiently hard to cut glass, and to strike fire with steel; fusible by the blow-pipe, becoming magnetic when heated in an open fire, losing three per cent of its weight.

Mr. Yates gives a summary of the detached trap formations of this immediate district, enumerating those near Bewdley, Clent, and in the vicinity of Dudley, including West-Bromwich, and extending to Overend, Cradley.

(f) Description of active and extinct volcanoes.—"Lectures at Oxford." Basalt, granite, and porphyry, are here considered as primary rocks. Numerous examples of columnar crystallization might be adduced—as those of ferruginous grit, columnar iron-stone,* iron remaining at the bottom of a furnace, of which a curious specimen is preserved in the Royal collection at Stockholm. On examining the scoriæ from iron smelting furnaces, conical specimens of columnar construction have been noticed by the writer. Graphite pillars of small size have been observed at Cunnock and Sanquhar, N. Britain.

* Found at Wednesbury and at Ketley, Salop.

In "Scrope's Geology of central France," the intermixture of granitic and basaltic rocks, lava, &c., at the last-named places, is noticed.

Desmart attributes the origin of basalt found near Auvergne, to volcanic matter.

"Basalt," in antediluvian fragments, according to Dr. Ure, "pervaded the primeval world through every period of its duration."

On examining a narrow channel, forming a communication between the reservoir of the Netherton canal, and the canal itself at the foot of the hill, a complete breccia, (g) different in its nature from the rolled pebbles of that substance prevalent in the sandy district, presented itself to view, the pebbles inclining to angular. (h)

XII. Pearl.

This elevation, not generally recognized in the neighbour-

(g) Mr. Scrope gives the name of Peperino, (Italian) to volcanic conglomerate, owing its formation to a subaqueous volcanic eruption, while the calcareous sediments were yet soft.

(h) Rev. James Yates found a breccia of coarser grain than this on the opposite declivity of the Rowley range, viz. on Barnford hill, the pebbles of which consist chiefly of encrinal limestone, sometimes accompanied by others of quartz and hornstone. The cement is sometimes calcareous spar, and sometimes sandstone.

This range of coarse conglomerate is described as commencing "two miles south of Oldbury, and extending about a quarter of a mile, in a direction nearly north and south; having an abrupt western declivity, facing the hills and village of Rowley. The strata are said to rise on this side at a high angle, their inclination decreasing as they pass eastward. The termination southward is in red sandstone, near Brand Hall."

"The same conglomerate is seen in the bed of the brook at Oldbury; and the principal head of this stream, called Lady well, is remarkably clear and copious, like the springs of limestone countries."

hood under the above appellation, is one of the triple group already described as contiguous to the junction of roads.

XIII. Hailstone.

This curious rock, adjoining to the highest of the chain, presents a bold feature on the western frontier. It consists of a vast cubical pillar abutting against a lofty acclivity. (i) Surrounding it on all sides, and scattered in great profusion through the copice which spreads over the slope, and strewed in multiform fragments at its base; are innumerable blocks of the constituent substance forming the subject of this memoir.

Dr. Plot considers this stupendous pillar as a work of art, resembling the wonderful masses exhibited in the ancient structure of Stonehenge, but this idea is evidently erroneous. In many of the rude clustered masses contiguous to the pillar, some degree of crystallization is observable.

XIV. Timmins.

Though this term is not generally acknowledged by the inhabitants of the vicinity, yet from its relative position to the eighth and ninth of Mr. Keir's enumeration, the Windmill hill of modern times may be assigned to the intervening one of Timmins. (j)

XV. Rowley.

The distinctive appellation of Rowley, proper, accurately designates the elevation, on which the parish church, surrounded by a populous manufacturing village, becomes an object of distant perspective through an extensive tract of country.

(i) From this hill to the southern extremity of the range, a second gradation takes place in the height of the ridge.

(j) Mr. Alsop, resident on the spot, calls this hill Blower's, probably the name of some former proprietor.

XVI. Whitworth,

contiguous to Rowley, and bearing to the east, is another emanation from the main trunk. It overlooks the circuitous road branching from the southern extremity of the range, viz. Mincing lane, extending over Blake heath, (recently inclosed,) and approaches the Salopian border of the hills.—Within its limit is Portway, with a mansion bearing the same name. (k)

MINOR FORMATIONS.

Barrow hills, (l) Kingswinford, a less elevated range, have been described, pa. 135, as falling within the topographical limits assigned to this work. These hills, (tumuli, according to some authors,) are composed of a bright blue basalt, “similar in lustre to that of Rowley, and resembling the Arran pitchstone, but softer, yielding a gray streak and a black, but not porous enamel.”

Other products are, “a greenstone, (m) resembling that of Salisbury craigs, fine grained, and containing small crystals of augite, masses of variously coloured wacke, veins of calcareous spar, both rhomboidal and fibrous, with quartz, hornstone, and sulphate of barytes in long six-sided tables.” (n)

At the distance of about half a mile from hence, near to the commencement of the turnpike road leading from Dudley

(k) Two opposite promontories are termed Derby’s hill, (a name already assigned to another of the peaks,) probably derived from the name of a family, whose mansion is conspicuous on the summit; and Aust hill.

(l) See art. Kingswinford.

(m) A green-coloured trap occurs at Wolverhampton, amidst the accumulated stores of materials for repairing the highways, which is said to be obtained from the neighbourhood of Rowley. The pavements of that town, particularly after plentiful showers, exhibit beautiful specimens of glossy green pieces of stone.

(n) Yates Geol. Trans.

to Bridgnorth, and at a short distance from a large quarry of Porcelain jasper, (the produce of a pseudo-volcano or wild fire,) is the Grave yard colliery, exhibiting a trap rock, of columnar formation. (o)

The pillars, which are of a wavy inclination, as well as numerous glebes constituent and intermingled, are generally of a friable texture, tending to decomposition. In this respect, there is great disparity between the substance of this rock and that of Barrow hills—although it may seem appurtenant to the latter.

The trap, in the language of the miners, cuts the coal field, impeding their subterranean operations. The rock presents an angle of about 70 degrees with the horizon.

On the 9th of August, 1825, piles of whinstone, placed by the side of the road from Dudley to the Lye, Pedmore, and Bromsgrove, attracted notice, as consisting of trap, similar, in some respects, to that of Rowley, Barrow hill, &c., yet differing therefrom in some of its qualities.

The site from whence these boulders and glebes were obtained, was found to be near the base of Netherton hill, (p) not far from the lodge adjoining the coppice in which the salt well is situated. The lower part of this eminence on the western side is severed from its mass by the cutting of the narrow channel of the Dudley and Netherton canal.

Contiguous to the towing path, and nearly opposite to the Level iron works, is a large field with a knoll rising in the

(o) Contiguous to the vertical rock of trap, is one of the stone termed Gornal.

(p) This part of the Netherton elevation is termed Primrose hill in Sheriff's map.

middle of yellowish brown hue, while its borders exhibit a clay soil, inclining to white. On this small eminence rested fragments and glebes of trap of various size, though a demand for forty-two cart loads had nearly exhausted the produce of the field. The glebes had uniformly a ferruginous exterior, many were enclosed in crusts of decomposing detritus, but the central balls were perfectly sound.

One boulder had a slight semblance of a very rude irregularly-formed five-sided pillar. The points of difference between this stone and those of Rowley, about three miles distant, and Barrow hill, not quite so far, were first, a dull hue, inclining to black, (q) greatly inferior in lustre to the rag of the above-mentioned formations; second, a toughness, in contrast to the brittle nature of Rowley basalt. All the pieces of stone hitherto obtained have either been gathered on the surface of the knoll, or dug out of the soil at very shallow depths; their removal being partly occasioned by a desire to facilitate the operations of the plough.

Whether the ferruginous admixture with the natural soil of the spot which partially distinguishes the surface of the field, with the fragments of trap incumbent thereon, be not indicative of a solid rock concealed beneath may admit of an interesting enquiry.

Cradley-heath. (r)

On perambulating this tract in the summer of 1825, basalt exactly similar to that of the Rowley hills occurred in an ex-

(q) One fragment on the canal bank without the boundary of the field, had a hue inclining to blue. The cleavage of this stone presents a granular appearance, sometimes a resemblance of Toadstone.—See Conybeare.

(r) An appellation totally incorrect, as the tract is now inclosed, and is situated within the parish of Rowley, being proximate to the hills bearing the name.

cavation occasioned by the formation of a rail road from the precincts of Cradley town to Newtown. This circumstance proves the existence of trap to the west of the hills.—Coal certainly intervenes.

Pouck hill, near Bentley, in the vicinity of Walsall.
This formation appears to have attracted notice at an earlier period than some others in the neighbourhood, as Dr. Plot "Staff." speaks of this basalt as similar to that of Rowley. Martin in his "Description of England, 1763," calls it "a black marble, too hard for the tools of the artist."

Observations made on the spot by the Rev. James Yates, and Mr. John Finch, of Birmingham, (s) have appeared before the public, from which we learn, that the hill is in the centre of a trap formation crossing this part of the country, exactly similar to that of Rowley, ten miles distant, but unconnected therewith.

The rock represented in the plate annexed, is described as a fault, containing decomposing basalt, radiated zeolite, (mesotype of Haiiy,) and prehnite, imbedded in sulphate of barytes, the latter substance being both in a loose, and in a crystallized state. (t)

(s) Thompson's Annals of Philosophy, XII. 134. See also Shaw's Staff. II. 95.

(t) The basaltic Cyclops, three rocks near to Catania, noticed by Pliny, seem to have some of the characteristics in common with the formation here described. These Sicilian rocks, supposed parts of Etna, or partial eruptions of similar origin, are described by Spallanzani as containing vertical prismatic columns like the Giant's Causeway.

Dolomieu found on their surfaces, and even in the middle of their substances in pores and cavities, Zeolites of great beauty and variety. These stones, after the congealation of their lava, in the opinion of this philosopher, derived their origin from the water which filtered through the basalt, holding in solution particles proper for the production of zeolite.—Gent. Mag. Jan. 1823, with a plate.

The hill itself of rugged aspect, is highly curious on examination, presenting a clustre of pillars, composed of articulated crystals. Birchill's colliery, on the north, produces woodstone, and several curious fossils.

This basaltic formation is also described by Mr. Aikin, as "consisting of a narrow hillock of greenstone, extending a mile in length, and varying in breadth, from half a mile to forty yards." At the point of it is Pouck-hill, above mentioned.

Bradley, near Bilston.

This formation is also described by Mr. Finch, (u) as consisting of a bed of trap about 80 yards in length, and 30 in width, inclosing crystals of hornblende, and having the same tendency to assume the polygonal form, and to decompose in spheroidal masses, as the Rowley rag.

At the distance of five miles from the Rowley hills, and totally unconnected with them, the substance of this formation is said to be exactly similar to their contents. It is also added, that the collieries in the intervening space are not cut through any corresponding bed of trap; and that no elevation is perceptible in this tract, though a slight declivity of ground is obvious on the western side, which it appears to follow.

On visiting Bradley, 1824, information was received of basalt being found in a new mine in this neighbourhood, 80 feet below the level of Rowley hills, and 20 or more beneath coal.

Two specimens were obtained of the produce of a neighbouring mine, which might be termed greenstone. Porcelain

(u) Annals of Philosophy, XI. 342.

Jasper was scattered in profusion over the tract containing an extensive wild fire. Examining the singular sandy formation, crossing the road from Bilston to Wednesbury, at Moxley, a mass of basalt bassetting from the sand rock, was observable.

Shatterford.

The road from Kidderminster to Bridgnorth, crosses a trap formation, belonging to which is a basaltic dyke, near to Over Arley, the seat of the Earl of Mountnorris.

Lickey.

A small projecting mass of trap rock, approaching to the nature of wacke, is spoken of by Professor Buckland, as situated "at the base of the south-east extremity of the quartzose ridge of the Lower Lickey range, so totally covered with soil and grass, that neither its extent nor relative position can be accurately ascertained, visible only in three small fields, in one of which there occurs also an old quarry of transition lime-stone, exactly similar to that of Dudley. (v)

Taking a more extensive circuit, we have various formations of trap in the northern counties of England. Northumberland and Durham abound in rocks and dykes of this description. (w)

A vast assemblage of pillars occur in Teesdale, at the head of the river, accompanied by successive cataracts; and

(v) Trans. Geol. Soc.

(w) Near to Newcastle-upon-Tyne, basalt is said to be bounded by charcoal. In the course of the dyke extending from Bolam in Durham, to Ayton in Yorkshire, Mr. Baily describes the coal as assuming the appearance of coke or cinder. From the fact of the coal being injured where the basaltic matter comes into contact with it, Mr. Bakewell infers, that the latter was once in a state of fusion, forcing a passage for its eruption, where the dyke rises through an incumbent stratum of coal.

another interrupts the course of the stream, called High or Mickel force, near to Crankley fell, exhibiting a cataract of 56 feet in height.

In Derbyshire, the formations of Cave valley, near Castleton and Miller's dale, invite the researches of the geologist. The toadstone, prevalent in the mines of this country, is considered as a variety of trap.

To the east are various Leicestershire localities, as that of Barrow hill, supposed to extend to Charnwood, Croft hill, &c. from which the Warwickshire ones, Atherstone, &c., are not very remote. (x)

Cambrian and Salopian basaltic mountains in the opposite direction rise to view.

Snowdon, Cader-Idris, with the Pembrokehire rocks, Standard hill, near Welsh Pool, Breidden, the site of Montgomery Castle, and doubtless many others form parts of the series. The trap formation of Shropshire is of considerable extent, constituting the great mass, not only of Wrekin, but also of Caer-Caradoc, with its satellites Lawley and Hope, Bowdler, the latter, accompanied by rocks of quartz. (y)

The hilly country, about a mile to the north of Church Stretton, terminates the trap range; not far from hence is the ridge of Baseton hill, near Shrewsbury, reaching to a considerable extent, from N. E. to S. W.

The mountains of Clee, some account of which is intro-

(x) Yates' Memoir.

(y) The term porphyritic might be applied to the mass of which the Wrekin is principally composed, as also to that of Pontesford hill, a specimen of which is in the writer's possession.

duced pa. 304, exhibit a magnificent parallel to those of Rowley, a space of 30 miles intervening. In respect to awful grandeur resulting from violent convulsions of nature, and rude vestiges of antiquity, they are vastly superior to the Staffordshire range.

Mr. Bakewell visited this spot in 1811, who observes that the Titterstone hill contains a mass of basalt 50 or 60 yards in thickness concealed under its surface, its exterior is covered over with the immense blocks alluded to above.

Round the hill he found coal fields in basin-shaped concavities dipping towards a centre. This author also describes a basaltic dyke more than 100 yards wide, which intersected the coal fields, and rising from an unknown depth, appears to have forced a part of the coal to the surface, converting it into soot.

Abberley hills are described as principally composed of transition lime stone, capped by basaltic peaks.—“*Outlines.*” The hills of Malvern are considered as trap formations. On visiting the Worcestershire beacon, 1823, the apex of a rock of this class appeared at the last acute angle of the zigzag foot path previous to attaining the summit of the hill.

At a very short distance, the summit of a quartz rock, (its base concealed beneath the soil,) was apparent. A specimen combined with felspar was procured. The existence of both these minerals, trap and quartz, on Caradoc and other Stretton elevations has been noticed.

The non appearance of trap in many parts of the western and southern parts of England, particularly the Bristol coal district, has been noticed by the *Quarterly Review*, Sep. 1826, article, “*Transactions of the Geological Society.*”

A line of amygdaloidal trap interposed between beds of sandstone, five miles in length, near to the city of Exeter, is however noticed in "Phillips' Outlines."

Scotland and Ireland abound in basaltic formations of the most magnificent description. Scotland is celebrated for the sublime eminence of Salisbury Craigs, overlooking the modern Athens. Hills of Whinstone are prevalent near to Kilsyth, between Edinburgh and Glassgow.

Insular localities, exclusive of Staffa, are found in the Hebrides, viz. in the isles of Eigg, Skye, Ulva, Canna, (z) Ailsa, (a) Shant, &c., &c. The rocks of Galta, extending west from Carivolan, shoot boldly out of the sea, displaying pillars 100 feet in height.

Giant's Causeway, with opposite Isles of the Hebrides.

In the "Natural History of Ireland," published in 1736, Sir R. Buckley describes this wonderful production of nature, as situated seven miles from Coleraine, in the county of Antrim, and 31 miles from the mouth of Derry river. (b)

"The coast on the land side is a gradual ascent to the edge of the precipice covered with grass: it may be ascended, with some difficulty, but not descended. The strand, at the foot of the precipice is a raised causeway, 80 feet broad, and 20 feet above the rest of the strand, con-

(z) The pillars of this isle diverge in radii from a common centre, surrounding an orb of horizontal ones.

(a) Ailsa craig forms an abrupt and lofty precipice, rising vertically out of the sea, with pillars of unequal length, disjointed and subverted.

(b) In "Bell's Geography," the basaltic district of Ireland is described as occupying a range of coast stretching from Carrickfergus to Lough Foyle, and inland, to Lough Neagh.

sisting of pillars of perpendicular cylinders running into the sea."

Dr. Samuel Foley observes, that none can tell how far the Giant's Causeway runs into the sea, but that at low water, its length is 600 feet, and its breadth 240, and 120 in different parts. The height is 36 feet, and 15 in different parts. The high bank is a common craiggy rock, interspersed with pillars and clusters of pillars.

Dr. Thomas Mollyneux contributes a paper to this publication, containing an account of this memorable phenomenon, accompanied by a plate, by Sandys,—the view taken off Bengore Head.

"The grand causeway," he says, "is 135 yards long, and 120 and 64 in different parts. The other, or imperfect causeway, 120 yards long. In the adjacent country are similar pillars to those of the causeway, at different distances and of different diameters." (c) The author conjectures whether these various formations were co-eval with the creation.

"The crystals are in every variety, from triangular to octangular, the first and last are very scarce, these join without fissures."

"The inequality in the number of sides is compensated by the inequality of the breadths and angles of those sides, so that a general uniformity prevails; for example, the several sides of one and the same pillar are as the planes of crystals of unequal breadths or lengths in the hexagonal; a broader side subtends or is opposite to a narrower; which geometry nature observes in the formation of other crystals."

(c) It is observable, that none of these are either septangular or octangular, nor have they concavities and convexities like those of the causeway.

“ Each crystal has a convexity and a cavity, by which they are fitted to each other.”

“ Respecting the pillars, some of those of the causeway are 32 feet and 36 high above the strand—some of the clusters denominated Organ, are 40 feet. Single rocks of the same description are observable in the sea.”

Mr. Brande (d) gives an account of this phenomenon, observing that “ The N. coast of the county of Antrim between Portrush on the W. and Fairhead on the E. presents basalt columnar and massive, in all its varieties, and with a number of its accompanying minerals.”

“ Basalt also forms the eastern boundary of the county of Derry. Upon the whole, it is difficult to find a district more full of geological interest and instruction.”

“ The three piers of basalt called the Giant’s Causeway, which extend some hundred feet into the sea, are entirely composed of the columnar variety, the summits of the pillars forming an uneven though easy pavement, gradually descending to the sea. How far it extends here is unknown, but it is probable that it proceeds in a continuous range towards the Hebrides.”

“ The greatest breadth of the principal pier of the causeway is 40 feet, and the columns are, in some parts, perpendicular, and others incline to the west.”

(d) Descriptive Catalogue, Royal Institution.

Ib. p. 179, & seq. Dr. Richardson wrote a paper on this district.—Phil. Trans. vol. 98. p. 187.

In the neighbourhood of Portrush are some caverns in the rocks, the most remarkable of which is Long Gilbert, a subterraneous dungeon, extending between 4 and 500 feet in height; its walls are massive basalt.

The extensive bay in which the causeway is situated, is walled in with precipitous rocks of from 2 to 400 feet in height, and in the centre of the eastern barrier, is a striking assemblage of columns about 60 feet high, and thrown a little out of the perpendicular. Upon some parts of the cliffs, the columns are nearly horizontal, and protrude their angular heads towards the north.

“ At Bengore head, which bounds the causeway to the east, and at the promontory of Pleskin, columnar and stratified basalt, alternate upon a magnificent scale. At Bengore, the strata rise to the north and present an abrupt facade to the sea, consisting of alternate ranges of massive pillars resting upon decomposing basalt.”

“ Pleskin, when viewed from the protruding precipices above, or from the sea below, is remarkable for its unrivalled grandeur, as well as for the rarity of its strata. Upon a foundation of amorphous basalt, rising about 200 feet above the sea, rests a row of columns about 60 feet in height, and singularly similar and equal; upon these reclines a stratum of confusedly crystalized basalt, which again serves as the foundation of another colonade, apparently of equal dimensions with the former; the whole is capped with about ten feet of decomposing rock, and of disintegrated soil.”

“ The more distant capes present analogous and no less distant combinatiions and arrangements, some descending by giant steps into the sea, others rising with stupendous perpendicularity from the bottom of the deep. In front of the sublime amphitheatre, formed by these ranges, a variety of rocky masses obstruct the vehemence of the waves, some of which appear to have been thrown from above, by the destructive hand of time, while others seem like the summits of lower formations.”

Ballycastle Bay is bounded upon the east by the grand and lofty promontory of Fairhead. A range of columns 250 feet high, and extending more than half a mile in length, stands upon a steep declivity, rising at least above 800 feet above the level of the sea. The whole presents a mighty terrace, 550 feet high, and of a singularly grand aspect. The pillars are often from 10 to 20 feet in diameter, and being made up of many smaller columns, put on a fluted or irregular appearance.

The fragments of this noble and truly gigantic range are thickly strewed upon its supporting declivity, and in some places the lower half of a pillar has fallen from its position leaving the upper part apparently unsupported, but sufficiently firm by being wedged in between the surrounding masses.

The basalt of Fairhead, like that of the Causeway and Bengore, is intersected by several remarkable whin-dykes, which resemble the former in their structure and direction.

“It is impossible to contemplate the columnar alternations of the Causeway, Pleskin, Bengore, and Fairhead, without an attempt to deduce from present appearances, some conclusions concerning the means employed by nature in rearing these fabrics, the regularity and order of which are well calculated to excite that attention which is not so easily fixed upon less striking, though, perhaps, in other respects, equally important subjects of geological research.”

The author proceeds to account for these phenomena by having recourse to the igneous system.

Isle of Staffa. (e)

The length of this island is about one mile, its breadth half a mile. It is composed wholly of basalt, the pillars having from three to seven sides, but the most prevalent are hexagonal and septagonal.

The diameter of these cones is from one to four and a half feet, the surfaces are rough and full of cracks in all directions. The magnificence of their appearance on the N. W. is past all description.

The stone is a coarse kind of basalt, very similar to that of the Giant's Causeway, in Ireland. On the N. E. is Fingal's cave, a very stupendous opening in the rock; the length is 250 feet, and the opening at the mouth 53 feet. At the farther end it is 20 feet, the height of the arch over the entrance is 117 feet.—Trav. Guide, II. 207.

To this account may be subjoined the observation of Uno Von Troil, that the architecture of the cave of Fingal, in Staffa, exceeds in splendour the porticos of the ancients and the colonades of modern magnificence—surpassing even the Louvre, St. Peter's, at Rome, and the remains of Palmyra and Poestum.

“I have seen,” says St. Fond, “many ancient volcanoes, and have given descriptions of several superb basaltic causeways and delightful caverns in the midst of lavas; but I have never found anything that can bear any comparison to this, for the admirable regularity of the columns, the height of the

(e) “Staffa,” observes Abbé Ordinaire, is situated 30 leagues from the Giant's Causeway, it is a mass of basaltic prisms.”

arch, &c., or for resemblance to master pieces of art, though art has had no share in its construction."

Foreign localities of this mineral occur on the Rhine, where various combinations are observable; (f) among these are Blanc Kuppe, in Hussia, and Pflasterkaute where sand is both combined with basalt, and lifted up by it, sometimes imbedded therein. Meisner, near Blanc Kuppe, has a basaltic platform overlying the sand-stone, in the upper part of which is a granular substance. (g)

An augite rock differing from the above, in the more distant crystallization of its component parts, is described, the crystals of which were formerly supposed to favour the Wernerian system before the experiments of Hall and Watt induced geologists to admit that they might be the result, under certain circumstances, of the process which was at first imagined to be incompatible with their existence; the crystalline structure being supposed to be obliterated by heat.

Sicily, especially on the side near to Etna, Bolsenna Italy, Radicoifani mountain, Baths of St. Philip, Aquæ-Pendente, in the same country, abound with tremendous ruins of nature, and aggregate ranges of basaltic columns of various diameter. In Turkey, near to Incada, in the Crimea, at Helleberg and Hunnenberg, in Sweden, are similar series.

Mr. Babington, in "Remarks on the Geology of the country between Tellicherry and Madras," observes, that "this black stone is used by the natives, in all the finer kinds

(f) "Danbeney's Description of active and extinct Volcanoes."

(g) The Giant's Causeway and Staffa are fully described in Bell's Geography, III. 218, 238.

In the Imperial Magazine, June, 1831, is an engraving of the former, with a minute description.

of sculpture, and from the peculiar sharp and unbroken edge of its angles, its durability and hardness, is well adapted to this purpose." (h)

Between Himalaya and the Ganges, are columnar peaks of trap. On Malva slope it is decomposed. The prevalence of basalt in Mexico is noticed by Captain Lyon, in his description of that country. At Real del Monte is one of the most beautiful basaltic basins in the world, exhibiting broken pillars. At the valley of Somalhuacan columnar cliffs are found of the same mineral, as also Porphyry.

Mr. Buckingham frequently alludes to basaltic masses apparent in several parts of Mesopotamia, as at Diarbekr, where are curious clusters of columns, Plain of Shinar, &c. &c. Both solid and porous blocks are described, some indicating volcanic agency, the different qualities are frequently blended together. Instances of the fertility observable in basaltic districts are recorded in "Buckingham's Mesopotamia," as in the Plain of Shinar or Singar, where a deep ravine occurred, filled with large masses of this substance, forming a vein in the earth like the deep winding bed of a torrent.

The adjoining tract, though a desert, is covered with good soil, capable of being rendered highly fertile. The vicinity of Morden exhibited a fertile soil covered with grass and corn equalling that of Egypt: the porous basalt, though supposed to be of basaltic origin, forming no obstacle to its fertility.

At Cana of Galilee, and from thence to Turan, are basaltic phænomena, prismatic configurations.

A lecturer in mineralogy observes, that our basaltic for-

(h) Trans. Geol. Soc. V. 335.

mations are included in a range extending from the Canaries, to Iceland. On the coast of King George's Sound, New Holland, and likewise in the interior of that country, granite abounds. Basalt is less plentiful, but is found in immense columns.

Having attempted a partial enumeration of the solid substances contained in the prevailing strata of the clay or coal mining district, particularly the calcareous ones; we proceed to augment the descriptive catalogue thereof, first, by submitting to the reader some sections of stratified mineral substances on a large scale, and then proceeding to various minutæ; previously to describing the liquid treasures of the country, and closing with a view of the prevailing solum of the tract with its contents.

Measures of Tividale colliery, near Dudley, but in the parish of Rowley, 1797. From the surface to the main coal.

	<i>Yrds.</i>	<i>Fl.</i>	<i>In.</i>
1 Soil,	0	1	0
2 Brick clay,	1	2	6
3 Brown-coloured roach,	2	0	0
4 Blue clay,	0	1	0
5 Red-coloured roach,	1	2	0
6 Rock, with coal interspersed	1	2	0
7 Clunch and iron-stone in it,	2	2	3
8 Smutt,.....	0	0	10
9 White clunch,	1	0	3
10 Grey clunch,	2	1	3
11 Red wild-stuff,..	13	2	6
12 Greenish-rock,	1	1	0
13 Red wild-stuff, ..	2	1	6
14 Binds with balls of gray rock,	3	2	0
15 Wild-stuff,	5	1	8

	<i>Yrds.</i>	<i>Ft.</i>	<i>In.</i>
16 Rocky black-stuff,	0	1	0
17 Smutt,	0	0	3
18 Black rocky-stuff,	2	2	0
19 Kind-clunch, with iron-stone,	3	2	2
20 Clunch bends,	4	0	0
21 Soft clunch,	2	2	9
22 Coal, called the two-foot coal,	0	1	6
23 Fire-clay	1	1	0
24 Fine clunch,	4	0	0
25 Rock,	0	2	0
26 Rock-binds,	0	2	0
27 Parting, which emitted inflammable damp,	0	0	3
28 Rock-binds,	2	1	0
29 Kind clunch,	0	1	0
30 Broach-coal,	1	0	9
31 Black clunch,	2	1	0
32 Coal,	0	1	3
33 Penny-earth with iron-stone,	2	1	0
34 Clunch binds,	8	2	0
35 Clunch with iron-stone,	0	2	9
36 Rock-binds,	5	2	0
37 Clunch with iron-stone,	4	2	0
38 Rock-binds,	5	1	0
39 Strong-rock,	1	1	0
40 Rock with laminæ of coal,	1	1	0
41 Strong-rock,	1	1	0
42 Clunch-parting,	0	0	10
43 Chance-coal,	0	0	9
44 Clunch-binds,	1	1	0
45 Rock, or rock-binds,	2	2	10
46 Clunch and iron-stone,	0	2	9
47 Black batt,	2	0	0
48 Chance-coal,	0	0	10
49 Catch-earth, (a clunch)	0	2	9

				<i>Yrds.</i>	<i>Ft.</i>	<i>In.</i>
50	Black-batt, . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	0	0	7
51	Main-coal, . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	10	1	6

Names of the Beds of the Main-Coal.

1	Roof-floor, called by Dr. Plot Top-floor, . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	1	1	0
	Parting of about 4 inches, soft and dark earth					
2	Top-slipper, or spires, by Plot, Over-slipper, ..	. . . . .	. . . . .	0	2	2
3	Jays, . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	0	2	0
	White stone called Patchel, 1 inch.					
4	Lambs, . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	0	1	0
5	Tow, or Tough, or Kitts, or heath, ..	. . . . .	. . . . .	0	1	6
6	Benches, . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	0	1	6
7	Brassils, or Corns . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	0	1	6
	Foot-coal parting (sometimes only)					
8	Foot-coal, or Bottom-slipper, or fine-coal, . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	0	1	8
	John-coal parting, 1 inch.					
9	John-coal, or Slips, or Veins . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	1	0	0
	Hard stone, ten inches, sometimes less.					
10	Stone-coal, or Long-coal, . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	1	1	0
11	Sawyer, or Springs, . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	0	1	6
12	Slipper, . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	0	2	6
	Humphrey-parting.					
13	Humfreys, or Bottom-bench, or Kid; by Dr. Plot	. . . . .	. . . . .	
	Omfray-floor, . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	0	2	3
	Total of the main coal,			<u>9</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>7</u>

Of the measures below the Main-Coal.

The measures which are generally known under the main-coal, which in some places are dug for the sake of the iron-stone and glass-house pot-clay, and sometimes for the vein of the coal, called heathing-coal, are as follows.

1	Dark clunch, generally about	0	1	6
---	--	-----------	-----------	---	---	---

	<i>Yrds. Ft. In.</i>
2 Light-coloured clay, with small round iron-stone, called White grains,	0 2 6
3 Main iron-stone mine, that is, iron-stone balls or nodules, involved in clunch. Of this mine there are three distinct measures,	1 0 0
4 Table-batt, a smooth, level-faced, schistus. Sometimes thicker,	1 0 0
5 White clay, containing white iron-stone,	0 1 6
6 Heating coal, in three distinct layers. Good coal,	2 0 0
7 Measures of clunch and white rock	
8 Fire clay	

Measures below Main Coal, to Limestone,

discovered on cutting a canal from Tipton Green through Dudley castle hill, by the late Lord Dudley and Ward:—

1 Clunch and iron-stone	7 0 0
2 Heating coal	2 0 0
3 Pot-clay	2 0 0
4 Wild measures	9 0 0
5 Good coal	3 0 0
6 Rough-spoil	2 0 0
7 Good coal	3 1 0
8 Black measures	2 2 0
9 Coal	5 0 0
10 Wild-measures	40 0 0
11 Coal	0 2 0
12 Wild-measures	76 2 0
13 Lime stone	10 0 0
14 Wild-measures	38 0 0
15 Lime stone of the quarry	13 0 0

Shaw Staff. I, 118. Measures of a mine W. end of Dud-

ley, are given by Mr. Dud-Dudley, inserted in Shaw's Staff. II. 13.—General History.

To the catalogue of calcareous products, quoted from Mr. Payton, (i) we add that Gentleman's list of substances in coal and iron-stone, occasionally descanting upon some articles, and extending the series to such others as have fallen under observation.

In Coal and Iron-stone.

Pine Branch.

Palm ditto.

Bamboo Reed.

Cane Reed.

Vegetable Branches and impressions on Coal Shale.

Leaves and plants in great variety inclosed in balls of Iron-stone.

Muscle Shells.

Patellæ or Limpets.

Cone Coralloid.

Ball iron-stones, containing Pyrites, Zinc, Quartz, &c.

Balls of Pyrites.

SPAR.—In several formations.

The Pine and Palm branches, Reeds of different descriptions, Bamboo, &c., (k) vegetable impressions on coal and iron-stone, &c., &c., having fallen under personal observation, are already alluded to; the Cone-Coralloid will claim particular attention.

This curious substance, the Dutenmargal or funnel-marle

(i) Pa. 415.

(k) Pa. 399.

of Werner, cone within cone, is thus described by Mr. Yates. (1)

“ Account of a variety of argillaceous lime-stone, found in connexion with the iron-stone of Staffordshire, by Rev. James Yates, of Birmingham, with a plate.”

“ This variety is called by miners, the curl, the name evidently alluding to the convoluted form of its distinct concretions, each of which is either itself a complete and regular cone, or is wrapped round part of a cone, which serves as the basis of its structure.”

“ Each distinct concretion, on being parted from the conical surface to which it has been attached, presents, on its concavity, a series of wrinkles, regularly indented, and always parallel to the base of the cone.” The convex surface is longitudinally striated. The circular bases of the cones project a little one beyond another, and thus give to the external surface of the mass, the appearance of leaves folded over one another. Hence has arisen the conjecture, that the mineral in question is a petrified palm or lotus. This opinion, however, would immediately be abandoned by any person viewing this substance in its natural situation, instead of merely inspecting the detached masses exhibited in abundance, in the neighbourhood of Coseley.”

“ The fracture of this mineral is splintery, its colour grayish black. The masses exposed to weather, soon acquire, externally, a yellow rusty aspect, from the combination of oxygen with the iron which they contain.”

“ Curl is found in connexion with one stratum only, viz.

(1) Transactions of Geological Society, V. 375. Buffery mines, S. E. of Dudley, produce this stone according to Mr. Payton.

the bed of iron-stone, called bottom-stone of the new mines. (m) The fossil is found in protuberances attached to the under side of the iron-stone, the base of the cone downwards, its apex towards the iron-stone." (n)

Proximate localities in addition to that of Coseley with its bearing towards Tipton, Dudley, &c., (o) are Netherton, and according to recent observation, 1829, the Hayes. Comparing the specimens collected from those places respectively, the first presented to view an obtuse pointed cone, and a highly ferruginous tinge of yellow; the second was sharp pointed, and its colour that of pale blue limestone; the Hayes variety was of pale aspect, similar to that of indurated clay.

Remoter British ones are found in Derbyshire, at Tupton, near Wingerworth, (p) in the vicinity of Chesterfield, and also at Eyam. (q) In Cumberland and Durham, Barton-fell, and the neighbourhood of Sunderland produce it.

Boulby, Yorkshire, the vale of Dovey, near Machynlleath, Montgomeryshire, and Blenavon Monmouthshire, are likewise noticed as producing this fossil.

Shropshire, according to Mr. Nightingale, produces the "*Tophus-turbinatus calcarius interne imbricatus* of Linneus,

(m) So called from having been worked about 1820. There is a second series of strata, beneath the measures worked for a long period for coal and iron-stone, in the great S. Staffordshire mining district.

(n) A cone coralloid, polished at its base, exhibited a beautiful surface resembling marble.

(o) Specimens were scattered in great profusion, 1821, on the surface of the Coseley mining tract.

(p) Martin's "*Petrificata Derbiensia*."

(q) "*Davis' History of Derbyshire*," in which the coralloids of this place are compared to the *Tabularia purpurea* of the Red Sea.

forming an almost continued stratum in the Pinney measure, at Coalbrook dale, Prior's-Lee, Sneds-hill, and Ketley.

A foreign locality, at Shoenen, in the island of Bomholm, near to the town of Renne, in a coal formation attached to a stratum of sand-stone, has been pointed out.

Experiments have been made upon Curl-stone, as a flux for iron-stone. In a state of calcination it is employed in the composition of cement. (r)

Septaria, ludus Helmontii of Whitby, Yorkshire, produced on the estate of Lord Mulgrave, are spoken of as superior to all others for the manufactory of cement. A plain unfigured stone, from the neighbourhood of Bilston, is also used in making cement.

Respecting balls of iron-stone, very beautiful ones have been found on the side of that part of Brettell-Lane to which Dennis park is contiguous, descending to the brook; as also at Hungary-hill. On cleaving, they exhibit large stratifications and crystals of quartz. (s)

Porcelain-jasper, lignite, (t) fragments of lime, termed crude

(r) Mr. Phillips describes septaria, found in the London clay, spheriodal nodules of argillaceous lime-stone, divided into compartments by veins of calcarous spar, as entering into the composition of cement; that of Parker, according to Mr. Bakewell, is thus composed.

(s) On the specimens of slaty coal, environed by crystals of quartz, are sometimes interspersed small crystals of copper. In some instances, these fragments, as is the case with the lime of Ludley quarry, take the form of geodes.

(t) A trunk of Lignite, oak transmuted into stone, adorns the lawn of the late Michael Grazebrook, Esq. at Audenham; similar ones are preserved in the grounds of J. T. Fereday, Esq., at Sedgley, and of F. Downing, Esq. Dudley Priory.—Booker's Dudley Castle, pa. 123.

by a gentleman to whom they were pointed out; with many other articles, appear to have been promiscuously thrown together by working of mines upon this spot at a very remote period. Cinders from which the iron has been imperfectly extracted, and lately re-worked to some advantage, also form part of the products of this tract. (u)

Balls of Pyrites solid and radiated, and balls of limestone encompassed by crystals of this substance, occur among other specimens noticed at the Hayes; in some instances, the calcareous mould becomes detached from the ball which it once inclosed; fragments and laminar crystals of this substance often occur, the latter in coal.

A globular form is frequently observable in masses of iron and basalt, forming what may be termed nuts, especially, as an exterior agreeing with the husk of that fruit, is often apparent.

The varieties of iron-sone most prevalent in this neighbourhood, are those termed band, of brown hue, and pin, of black colour.

Prehnite and Zeolite of Pouck-hill, will demand a more particular attention. The former mineral was first distinguished from other substances by Werner, and constituted a distinct species.

Col. Prehn, from whom it takes its name, furnished to that

(u) In addition to the conical specimens noticed, pa. 435, n. another mass of Scoria, from the smelting furnace has been observed, viz. one exhibiting square pillars like the columnar iron-stone.

As slag, a species of glass, enters into the composition of these cinders, the process may be considered as somewhat analogous to that of crystallization of the vitreous mass.

eminent mineralogist, a specimen from the Cape of Good Hope, which became an object of interesting investigation. Woodford, in the parish of Berkeley, Gloucestershire, was discovered as a locality by Mr. Bakewell, several in Scotland, as Dumbarton, Paisley, &c., are found to produce it; that of Edinburgh, but sparingly.

Zeolite.

This mineral was so named by Cronstedt, from *zeo*, to boil, on account of its fusibility and intumescence when exposed to the blow-pipe.

Dr. Hutton, as quoted by Dr. Black, observes, that it contains alkali, and is the first known instance of its being discovered in a stony body, in which Klaproth and Kennedy concur.

“It has been observed intermixed with basalt in the cliff which borders the lake of Bolsana.”—Rome in 19th Century.

Porphyry.

Our account of porphyritic trap, as a component of Clent-hills, does not fully apply to various masses scattered over their surfaces. (v) Mr. Brande defines porphyry to be massive felspar, containing imbedded crystals of the same substance. In Gregory's Cyclopædia, 20 varieties under four species, are alluded to. Red Porphyry is there described as generally containing felspar in small white dots or specks, and often together with these, black spots of shorl.

Playfair speaks of porphyry, as a variety of whin, only distinguished therefrom by its involving crystallized felspar.

(v) Wrekin, Archal, Malvern, and other mountains are described as of similar construction. The late Dr. Stokes so classed them.

Like whin, he describes it as existing, both in veins and tabular masses; as being the whin of the old world, rarely found in any but primary strata; never assuming a columnar or basaltic form, which is also true of most varieties of whin.

These descriptions apply more or less to the specimens observed by the writer on Clent hills, many are of a dark red colour, spotted with crystals. Some globular pieces exhibit, on cleaving, a kind of rosaceous figure.

A few specimens gathered on Walton, one of the Clent hills, 1824, differ from former ones in exhibiting crystals of quartz, much larger and more distinct than those previously collected. (s)

In North Britain, Argyleshire, Inverary, Stonehaven, &c., are given as porphyritic districts; foreign ones are found in the isle of Naxos, and the neighbourhood of Santiago, where there is a mountain of this description, broken into battlements and turrets. The Andes are said to consist chiefly of porphyry.

Mineral Waters.

IN describing the mining district of south Staffordshire, &c., Chalybeate waters have occasionally fallen under notice, as might be expected from the nature of the soil and its ferruginous deposits.

Saline waters are also prevalent, but principally in exten-

(s) Mr. Pitt, "History of Staffordshire," asserts that "these hills are composed of Traccia, arenacea, Stone Trash, (innumerable fragments of rock being mixed with sand-loam,) and that the lower ground partakes more of the marly or loamy quality." Professor Buckland derives the porphyritic fragments observable at the Lickey, from Charnwood forest, in Leicestershire.

sive dislocations or faults of the coal fields, indicating that they are subterranean streams percolating the different strata, contra-distinguished from saline springs issuing from their native rocks.

Such dislocation has been observed to exist in the vicinities of Cradley, Brierley, and Pensnet, throughout which there is probably an intercommunication of salt waters. "Salt springs," it has been observed by mineralogists, "have seldom been found to originate in the coal districts, but are generally derived from those of the red marl." (t)

To the sandy and gravelly tract occasionally containing beds of red marle, blue clay, &c., &c., we must refer the real formations of salt.

Pensnet spa, (u) on the border of Kingswinford, has been noticed in our topographical sketch, pa. 138, its accompaniments appertaining to Dudley, have also been dilated upon.

This being generally considered as the principal saline spring of the neighbourhood, (though the term appears to be inapplicable,) will naturally claim our first attention, after which minor localities will remain to be described.

Dr. Plot (v) records an attempt made by Edward Lord

(t) Exceptions to this remark occur near Newcastle-upon-Tyne, in the south of Gloucestershire, and in the coal fields of Measham and Ashby-de-la-Zouch, situations too remote from red marle to derive supplies therefrom.—

Outlines.

Mr. Yates is of opinion that the brine of Pensnet, &c., &c., rises from the strata beneath the coal formation, as at Ashby.

(u) From Dudley, S. 2 miles, Stourbridge, N. E. 3 miles, Cradley, 1 m.

(v) Staffordshire, date 1686. See also Shaw, II. 230. Mag. Brit. Bloom's date, 1730. A MS. by the late Rev. James Scott, supplies some information upon this subject of the salt well.

Ward, to manufacture salt from the brine of this well, which being too weak, he was obliged to desist, though by the art of tunnelling as practised in Cheshire, a successful result might possibly have been obtained.

In 1799, William Lord Dudley and Ward again attempted to make salt on that spot, from a pit, according to the tradition of the inhabitants, sunk 150 years previous to that time, when part of the timber which formerly cased its upper part, together with some implements, in good preservation, were discovered. After deepening the pit, and taking every precaution to exclude the fresh water, and after a series of experiments, under the inspection of the late ingenious Mr. Keir, (w) tending to ascertain the strength and qualities of the water, the project was finally relinquished, on account of the weakness of the brine, the high duty upon the article of salt, and the superior advantages of some other established salt works.

Several analyses of the brine have been made subsequently to that of Mr. Keir, as—one by Dr. Pearson, 1799, others by Mr. James Moor, surgeon, the late Dr. Stokes, of Chesterfield, (x) and Mr. Weldon, who inserted papers on this subject in the Monthly Magazine, A. D. 1807, and 1820.

Several favourable results arise from the reports of these Gentlemen, as the superiority of Pensnet Spa water, to that of Cheltenham, in respect to scrophulous diseases; and the utility of the water, if proper baths were provided, as a substitute for that of the sea.

(w) Mr. Keir died at West-Bromwich, A. D. 1820, at the age of 85.

(x) Dr. Stokes, an eminent naturalist and physician, was formerly resident at Stourbridge, Kidderminster, and Shrewsbury, he died, 1831, at Chesterfield.

The minute portion of iron, one of its ingredients, is said, by Dr. Stokes, not to change the colour of infusion of galls, but to be sufficient to produce Prussian blue, and being precipitated by exposure to air, it becomes necessary to drink the water upon the spot.

Analysis by Mr. Weldon, Wigmore-street, London, October 14th, 1806 :—

The specific gravity of the water, at 60°, is 1018. It contains in 231 cubic inches, (or a wine gallon) including the water of crystallization,

Of Carbonic Acid Gas	23. 735	Cubic inches.
Of Azotic Gas	12. 1	ditto
Of Muriate of Soda, or common Salt....	917. 7	Grains.
Of Muriate of Lime	338. 4	—
Of Muriate of Magnesia	222. 08	—
Of Muriate of Iron	47. 55	—
Of Green Oxide of Iron, dissolved by the Carbonic Acid	6. 22	—
Of Silica	0. 75	Grain.
Of Sulphate of Lime.....	0. 5	—

The following analysis is by Mr. John Thomas Cooper, Chemist, of Paradise street, Lambeth, date 1820 :—

The springs are numbered from the surface downwards. The quality of water afforded by the different springs, when united, amounts nearly to six gallons per minute, or about 350 gallons per hour.

The quantity of water operated on, in every instance, was an English wine pint, or 28,875 cubic inches, and the weight of the substance is expressed in grains and decimals, troy. The salts are all stated as freed from water of crystallization.

No. 1.

Temperature, 49. 5 Farenheit

Specific Gravity, 1. 0065

A wine pint contains—

Carbonic Acid.....	2.	3	Cubic In.
Muriate of Soda.....	38.	91	Grains, &c.
—— of Lime.....	15.	72	
—— of Magnesia	5.	13	
Carbonate of Lime..	1.	70	
—— of Magnesia	2.	30	
		<u>67.</u>	<u>76</u>

No. 2.

Temperature 48 Farenheit

Specific Gravity 1. 0109

A wine pint contains—

Carbonic Acid.....	2.	6	Cubic In.
Azote	0.	4	
Muriate of Soda	59.	71	Grains &c.
—— of Lime	28.	30	
—— of Magnesia..	7.	59	
—— of Iron	0.	30	
Carbonate of Lime ..	1.	60	
—— of Magnesia	2.	40	
—— of Iron	1.	10	
		<u>101.</u>	

No. 3.

Temperature, 47. 5 Farenheit.

Specific Gravity 1. 0137

A wine pint contains—

Carbonate Acid	1.	3	Cubic In.
Azote	0.	9	
Muriate of Soda ..	61.	00	Grains, &c.
—— of lime	30.	25	
—— of Magnesia	8.	56	
Carbonate of Lime..	0.	40	

Carbonate of Magnesia	0. 28 Grains, &c.
Muriate & Carbonate of Iron	0. 15
	100. 64

No. 4.

Temperature 45 Farenheit
Specific Gravity 1. 0403

A wine pint contains—

Carbonic acid	2. 8 Cubic In.
Azote	0. 7
Muriate of Soda..	246. 57 Grains, &c.
—— of Magnesia	22. 46
—— of Lime ..	135. 07
Carbonate of Iron	1. 70
	405. 80

No. 5.

This consists of the whole of the waters in the pit combined,
a wine pint of which contains on the average—

Carbonic acid.....	2. 1 Cubic Inches
Azote	0. 4
Muriate of Soda	49. 75 Grains, &c.
—— of Lime	19. 07
—— of Magnesia	7. 50
—— of Iron.....	0. 13
Carbonate of Lime	1. 50
—— of Magnesia	1. 70
—— of Iron	0. 90
	80. 55

Yrds. Ft. In.

An account of the breadth, depth, and strata
of the old brine pit, now found to be from the sur-
face to the bottom of the dam 11 2 9

Sunk since as under.

	<i>Yrds.</i>	<i>Ft.</i>	<i>In.</i>
First stratum shedding rock binds	2	0	3
Second ditto pebbly rock	0	2	0
Third ditto rock binds, with salt spring at bottom	0	2	0
Fourth ditto pebbly rock with ditto ditto	2	0	0
Fifth ditto strong blue rock binds	3	2	3
Sixth ditto strong brown rock with strong salt brine in a measure about the middle	1	0	3
The depth now is.....	22	0	6

The diameter of the shaft in the clear

0	7	9
---	---	---

The supply of water produced by this pit when first examined, was 14 gallons per minute; reduced by draining off, as anticipated by Mr. Cooper, to 6 gallons, in Oct. 1820.

In the same dislocated tract are other proofs of the existence of brine.

Trial pits.

A shaft having been sunk for the purpose of searching for coal 600 yards from the well, brine issued from the sides, 1811. In the adjoining parish of Dudley several pits presented the same result at the distance of about a mile.

At Bradley moor, near to the chapel of Brierley, a pit was sunk in the year 1810, with a view to finding of coal, on lands belonging to Messrs. Ensell and Holt, afterwards to Messrs. Brettell, Pidcock, and Honeyborne. After descending to the depth of 164 yards, a strong brine stream burst upon the miners.

Two of the persons employed, report, that the water was stronger than that of Pensnet, that it rose 72 yards, and pro-

bably would have reached the surface, had it been permitted so to do. (y) The spring was shortly closed, but some facilities remain for re-opening it. Intimations have been given by the miners, that another salt spring rises at a short distance from that just alluded to.

In connexion with Bradley moor, a source of brine has been pointed out, contiguous to the spot mentioned above. June, 1826, specimens of beautiful hard white clay, resembling marble, were presented to the writer; strongly saline.

On examining the refuse, scattered over the surface of the ground, contiguous to the iron mine, from whence this substance is said to be taken, no specimen of it occurred, but a saline efflorescence was apparent. Globules of pin-iron accidentally deposited there, had their upper surfaces covered with saline crystallization. This refuse was said to have been taken from a dislocation at a very short distance from the spot.

Brockmoor and Bromley, with their vicinities, also produce salt water in their respective coal mines. (z) Several of these lines are situated N. of the line of the E. branch of the Stourbridge canal, within the deep valley through which Wordsley brook pursues its course; and the parallel valley of Audenham, particularly Nagur's Field, (a) abounds with the same product.

(y) Mr. Wood, agent to Mr. Honeyborne, who was present when the discovery took place, says that the brine of this moor produced, on evaporation, a very strong salt, and that the water was used medicinally.

(z) Works of Mr. Banks, Messrs. Firmstone, &c.

(a) Property of Mr. Banks, visited May and August, 1826. In both of these mines, salt water occurs at about the depth of 240 feet. Bottles of brine, from several of these mines, have been obtained, some with an unavoidable alloy of fresh water.

At the latter site are two coal pits, one producing fresh water, the other strong brine. A stream of water from the engine is but slightly saline, that of the two pits being mixed together.

Concretions separable with some difficulty from the engine boiler, at the point where the superfluous steam makes its escape, proved strongly saline.

In 1827, an account was received of brine having been found among the coal mines of Shutt-end. This is probably within the same dislocation as the Brockmoor works, in which salt water has been observed.

Cradley heath $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Pensnet spa, also produces brine. The spot so called is within the parish of Rowley, consequently in the county of Stafford. The heath is completely inclosed : the brine discovered at this place, near to the iron-works of John Attwood, Esq., in the summer of 1823, was found at the depth of 276 feet, in searching for coal.

As the sole object of the miner was to discover coal, the fact of brine occurring, was only noticed en passant, and as the work proceeded ; a stratum of coal 10 yards in thickness ensued.

The last source of brine to be noticed is in the mines at Hungary-hill, Old Swinford. In 1825, a coaly substance, (b) strongly saline, was presented to the writer, found near to the Grange field.

(b) In October, 1831, a pebble of coal occurred at Ludley lime quarry, together with a specimen of coal and lime combined. Various geodes of lime, beautifully crystallized, and pieces of lignite were found there at the same time.

Some slight saline exudations were apparent on the surface of the refuse surrounding the pits which soon disappeared, together with the heaps producing them. An opinion, however, prevailed, that indications of the existence of salt water in the adjoining coal field were perceivable.

Clay. (c)

Concerning the Argillaceous district in general, we have little to add, having described the succumbent masses, protruding rocks, &c., &c., pertaining thereto; nor is the nature of the soil so much an object of investigation as the peculiar species of fire-clay. (d)

The clay termed *Argillum Leucargillum*, (e) or fire-clay, appears to derive its greatest excellence from its freedom from calcareous and ferruginous particles.

Mr. Bakewell observes, that the floor or stratum on which coal rests, consists of clay in various degrees of induration,

(c) Amidst the arrangements of various authors, as Aikin, Thompson, Gregory, &c.; we select that of Dr. Ure.—*Chemical Dict.* art. Clay.

- 1 Porcelain earth, the kaolin of the Chinese.*
- 2 Potters, or Plastic.
- 3 Loam.
- 4 Variegated clay.
- 5 Slate, or fire clay.
- 6 Clay stone.
- 7 Adhesive slate.
- 8 Polishing slate of Werner.

The numerous tribes of clays, according to Dr. Thompson, consist essentially of alumina and silica, mixed, in various proportions. Mr. Bakewell describes pure unmixed clay as one of the rarest productions of the mineral kingdom.

(d) See also page 93.

(e) *Beaut. of Eng. and Wales.*

* See also pa. 152.

and is generally of that kind possessing the qualities of fire-clay.

The opinion of Mr. Kirwan, corroborates this remark, viz. that clays formed under coal are generally the least fusible, because the coal obstructs the infiltration of water containing calcareous particles.

Mr. Bakewell also observes, that this substance forms strata alternating with argillaceous lime-stone as well as coal; and that notwithstanding its hardness, when first taken out of the mine, it falls to pieces by exposure to air and moisture, and becomes plastic. Of the three qualities, the finest is adapted to the manufacture of crucibles used in the making of glass; the second is applied to the making of vessels used for the conversion of iron into steel; and the inferior one to the making of fire bricks.

Gren asserts, that pure clay consists only of argillaceous and silicious earth, and is richer in proportion to the preponderance of the former. Dr. Thompson says that it is necessary for various manufactories to have vessels capable of resisting violent heat without fusion, even when in contact with bodies which act the part of fluxes; as crucibles in the process of glass-making, and smelting the ores of metals difficultly fusible. (f)

Mr. Phillips describes indurated clay as of various shades, gray, brown, and occasionally bluish, one variety having an earthy granular fracture, occurring between beds of coal, as the Stourbridge variety.

According to Mr. Parkes, Stourbridge clay is of a sandy

(f) Mineralogy, I. 170.

nature, better adapted for the making of crucibles, than any in Europe, yet not calculated to endure the vicissitudes of heat and cold, and therefore unsuitable for retorts.

Dr. Kidd (g) describes this substance as a natural clay, containing very little lime or iron, not much coloured or disposed to vitrify in the higher degrees of heat, applicable to the fabrication of various articles, particularly vessels used in the baking of porcelain.

Stourbridge clay, held to be unrivalled in purity, though products of other parts of the country are supposed by some mineralogists to be little if at all inferior; has been analysed by the following chemists:—

Analysis of Stourbridge clay of the first quality, Oct. 3d, 1831, by Mr. William Davis, Chemist, Stourbridge:

Silica	59.	3	Grains
Alumina	31.	5	—
Red Oxyde of Iron	6.	0	—
Carbonate of Lime	2.	3	—
	<hr/>		
	99.	1	
	<hr/>		

Analysis of the material of Stourbridge fire-clay glass-house-pots, by Mr. Harepath, of Liverpool.

Alumina	27.	6	Grains.
Silex	64.	3	—
Lime	3.	3	—
Iron (Oxyde of)	5.	9	—
	<hr/>		
	101.	1	
	<hr/>		

(g) "Fine Clay," Dr. Anderson observes, "when perfectly burnt in the fire, may be made to assume almost a stony hardness; but common brick is so imperfectly burnt, as to admit of being reduced, without much trouble, to a fine impalpable powder."

These vessels were probably made of a second or third class of clay.

Description.

The Stourbridge clay contains more alumina than any other discovered, which accounts for its superiority in plastic quality. Colour gray, or grayish yellow. Massive. Dull or glimmering lustre, from interspersed mica. Slaty fracture, approaching sometimes to earthy. Fragments tabular. Opaque, soft, sectile, and easily broken. Sp. gr. 2, 6. Adheres to the tongue, and breaks down in water. It is found in coal and in the floetz trap formation.

Surveying the surface of the clay district, there will appear a tract of red clay environing a small oval tract of white or fire clay. In perambulating the boundaries of each formation, 1821, it appeared, that on the western side of the oval a narrow stripe of the red intervened between it and the sand, from 300 to 450 feet across, that it was a few miles broad on the opposite side, while in stretching north and south, it exhibited a long line in parallelism with the great sand and sand-stone tract of Worcestershire, &c.

The oval alluded to, is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile in length, and one mile in breadth, having the village of the Lye nearly in its centre. The parish of Kingswinford, on the right bank of the Stour, and each of the three divisions of Old Swinford, bearing to the east, possess portions of this tract. (h)

(h) A more particular description of the boundary line may not be unacceptable to some readers. Crossing the narrow belt of red clay intervening between Stourbridge and the foot bridge over the Stour, on the Halesowen road; a wavy line thence extends by Swinford brook to Chawnhill, continued by the Grange, and crossing the Dudley and Pedmore road, to the southern border of the Lye village.

Leaving the church to the right, the border is marked by a hedge near

Dr. Nash asserts, "that the space occupied by this mineral is about 200 acres, 48 of which produce an article superior to the rest; that there are three coal strata above the clay, the first at the depth of 14 yards, being 6 feet thick; the second, 7, and the third, 4½, between which thin strata of mould are generally found—underneath is the fire-clay, about 150 yards below the surface, and 45 below coal."

Proprietors of Fire-Clay mines. (i)

<i>Proprietors.</i>	<i>Lessees, Occupiers, &c., at different times.</i>	<i>Sites.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>
Milward family.....	Grazebrook,	Hungary-hill.	
	Brettell & Rufford.		18
	Brooks.		
Hickman family...	Hickman, Freer,	Broad field, near and Harris. Haye Green.	21
	Davies & Holland.		
Waldron family. ..	Hill, Waldron, & Co.	Mill field, Lye.	23
	Littlewood, King, and Co.		
Lord Foley.	Unwrought.	Near Lye mill.	3
Poor of the parish of Stone, near Kidderminster. }	Hill, purchaser. } Hill, Hampton, } and Harrison. }	.. Highman's Green.	9
Unwin.	Rufford.	Hungary Hill.	54
Lord Stamford.....	Pidcock.	Withymoor, Staff. and a small lot near Lye mill.	30

to the Whitening house. Crossing the Stour, and passing under Birch wood, Kingswinford, it stretches into that parish, comprising Withymoor, an almost detached portion, the clay of which is somewhat different in quality from that of the main body. Extending to Amblecot, it approaches the Stour at Lye mill. On the opposite side of the stream is a meadow of this formation.

(i) See also Nash, II. 57, and App. 57.

King.	Haye Green.*	
Lord Dudley.	Hughes & Eades.....	Amblecoat,
		Delph. 20
Pidcock.	Lye	7½
Rufford.	Grange.	22
		<hr/> 207½ <hr/>

Concerning the ancient family of Milward, Wollescote, a short memoir is inserted in the former part of this vol. (k) An abstract of the family pedigree, recently obtained, enables us to supply some further particulars, having special reference to the possessors of clay mines.

John, Thomas, and a second Thomas, proprietors of land and tenements, in Old Swinford, Bedcote, Wollaston, and Wollescote, respectively executed deeds dated 1566, 1598, and 1659. Edward Milward, of Wollescot, Gent., was party to a deed, 1686, as to getting clay, obt. 1719.

Thomas Milward, of Stourbridge, Gent., married Martha, sister of Dr. Simon Ford, rector of Old Swinford, (l) obt. 1724. Edward Milward, of Wollescot, Gent., obt. 1758. Thomas, Esq., his brother, of Wollescot, married Prudence, daughter of Oliver Dixon, of Dudley, Gent., his daughter Prudence married Hungerford Oliver, of the Grange, Gent., she died 1794, Mr. O. 1807. (m)

Edward Oliver, Gent., living 1831, married Ann, daughter of Joseph Harper, of Calthorpe, Esq., and Mary his wife.

* About 3 acres, included in one of the former lots.

(k) Pa. 183, under Iverley, in Kinver.

(l) See page 79.

(m) Mary, sister of Thomas, married John Foster, Esq., of Wordsley, High Sheriff of the county of Worcester, 18th Geo. III.

Other stations of fire-clay mines are to be found in Staffordshire, near Bilston, Bradley, Tividale, (n) Burslem, and in the vicinity of Arley and Shatterford; in Shropshire, at Coalbrookdale; in Leicestershire, on Ashby wold, belonging to the Marques of Hastings.

The counties of Chester and Flint, at Buckley hill, near Hawarden, Northop, and the Halkin mountains, extending from Hollywell to Mold; are also localities, as also Penderyn and Dinas rock, near Pont-Neath-Vaughan, Glamorganshire, and Llanelly, Carmarthenshire.

Lanent, Cornwall, and Truro in the same county, produce clay; that of the latter is described by Dr. Kidd, as analogous to the clay of Stourbridge, which has decomposed granite, having lost its property of fusibility for a component. (o)

Hessian crucibles, according to the latter author, are composed of a similar material, of which Vanquelin has given an analysis. Halle, in Saxony, produces a fine white clay.

Substances analogous to Fire Clay.

Windsor loam is held to be of this description.

Fire clay of Derbyshire incumbent on grit or cank-stone, is used in the potteries.

Rich, in his "Memoir of Babylon," observes that "the kiln-burnt bricks of that district are of different colours; some white, approaching more or less to a yellowish cast, like our Stourbridge fire brick, which is the finest sort."

(n) See pa. 157, No. 8. of measures below main coal.

(o) To this account of tracts producing fire clay, many others might be added, as the neighbourhood of Hallifax, Yorkshire, Ely, Cambridgeshire, &c., &c.

Professor Miller classes Stourbridge clay with that of Pentland, Saxony, &c., being slaty clay, shale, or till, occupying veins, beds, &c.

The clunch of Cambridgeshire is described by some authors, as producing portions of indurated clay, suitable to the manufacture of fire bricks, and other articles destined to endure heat, and as similar to the clay of Measham and Reigate, Surrey.—Beaut. Eng. & Wales, XVIII. 66.

“Clunch,” observes another author, “is indurated clay, and yields those infusible kinds which are adapted for fire-bricks; it varies in hardness, and is black, gray, yellow, white, &c. Clunch is generally found beneath each bed of coal, and at the places where it bassets or crops out on the surface, becomes soft clay.”—Phillips, &c. Outlines.

Red Clay.

This substance surrounding the crater-shaped basin of white or fire-clay above described, is visible to the east of Stourbridge, forming great part of Hungary hill, including the coal fields in that tract, widening on approaching Pedmore, Hagley, Clent, &c. The parish of Halesowen and its vicinity, with those of Rowley, part of Kingswinford, Amblecoat, &c., enter into its bounds.

Crossing the park at Dennis, and appearing in the rear of Paukmore and other hills, it reaches to the foot bridge on the road from Stourbridge to Halesowen.

This clay produces bricks and other articles capable of enduring weather, being replete with ferruginous particles which fuse during the process of burning, thus exhibiting qualities of an opposite nature from those of the asbestos-like substance noticed in the preceding pages.

Both of these argillaceous materials furnish brick manufactories on an immense scale, prevalent through a great extent of country.

Clays of various qualities, and manufactured articles innumerable, as bricks of different forms, entire fire-places, &c., &c., are raised and fabricated within the compass of the argillaceous formation.

Soils of various qualities are formed by the commixture of clay with numerous substances, both mineral and vegetable; loam and marle are classed by Mr. Bakewell under clays. In Cheshire and Lancashire, marle is applied to the amelioration of the soil with considerable effect.

Of 800 clays examined by Maquer, 22 are assigned to Britain; no one, according to this author, is entirely clear from metallic matter.

“Marly clay contains from one quarter to one-tenth of carbonated lime; where the calcareous part does not exceed 10 or 12 per cent, it is esteemed a good material for bricks.” Red clay makes its appearance at Compton, in the parish of Kinver, and thence extends to Upper Arley, on the left bank of the Severn, also stretching north for some miles, till bounded at each extremity by the sand-stone of Worcestershire and Shropshire.—See also pa. 172.

Among other varieties is a blue clay at Hill-top, West-Bromwich. Near to the Spa at Willenhall, in the vicinity of Wolverhampton, is a white clay, full of yellow veins of deep colour, resembling gamboge.”—Shaw Staff.

Mr. Whitaker, (Hist. Manches.) observes, “that marle was first introduced by the Celtæ of Britain and Gaul, as a ferti-

lizing clay, to which they gave a name of similar import to that of marrow; and that the Greeks obtained the knowledge of it from them through the colonists of Marseilles."

*Sand and Sand-stone formation, with Gravel and its deposits.**

Dr. Ure, of Glasgow, describes the gravel and sand district, as the

"Red marle or new red sand-stone, called, occasionally, red rock, or red ground, stretching from the northern bank of the Tees, Durham, to the southern coast of Devonshire,"

* In Murray's System of Chemistry, sand-stone is described as "consisting of grains of sand and gravel, connected by a cement which is sometimes argillaceous, and sometimes, though more rarely silicious, frequently also impregnated with oxide of iron, from which it receives a red or brown colour; otherwise it is yellowish or white. The grains vary in magnitude, being sometimes so large as to form a pudding-stone, and the degree of induration, depending upon the nature of the cement, is equally various.

It is always stratified, and the strata are usually horizontal, or very little inclined."

Formations.

"I. Oldest dark sand-stone, often resting on transition or even primitive rocks, coarse grained, cement argillaceous, colour derived from iron.

II. Variegated—colours various, and usually in stripes, accompanied with gypsum and lime-stone.

III. White—cement generally calcareous, often retaining traces of coal. Organic impressions, principally vegetable, are found in all these formations, in the first, petrified wood."

Characters of the old red Sand-stone.

"It alternates from fine to coarse-grained granular, which latter often inclines to conglomerate, yet its grains are generally larger than those of the newer sand-stone; they are usually quartz and flinty slate.

Its cement is iron-shot clay, which gives to the whole a reddish colour. Though coarseness is generally characteristic of this sand-stone, yet it some-

to which description Smith's Geological map is mainly conformable. (q)

"Its appearance," he says, "is sometimes a reddish marl or clay, sometimes a sand-stone, and at others, a conglomerate of different rocks, cemented by marl or sand, containing the Gypsum beds, and the great Rock salt formation of England."

A very large tract of sand and sand-stone, stretching N. and S. extends through the midland district, in which is enclosed the plot of clay, &c. already described. The Worcestershire, Staffordshire, and Shropshire bed of sand, extends in various directions into adjoining counties.

In Cheshire it is the great deposite of gypsum and of rock salt. Without pursuing this formation to its utmost extent, it is proposed to offer a few remarks on that portion of it

times occurs fine grained, and of a grayish colour. Corn-stone is found in it."—Phillips's Geological Tracts.

The red Rhab of Pembroke and Carmarthenshires, appears to be of this description.

The western coast of Caldy isle exhibits spiral rocks of uncommon beauty and variety, consisting of this substance in contrast with the white lime composing the remaining part of the island.

(q) Distinguished as containing beds of soft red sand-stone, and occasionally, of blue clay.

In the environs of Bath, coal is worked beneath the red marl.

Occupying a considerable part of the midland counties, (the Saxon Mercia,) and containing several independent coal formations, this tract is bounded by several larger coal districts, and by lime rocks.

Various branches extend northward through Lancashire, and southward by various sinuosities, to Devon and the sea.

A ramification also intervenes between the lime rocks of Leicestershire, Nottingham, &c., and a similar range, bounding the coal fields of Derby and York.

which falls under our view in the immediate neighbourhood of our station.

In the direction of Wolverhampton, to the north, the lofty rocks of Tettenhall are of this kind. Bromsgrove, in the opposite direction, and Bridgnorth, to the west, present grand specimens of this description of rock; in the former site it runs parallel to the hills of massive quartz, of which several of the highest of the Lickey consist.

Mr. Greenough describes the sand-stone of the Vallorsine, in Switzerland, (of high inclination,) as analogous to that of the Lickey, and of Bridgnorth; affording an instance of several strata terminating in a larger, and that again, in one of greater magnitude.

The vast sand-rocks which border the spacious channel of the Severn above the town of Bridgnorth, furnish, together with their accompanying woodlands, scenery of the most magnificent description.

After sketching this very partial and imperfect outline, we proceed to describe a more limited tract with a view to exhibit a compendium of the formation under review, and to enumerate the mineral substances imbedded therein.

The crescent of sand-rock commencing near to Churchill, and continuous to the ridge of Iverley, the latter descending to the vale of Stour, will afford a suitable example for illustration, (r) including also the opposite elevation of Ashwood.

The eminences alluded to are composed of sand-stone in numerous varieties, frequently graduating unto coarse grit.

(r) For some account of Iverley, &c., range of hills, see pa. 77, 183.

In the year 1817, the summit of the range called "The Ridge Top," on the road from Stourbridge to Bridgnorth, was reduced in height more than eight feet, when several substances were exposed to view very unexpectedly.

To the north of Ashwood, an elongation of the elevation bearing that name, was hewn into artificial cliffs, forming a rocky border to the Trent and Severn canal at Swindon. The section presents to view beautiful variegations of red and yellow sand-stone.

The various kinds of sand deposited in different cavities, are probably disintegrations of their accompanying rocks, as well as debris of distant ones.

Mines of this article are wrought in different parts of the formations. The summit of the ridge principally contains gravel of different degrees of fineness, and adapted to different purposes.

Varieties also prevail in the beds of sand, situated on the opposite declivious slopes.

Projecting into the parish of Pedmore is a very capacious mine of sand, the property of the trust of Foley's hospital. The produce of this stratum is of different qualities, of yellow tinge of the nature of drift, suitable to several of the processes of the iron manufactory, as founding, puddling, &c.

This stratum of drift sand is bordered by rocks of dark red sand, in which large rhomboidal figures are sometimes discernable. In an opposite direction bearing towards Whittington, are similar strata, and in the intervening plot of High park is an extensive marle pit.

Their various concavities are replete with many kinds of alluvion ; and in these are imbedded many mineral substances totally extraneous from the rocky basis on which they have probably reposed for ages, some at very remote distances from their parent rocks.

The existence of a fine stratum of red sand applied to the process of glass-making, has been already noticed. (s) Occasional veins of white sand are also observable in different parts, particularly in the morass bordering the Kidderminster road towards Swinford, including the race course. Sand, of deep orange colour, is also found in this direction.

Rocks of the new red sand-stone formation in the midland tract present numerous varieties, colours, and qualities. Those viewed in situ, in the neighbourhood of Stourbridge, illustrate this remark. (t)

In addition to those already noticed incidentally, we may refer to Wordsley as producing, at considerable depths, a stone of hard texture.

(s) See Kinver.

(t) To particularize a few other gravelly depositions,—Fimbley, near Lichfield, affords numerous varieties of substances.

The ground between Bredon hill and the Severn, is replete with beds of gravel, imbedded in soil, as Kinson, Aylesbury, near Pershore, vicinity of Tewkesbury, &c. The gryphite fossil is here found.

Remoter localities occur in Shropshire, at Hawkestone, Nesscliff, near Oswestry ; also in Derbyshire, between Buxton and Newhaven, &c., &c.

Mr. Strangeways finds in the sandy formation in the environs of Petersburg, some resemblances to the red grounds of the central parts of England. Red bank on the Ishera, he compares to the cliffs of the Teme, Worcestershire.—Trans. Geol. Soc.

“Quader sandstein forms most romantic scenery between Dresden and Pirna, in Saxony, extending through Silesia, and skirting the primitive chains of the Erze and Raisange-berg ; it is again found in the south of Bohemia.”

At the Streight, near Himley, is a quarry yielding a sandstone, of which, buildings, requiring a strong durable material, are constructed. In many instances the base of the rock is of this description, as an inspection of sections formed by the formation of deep holloways, would demonstrate.

At Broughton the rock graduates into free-stone, bearing the name of the place, a very durable substance.

Dr. Kidd notices the sand and sand-stone of the neighbourhood of Ombersley, &c. as of loose texture, (u) red colour, and easily disintegrated; hence the sandy soil of this and other parts of the country. (v)

The roads from Worcester, through Bromsgrove, to Birmingham, and from the former town through Bromsgrove to Stourbridge, severally extend over the quartz and sand-stone formations of upper and lower Lickey.

Several independent sand and sand-stone formations, if not subterraneously connected with the principal masses, exist in this country. At Bilston is an orange-coloured sand, so extremely fine as to be scarcely palpable, much used in casting of metals.

On perambulating the bank of the Walsall canal, 1826, and passing Moxley sand beds, varieties of sand imbedding pebbles of great beauty and fineness occurred. This tract,

(u) At Ombersley are some very hard silicious rocks and stone quarries.

(v) "Red sand-stone or rock," Mr. Bakewell observes, "is a silicious substance, coloured by red oxide of iron. This rock appears to cut off the coal field near and upon it, nor has coal been found under it. The soil itself is unproductive, but accompanied by marle which is fruitful found in detached beds."

one mile in length, and half a mile in breadth, is completely isolated by clay.

At West Bromwich, the deeply indented channel of the Birmingham canal, contiguous to Hill-top, exhibits a sandy and gravelly formation. On Wednesbury church-hill, a large open gravel pit is apparent. This hill, with Netherton, as before observed, is, according to Mr. Keir, based on limestone.

Near Walsall is the gravelly-hill of Ryecroft, parallel to the lime pits of Rushall. To the north is the red ground bearing towards Lichfield.

As the sand formation is sometimes intermingled with that of clay, so does the latter in many instances exhibit isolated colonial portions in the midst of sandy ground. (w) At Birmingham several brick-works have been established on tracts of this description ; near to the town of Kinver is an extensive bed of clay similarly situated.

Parts of the vale of Stour display similar appearances, and also that of different clays over and underlying the sand.

Many alluvial depositions are also apparent, especially where indentations of the banks of the river occur.

(w) Mr. Conybeare describes a broad zone of sand circling an area of chalk, between the chalk cliffs of Boulogne, those of Havre and Henflour, and the eastern boundary of Valenciennes.

Gravelly Deposits.

Incumbent on the rocks of sand-stone prevailing through the red ground, deposits of gravel are of frequent occurrence; sometimes they are interstratified therewith, and at considerable depths.

Endless varieties of mineral substances are intermingled with the sand and pebbles generally composing the gravel; some similar to those of the mining districts.

As a stream of lava issuing from a volcanic crater will sometimes expand itself over a level surface, and at others, cause the repletion of such cavities as were situated within the direction of its rolling torrent, and again pour its efflux over additional plains and indentations so long as its fluid state remains; so does the flood of gravel with its promiscuous contents appear to have replenished the cavernous recesses which offered receptacles for its copious deposits, (x) and sometimes to have extended beyond them.

Professor Buckland *Rel. Diluv.* 56 and seq., takes it for granted, that fissures existed on the antediluvian face of the earth in much greater abundance than on its present surface, and that the advancing and retiring torrents of that mighty debacle, the deluge, must, in their impetuous course, have closed vast numbers of them.

Inattention to the distinctly marked lines of separation between the succumbent sand rock and the gravelly deposit filling its upper cavities, and sometimes covering its surface

(x) A miniature representation of this process might be presented to the eye by beholding a stream of liquid iron poured from a furnace over the floor of a foundery, filling every mould in its way, and overflowing the adjoining space.

to a considerable extent; has occasioned the two substances to be considered as identical, while the compound nature of the latter has been entirely overlooked.

The above-named Geologist, in company with Count Brouner, of Vienna, in the year 1819, took his station at the Lickey, to examine that hilly range, and to report to the Geological society the results of their joint investigation.

To the formations of sand-rock and quartz, the prevalence of gravel in the vicinity and in various parts of the counties of Warwick, Leicester, with an extension to some parts of Oxfordshire, and the valley of the Thames, is ascribed; a partial dissolution of the materials of this spot furnishing the immense supply. The opinions of Playfair and Kidd are in unison with Buckland.

The shattered state of the quartz at the lower Lickey, in its native bed, shivered into millions of small angular fragments of intense hardness, falling to pieces on application of the smallest violence, is considered by Dr. Buckland as being calculated to afford the greatest possible quantity of pebbles at the least expense of time and friction from the smallest bulk of rock destroyed.

In expatiating on the substances arising to view on surveying the sandy tracts, an alphabetical arrangement appears suitable, since no series of strata as in the mining parts claims attention.

A select descriptive catalogue of minerals prevalent in the sandy and gravelly deposits.

1 Agate.
2 Basalt.
3 Breccia.

4 Carnelian.
5 Chalcedony.
6 Chalk.

7 Chert.	19 Lime.
8 Enamel.	20 Lithomarge.
9 Flint.	21 Lydian stone.
10 Fossils.	22 Mica.
11 Fullers' earth.	23 Ochre.
12 Granite.	24 Pebbles, various.
13 Green stones.	25 Porphyry.
14 Greywacke.	26 Quartz.
15 Hornstone.	27 Salt.
16 Jasper.	28 Sand.
17 Iron.	29 Serpentine.
18 Killas.	30 Miscellaneous.

1. Agate.

This stone occurring at Fimbley gravel pit, near Lichfield, (y) led to researches with a view to discover it near Stourbridge. It has lately occurred about Highdown, Bunker's hill, &c., Iverley, in specimens weighing from $1\frac{3}{4}$ to $4\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. variously figured, one of the variety termed fortification very rare. Some of these are curiously figured.

Dr. Grew derives the term Agate from the river Achates, in Sicily, where this mineral abounds.

Several parts of Scotland, India, Germany, and Bohemia, produce it. Repeated examinations of the sandy grounds, produce but few specimens, some of very inferior quality, termed agatised stones.

2. Basalt.

Exclusive of the mountainous and subterranean masses of Basalt, occupying various parts of the country, this substance makes its appearance very generally, both as rag and pebble.

(y) Visited in company with the Rev. James Yates.

The former term is a generic one for flag-stone, breaking with a rough surface.

To the rag of Rowley, Hagley, &c., might be added, the Kentish, and that of the Isle of Wight. As it occurs in the gravelly deposits, it assumes globular, angular, and other forms, and is often in fragments rude and shapeless.

On cleaving, the interior exhibits various hues, indicating its influx from different quarters. No organic remains are visible in its structure.

Pebbles of this description are interspersed with quartz, and innumerable other substances, almost universally. Many varieties of colour, as blue, gray, &c., with intermixtures of jasper, quartz, and other minerals, cannot fail to meet the eye of the observer.

From boulders of immense size, to minute gravelly pebbles, basalt exhibits its widely extended masses over mountains, plains, &c.

Mr. Scope speaks of sediments deposited by a body of water, into which repeated showers of volcanic ashes and fragments were projected by some neighbouring volcano.

Mr. Williams' "Mineral Kingdom," p. 417, ascribes the rolled basaltic pebbles, so prevalent in many parts of the kingdom, to the circumstance of glebous basalt undergoing the decomposition of its external soft and friable parts, by means of which, the internal durable parts remain scattered over the ground, the decomposed dissolving matter gradually forming good soil.

3. Breccia, Pudding-stone, Conglomerate. (z)

Breccia has been described as

1. consisting of irregular masses of two or more minerals, so intimately blended, as to show that they were consolidated at the same time.

2. Fragments of pre-existing rocks, united by the intervention of a cement.

3. Rounded, water-worn stones, consisting of various components—Silicious breccia, as that of Hertforeshire, consists of silicious pebbles, cemented by a paste of the same substance.

The third kind of Pudding-stone is most prevalent in the midland sand-tract, yet some faint resemblances to brecciated rocks, are occasionally displayed. (a)

The pudding-stone of this part of the country is of various descriptions. Not only do the common water-worn rounded masses, containing minute pebbles, of many kinds, prevail in the quarries, but ovate and angular constituents are sometimes visible.

In some instances, the surface of a stone indicates a granular texture, in others, irregular protuberances are apparent. Minerals of different qualities and colours form these agglutinated masses.

(z) Breccia is the name of a city in the territory of Venice, capital of Bresciano.—Dr. E. D. Clarke.

(a) Mr. Hutton, of Keswick Museum, distinguishes pudding-stone, a silicious substance from breccia.

Saussure uses the term Podingues in reference thereto. Foreigners in general adopt the English term.

Pebbles, in a state of decomposition, are by no means uncommon. One of breccia, forming part of a cabinet collection, disintegrates on exposure to moist air, and hardens when laid on its appropriate shaft.

A subterranean cavern, at Hagley, near Rudgley, Staffordshire, has walls of breccia. Cargwrie, Flintshire, is situated on a rock of this description. Sources of this conglomerate are observable at Arthur's hill, Edinburgh; the Giant's Causeway, and Charnwood forest, Leicestershire; the masses being of different hardness, according to the materials of their composition.

Cumberland produces aggregated stones, having had their angles rounded by attrition, as Bishop Watson supposes, in antediluvian waters, also Waterfort scar, Ulswater rocks.

Rocks of breccia are observable at the entrance of the canal at Constantinople, on the European side.

Clarke's Trav. II. 432.

Not to mention sand rocks, sometimes stratified with small stones; there is at Compton, in the parish of Kinver, (b) a vertical bed of gravelly breccia in the centre of an excavation, interstratified by a calcareous stone, supported on the two sides by a loamy sand-stone rock of varying qualities.

Great part of the compound rock is composed of the substance provincially termed Cat-brain, which, in this quarry, has been subsequently worked and used as lime; of which notice will be taken in a future page.

A description of a vertical rock of this kind, in the Valorsine, near the sources of the Arve, by Saussure, occurred as presenting some features in common with the above.

This philosopher expresses much astonishment at several results observable in this and other parts of the Alpine regions,

(b) See page 173.

and the impossibility of the formation of breccia, so situated, is dwelt upon, since the components could not rest in this perpendicular position, till enveloped in their stony cement. Recourse is therefore had to the supposition of their having been originally an horizontal stratum, but uplifted by an immense force to their present situation.

“Conglomerate rocks,” Mr. Conybeare observes, “cannot be accumulated to any extent on an highly inclined plane. We are sure then, that vertical strata of this description cannot be in their original position, but in one to which they have been forced by convulsions which have dislocated them subsequently to their consolidation.”

4,—5. Carnelian and Chalcedony.

The former of these substances is here found in pebbles resembling globules of ice; some of sufficient lustre to use in jewelry. Dr. Ure calls it a sub-species of Chalcedony.

In some instances Chalcedony occurs in solid masses, but more frequently as crystallizing (c) the surfaces of quartz pebbles, generally of clear whiteness, but sometimes tinged with various hues.

The term embossed seems not inapplicable to the exterior appearance of these pebbles. They have a peculiar brightness and clearness, not commonly discernable in quartz.

The sand quarries of Iverley-hill proper, chiefly produce these specimens, rarely observed at any considerable distance from thence; in 1831, they are become extremely scarce.

(c) According to Mr. Brewster, quartz crystals, in this instance, are coated over with chalcedony.

Sidmouth, and other parts of Devonshire, Cornwall, Scotland, particularly the Hebrides, produce it. Foreign localities are Chalcedon, in Asia Minor, whence its appellation, Iceland, the Fero Islands, Silesia, Saxony, and Siberia. (d) Mr. Strangeways notices chalcedonic quartz as abounding in Antigua.

6. Chalk.

Chalk specimens can scarcely be said to exist in these deposits, some found therein may possibly be adventitious. Very minute quantities are however apparent in the coatings of flint and chalcedony.

7. Chert.

This mineral, generally in a decomposing state, imbedding the screw-stone and other fossils, is plentifully scattered over the sandy ground, near Stourbridge.

8. Enamel.

This term is perhaps too artificial to apply to a production of nature; Mr. Yates employs it to describe a black but not porous variety of basalt, the product of Barrow hill, Kingswinford. (e)

Adopting the term from a superficial view of substances falling under observation at Audenham, and some other quarries near Stourbridge, (they having a striking resemblance to enamel,) we proceed to mention some specimens recently occurring there.

(d) Nicholson's "Encyclopedia," Ure's "Chemical Dictionary," Hooper's "Lexicon Medicum," Dr. E. D. Clarke's "Distribution of the Mineral Kingdom."

(e) Geol. Trans.

Various colours, as pink, brick red, purple, blues of different shades, brown, &c., &c., pervade these stones.

A pure enamel is noticed by Harmer, (f) as an earth of which vessels were made in some parts of Persia, resembling the Chinese porcelain. Cups used by the ancient Romans called murrine, were made of this material in Parthia; Pliny, Scaliger, and Propertius, speak of murrine. Augustus is eulogised by Suetonius, as displaying great moderation by his retaining only one murrine cup, of all the royal utensils, at the taking of Alexandria in Egypt.

9. Flint,

or "nearly pure silex, (g) tinged with colouring matter," as described by Mr. Bakewell; is found in every part of the district under description, of various hues: sometimes containing fossils, as pectinites, &c., &c.

Mr. Pilkington notices it in his "History of Derbyshire," as abounding in the gravel near to the county town. The gravelly deposits beneath Bredon-hill, Worcestershire, present various minute fragments; those of Stourbridge produce variously coloured pieces, black, purple, &c.

Distant localities, in addition to the usual formations of flinty rock, nodules imbedded in chalk, detached fragments, &c., furnish, in some instances, phænomena of singular interest.

Sir Henry Englefield (h) gives a curious account of a

(f) "Observations on Scripture Passages," III. xxxiv.

(g) Mr. Bakewell regards Chalcedony as a variety of flint, but possessing greater translucency, and having a finer paste; the latter frequently passing into the former.

(h) Description of the Isle of Wight assisted by Mr. Webster.

range of chalk hills, extending from the Needles to Culver-cliff, in the isle of Wight. "Flints, imbedded therein," he observes, "though apparently entire masses, are broken in every direction into pieces of all sizes."

Some mighty compression, some blow of inconceivable force is supposed to be the cause of this surprising effect, the more wonderful, as the surrounding calcareous substances, and also the internal globular silicious masses, remain in their original undisturbed state.

On collecting some of these rounded and other masses of flint, 1818, they shivered into numerous fragments on the application of a very slight pressure.

At the base of a hill, producing, in its lateral concavity, the substance just described, is Blood-stone copse, near to Ashley down. In an angular corner of this rural retreat, is a small rivulet, which receives into its narrow channel a tributary rill of still minuter dimensions.

Both of these streams exhibit on their shallow beds, layers of flint of bright pink, and various other hues, some very uncommon, as appertaining to flinty stones of this class; they are however confined to the surface.

The colouring material has been pronounced to be the *Lichen auricularis*.

Cailloux roule, smooth flints, deposited by the river Durance, the course of which has been changed; have been left on the plain of La Crau, near the east mouth of the Rhone.

10. Fossils.

These once animated remains are not very plentiful in these

sandy formations. Some however occur, not only in their native beds of sand-stone, &c. but in the extraneous masses scattered over their surfaces, as the entrochus, pectinite, &c., which will fall under notice in treating of quartz, coralline-lime, sand-stone, &c.

A few fossils may however be mentioned in this place.

A cellular substance, found at Wassell hill, near Bewdley, also near Birmingham, and some other places; answers to plate XII. figure 9, of Plot's Staffordshire, asserted to be the *Corallium tubulatum*.

A single specimen of a round stone resembling pumice, exhibits, in its cleavage, a pectine shell, from Iverley ridge.

A madreporé infixed in a ground of dark chocolate hue, adheres firmly to a piece of quartz, the line of separation clearly defined. A ferruginous substance in its texture, cellular throughout, and a similar one, having on its upper and lower surfaces figures resembling the Lichen blossom, must for the present conclude our brief catalogue of fossils.

11. Fullers' earth.

Several sites producing this valuable mineral have been pointed out to the writer, as Stourbridge, under New-street, Brettell Lane, near Audenham, and the junction of the Bridgnorth and Stourbridge road, with that of Kidderminster and Dudley. Specimens have been produced, said to be taken from wells, but no ocular demonstration has been afforded.

12. Granite. (i)

The brief history of this species of primitive rock, in reference to the tract under review, is that it exists in common with basalt, quartz, greywack, and various other substances, scattered in massive boulders and pebbles, of every size, at various elevations. Malvern, and the Leicestershire ranges of hills produce it in situ. (k)

It is worthy of remark, that numerous varieties of granite as red, gray, brown, &c., are to be found in the compass of ground alluded to, and that the granitic specimens in the immediate neighbourhood of Stourbridge, are of smaller dimensions than those scattered over the western part of the tract, extending towards Trysul, Claverley, Bridgnorth, &c.

Analogous to this fact, is the circumstance, that the pebbles of the Chissel bank of Portland, are from one to three inches in diameter; near to the mainland, and graduate into minute gravelly ones at the extremity of the isthmus, a distance of seventeen miles. A similar phænomenon is observable in the bank of the same description at Memel, in

(i) Components of granite

Quartz

Felspar

Mica

varying in their proportions; from this commixture of distinct grains or particles, the term granite is derived.

(k) Other domestic localities are Cornwall, of which it forms the skeleton on which the other formations repose, extending to Devonshire; Anglesea; Scotland, in the Grampians; Ben Lomond; the isles, &c., Aberdeen, Portsoy, county of Bamf, where a beautiful graphic variety occurs;* Ireland, in the Wexford mountains, &c., &c.

* Portsoy granite, the most remarkable in Europe, is of purple tint, resembling Labrador spar. On the discovery of a similar production in Arabia, the Arabs imagined that they had found the tables on which the law of Moses was originally written.

Prussia; and the pebbles of the Rhone are largest near to the Alpine source of that river, diminishing gradually with the progress of the stream through Dauphiny to the sea.

St. Pierre gives the following description of the grand outlines of granite on the surface of the globe:—

I. From Baffin's bay to Cape Horn.

II. From Mount Atlas to Kamschatca, consisting of Caucasus, Imaus, Taurus, Ararat, mountains of Thibet, &c.

Two subordinate chains stretch out from these, as

1. That embracing the Mediterranean and Caspian seas.

2. The Red Sea, Gulph of Arabia, Persia, Bengal, and Cochin, China.

Professor Ure describes some of the grand features of the granite formation in different parts of the world, and the fragments thereof scattered through different countries, e. g.

“The gigantic spires reared round the summit of Mount Blanc cannot be surpassed in magnificence.”

“Mount Corvin, an insulated pyramid, more than 3000 feet high, placed in the loftiest ridge of the Alpine chain, is an eloquent witness of the great aqueous catastrophe; minor ones are found in the subsidence of earth from gigantic masses, and the rolled pebbles of different districts.”

“The rocks of Horeb and Meribah, supposed to be fragments severed from Mount Sinai, the plain of Troy, Elba isle, Corsica, Australia, the Alps, Pyrenees, Norwegian mountains, banks of the Ganges, from Calcutta to Cawnpore: all exhibit granite formations.”

In Seeley's “Wonders of Elora,” a large granitic barrier,

supporting the great wall of the Deccan is described ; also a table land extending from Cape Comorin, opposite Ceylon, to the province of Candeish, near to Surat, which is one unbroken series, with the exception of an opening at Pimceany, in Malabar, 12 miles in breadth.

The cavernous temples of Elora, Keylas, Visvacarma, Indria, and others, hewn with incredible labour out of the solid rock, replete with statuary and other ornaments, are formed of this primitive substance.

This primitive rock, the nucleus of the globe, existing at the lowest depths to which human labour has penetrated, apparent also at the summits of the loftiest mountains ; is remarkable for its general dispersion over great part of the earth. (1) Geological writers admitting the fact, have variously accounted for the phænomenon.

Professor Buckland observes, that in the whole course of his geological travels, from Cornwall to Caithness, from Calais to the Carpathians, in Ireland, in Italy, &c., he has scarcely gone over a mile without finding a perpetual succession of deposits, gravel, sand, or loam, in situations that cannot be referred to the action of modern torrents, rivers, lakes, or any other existing causes ; and with respect to the striking diluvial phænomenon of drifted masses of rocks occurring over the greater part of the northern hemisphere, from Moscow to the Mississippi, chiefly in a direction from north to south, sometimes many hundred miles distant from their native beds, across mountains, valleys, lakes, and seas: the

(1) "Granite," it has been observed, "travels further than slate; blocks of a cubic or hexagonal form, being found at greater distances from their native rocks than those having acute angles:" it has also been remarked that "fragments rolled to the remotest distance are of the hardest and most indestructible materials, as granite, &c."

force of water must have possessed a velocity to which nothing that occurs in the actual state of the globe, affords the slightest parallel. (m)

In addition to domestic depositions, heretofore noticed, Shap fell, in the neighbourhood of Penrith, may be named, producing, in great profusion, a porphyritic granite, evidently extraneous.

In the western isles of Scotland, blocks of this description, scattered over the surface, or imbedded in alluvial soil, are totally different from any existing in situ in the islands themselves, or on the neighbouring mainland. (n)

Previously to proceeding to enumerate foreign localities, the general prevalence of these blocks on the sands of the sea shore, may be thus briefly adverted to.

Saussure and professor Buckland relate, that masses torn from the primitive chains of the Alps, (including mount Blanc,) by diluvian agency, rest upon the calcareous mountain of Jura, 2000 feet above the intervening lake of Geneva of 1200, 2250, and even 10,296 cubic feet in dimension, Pierre a Martin being of the latter size.

Mr. Conybeare is of opinion that colossal blocks of

(m) Professor Playfair conjectures that the transportation of angular-shaped masses is caused by glaciers; that of the rounder ones, by torrents; ascribing to mountains, in their original state, superior magnitude and elevation to those at present observable.

Saussure, and some other geologists, suppose that the immense quantity of rounded gravel collected in the vicinity of some mountainous tracts, prove the ancient descending torrents to have possessed a momentum of which there is no example in the present state of the world.

(n) Dr. Macculloch.

granite, scattered over the plains of northern Germany, may be traced up to the Scandinavian chains on the opposite side of the great gulph of the Baltic.

The hon. Mr. Strangeways, and other authors, alluding to the numerous boulders prevalent around Petersburg, (o) point out an affinity between Russia and Britain, with respect to gravelly deposits and their promiscuous contents.

Caralia, whose granitic rocks are connected with the chain of Finland, Sweden, Norway, &c., is supposed, together with Scotland, to form part of a great primitive formation. (p)

Indications of diluvian action are observable in the valley of the Seine, those of Garonne, strewed with fragments rolled from the Pyrenees, that of the vicinity of Turin, and others.

Odin mountain, in Siberia, the summits of the highest schistose mountains of Nova Scotia, the plains of Media, &c., &c., exhibit similar appearances.

13. Green stone.

It is not the rock of the trap formation, composed of hornblende and felspar, which is here recorded, but such green coloured minerals, of various kinds, as have attracted notice on examining the deposits under review.

(o) From hence was obtained the enormous block of granite, forming the base of the statue of Peter the Great, in that city.

(p) So various are the substances impelled by diluvian agency from their native rocks, and to such distances are they conveyed, that Dr. Buckland supposes the continental strata of Denmark, Norway, and Sweden, to have contributed to supply the masses of pebbles scattered on the eastern coast of England, commixed with those which are appropriate to the spot.

Silicious and calcareous substances, having a green tinge, will hereafter find a place in our catalogue; a piece of light green stone, resembling jasper, and a very ponderous mass of dark hue, containing a large proportion of iron, with a tinge of red, have been gathered from piles of stones, collected from sandy fields.

Specimens of flint or jasper of the same colour, have been presented, taken from the bed of a brook between Enville and Stourton.

A substance found at Drayton, in Chaddesley Corbet, is thus described by a friend:—

“Carbonates of copper and iron in micaceous sand-stone, full of globular distinct concretions.” Specimens, having slight tinges of gray copper, have sometimes appeared among the articles examined. This metal is entirely extraneous from the formations of the country, Ecton, in the parish of Wetton, Staffordshire, being the nearest mine. Alderley-edge, near Macclesfield, and many others might have been enumerated.

14. Greywacke,
a mountain formation, consisting of several substances, as quartz, flinty slate, felspar, and clay slate, cemented by a basis of the latter mineral; is found in scattered boulders, together with the usual casual fragments above mentioned.

15. Hornstone.
Several specimens have occurred at Iverley, &c. It is prevalent in the lime rocks in the Menai, also in Scotland, Bavaria, &c.

16. Jasper.
Though this stone rarely occurs, yet many varieties of it have

been procured, always in detached masses, never in rocky ones.

Red pebbles, resembling sealing-wax, yellow and brown varieties, as purple, &c., graduating into agate, &c., are severally obtained, sometimes a craggy cellular variety occurs. It enters into combination with numerous minerals, as quartz, basalt, &c., &c.

In a pile collected from various parts of the neighbourhood, are several substances appearing to have some affinity to jasper, and some very slightly intermixed therewith.

Cornwall yields jasper, and many other parts of England. Scotland has extensive formations, particularly in the isle of Rum, where Dr. Clarke observed a beautiful green variety, spotted and striped with bright blue, white, yellow, and red. (q)

17. Iron.

This most useful and generally diffused of metals, in addition to its position in stratified masses within the profound depths of the mining portions of the country, (r) occupies also the vegetable, and even the animal kingdom, in a certain degree, (s) forming likewise one of the constituents of diluvial depositions.

Argillaceous iron-stone, similar to that of the district first described, is of frequent occurrence in the forms of glebes, balls, &c.

(q) Dr. Maccullock found there, in vast profusion, agates, zeolite, lava, &c.

(r) See pp. 405. 407.

(s) "Equisetum, oak, strawberries, &c., &c., contain iron. Blood contains much of it, to which it owes its red colour."—Panorama.

Nuts, as we have adventured to term the specimens bearing the form of that species of fruit, sometimes meet the eye of the observer, as do geodes of rude shapes, both single and double, the upper and lower parts fitting each other, and replete with powdered oxide of iron.

There is another variety of iron-stone, termed argillaceous by some mineralogists, consisting of smooth pebbles of various shades, resembling some of the silicious stones; the peculiarity of which is, that when breathed upon it has a strong earthy smell; it bears a fine polish. (t)

Red iron-stone, or hematite, the sixth in our list, (*) if not a product of this country has at least a congener here, bearing a striking resemblance thereto in some particulars, though not possessing its reniform exterior. Beautiful nodules, and some masses of nearly two pounds weight, and under, are thinly interspersed with the countless ingredients of the sandy depositions.

These pieces are generally black and glossy, sometimes stained with a red substance, like those of the vicinity of Ulverstone and Furness, Lancashire, Germany, and many parts of the continent of Europe. (u)

The gravelly bed extending from Audenham to Ashwood bridge, through which part of the excavated bed of the Stour-bridge canal extends, as far as appears, is the most plentiful deposit of these specimens, though they may possibly prevail beyond these precise bounds. (v)

(t) Found near Ashwood bridge.

(*) Page 407.

(u) Hematite according to Mr. Yates is met with at Merevale, Warwickshire.

(v) Siberia, and Santiago, in S. America, are said to furnish similar nodules.

Pieces of iron filled with small shells of the cockle kind, and other figures, one resembling a cluster of grapes, wood-stone, a fragment combined with sand resembling pig-iron metal, with various oxides covering and combining with masses of different sizes ; occasionally occur.

The next variety we shall notice may be termed Ferruginous sand-stone. An arid region extending from Kinver to Compton, was observed during perambulations in 1822, to be strewn over with a dark coloured sand-stone. Many fragments, resembling pieces of broken pottery, and some large boulders were prevalent.

In 1826, a rock of red sand, on the road from Kinver to Compton, was lowered to the depth of 10 feet, and its contents employed in filling up an adjacent valley. The northern section of rocky wall thus produced, contained within its compact sand-stone, masses of this substance wrapped in yellow and variously coloured sand, differing from that of red rock, which served as a matrix.

On examining a rock situated within the neighbouring woodlands of Enville, massive strata of the substance occurred, some in a friable state. An excavated rock, at a short distance, formed into a rural residence, exhibited a very compact hard sand-stone with less mixture of iron.

Gattacre-hill, descending from the Morfe to Bridgnorth, displays several stripes of this ferruginous substance, alternating with sand, as do several parts of the same tract ; but information has been received that Hermitage-hill, near the latter town on the road to Wolverhampton presents the most complete formation of the kind in the neighbourhood.

So curious, at least to the observer, were these ferruginous

contents of the rocks of new red sand-stone, that a large number of boulders, and other such fragments, were procured without delay, and transferred to a pile in the writer's garden, with a view to further examination. (w)

No specimen of either cubic or globular form was observable, but various grotesque figures, most of them of bevilled shapes, indicating a former state of igneous fusion; laminæ, similar to those formed by successive layers of melted metal or lava appeared on some specimens.

A broad vein of blue iron is almost uniformly apparent in the interior of the sandy mass. On smelting a small portion of the stone, a clear and beautiful metal was the result.

Among numerous masses, most of them having a wavy contour, are some figures resembling the human head; one of gigantic size is pre-eminently conspicuous, weighing $17\frac{1}{2}$ lb. The sagittal suture is continued from the forehead to the neck, where the vertebræ commence. No coronal suture is apparent. Instead of a face, is a sectional surface of stone, with the iron ore infixed in its centre.

An helmeted head has likewise on its exterior, the same continuous suture, which does not confirm the conjecture of the first-named specimen being a human one.

The fossilized human skeleton found at Guadaloupe, and deposited in the British Museum, is well known.

It may not be foreign to our purpose to adduce some testimonies of the existence of a somewhat similar stone in other parts of the kingdom.

(w) Rock-work ornamented by plants in the garden of the Earl of Stamford, at Enville, is in a great measure formed of this stone. It is sometimes found in small pieces, in the sandy deposits in general.

Car-stone or Quern-stone, observes Mr. Conybeare, is best studied in the neighbourhood of Hastings. (x) Mr. Smith terms it the micaceous brick earth of the midland counties. Bedfordshire, (y) where it occasionally alternates with fullers' earth, Dorset, Berks, Sussex, and other counties, are enumerated, as presenting localities of this mineral, from whence the eminences composed of it, extend in a chain through Oxon, Wilts, &c.

In the latter district, it fell under the observation of the writer on approaching Chippenham from Devizes; the piles of stone during the greater part of the stage were replete with the substance here described.

“ It occurs,” according to Mr. Townsend, “ at the foot of Beacon hill, on the road from Pewsey to Chippenham, and may thence be traced rising to Lockswell heath and Dringhill.”

“ Again it is observed emerging from beneath the clay at Foxhanger, near Devizes, and rising to Scend, in the form of a pudding-stone. In the isle of Wight this stone forms the substratum of the southern half of the island.”

Silicious pebbles, marbled with oxide of iron.

So various are the figures displayed on the surfaces of these stones, on grounds of different colours, that they seldom fail to excite the admiration of even common observers.

To particularize but a few of the number—some might be termed Zebra stones, others are beautifully marbled, and a

(x) The sombre hue of the cliffs of Hastings, situate among some of the brightest of Albion's rocks, forceably struck the writer on a tour in 1815. See also pa. 426.

(y) In the centre of Woburn sands.

third class exhibits rounded stones entirely covered with yellow oxide of iron; the latter are found on the banks of the Birmingham canal, near Smethwick, and at Barr.

An interesting collection might be made of this substance alone, and the same remark is applicable to many others, as basalt, quartz, &c., &c.

18. Killas, clay slate of the Cornish miners.

This mineral was found in the marsh adjoining the race course, accompanied by many others of remarkably fine texture and brightness of colour, and of different qualities from those observable in other parts of the sandy formation.

19. Lime.

A calcareous, rock provincially termed Cat-brain, prevails in many parts, not only of the sandy district, but also in the argillaceous portions of the country. (z)

To the locality of Compton, already mentioned, may be added a considerable part of the parish of Enville, Gattacre hill, near Bridgnorth, Ashwood, near the bridge crossing the road from thence to Wordsley, at a considerable depth; Iverley-ridge, Hagley, Stourbridge, at the depth of 36 feet, near to Catherwell. (a)

Cat-brain rock is of hard and compact texture, it bears a fine polish, exhibiting a fawn-coloured porphyritic surface. Crystals of quartz are frequently combined with its fragments, sometimes forming geodes, as in the rock under Wordsley. It is much used in the formation and repair of public roads.

(z) These calcareous rocks are frequently in juxta position to those of red sand.

(a) Kentish rag has been compared to this substance. It is conjectured that rock salt is imbedded in this formation, at a considerable depth.

Another form in which this stone appears, is that of breccia.

On first inspection of this variety, the term adhesive gravel seemed to be sufficiently indicative of its nature; but on further examination, it appeared that very compact brecciated masses, were also visible, containing small pebbles of jasper, quartz, basalt, &c., &c., with lime ones of large size, hard texture, destitute of organic remains, often nut-shaped, with an husk of red rock. The quarry at Compton likewise produces cat-brain, with a calcareous efflorescence, resembling the snow fossil of the Matlock caverns.

Coralline Lime.

M. Aikin, in a paper on gravel in the vicinity of Lichfield, (b) speaks of coralline lime-stone, as derived from the mountain lime-stone of Derbyshire, together with chert, &c. (c)

On examining the formations of Lichfield and Stourbridge, the identity of these calcareous substances was fully proved. (d) Masses of lime-stone seldom approaching to the

(b) Geol. Transactions, vol. IV.

(c) At the same period the gravel beds of Shipston upon Stour, and in the valley of the Thames are supposed to have been accumulated.

Mr. Whitehurst, considering all beds of gravel as adventitious matter, not original strata, the stones therein contained being rounded by attrition like those of the sea beach, and rivers; describes the rounded stones of a quarry at Uppingham as identical with those of Ketton.

Calcareous stones are described by Dr. Buckland, as covering the Hibernian coasts of Wicklow and Wexford, at distances of from two to ten miles from the continuous tract of the same description, and at an elevation of 200, 300, and 400 feet above the surface of the lime-stone rock itself.

The Devonshire shore, and other parts of the Bristol channel supply masses of lime-stone used for building to the interior of Gloucestershire, &c.

(d) See also pp. 485—491. There is reason to suppose that this lime is very extensively scattered through the district described.

globular form, but generally flat and oval, some in half pieces, were conspicuous in many directions.

Most of these were enveloped in their own decomposing elements, even those in which organic remains were imbedded.

A brief enumeration of some select varieties, with their adopted habitats, may not be unacceptable in this place.

On submitting a large number of specimens to the operation of the polisher, more than 30 distinct varieties of marble occurred, (c) some of which we proceed to particularize after giving some account of them in their rude unwrought state.

Flat and rounded oval forms, (for they rarely appear as craggy fragments,) exhibited in some instances numerous fossils in a kind of filligree relief; in others the figures were thinly scattered.

Madrepores, encrinal forms, &c., lines in different directions assuming a map-like appearance, and occasionally sinking into the mass, and constituting veins of the marble; were observable on the surfaces.

1. Tortoise Encrinite, a resemblance of, according to a plate in Parkinson's "Organic Remains of a former World." The polished part of the specimen, (one only found,) displays a purple marble, inclining to blue; and the figures on the exterior appear to penetrate through the mass.

2. An oblong stone, its under side having a kind of stem

(c) These are all dissimilar to the native rock of the country, Dudley lime or marble.

apparently broken off from a trunk; replete with figures exterior and interior, colour purple, a faint insect fossil on the outside, with many others.

3. A pebble, approaching, together with the tortoise encrinite, nearest of any to the globular form; colour, faint purple; organic remains, madrepores.

4. An oblong mass, having several figures superficially resembling the Dudley locust, but having no lines to constitute it a trilobite; colour, gray. No interior figures.

5. Black Marble. One of the specimens collected at Dobb-hill, near Wordsley, approaches very near to black marble, likewise a smaller one from Iverley-hill.

6. White Marble. After repeated attempts to procure a marble emulating in miniature masses, the celebrated Italian; specimens of clear white occurred at Iverley, Worcester, in Britannia square; and Fimbley, near Lichfield; the latter surpassing the foregoing ones.

7. Green Marble. To attempt the discovery of congeners to the verd antique of Anglesea, or the rich marbles of Roscollin, near Holyhead, would be a bold essay; it can only be announced, that repeated trials by polishing calcareous substances, have produced many shades of green, some intermingled with particles of purple and other colours. (d)

(d) A small specimen of black marble veined with light green, resembling some products of South America, has been recently found at Iverley, and also a stone, coralline lime in appearance, but harder, and of compact texture, polishing black.

“Marmo verde antico,” according to Synopsis Brit. Mus. 1826, “is noble Serpentine, in combination with primitive lime-stone.” Pimelite, like Chrysoprase, owes its green colour to oxide of Nickel.—ib.

8. Landscape marble. One specimen exhibited figures somewhat similar to those of Bristol, in which fancied landscapes are pourtrayed.

9. Moss-marble. An ovate piece contains a resemblance of this elegant product of the vegetable kingdom.

10. Gray Marble. Both plain, and veined with white, strongly resembling Derbyshire varieties, (e) their shades are various and beautiful.—Bromley sand and gravel pit.

11. Yellow and fawn coloured marble. The tints of these are deep and brilliant, in some specimens intermingling with brown and chocolate ones.—Bromley, &c.

In addition to the above, a large number of polished specimens display colours in endless varieties, as pink, purple, brown, both dull and shining, cream and salmon coloured, with streaks, wavy lines, spots, &c., with other *lusæ naturæ*. The largest pebble hitherto obtained weighs $8\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. On comparing these with lime pebbles of the cat-brain formation, the latter assume more of the globular shape, are more ponderous and tenacious striated with lines on the surface, but exhibiting no *exuviæ*; the heaviest $10\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

20. Lithomarge, in rounded and other compact masses of different sizes, and of various colours, blue, brown, gray, &c., of unctious quality and strongly adhesive when applied to the tongue; prevails in fissures, veins, &c., of gravelly and other rocks.

Exposed to atmospheric influence, it disintegrates into a

(e) Marbles, not only of Derbyshire, but of Devonshire, and other parts, have resemblances in these masses.

soapy powder, even the harder pieces, preserving its colours often vivid and beautiful; sometimes arborescent figures adorn the exterior. The hills of Clent and Wassell, and several localities enumerated under preceding articles, produce it, probably many others.

Saxony, Bohemia, Bavaria, &c., according to various authors, yield Lithomarge.

21. Lydian-stone.

This smooth, shining black-stone, the touch-stone of the ancients, is pretty generally diffused. Tmolus, in Lydia, according to Theophrastus, was the place where it was first known.

22. Mica.

A piece of yellow coloured mica, found in Amblecoat lane, and some bright spangles occurring in quartz, exclusive of the grains forming a constituent of granite; supply the scanty materials for this article, treated as a domestic production. (f)

A broad stratum, on the Malvern range of hills, contiguous to granite, situated near to the Wyches, is probably the nearest formation. In Russia it is used instead of glass, procured from the banks of rivers running into the Lena in Siberia. (g)

23 Ochre.

Red and yellow have been noticed, the former in nodules in the marsh near the race ground; but both kinds, rarely, on Iverley hill, partially incrusting stones of other descriptions. Barr also produces ochre.

(f) Mr. Shaw speaks of large micaceous pebbles at Seisdon in Trysul. Staff. II. 210.

(g) Bakewell.

24. Pebbles, Calculi.

These substances, superior in magnitude to gravel, are defined to be stones composed of crystalline matter, debased by earths of various kinds, subject to veins, clouds, and other variegations, usually formed by incrustation round a central nucleus, but sometimes the effect of a single concretion, and veined, as the agates. (h)

Among the vast accumulations of pebbles in some parts of the midland counties of England, numerous varieties arise to view, probably affording ample scope for future discoveries, such as those in which combinations in various proportions exist. (i)

Some laminar constituents are so nicely adjusted to each other, as to admit of the most perfect recomposition.

Mr. Parkinson is of opinion that organic remains being impressed upon pebbles, proves them to have existed in a soft state when these exuviae became involved therein, often times at the bottom of the sea. This species of road material has very generally been applied in broken angular masses, to the formation and repair of roads on the system adopted by Mr. Mc Adam.

Bromsgrove Lickey and Bell-heath furnish vast supplies, in addition to the products of the immediate vicinity of Stour-bridge. (k)

(h) Howard's Encyclopedia. This definition does not include calcareous, ferruginous, and some other rounded stones. Dr. Kidd applies the term pebble to the constituents of a numerous class of rocks.

(i) From this source alone Dr. Ure is of opinion, that a cabinet, containing all the minerals of England, might be collected.

(k) Mr. Telford gives a decided preference to field pebbles.

25. Porphyry.

Without having recourse to distant localities, the source of this mineral, deposited in small quantities, may be traced to the hills of Clent, Lickey, &c.

26. Quartz.

This very generally diffused silicious stone assumes infinite varieties of form, quality, and colour, in the midland tract, some of which we proceed to enumerate.

Crystallized and semi-crystallized quartz. Pyramidal crystals of the former are sometimes very perfect; of the partially crystallized, large blocks frequently occur of such rich con-texture and brilliance, as to excite a great degree of surprise and admiration; while the beholder is unconscious of the identity of this substance with a large class of gravelly constituents.

After distinguishing some of the most interesting varieties of quartz, a general account of the remaining ones will follow.

Green Quartz.

In the summer of 1826, two pieces of this silicious substance, white marbled with green, were found on a pile of stones near to the rock on the Compton road producing the ferruginous sand-stone; on polishing, it bore some resemblance to the Anglesea marble of Roscollin, but had not so bright a hue; the exteriors displayed, in some parts, a coarse green incrustation, in others, a smooth surface; the tinge appears to be chlorite.

During the following summer, researches were made on several parts of the promontory of Iverley, in order to discover additional varieties.

Some of apple and dark green, others of light colour resembling copperas, with many differing shades, were discovered imbedded in the quarries, of various weights and sizes.

Granular Quartz.

This consists of grains or bright spangles of white quartz, cemented by brown, fawn coloured, and other pastes. The protuberances often bear resemblances to those of breccia, sometimes to granitic constituents; these specimens frequently possess considerable beauty. (k)

Mammelar Quartz.

This seldom occurs, it exhibits a kind of embossed figure.

Fat, Milk, Micaceous, Marbled, Ribbon, Quartz.

The latter term applies to some pieces displaying broad coloured stripes.

Carnelian, chalcedonic, and sometimes agatised.

Combinations.

Intermixtures with different minerals, oxides of iron variously interstratified, veins, clouds, &c.

Colours.

Blue, purple, red, yellow, variegated.

Fossilised,

with impressions of shells, cockle, &c., (l) skrew stones, of dif-

(k) The term granular is applied by an author on mineralogy, to grains united without a cement, with which definition the above does not exactly agree.

(l) The Lichfield pit produced a small specimen of quartz imbedding a cluster of shells.

ferent sizes, worms, verticillated figures, &c. The hills of Lickey and Malvern have been incidentally noticed, (m) the latter as producing an instance of the proximity of quartz (n) to basalt.

Concerning the former range, some further remark appears to be expedient. "The lower Lickey quartzose hills, extending in a straight line about two miles from north to south, while the greatest breadth of their base scarcely exceeds a quarter of a mile:" present, in the opinion of Dr. Buckland, "on a small scale, the wavy and pointed outline of a chain of primitive or transition formations, which though apparently isolated, is resumed beyond numerous intervening series, in the mountain groups of *Caer Caradoc* and *Wrekin*."

(m) Page 296, 487, 445.

(n) ANALYSIS OF QUARTZ.

Silica	93
Alumina	6
Lime.....	1
	100

Specific gravity 2.64 to 2.67—Gregory's Cyclopædia.

This mineral, according to the arrangement in the British Museum, is vitreous, including rock crystal;* chalcedonic, or flinty, including agate and carnelian; and cellular or porous.

Bakewell's Geology describes Quartz as a silicious earth, combined with small portions of alumine. Also, as infusible when unmixed, but with alkalis melting easily, and forming glass; acted upon only by fluoric acid. Flint, Chert, Chalcedony, &c., are here represented as differing little from Quartz, which latter substance combined with alumine and iron, passes into Jasper. Dr. Ure speaks of the infiltration of quartz and carbonate of lime in aqueous solution through rocks, as proved by the formation of chalcedonies, &c.

* At Appuldercomb house, in the Isle of Wight, is a specimen of Rock crystal, a foot in diameter. It is perfectly transparent with the exception of one side, on which it has a bright metallic tinge. In the Hunterian museum, at Glasgow, is a fine specimen.

The intermediate portions of this once extensive chain, (the heights of which are supposed to have been vastly superior to the present one,) (o) were, according to the ideas of the professor, broken down, and after violent attrition, accumulated in the form of beds of gravel, contributing a large proportion to the mass of which the midland sandy region is composed.

To the above account succeeds an enumeration of other rocks, suffering by the same wreck, commingling their numberless severed fragments with the common mass. Many of these we have described at the commencement of this article.

The Cornish diamond is esteemed the finest of English silicious substances, it has six-sided pyramids, with an hexagonal prism.

Scotland contains many quartzose mountains, generally of conical forms, as those of Jura in the highlands, Caithness and Sutherland.

In Ireland are Shank-hill, Stilliboun, Brayhead, and the Sugar loaf ones of Wicklow. Foreign localities are Iceland Bavaria, banks of the Moldau in Moldavia, and doubtless others innumerable.

(o) On this supposition, Lickey, Caradoc, and others are but residuary fragments of a once continuous chain, the remainder consisting of scattered ruins.

27. Salt. (p)

The first intimation of the existence of salt within the district abounding with sand and gravel, to which may be added loam and marl; was given by the circumstance of several

(p) *Analysis of Salt, or Muriate of Soda.**

Pure Soda, Soda united to oxygen	53
Muriatic acid †	47
	100

PHILLIPS.

Analysis of Droitwich Salt.

Muriate of Soda, or common salt	96.48
Sulphate of lime, or gypsum	1.63
----- soda, -----	1.82
Muriate of Magnesia	7
	100

HORNER.

The history of salt is curious and interesting. Salt, on account of its uncorruptibility, was considered among the ancients, as a symbol of friendship. The Scriptures record, that Abimelech took the city of Sechem, and sowed it with salt, that the soil might be unfruitful; this effect being produced by the application of large quantities; when used in moderation it has a fertilizing quality.

The Romans are said to have been acquainted with the art of salt making 640 years B. C. Aurelius Victor says, that salt was made taxable by A. Martius.

Pennant observes, that salt was part of the pay of the Roman soldiers, hence the term *salarium salary*.‡ The art was also understood in early times by the Gauls and Germans. The varieties of preparation from salt, and the uses to which it is applicable, are too manifold to insert in this place.

* So termed by the French chemists; sodane has been proposed as more appropriate.

† Oxy muriatic gas has been termed Chlorine.

‡ Raunolf asserts that in Ethiopia, small squares of this mineral pass for money. In India wedges of two or three pounds are in use.

specimens of pebble previously collected in the neighbourhood of Whittington and some adjoining parts of Kinver; proving to be strongly saline.

It occurred to the Rev. James Yates, (q) on viewing the collection, to taste several of the specimens on which this result ensued. The most strongly impregnated substance was a piece of breccia, in which charcoal and gypsum were combined with salt.

Another stone had a saline efflorescence, and some salt was observable on its cleavage.

In 1823, a further examination of jasper and some other stones confirmed the fact of the presence of salt in these substances. During some following years, lumps of rock

The sources of consumption are very numerous; its importance in a political point of view, is shown by the tax thereon, amounting, annually, to a million and a half sterling.* In 1823, the tax was considerably reduced; in 1825, its final abolition was effected.

Aster tripolium, a small Michaelmas daisy, whose habitat is the sea shore, considered as indicating the neighbourhood of brine,† has not been observed by the writer in this part of the country. Dr. Stokes, however, assigns this plant to Saltwych, Staffordshire, and Droitwich.

(q) In Mr. Yates's Memoir, Trans. Geol. Soc. p. 254, n. this circumstance is briefly alluded to, viz. in speaking of sand-stones west of Brierley-hill. Butterby, near to the city of Durham, is noticed by Camden, as abounding in salt-stones.

When the channel of the Were, (Vedra of Ptolemy,) is in part laid bare by summer droughts, the saline qualities of its pebbles are observable.—
Britannia, p. 739.

Acids, particularly the muriatic derived from sea water and from showers, are said to be in operation on the surface of the earth. Saliferous stones have been found at Salndy, in Bedfordshire, in the second century, according to Ptolemy.

* Speech of Mr. Calcroft in Parliament, 1819.

† Phillips's Outlines.

salt were presented to the writer, to be noticed in the sequel, with intimations of the places where they were found.

Localities of rock salt in Stourbridge and its neighbourhood have been pointed out as existing at the following places:—Iverley ridge, beneath the cat-brain on the eastern side, A. D. 1824, weight of specimen 3 oz.

Junction of three roads, Stourbridge, Kidderminster upper line, and Bridgnorth; a miner deposes that in 1825, he found rock salt at this place, in the cat-brain, weight of sp. 2½lbs. Town of Stourbridge, under New street, in the garden of Mr. Southall, (r) 1825, specimen 3½lbs.

Hagley hill, or Wichbury.

In sinking a well near to the residence of T. Hodgetts, Esq., small detached fragments of rock salt, as in the other instances, were found in 1826.

Cat-brain in fine specimens, an unctuous stone resembling lithomarge, and quartz spotted with pyrites, also appeared at the depth of 45 feet.

A superficial, yet extensive survey of the country, yielding salt, will bring under review many localities of independent partial formations—specimens from some of which have been handed to the writer of this memoir, as—Chaddesley Corbet, Bartley-green, Hanbury, Elmley Lovet, and Birts-Morton, all in the county of Worcester. (s)

Proceeding from this enumeration to stations of celebrity

(r) From a well.

(s) Brine is reported to exist near Bromsgrove, on the road to Alcester.

and importance, we fix upon Droitwich (t) as a central point, proposing to expatiate on such other proximate and distant localities as may tend to display in one connected view, the saline treasures of the kingdom at large ; adding a few remarks on foreign stations.

The etymology of Droitwich leads to observations on the term wic, by which similar sites are generally designated, applicable also, to a very important portion of the kingdom in early times, Wiccia.

The term wic, according to Camden, is, in the Saxon tongue, significant of a cove, creek, or reach, hence Greenwich, or Green creek, also Wick near Pershore, and Wyke in the neighbourhood of Powick, situate on the rivers Avon and Teme ; Wichford, &c.(u) together with the Cheshire salt sites. Wic also signifies a salt spring, from wi or wye, holy, the northern nations attributing great sacredness to waters impregnated with salt.

The term is also applied to a station, mansion, or place of security, from wiccian, to inhabit ; as in the instance of Brom, wych, ham, from broom, a plant, wych a steep declivity, such as that of high street, and ham a dwelling place ; Birmingham. (v) Wichnor, in Staffordshire, is derived by Shaw, from vicus, a street or village, being near to a Roman road.

(t) Saltwic is mentioned by Turner as a place where the wittan was once held, when Ethelred was lord of Mercia.

(u) Within the borough of Droitwich are St. Mary's and St. Peter's de Witton, or Wick town, within the town of Northwich is also Witton chapel. In the parish of Doderhill, adjoining Droitwich, are - Wichbold, hall of the Wiccians, and Wichband.

Wich is the name of a deanery in the Diocess of Worcester, also of a parish in Gloucestershire, near Icomb.

Wicciangæ mere was anciently the name of Wigmore, Herefordshire.

(v) Synonymes of this name are West Bromwich and Castle Bromwich.

Salinae, the Roman name of Droitwich, suggests the propriety of dwelling for a short time on the appellations of places thence derived.

After Viæ Salariae, (w) may be placed Salwarp, the name of a river issuing from the Lickey hills, visiting Bromsgrove, and Droitwich, and after conferring its name upon a parish, falling into the Severn below Hawford. Also Salway in Himbleton, and Salford Priors, near Alcester, Warwickshire, at the confluence of Arrow with Avon.

Dugdale says, that the latter was once the site of a salt pan. The resort of pigeons to this spot is said to have led to the discovery of its saline contents. Dr. Plot notices a similar circumstance with respect to the sand rocks of Himley and Prestwood.

Territory and city of the Wiccians. (x)

The boundaries of this tract, as far as our observation extends, are not so accurately defined as those of Mercia and the antecedent provinces of the Cornavii, Flavia Caesariensis, &c. (y)

During the Heptarchy, the inhabitants of the district extending over all Worcestershire, excepting the west angle, all Gloucestershire, east of the Severn, with Warwick, and a great part of its county; were called by the general name of Wiccii.

The principal Mercian see, that of Worcester, included

(w) See Roman, &c., roads, pa. 319.

(x) Tacitus denominates these people Jugantes; Bede, Huiccii, Iconi; Baxter, Vigantes, valiant men.

(y) The Vigones in Germany are so called from their inhabiting a tract near to creeks or bays of the sea or rivers.

this territory. William I. changed the episcopal for the civil government under the earls of Worcester; many names of its chiefs are on record.

Habington, to show the greatness of Wich, or Droitwich, in Saxon times, observes, that it gave name to the territory, which, however, is not universally acknowledged. Richard, of Cirencester, observes, that " Urbes Dobunorum erant Salinæ, Branogena ad sinistram ripam Sabrinae, Alauna, and Corinum." (z)

Worcester, a part of the Mercian kingdom possessed by the Wiccii, who seated themselves on the turnings and windings of the pleasant rivers Avon and Severn; took one of its names from thence, as Wichirne, afterwards Wic, subsequently Wigurne, Wigornia, &c. (a) It is added, that the hills encompassing the city from the east to the Severn, coming so near to the south gate, are characteristic of the situation, together with the above named circumstances.

Respecting Droitwich, it is inserted in Leman's map of the Celtic and Belgic tribes, as existing under the name of Salinae at the time of the first invasion (b) of Julius Cæsar.

Mr. Whitaker, after alluding to the long-lost salt works, in the country of the Cassii, probably at Salndy, in Bedfordshire, mentioned by Ptolemy, as in the second century; proceeds to observe, that about the same period, the springs of Droitwich were discovered by the Romans.

Records of the salt works, according to Dr. Nash, are

(z) De situ Britanniae, Bartram's ed. pa. 24.

(a) Nash.

(b) Beaut. Eng and Wales.

traced from the year 816; they are mentioned in Doomesday book. (c)

King John granted to the burgesses of Droitwich, whatever he had in the village of Wich, with the salt pits and their appurtenances for £100 sterling, yearly. Under this grant, a monopoly took place, which was successfully resisted by an individual, but to his own injury and that of others.

Salt springs, on both sides of the Salwarp river, are described as 110 feet below the surface, followed by 130 feet of gypsum, below which is a brine river, and at its bottom a rock of salt. The brine is pumped up into spacious reservoirs, and thence conveyed to iron boilers, when crystallizations are formed on the surface, which falling to the bottom, are laded into baskets, and deposited in a stove for 24 hours, when the salt is fit for use.

Droitwich brine, according to Dr. Aikin, contains a larger quantity of culinary salt, than any others in England. (d) Upwich, and some other sites in the vicinity, are considered as yielding brine.

Stoke Prior, (e) situated to the east of the Droitwich and Bromsgrove road, was announced in the Worcester Journal, October, 1825, (f) as a very promising saline locality.

On visiting Stoke Prior, October, 1830, the following information was obtained. The parish of Stoke Prior is inter-

(c) In which eight salt pits are recorded as belonging to the king and earl at Wich.

(d) Greenwood's Map of Worcestershire.

(e) Bounded by Wichband and Hanbury. On the opposite side of the river Salwarp, is Elmley Lovet, previously mentioned.

(f) Also June, 1830.

sected by the Worcester and Birmingham canal. On the south side of the channel is a body of rock salt, depth of the shaft 130 yards. Among many specimens procured, some had the exact appearance of brown rock salt of the Cheshire Wiches; (g) others had tinges of many colours, of different shades, while another variety was in a great degree translucent.

Immense buildings for carrying on the necessary processes, some for chemical ones, covered the adjoining ground; date of the commencement of the erection, 1828.

On the north bank of the canal is a brine pit, with necessary accommodations for a factory, at a lower level than the former.

Our next object, and indeed the principal one in view, is to point out formations of this description, which if not in continuity, are links of a regular series, the intervening portions of which may possibly open fields for future discoveries.

In this connexion may be added, Defford, near Croom; Deerhurst, and Walton, near Tewkesbury; Hampton, near Evesham; with Cheltenham and Gloucester spas. (h) Without professing to be acquainted with saline formations of the

(g) Mr. Bakewell in a lecture, observed, that the red matter often mixed with rock salt, is oxide of iron. Cheshire specimens are sometimes clear.

(h) The spas of Cheltenham and Gloucester will be found, upon examination of their respective analyses, to contain considerable portions of muriate of soda. At the former place, sources of many saline springs, of various qualities, are found in the blue marle, which is prevalent in the vales of Evesham and Gloucester. Some specimens of this marle exhibit, on their surfaces, shining particles of calcareous spar.

south of England, East Chennoek, in Somersetshire, may be mentioned on the authority of Mr. Parkes. (i)

Hampshire produces salt, procured by evaporation from sea water; as Lymington, some parts of the Isle of Wight, and many parts of the coasts. (k)

To the east, a salt stream running into the river Cherwell, in Oxfordshire, (l) falls under our notice; the springs of Ashby-de-la-Zouch, rising from beneath the coal measures, shaft 200 yards deep; and the celebrated Leamington waters, now risen to national importance, furnish additional sites. (m)

The salt formations of Staffordshire, in addition to those of the vicinity of Stourbridge, (n) consist of the following:— Shirley-Wick, near Weston, yielding vast quantities of brine, very productive of salt, considered as inexhaustible; Lawton generally classed with the Cheshire formations; and several minor beds, as Enstone, in the parish of Ingestre, Salt, &c. (o)

Cheshire, according to Professor Playfair, presents a saline tract of 14 or 15 miles, extending along the vallies of Weaver, Wheelock, and Dane. (p)

(i) Chemical Essays.

(k) The ancient Britons are supposed to have carried on salt works at Lymington, traces of Salinæ having been observable at low water in the manors of Milford and Hordle, near this place.

(l) Parkes' Chemical Essays.

(m) Camden's Britannia, Dugdale's Warwickshire, Speed's Chronicle.

(n) Of which see p. 464.

(o) Salt occurs as the name of a city in the wilderness, belonging to the tribe of Judah.—Joshua xv. 62.

(p) Camden supposes the Cheshire Wiches to have produced the Roman tribute Salarium.

On the former stream, issuing from Peckforton-hill, is Nantwich, environed by numerous springs, strongly impregnated with salt.

In the angle between Weaver and Dane, are Northwich, Witton, and Anderton. Barnton, Salterford, and Waverham, having weaker springs, follow; the brine of the latter place was discovered temp. William I. Middlewich stands at the confluence of Wheelock with Dane.

Other formations are at Roughwood, in the parish of Bechton, and at Marbury near Northwich. At the last named place are extensive mines, considered as inexhaustible.

A vast excavation, near this town, is an object of great curiosity to travellers, consisting of an immense space in the form of a large cathedral, supported by pillars of adequate dimensions. (o) When illuminated, the effect produced is highly magnificent.

The produce of Cheshire salt for home consumption, and exported from Liverpool to various countries, amounts, according to various authors, to more than 100,000 tons annually, being greatly superior to that of Droitwich.

In Lancashire are Barton and Adlington. Yorkshire, Durham, Westmoreland, and Cumberland, are incidentally spoken of as producing salt springs; in the latter county, at Borrodale, near Keswick. Banton, in Northumberland; and many others in the north of England might be added.

In Shropshire, Adderley and Sutton have salt springs.

(o) Shafts of 180 and 60 feet are descended; the pillars were 24 feet high, and 60 in circumference, 1780.

In Ireland, according to Mr. Trotter, the salt works of Hook and Tintern have been discontinued. Foreign localities of this mineral, with stations for manufacturing it, occur in different quarters of the world. (p)

In Poland, the mines of Wieliezka, near to Cracow, have been long celebrated, containing a subterranean town with a church. Dr. Darwin has drawn an animated picture of the scenery of this place. A fresh water stream is among the wonders of this spot.

The Carpathian mountains, on both sides, the Tyrol, Spain, at Cordona in Valencia, Saltsburg, &c., &c., produce rock salt.

At Bex, in Switzerland, are large mountainous excavations, from whence flow waters conducted to distant salt works; Russia, the Crimea, and Ormus, are also stations. Rauwolf asserts that salt is found at the foot of mount Carmel. (q)

Ethiopia, Abyssinia, shores of the Dead Sea, the valley of salt near Aleppo, Gibul, &c., &c., produce salt. New South Wales, Peru, banks of the Missouri, in Kentucky, Louisiana, &c., may be added.

Mr. Maclure infers the existence of rock salt in Virginia, from the presence of gypsum, the two substances having been generally found together in America and elsewhere. Marshes and other grounds impregnated with salt, are con-

(p) See Williams's Mineral Kingdom, II. 196,

(q) From El-Arych to the great desert, are unmeasurable plains covered with a saline crust of dazzling whiteness. The waters of the Mediterranean sea, flow in by north winds, forming immense salt pans.

sidered as indicative of rock of the same quality on the transatlantic continent. Such grounds are the resort of wild animals.

28. Sand, &c.

After dwelling at some length on the midland sand tract, (r) it is only proposed, in this place, to take some notice of a large number of specimens collected from cleavage of rocks; severed fragments detached by natural operations from their solid masses; rounded and other portions deposited in beds of sand: and the sands themselves, as displayed in stratified or expanded masses in manifold positions.

More than 200 varieties of these have been subjected to examination, of which, a few selected from the mass, must suffice for particular description.

1. Sand-stones both hard and soft, containing fossils. These are replete with shells of different kinds, skrew-stones, &c., but madrepores are most abundant. Some of these are clustered as in fig. 5, plate XII. of Plot's Staffordshire; others are single fossils of different sizes.

2. Decomposing sand-stone.

Many pieces of this description, with filligree surfaces, resemble waterworn cliffs of the sea shore.

3. Cannon-balls, for so we venture to name those rounded sand-stones of different dimensions, which exactly resemble the article in use previous to the invention of metallic balls for the use of artillery.

4. Brecciated sand-stone, consisting of grains of sand and gravel connected by a ce-

ment which is sometimes argillaceous, and sometimes, though rarely, silicious; frequently also impregnated with oxide of iron, the grains varying from particles imperceptibly fine, to constituents of pudding-stone, abounding east of Clent hill, also at Trimpley, Quatford, and Alveley.

5. Micaceous sand-stone.

6. A pillar firmly attached to a base.

This singular *lusus naturæ* is six inches in length, weighing 3 lbs. 10 oz. The pillar, of light coloured sand-stone, resembles an inverted stalactite; the block a dark coloured silicious stone, is not exactly square.—Iverley ridge.

7. Combinations, colours, &c.

The tinges observable on these stones are infinitely variable, as previously noticed; frequently forming grounds for stripes, and other figures of extraneous minerals. In one instance a piece of white quartz, in firm adhesion to a mass of sand stone occurred. (s)

29. Serpentine.

A large pebble, much resembling, if not identical with some varieties of serpentine, being noticed among the gravelly deposits at Audenham, excited some degree of curiosity.

Comparing it to the serpentine of Anglesea, (t) it appears to be somewhat similar to the red kind. Cornwall produces this mineral, inclosing veins of steatite. The peninsula of Lizard, to about one-third of its extent, principally consists of it.

Portsoy in North Britain, and to proceed to foreign loca-

(s) See also pp. 486, 505.

(t) Six miles from the Paris mountain.

lities, Zobnitz, in Upper Saxony, many alpine districts, particularly the upper part of Mount Rosa, &c., &c., abound in this mineral.

30. Miscellaneous articles.

Coal. A small piece of this substance being found in the heart of a sand rock at Bromley, (u) led to some enquiries concerning detached nodules, &c., sometimes, though rarely, found in other deposits. A pebble of coal was shewn to the writer, procured from the bank of the new channel of the Birmingham canal.

Professor Buckland accounts for the scarcity of coal in rounded masses, by observing, that the strata are of superior antiquity to many others, and that their vallies are therefore not derivable from a retiring flood.

Uctious substances.

The quality of unctiousness is very rarely perceptible in the deposits under consideration, excepting in the instance of lithomarge; the latter occasionally passes from a soft friable to a hard compact stone.

Very few specimens of quartz and other minerals have exhibited on their surfaces the slightest possible degree of soapy feel, but nothing yet observed approaches to the steatite.

Striped stones.

These have a great similarity to what we have named granular quartz, having the same ground, but so regularly striped with yellow, brown, purple, &c. as to merit the designation of zebra stones.

(u) See also p. 472. n.

Porphyritic clay slate.

Many unascertained substances still remain on hand, but our narrative must here come to a close.

CONCLUSION OF GEOLOGY.

Some allusions having been made in the foregoing pages to the effect supposed to be produced by convulsions, affecting the globe which we inhabit, it will be desirable to conclude these memoirs with the remarks of eminent philosophers, on their pre-disposing causes.

Geological writers have divided the depositions observable on the face of the globe, into antediluvian ; diluvian, the effects of the last great geological change to which our planet has been exposed ; and alluvial, consisting of the debris occasioned by the subsequent operations of nature, still in permanent action.

In examining the local changes which have taken place subsequently to the last great and general convulsion, and still in operation, Mr. Conybeare, notices “ a balanced and compensated effect of destruction and renovation, e. g. the revolutions taking place in mural cliffs and shores, the agency of rivers, the action of atmospheric causes, &c.”

Writers of the Wernerian class consider the universal deluge as the latest diluvian catastrophe which has affected the surface of our planet. Dr. Buckland expatiates largely on the animal exuviae, with which the caves of Yorkshire, &c. abound, considering them as remains of antediluvian animals, the last tenants drowned in the universal cataclysm. (v)

(v) These destroyed species must be exclusive of the animals preserved in the ark.

Dr. Ure, speaking of Baron Cuvier, observes, that he "creates as lively an interest for the ancient empire of the dead, as for the kingdoms of living nature. Accompanying him through the dark cemeteries of the dead, a mysterious gloom from the primeval world, penetrates the soul, and awakens its deepest faculties."

"Fossils speak of a world unlike our own, the fashion of which has long since passed away." Dr. Ure proceeds to say, that each successive mineral bed is the sepulchre of a peculiar colony.

"These relics of life thus acquire singular importance; they furnish stereotype pages, (so to speak,) by which the corresponding or equivalent geological formations may be read and recognised in every terrestrial zone, however interrupted by ravines, mountains, or seas." (w)

"The deluge proved fatal to animals and vegetables, both of which lived and died on the spots where found."

(w) The diluvial gravel of Britain is described as similar to that of the continent, containing the same animal remains, many of extinct species, the animals having perished in the same universal catastrophe which produced the gravel. The ingenious researches of Cuvier have led to extraordinary results. By the re-construction of skeletons, their families and species antecedent to the deluge, essentially different from their living types, have been exhibited; the earth being re-peopled with species different from those of the parent world. Even animals resembling some of the present species, as the elephant, Rhinoceros, &c., differ from them in some respects.

Others, as Ammonites, to which might be added trilobites, have no living analogue. The osteology of antediluvian animals differs from that of existing generic tribes; the last universal transflux of the ocean effecting the entire extinction of the primeval species. Portland fossils, in oolite, indicate the climate to have been similar to that of our actual tropics.

Fossils of England and of France have no living archetypes except in aquatorial regions.

Respecting vegetables, reeds, bamboos, ferns, lignites, or bitumenised

The awful event alluded to furnishes ample scope for researches respecting the state of the globe, anterior and posterior thereto.

Some authors have prolonged the days of creation to periods of considerable length, in order to account for the successive formations composing the crust of the globe. Dr. Ure adheres to the plain account of the inspired penman, (x) which is alluded to by the apostle Peter, "The world which then was being overflowed with water, perished." (y)

This author considers the earth as receiving its substance and motions from the volition of Omnipotence at the assigned period of creation. The picture of the deluge, sketched in Psalm 104, appears to this philosopher to favour the idea of the post-diluvian earth having been peopled with animals by a new-creative fiat, while through Noah, all mankind are the children of Adam.

In verses 6 and 7 it is said, "The waters stood above the mountains, at thy rebuke they fled, at the voice of thy thunder (volcanic explosion) they hasted away."

The Hebrew text printed in italics, in the margin of our bibles, presents this reading, "the mountains ascend, the valleys descend," &c. The renewal of the face of the earth, described in the sequel; trouble arising from the hiding the

wood, palms, equisetum, cacti, yuccæ, arborescent grasses, now tropical, are found in the coal strata.

Martius and Sternburg on antediluvian plants, observe, that the posture of vegetable fossils, in coal mines, the perfect preservatum of their leaves, the vertical position of their trunks, &c., &c., are incompatible with the hypothesis of their transport.

(x) Gen. vi. 17. vii. 11, 21, 23.

(y) 2 Peter iii. 6.

face of the Creator from the animals; their cesation of being, death, and return to dust; others created by sending forth of his spirit; all these events are adduced as corroborative of the representation given.

BOTANY.

THE vicinity of Stourbridge, though principally exhibiting formations of clay and sand, contains numerous varieties of soil constituting subordinate divisions of each description. From this variety of surface, some display of plants of the rarer kinds might naturally be expected; a minute investigation has accordingly realised this anticipation.

A brief catalogue of such plants is therefore subjoined, purposely omitting those of common occurrence as needless repetitions of Floras already existing. In some instances localities at a distance from the central part are alluded to, either as having some productions in common with those of the immediate neighbourhood, or as falling under personal observation; and some interesting extraneous plants are introduced in the margin.

Many of the following botanical memoirs were honoured by an insertion in the Midland Flora, (z) having been communicated to the author of that work in the course of private correspondence.

(z) Midland Flora, in two vols. by Thomas Purton, Esq., Alcester, F. L. S. with engravings by Sowerby. — Stratford upon Avon, 1817. Also an Appendix, forming vol. III. — London, 1828.

The progress of botanical science will probably be greatly accelerated by the encouragement recently given to horticultural pursuits; the counties of Worcester, Gloucester, &c., abounding in societies of that designation, while the ample collections in the nursery gardens, afford facilities for the obtaining subjects appropriate to the study of this branch of natural history.

The efforts both practical and scientific of Mr. Maund, of Bromsgrove, will probably tend, in no inconsiderable degree, to the attainment of the same end. (a)

The Botanical and Horticultural Society of Birmingham, instituted 1829, promises to become the most extensive and splendid establishment of the kind in this vicinity. A large piece of ground well calculated for its intended purpose, is, during the autumn of 1831, in a state of rapid progress towards completion.

A select descriptive Botanical Catalogue.

Adjugæ reptans alba, Bugle. Didynamia gymnospermia.
Habitats, Wollaston rocks, Tame side, near Barr.

Adoxa-muschatellina. Octandria tetragynia. Banks of Stour, near Ashwood bridge, Foxcoat, holloways at Oldenhall, and between Broughton and Drayton.

Agrimonia. Agrimony. Dodecandria digynia. Woods, &c. eupatoria, banks of Stour.

(a) See Botanic Garden, or Magazine for Hardy Flower Plants, cultivated in Great Britain, 4to. by Benjamin Maund, F. L. S. Monthly numbers, with plates.—London, Simpkin and Marshall.

- Alisma plantago.** Hexandria polyandria. Ponds.
- Alchemilla vulgaris,** Ladies' mantle. Tetrandia monogynia.
Dennis vale and meadows.
- Allium sativa,** common garlic. Hexandria monogynia. Dennis park and adjoining fields, also a bulbiferous variety.
- Anagalis arvensis** Pimpernel. Pentandria monogynia.
In addition to the scarlet, a blue variety is found on Bredon hill.
tenella, Sutton coldfield park.
- Anchusa semper virens.** Pentandria monogynia. Brettell Lane, near the bridge, Amblecoat hill, Edgbaston.
- Anthyllis vulneraria,** kidney vetch. Diadelphia decandria.
Banks of Dudley canal, between Heywood and Lappal, only.
- Artemisia absinthium,** wormwood. Syngenesia polygamia superflua.
- Asperula,** woodruff. Tetrandia, monogynia. Cradley park.
- Asplenium.** Cryptogamia filices.
adiantum. Ashwood wells.
tricomanes. Rowley hills, Ashwood wells, Cookley, Badger dingle.
- Atropa belladonna,** Deadly night shade. Pentandria, monogynia. Dudley castle hill, Barrow hills, Bromley.
- Bellis (b) non-radiata,** Rayless Daisy. Syngenesia polygamia superflua.
- Betonica alba.** Betony. Didynamia gymnospermia. Dennis valley, rare.
- Bidens cernua.** Bur Marygold. Syngenesia, polygamia æqualis. Banks of streams.

(b) *Bellis*. A plant answering to the description of rayless, with flower stems double the length of those of common ones, was found by the writer near Stourbridge. It flourished for a few seasons, and then died, as was supposed for want of parting.

Bryonia alba, Bryony. Monœtia, pentandria. Hagley, &c., &c., hedges.

Butomus umbellatus, Flowering Rush. Enneandria hexagynia. Different levels of the canal, near Moor lane. in the water.

* * *

Calcium capellatum. Cryptogamia algae. Iverley, &c.

Campanula trachelium, nettle leaved. Pentandria monogynia. Barr, Rowley lanes.

glomerata. Dudley castle hill, Rowley lanes.

latifolia. Ludley holloway.

patula. Enville, Cradley park, vicinity of Broughton, Churchill, &c. var. alba.

rotundifolia alba. Pedmore sands, Clent hills, Stourton lane, rare.

Cardamine impatiens. Tetradymania siliqua. Rowley Hailstone hill.

double blossomed. Field near the Spout, Hagley, noticed by Withering.

Carex. Monœtia triandria.

remota. Hagley park, pools near Corbin's hall.

stellulata. Barr, Roach pool, near Birmingham.

cæspitosa. Carnation grass, uplands near Wichbury.

ovalis. Hungary hill, &c., &c.

vulpina. Banks of Stour and canals.

paniculata. Marshes near the Heath & on the Stour.

strigosa. Cradley park.

sylvatica. ditto

pallescens.

. Cajeput tree. *Cajeputa officinarum*, *Melaleuca Leucadendron* of Linnæus, Amboyna and other Molucca islands. Oil of Cajeput has been recently prescribed in cases of Cholera Morbus.

- fulva*. Cradley park.
distans. ditto
panicea. Barr.
stricta. Marshes.
riparia. Banks of Stour and Smestal.
vesicaria. Reservoir.
hirta. Banks of streams.
teretiuscula. Marshes near the Heath, banks of Stour,
 Harborough pool.
pendula. Harborough pool.
limosa. Amblecoat, Wichbury uplands.
curta. Roach pool, near Birmingham. (c)
flava. Fields near Cradley.
acuta. Roach pool.
pillulifera. Whittington common.
muriatica. Hill pool holloway, Ismere.
Centaurea, Knapweed. *Syngenesia polygamia frustranea*.
scabiosa, greater. Cornfields.
nigra, lesser. Ditto
jacea, radiated. Cradley park.
Chlora perfoliata, Centaury. *Octandria monogynia*. Fields
 near Wichbury hill, Cradley park.
Chrysosplenium, oppositifolium. *Decandria digynia*. Cradley
 park, Harborough, Ludley, various morasses, banks
 of Stour and other streams.
Chenopodium, (d) Goose foot. *Pentandria dignia*. Church-
 yards and other newly dug ground, Old hill, near
 Rowley.
Chironia Centaurea. *Pentandria monogynia*.
alba. Near Audenham.
Circea. Enchanter's Night shade. *Diandria monogynia*.

(c) Now absorbed in the canal reservoir.

(d) *Chenopodium*. This plant is much cultivated in private gardens in Lincolnshire, and used as spinach.

- Lusbridge brook bank, Foxcoat, Oldenhall, and many other places.
- Clavaria Cryptogamia fungi.** Hedge banks, Hagley, Pedmore, &c.
- Clematis erectus.** Barr, banks of Teme. **Polandria digynia vitalba.** (e) Hedges, rare.
- Cochlearea coronopus.** Swine's cress. **Tetradynamia siliculosa.** Chawnell, road side, Heath, road side.
- Comarum palustris Cinquefoil.** **Icosandria, polygynia.** Banks of Smestal, near Swindon, morass, near Pedmore common.
- Conium majalis maculatum.** Hemlock. **Pentandria digynia.** Whittimore.
- Convalaria,** Lily of the valley. **Hexandria monogynia.**
- Convolvulus sepium.** Bind weed, great. **Pentandria monogynia.** **arvensis,** lesser.
- Conyza squarrosa.** Ploughman's Spikenard, **Syngenesia polygamia superflua.** Dunsley, and Stourton castle hills, vicinity of Hagley, &c.
- Cornus.** Cornel tree. **Tetrandia monogynia.** Hedges near the Lye, Love lane, on Hanbury hill.
- Cotyledon umbellicus,** Navelwort. **Decandria pentagynia.** Near Clent church, Kinver ridge, Bridgnorth rocks.
- Cucubalus,** Bladder Campion. **Decandria trigynia.** Kingswinford, Junction, meadows various.
- Cynoglossum,** Hound's tongue, **officinale** and **sylvaticum.** **Pentandria monogynia.** Brettell Lane, canal banks, roads near Hagley, &c.

(e) *Clematis vitalba*, and *Humulus lupulus*, the Hop, (sometimes designated the northern vine,) bear the nearest resemblance of any plants within our sphere to that glorious product of the vegetable kingdom, the Vine.

Dr. Whitaker, speaking of the blood of the grape, dwells on the term *Vitis* as having allusion to the tree of life. The vines of France ranging in straight lines, are represented as less luxuriant and beautiful than those Italy. The Falernian territory is described as the garden of Italy.

- Daphne laureola**, (f) Spurge Laurel. *Octandria monogynia*.
Woods, Witley, &c., &c.
- Dianthus cæsius**, Mountain pink. *Decandria digynia*. Abberley hills, Quatford rocks near Bridgnorth, Blackstone rocks near Bewdley.
- Digitalis alba**, White Foxglove. (g) *Pentandria monogynia*.
Abbot's hill and common, Kinver ridge, Malvern, Fields near Whittington, but nearly extinct.
- Dipsacus pilosus**, Small Teazel. *Tetandria monogynia*.
Banks of Stour, near Stourbridge, on the road to Halesowen, Lye mill, Ashwood, near the river. (h)
- Drosera**, Sundew. *Pentandria hexagynia*. Pedmore common, banks of Harborough pool, Sutton park.

- Epilobium angustifolium**. *Octandria monogynia*. Whittington common, rare.
- Erica**. Heath. *Octandria monogynia*.
vulgaris alba.
cineraria, alba.

The vale of Po is celebrated for vines, which raise themselves into the air, and spreading from branch to branch, equalling their consort elms and poplars in elevation and luxuriance.

In the valley of the Mississippi, purple clusters of grapes adorn the beds of sand, drifted to considerable heights.

The bush vine of Demarara, produces immense stems, termed cables of nature.* Some of these trees produce fruit of deleterious quality, used as poison.

(f) This *Daphne* is spoken of by Sir James Smith, as possessing peculiar beauty, resembling the Palm of the tropical climates.

(g) Glove of Dr. Fuschius. Whether the white variety have similar medicinal virtues with the purple, may perhaps merit consideration.

(h) *Dipsacus fullonum*, almost the only British plant applied in its natural state to mechanical purposes; frequently occurs in the south of Worcestershire, Gloucestershire, &c. It is said to have been introduced 10 Edw. III., when the woollen manufactory obtained a considerable extension.

* Waterton's South America.

tetralix alba. All very rare, purple common.

ciliaria, once growing in a morass near Round hill, Iverley.

Erodium moschatum, Stork's bill. *Monadelphia pentandria*. Sandy fields.

(i) *Euonymus*, Spindle tree, *Pentandria monogynia*. Hedges near to the Lye, and Hagley.

Eriophorum, Cotton grass, *Triandria monogynia*. Pedmore common, meadows in vale of Stour, morass near Pensnet reservoir.

Fumaria, *Diadelphia hexandria*.

capriolata. Dingle near Lye.

claviculata, ditto and Amblecoat.

Galeobdolon, Yellow dead nettle. *Didynamia gymnospermia*.

Galium. *Tetrandia monogynia*.

sexatile. Heaths, &c.

aparinum. Marshes.

witheringii.

Genista spinosa, Prickly Broom. *Diadelphia decandria*. Whittington common, plentiful, but observed nowhere else.

tinctoria, Dyer's weed. Coalpit banks in various directions

Geraneum, *monadelphia decandria*.

(i) *Euonymus* is sometimes much infested by a caterpillar which on casting itself from the tree to the ground, spins a thread of greater tenacity than that of the spider; a needle has been threaded therewith. Philosophers have regretted the difficulty of procuring fibres sufficiently fine and elastic for micrometers. Fibres of unwrought silk and spun glass have been tried as also the spider's web, and silver wire, the latter with the greatest success.

Perhaps the *Euonymus* might supply a suitable article for this purpose. Whether this elegant shrub be indigenous where found as above, an out-cast from the garden, may admit of some doubt.

pheum. Cradley park.

lucidum. Rowley, Halesowen hill.

robertianum album. Ludley.

Graminea Grasses. Triandria digynia.

Agrostis, Bent grass.

alba.

variegata with white. (j)

————— yellow.

nigra.

stolonifera. (k)

Aira.

cariophillea. Commons.

precox. ditto

cristata. ditto

aquatica. Lusbridge brook.

flexuosa. Woods, commons.

Anthoxanthum odoratum. Grass fields.

variegatum. One plant, Barr.

Arundo colorata. Near Broughton village.

calamagrostis. Pensnet reservoir.

phragmites. South of Worcester.

Avena elatior, and *flavescens*. Grass fields.

Briza Minor. Grass fields.

Bromus.

giganteus variegatus. (l) Woods, &c.

secalinus. ditto

sterilis. ditto

sylvaticus. ditto

(j) This variety, found near Stourbridge, was termed, pro tempore, Hoary grass, characteristic of its effect when intermixed with the green turf of the grass plot. It occurred in the botanic garden of Edinburgh, 1816, marked as a distinct rare variety.

(k) The Fiorin of Dr. Richardson.

(l) Leaves faintly striped with yellow, stem in length, half green and half yellow, a variety resulting from culture.

Cynosurus cristatus. Roads, fields.

Dactylis glomerata. (m) Commons and fields.

* * *

Festuca, ovina. Commons and hedge banks.

duriuscula. Commons.

loliacia. Cradley field.

myurus. Commons and road sides.

rubra. Commons, &c.

pratensis. Fields.

arrow headed, (a temporary name.) Pedmore rocks,
Cookley, Bredon hill. (n)

Hordeum pratense. Barley grass. Scattered variously, luxuriant. Beckford, near Evesham.

Holcus bulbosus.

to *mollis* and *lanatus* may be added, a variety similar to the first, excepting at its root, very common.

Lolium perenne. Grass fields, some answering to the terms *ramosum* and *compressum*, *variegatum*. Stourport, one plant.

Melica, uniflora. Cradley park, Barr.

nutans. Woods.

cærulea. Pensnet reservoir, marsh near Pedmore common.

(m) This grass has been cultivated as a distinct crop by the late Thomas Hill, Esq., at High park.

* * * *Elymus arenarius* and *Triticum loliacium*, have been successfully cultivated at Stourbridge, and transplanted from thence to the banks of rail roads, where they continue to flourish.

Acts of Parliament of Elizabeth and George II. have been passed for the protection of these and *Arundo arenaria*, in consideration of their utility in binding the loose sands of the sea shore.

(n) Other *Festucas* not indigenous here, form parts of the collection from which the specimens above described are selected as *vivipara* from Wales, also two varieties of different shades of blue; and a small bright blue, (a garden specimen. Several remain unascertained.)

Milium effusum. Woodlands very luxuriant.

Nardus stricta. Commons, much sought for by rooks, who pierce its roots in searching for the larvæ of certain insects.

Panicum verticillatum.

Poa aquatica. (o) Rivers and morasses.

fluitans. Lusbridge brook, Broughton brook, near the village.

trivialis.

pratensis.

distans.

elatior.

decumbens, &c.

Phleum nodosum, &c., &c. (p)

(q) *Triticum repens.*

junceum. Fields between Pedmore and Hagley.

caninum. Woodlands.

* * *

(o) This *Poa*, though a native of marshes and even rivers, attains some degree of perfection in the most arid situations.

(p) *Phleum* is the Timothy grass of America, from Timothy Hudson, who cultivated it as a separate crop. Parkinson observes, that the root of this grass is fibrous in moist situations, and bulbous in dry ones.

(q) The two first named varieties of *Triticum* are in most respects similar. *Juncium* is prevalent on the sea coast, of beautiful caerulean tinge. That of Hagley, &c., is more faint. No other habitats have been observed. May not this plant indicate the proximity of salt?

* * *Glaux merittiman*, transplanted from the sea shore to the writer's garden, has flourished there for some years. *Salsola kali* flourished, and even increased by seeding during several years, and then disappeared.

Crithmum maritimum was planted two successive autumns, and barely survived each ensuing winter.*

* Since *Salsola* and several other plants when growing near to the sea, are known to secrete the fossil alkali, (barilla,) and in inland situations to produce potass; it becomes a curious and interesting enquiry, whether the change of site, as in the instance just alluded to, reverses the process of nature.—NICHOLSON.

- Helvella.** *Cryptogamia fungi.* Iverley, Bromley, rare.
- Humulus lupulus,** Hop. *Dioecia pentandria.* Casually occurring in hedges.
- Hydrocotyle vulgaris,** Penny wort. *Pentandria digynia.* Harbour and Pedmore commons.
- Hyosciamus niger,** Henbane. *Pentandria monogynia.* Hagley and Broom lanes, Abbot's wood, become very scarce.
- Hypericum,** John's wort. *Polyadelphia polyandria, androsæmum.* Ludley holloway.
humifusum. (r) Sandy fields.
- Juncus,** Rush. *Hexandria monogynia.*
campestris. Meadows.
bufonius.
effusus.
conglomeratus.
squarrosus.
uliginosus. Morasses, banks of streams, and other humid sites.
setacius ditto
- Leonurus cardaica,** Mother wort. *Didynamia gymnospermia.* Iverley hills and adjoining fields.
- Linum catharticum.** *Pentandria pentagynia.* Corn fields.
- Limosella aquatica,** Mudwort. *Didynamia angiospermia.*
Pools near the Heath.
- Littorella lacustris.** *Monœcia tetrandia.* Pensnet reservoir.
- Lycoperdon.** *Cryptogamia fungi.*
stellatum. Lanes near Pedmore, &c.
- Lycopodium,** *Cryptogamia musci.*

(r) This *Hypericum* is very similar to the Tutsan of Pembrokeshire, Monmouth, &c., its fruit not quite so large. Its calix exhibits a beautiful green fringe.

clavatum, Club moss. (r) Whittington common, very rare.

Lysimachia Loosestrife, *Pentandria monogynia*.

nemorum. Woods, Cradley.

numularia. Cradley park, Hodge hill, Wichbury hill, &c., &c.

Marrubium, White Horehound. *Didynamia gymnospermia*.

Iverley, Baldwin's green, near Lye-Waste; Abbot's wood, the latter sweet scented and palmated, 1821. (s)

Melampyrum pratense, Cow-wheat. *Didynamia angiospermia*. Cradley woods, Kingswinford, &c.

Mellitis, Bastard balm. *Didynamia gymnospermia*.

melissophillum.

grandiflora. Woods and fields near Halesowen.

Mentha pulegium, Penny royal. *Didymania gymnospermia*.

Bank of Pensnet reservoir, doubtful whether indigenous.

Menyanthes, Buckbean. *Pentandria monogynia*. Blake-down and Harborough, vales of Stour and Smestall.

Montia fontana, Water chickweed. *Triandria trigynia*.

Morasses in general, and other humid situations.

Narcissus pseudo, Narcissus. *Hexandria monogynia*. Overend, Cradley.

biflorus, Glasshampton, Wor.

Narthecium ossifragum, Asphodel. *Hexandria monogynia*.

Barr, Sutton park.

(r) The Monthly Magazine, May, 1814, records a discovery by Lord Dundonald, of a method of making gum from *Lycopodium clavatum*, equal to that of Senegall for cotton printing.

(s) Whether this constitutes a variety may be questionable.

Nepeta, Catmint. **Didymania gymnospermia**. Pedmore and Hagley roads.

Nymphæa luteola, Water lily. **Polyandria monogynia**. Pools—Blakedown, Broadwater, near Kidderminster, &c.

Oenanthe, Water Dropwort. **Pentandria digynia**. Barr.

Ononis-alba, Rest harrow. **Diadelphia decandria**. Hazeler, near Evesham, very rare.

purple, common.

Onopordum, Cotton thistle. **Syngenesia polygama aquailis**. Vicinity of Worcester.

Ophioglossum, Adder's tongue. **Cryptogamia filices**. Base of Rowley hills, field near the Thorns, Kingswinford.

Ophrys, **Gynandria diandria**. Wichbury wood, Cradley park and fields.

Orchis, **Gynandria diandria**.

maculata. Woods and meadows.

handed. Cradley park, very rare.

Ornithogalum, Bethlehem star. **Hexandria monogynia**. fields near Stourport.

Oxalis, Wood sorrel. **Decandria pentagynia**. Cradley park, Amblecoat.

Parietaria, Pellitory of the wall. **Triandria monogynia**. Chaddesley and Trysul, Walls of the church-yards.

Paris quadrifolia, Herb Paris. **Octandria tetragynia**. Wichbury wood, Cradley park, Dennis park.

Parnassia palustris, Grass of Parnassus. **Pentandria tetragynia**. Sutton park, very rare. (t)

Peplis portula, Purslane. **Hexandria monogynia**. Amble-

(t) This elegant plant has not been elsewhere observed in this neighbourhood, which is also the case with respect to *Pinguicula*.

coat bank in a small morass, Pedmore common,
Pensnet reservoir bank, Barr.

Peziza. *Cryptogamia fungi.* Woodlands, occasionally.

Phellandrium aquaticum, Water hemlock. *Pentandria digynia.*

Pinguicula vulgaris, Butter wort. *Diandria monogynia.* Sutton park.

Plantago, Plantain. *Tetrandia (v) monogynia.*

media hoary. Pedmore rocks.

coronopus. Commons.

* * *

Polygala, Milk wort. *Diadelphia decandria.* Commons, red, purple, white.

Polygonum, *Persicaria.* *Octandria trigynia.*

hydropiper, &c., &c., lakes, ponds.

fagopyrum, Buck wheat. (w)

Polypodium Polypody. *Cryptogamia filices.* Woods.

(v) *Plantago maritima* flourishes at Stourbridge.

* * * *Platanus,* Plane tree. *Monœcia polyandria.* Though not indigenous is found in plantations in this neighbourhood. Sir John Chardin, speaking of Ispahan, says that Plane trees were planted in double rows near to canals and rows of houses, not only for ornament, but for protection from pestilence.

Califf Sultan, grand vizier to Sophi I., affirmed, that from the time when the king his father caused these trees to be planted, the pestilence had never visited the city. Many other Persian cities, particularly Chiras, are full of Plane trees, the inhabitants being persuaded that they are a preventative of all kinds of infection.—Harmer's Observations on passages of Scripture, IV. 93.

Mr. Whitaker observes that the Plane tree was introduced into Britain by the Romans.

• (w) Crops of Buck wheat have been frequently raised on the light lands near Kinver, the seeds afford nutriment to game, poultry, &c. Cakes called crumpits are made of it, and some parts of Shropshire, &c., some agriculturists plough in the crop for manure.

- Populus, Poplar.** **Dioecia Octandria.**
communis. Banks of Stour.
alba. ditto
tremula. Harborough.
nigra. Near the Hayes on banks of Stour.
- Poterium Burnet.** **Sanguisorba Menœcia polyandria.** Grass fields, Amblecoat, &c.
- Pyrola, Winter green.** **Decandria monogynia.**
media. Cradley park, very rare, the only plant, transplanted, cultivated, and soon lost, 1817.
- Pyrus, Pear.** **Icosandria.** A native variety at Quatford, near Bridgnorth.
- Radiola millegrana, All seed.** **Tetrandia tetragynia.** Banks of Harborough pools, Pedmore common.
- Ranunculus parviflorus.** **Polyandria polygynia.** Lanes near Hagley, Brierly, &c.
- Reseda luteola, Dyer's weed.** **Dodecandria trigynia.** Brierley hill, Merry hill, coal pit banks.
- Rosa spinosissima, Burnet rose.** **Icosandria polygynia.** Blakedown holloway, morass near the heath, the Thorns, Amblecoat; numerous wild roses are also prevalent.
- Rubus idæus, Wild raspberry.** **Icosandria polyandria.** Woods and marshes.
- Rumex aquaticus, Water dock.** **Hexandria trigynia.** Banks of Stour, Smestal, &c.
- Sagitaria sagitifolia, Monœcia polyandria.** Banks of Dudley canal, near Lappal tunnel only.
- Sanicula Sanicle.** **Pentandria digynia.**
europæa. Cradley and other woods, a beautiful evergreen.

* * *

* * Salix argentea and prostrata from the sea shore, flourish at Stourbridge.

- Sambucus eubulus**, Dwarf elder. Pentandria tryginia. Overend, Cradley, canal bank at Delph, near Brierley.
- Saponaria**, Soap wort. Decandria trigynia. Banks of Stour near Lye mill.
- Satyrrium viride**. Gynandria diandria.
albidum. Cradley park, Wichbury wood, Hodgehill, Blakeshall.
- Saxifraga granulata**, Saxifrage. Decandria digynia. Hagley, Whittington, Churchill field corner banks.
- Scilla Nutans alba**, Hare bell. Hexandria monogynia. Dennis valley; *Hyacinthus*, non-scriptus of some authors.
- Scirpus**, Club rush. Triandria monogynia.
palustris. Pool near the Heath.
lacustris, Bull rush. Delph, Himley park, Checkill pool near Enville, Smestall, near Green's forge.
setaceus. Pedmore common, field adjoining Mount Carmel.
acicularis. Reservoirs, &c.
pauciflorus. ditto
- Scolopendrium**, Hart's tongue. Cryptogamia filices. Rocks near Bell's mill, Ashwood springs, various wells, detached from spots where prevalent, holloways near Compton, Chaddesley, Hill pool, very rare.
- Schoenus**, Bog rush. Triandria monogynia. Pensnet reservoir.
- Scutellaria**, Skull cap. Didynamia gymnospermia. Banks of Streams and canals.
- Sedum**. Decandria pentagynia.
telephium. Orpine. Lickey hills.
acre. Hayes lime rock, frequent on walls and roofs.
- Serapias grandiflora**, Helleborine. Gynandria diandria. Woods near Lee castle, Wolverley.
- Serratula**, Saw wort. Syngenesia polygamia, equalis.
tinctoria. Banks of rivers and canals.

- Sherrardia arvensis*. *Tetrandria monogynia*. Corn and grass fields.
- Silene conica*. *Decandria trigynia*. One field (x) Iverley, now extinct.
- Solanum*, Nightshade. *Pentandria monogynia*.
dulcamara, common, sometimes variegated.
nigrum, dwarf. Hagley lanes, Wolverley, Abbot's hill.
- Solidago virga aurea*. *Syngenesia polygamia superflua*.
 Coppices, Cradley and Stamber mill.
- Sparganium*, Bar reed. *Monœcia triandria*.
ramosum. Very common in morasses.
simplex. ditto
- Stellaria*, Stitch wort. *Decandria trigynia*. Near streams, &c.
- Symphytum*, Comfrey. *Pentandria monogynia*. Banks of streams, morasses.
- Tamus communis*, Bryony. *Dioœcia hexandria*. Hedges.
- Tanacetum vulgare*, Tansy. *Syngenesia polygamia superflua*.
 Hungary hill, Hagley.
- Thymus serpyllum album*. *Didynamia gymnospermia*, very rare.
ascinos. Churchill field corner.
- Trifolium*, Trefoil. *Diadelphia decandria*.
arvense. Sandy grounds.
fragiferum. Hagley, Barr, rare.

(x) Considered by Sir. James Smith, as peculiar to Kent. No mode of culture succeeded in preserving this plant. An ingenious author thus compares the removal of peasantry into cities, to the transplanting of wild plants by the botanist.

..... as wild flowers which the hand
 Of roaming botanist from some sweet bank
 Remote in woodland solitudes, transplants
 To his rank garden mould, soon drop the head,
 And languish till they die; so pining sink, &c.

Grahame's *Georgics*.

repens, (y) common.

Triglochin, Arrow grass. *Hexandria digynia*. Sutton park. (z)

Turritis glabra, Tower mustard. *Tetradynamia siliquosa*. Hagley, Wollaston, Bridgnorth road.

Typha, Reed mace. *Monœcia triandria*.
latifolia. Harborough, various pools.
angustifolia. Sutton park.

Vaccinium myrtillus, Bilberry. *Octandria monogynia*. Cradley park, Pedmore and other commons, Bilberry hills, Lickey.

oxycoccus, Craneberry. Pedmore common, Barr.
vitis idæa, Whortle berry. Sutton park.

Valeriana, Valerian. *Triandria monogynia*,
officinalis. Morasses near Stour and Smestal.
diœca. Similar sites.

Verbascum, Mullein. *Pentandria monogynia*.
thapsus. Commons.
blattaria. ditto
lychnitis. Kinver, Hagley.
nigrum. Hagley, Broom, Barr.
virgatum, Iverley, rare.

Verbena officinalis. Vervain. *Didynamia gymnospermia*.
 Drayton in Chaddesley.

Viburnum, Guelder rose. *Pentandria trigynia*. Cradley park,
 and other woods, Whittington.

Vinca, Periwinkle. *Pentandria monogynia*.
major. Broughton, near the bridge, Iverley hill, and
 holloway leading to Churchill.

Viola, Violet. *Pentandria monogynia*.

(y) A variety more luxuriant than the common one sometimes occurs.

(z) *Triglochin maritimum*, from Weymouth shore, flourishes at Stour-bridge.

hottonia. Marshes.

parviflora of Dr. Stokes, **clandestina** of Hortus
Croomensis. Iverley hill, summit of sand pit Ped-
more, part of the hill.

canina. Woods about Cradley, &c.

odorata, blue, purple, white, common.

tricolor. Cornfields, a striking contrast to the recently
cultivated varieties of the gardens.

Viscum, Missletoe. (a) **Diœcia triandria.**

album. Orchards near the Four Ashes, Enville.

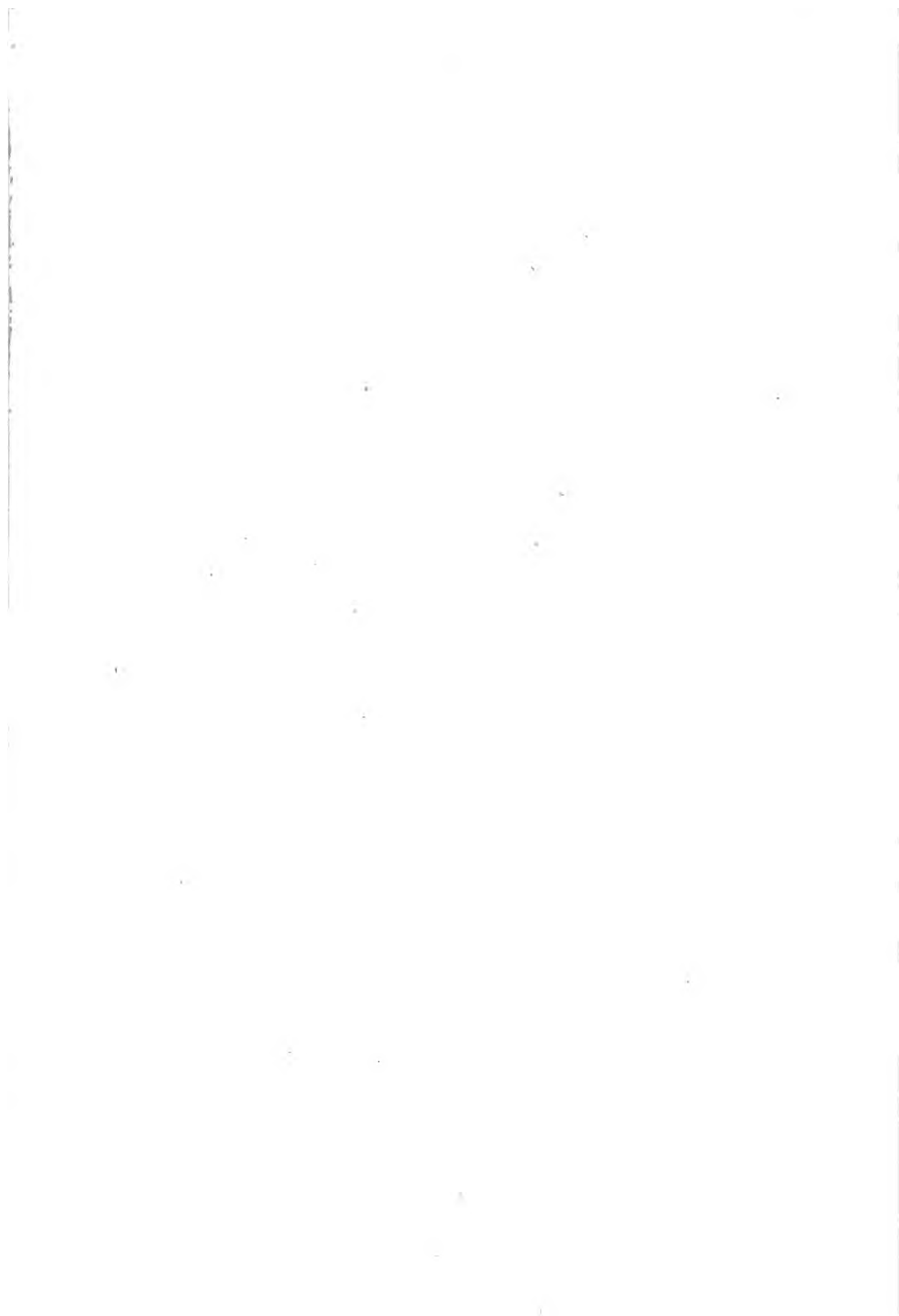
Ulex Furze, Goss. **Diadelphia decandria.**

europæus. West of Iverley hill.

nanus. East of ditto and various commons.

(a) The sacred Missletoe of the ancient Britons is very rare; never found here on the Oak.

APPENDIX.



APPENDIX.



▲

DANES. pp. xiii. 329.

DURING the long visitation of these people in Ireland, previous to the conquest of the country by Henry II, A. D. 1171, (for a period much longer than that of their residence in Great Britain;) stupendous mounts, &c., monuments outlasting architecture, were raised by them.

“ Obelisks, constructed by Danish warriors, were from 20 to 150 feet high, and proportionably broad, respectively indicating the degree of dignity appertaining to the hero reposing under their mountainous masses. Even the memorials recorded by Virgil, Lucan, and Plutarch, yield the palm to the nobler ones of the Hibernian isle.

Carrick Fergus, which received its distinctive appellation “ Fergus,” from its receiving within its bounds the ashes of the first monarch of Scotland; is the seat of one of these monuments, at least it was observable there so late as the year 1726.

In 1684, one of these Danish mounts was explored at Waringstown, in the county of Down, when a stone altar was discovered. (a)

At Knowth, near Drogheda, an urn, exhibiting in a rude sculpture, figures of the two celestial luminaries was discovered; the sun represented by a double circle, the moon, by its appropriate symbols of crescent and circle.

At New Grange, in the same county, a sepulchral mount, in circumference, at its base, 1000 feet, at its summit, 300 feet, in height, 150

(a) One of these is near to Armagh. At Lisnisky and Lesnamentry, county of Armagh, are two old circular Rathes.—Gent. Mag.

feet ; is situated on rising ground ; this most magnificent of Irish memorials, has the dignified appendage of two tumuli, already noticed as conferring twofold honour on some of our English monuments.

In addition to the artificial mountain tumulus, Ireland has forts and towers which invite the researches of the curious ; (b) the former commence in the county of Down, from whence they have supposed to have spread into the interior of the realm ; as the progress of Danish invasion afforded facility for their construction."

Natural History of Ireland, 1726, also, Joannes Cyperus.

BIRMINGHAM. pa. xxii.

In addition to Hutton's "History of Birmingham," two others have recently appeared, one entitled "An Historical and Descriptive Sketch of Birmingham, with some account of its Environs." Beilby, Knott, and Co., 1830.—8s. 6d. ; another, "The Picture of Birmingham," Drake, 1831, 1s. 6d. ; a third, viz. "Birmingham and its Vicinity, as a Manufacturing District," is now announced.—Radclyffe & Co., 1831.

DOOMSDAY BOOK. pa. 27, 28.

During the continuance of the Saxon government in England, A. D. 900, Alfred the Great compiled the "Liber judicialis," Dome bock, Dom boc, Doomsday book ; containing a code of laws, which was extant in the reign of Edward IV., but was unfortunately lost ; denomi-

(b) Some of the towers and steeples are supposed to have been erected before the conquest.

"Lush, county of Down, has a round tower in common with the church."
Carlisle's Dict.

"Hook tower, Wexford, was standing, A. D. 1171, when a light house was built on the site by the English."—Trotter.

nated also the Roll of Winchester, from its being deposited in that city, as the metropolis of Wessex. (c)

Edgar commenced a similar work, which was completed by Edward the Confessor, consisting of a new edition with additions and improvements of the Dome book of the illustrious Alfred.

“Ethelward, who derives himself from Ethelred, a brother of Alfred, produced a rude, but valuable chronicle.”

Turner's Anglo Saxons.

Ina's West Saxon Leaga is considered by Rapin, as a source from whence Alfred derived his materials for a legislative code. A MS. book of St. Edmund is quoted by Camden. Respecting the compilation of

(c) In earlier times, to the British King Dunwall, Dyfnval, Moelmud, or Molmutius,* is ascribed the first formation of a national code of laws and institutes, for the perpetual preservation of good order, and the maintenance of justice, adjusting the rights and claims of all classes, and fixing the boundaries and subdivisions of the country.

His laws were translated by Nennius into Latin, and the copy communicated to Alfred by Aserius, Bishop of St. David's.† This eminent legislator is represented as descending from Aed Maur, a prince of the first colony of the Britons.

That eminent scholar, Thomas Johns, Esq., of Havod, Cardiganshire, editor of “Froissart's Chronicles,” and translator of his life from the French of St. Pelaye, editor also of “Montstrellet's Chronicles;” claimed descent through a long lineage of Cambrian Princes, from Dynnarth Hen in this connexion.—See also pa. 64.

The Martian law, instituted by Martia, consort of Guithelin King of Britain, third from Dunwallo, entitled Merchanlege, is asserted by Jeffery of Monmouth, to have been translated by Alfred into Saxon.

Prince Howell, in the 10th century, also collected, promulgated, and enforced, laws referring to certain general principles recognised in remoter ages.

* See also page 316.

† Mr. Probert, in his edition of the “Ancient Laws of Cambria,” conjectures that Alfred the Great adopted the trial by Jury from the Triads of Dyvnwale, at the suggestion of his bosom friend Aser Menevensis.

that accurate and authentic record, "The Great Domesday Book;" (d) it commenced, A. D. 1080, and was completed 1086, by order of William I. It was compiled from the verdicts or presentments of juries, directed to certain nobility and gentry, consisting of two vols. (e)

I. Greater, contained all England, excepting as below, Northumberland, Cumberland, Durham, Westmoreland, and part of Lancashire; never surveyed, part of Wales.

II. or Lesser, contained Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk.

London, according to Britton's "Picture of London," was not included in the survey. This record is deposited in the Chapter House, Westminster.

B. & C.

LORDSHIP & BARONY OF DUDLEY. pp. 28, 285. n. 208, 411.

This extensive demesne, once the seat of almost princely dignity, comprehending a great part of the district described, appears to demand particular attention.

Dud, Dudo, or Dodo, according to the generality of historians,

(d) Book of the Day of Judgment, Great Terrar, or Land Book of England. According to Rapin, the Record was deposited in the Exchequer.

(e) See Rapin Hist. Eng. I. 177, and n. to ib. Acber, the Mogul emperor of Hindustan, with the assistance of Abul Fazel, his minister, promulgated a Record of this description in which the resources of the country were ascertained with a view to its future government. Ayeen Acberree was the title of the Book. The Emperor died, 1605.

Picture of India, II. 47.

In Prussia, Bohemia, Milan, Savoy, and Piedmont, Surveys, similar to that of Domesday, have been completed by laborious efforts, continued during long periods of time, and serve as the bases of taxation.

founded the castle of Dudley, about A. D. 700,* which remained at the conquest. (f)

Various animated descriptions have been given of this fortress, and its elevated situation, deemed the most ancient in the kingdom. (g)

“No part of the world,” observes Dr. Booker, “could boast a situation of more sylvan beauty. The woodland, two computed miles in extent, more according to present admeasurement, comprised the Old and New Parks, extending from Pensnet chase to Gornal, Tipton, Netherton, and the Level; the castle and the town being situated in the midst of these rural domains.”

The present aspect of the country, it is remarked, exhibits a great contrast to “the former state of simple grandeur.” This observation would, in some degree, apply to the aspect of the country at the commencement of the 17th century.*

The appellation of “castle in the woods,” was formerly bestowed upon this fortress, applicable in the present day, as the sylvan scenery has been recently restored. A vestige of this structure, the Keep, still remains.

* See page 153.

(f) According to an inscription taken from an antique seal accompanying the portrait at Himley, Dodo, earl of Somerie, Arden, and Coventry, married the daughter of Edmund Ironside, which totally disagrees with the above statement, as Edmund ascended the throne, A. D. 1016. Mr. Turner ascribes to Dodo, a work, “de Gesta Normanorum.”

(g) In Parry’s “Welsh Melodies,” is a quotation from “Jones’s Bards,” asserting that the palm of superior antiquity belongs to the castle of Harlech, in Merionethshire.

Mr. Nicholson says that the present structure is a vestige of one erected by Edward I. previous to A. D. 1283. A former castle, built by Maelgwyn Gwynedd, circa 350, was therefore the original fortress alluded to. Still that of Dudley may be of superior antiquity to other ruins existing at the present day.

The following poem, by the above quoted author, was composed in planting of Ivy round these ancient towers.

Address to the Ivy Tree.

“ Wind, gentle Evergreen,” thy spreading arms,
 Round Dodo’s ancient towers; and, from the blast
 Of winter, shield them with thy mantling charms,
 That they to time’s remotest morn may last.
 Lodg’d in thy leaves the birds of various wing,
 Shall, unrestrain’d, their mossy mansions form.
 Spread, gentle Evergreen! thy branches kind
 O’er Dodo’s castle—awful in decay;
 Let them around his loftiest turrets wind,
 And deck with sober green his ruins gray.—
 —Ah! could I, thus, the wretched poor and old
 (Shatter’d by time, and worn with cruel cares)
 Shield with a cov’ring from the piercing cold,
 And bless with comfort their declining years;
 More sweet, fair Evergreen! the task would be,
 Than round these aged tow’rs implanting thee.

From the subjoined quotations from Scripture, it will appear that the name of Dodo is of Hebrew origin. (g)

Mr. Dyde, in his “ History of Tewkesbury,” speaks of Theocus and Dodo, or Thodo, as the same person, considering him and his brother Odo, as founder of Tewkesbury abbey, the period to which this event is assigned is A. D. 715. (h)

Both brothers are said to have died, A. D. 725, and to have been buried at Pershore, where, in 1269, a leaden coffin, containing the re-

(g) 2d Samuel, xxiii. 9. Dodo the Ahoite, father of Eleazer, one of David’s three mighty men, who combated with the Philistines, v. 24. Dodo of Beth-lehem, 1 Chron. xi, 12 and 26. xxvii. 4. Dodai. Judges x. 1. we read of Tola, the son of Puah, the son of Dodo, a man of Issachar, who dwelt at Shamir, in mount Ephraim.

(h) This is considered by Dr. Booker as matter of conjecture.

mains of Oddo, was discovered, (i) removed thither from Deerhurst, Gloucestershire.—Beau. of Eng. and Wales, V. 603.

The historian of Tewkesbury speaks of the Saxon chieftain in reference to Tewkesbury only. In Britton and Brayley's work, the founding of Dudley castle and Tewkesbury abbey, are ascribed to the same person. (m)

The designation of the town, according to several authorities, is derived from those dukes of the Heptarchal kingdom, Tewkesbury being probably a corruption of Dukesbury, Theocsbury according to Camden; from Theocus the hermit.

To recur to the Mercian chiefs, Oddo and Doddo, for such is the orthography sometimes employed; Oddo is supposed to have given name to Oddingley, in the county of Worcester, also, to Hodnet, Salop, of which he was proprietor. (n)—Gent. Mag. 1826.

Dodo (o) is styled a Mercian duke, his brother, a noble duke of

(i) Nash II. 200—243. Dugdale's Mon. I. 154.

(m) Inscription in the abbey:—

Hanc Aulam Regiam Dodo Dux consecrari fecit in Ecclesiam.

The reigns of Ethelred, Kenred, and Ethelbald, kings of Mercia, are said to constitute the period during which these dukes flourished.

(n) The name of Odo frequently occurs in after times, as Odo, bishop of Bayeux, who promised to furnish William of Normandy with forty ships. Otho, or Oddo, son of Hen. I. and the empress Matilda, died A. D. 972, Wit-tichind was his biographer. There was also Odo, a monk of Clugny, afterwards archbishop of Canterbury.—Turner's Anglo Saxons.

(o) Dugdale derives the name of Dudson or Duddeston, from Dodo, who according to Hutton, had probably a seat there.

It descended to the Paganel, Someries, &c., and afterwards became the residence of the family of Holt, previous to the erection of Aston hall.

Doddingtree, the name of a hundred in Worcestershire, is conjectured by Dr. Nash, to have taken its name from this chief, as he had great possessions in the western part of this county—a tree on Abberley hill, under which county courts were held, supplying the terminating syllable: thus Webtre, Brockash, &c., &c., Hereford.

the Mercians. Historians of Dudley castle, after dwelling upon its early history, have alluded to a long period of 366 years, during which the successors of the founder do not appear upon record; "a long space of chronological uncertainty," the period ending with the conquest, when "hoc nunc tenuit Edwinus comes." Earl Edwin held this manor.—Doomsday.

Dr. Booker is, however, desirous of approaching nearer to the founder by two generations. "Proud of placing such illustrious characters as earl Leofric and Godiva his consort in possession of the castle," the Dr. presumes that they and their son Algar preceded earl Edwin as proprietors. (p)

We proceed to present to the reader the following catalogue, probably not perfect, of eminent chiefs of Mercia and Wiccia, happy if it should exhibit any bearings upon, or coincidences with the subject of our memoir.

CHIEFS OF MERCIA.

Hugh died A. D. 812.—Shaw Staff.

Witlafa died A. D. 840. Father of Alswitha, consort of Alfred the Great.—Rapin Chron. Tables, I. 57.

Dodenham, near Broadwas and Dodenhall, in Lindridge, may possibly have the same derivation.—Nash I. 136. II. 90.

Another Dodo occurs under Cutsdean in Bredon, whose heirs restored a property once litigated, to the church of Worcester.

A Doddo, held Sedgborough, Worcestershire, Duddan was chief butler to king Offa. Duke Dudda lived in the time of king Bertulf, about the middle of the 9th century.—Heming's Chartulary, quoted by Nash I. ix. Intro.

A Dudda minted for two contemporary kings, Coenwulf of Mercia, and Cuthred of Kent, the coins are very scarce. The Mercian mint during the Reigns of Offa, Egbert, or Egfrid, and Coenwulf, appears to have been at its zenith.—Gent. Mag. 1826.

(p) "Descriptive and Historical account of Dudley castle, and its surrounding scenery, 1825, with Graphic Illustrations." Mr. James's views of this and other scenery, have been alluded to pa. 250. Mr. Radclyffe of Birmingham is publishing, 1831, Engravings of Dudley Castle and the scenery in its vicinity.

Ethelred, .. died A. D. 912.

and

Ethelfleda, 918, according to Camden. (q)

Elfere, .. died A. D. 915, according to another account, 983.

Alfric, (r) Wulfric, Ulfric, or Ulfricus-Spot, earl of Mercia, son and successor of Elfere, accessit. 983.—Sax. Chron. Fundator abbathie de Burton, 1002, which he endowed with Oakley in Elford, by will. Elswitha his wife appears to have concurred in this beneficence. (s)

He was chief counsellor of state, and related to the blood royal ; a nobleman distinguished by historians for the important dignities he held under Ethelred the unready ; and for his traitorous demeanor, equally destructive to that monarch and the nation.—Shaw Staff. art. Burton.

A monument is noticed by Eardeswick, lying in some part of Burton church, supposed by some, (not by Eardeswick himself,) to be commemorative of the founder.

Edric Streone, (t) .. son in law of Ethelred II. or the unready. He commanded, together with the king's son, the army against the Danes, 1008, & 1016, but proved treacherous.—

Rapin Hist. Eng. I. 121—123.

Leofwine. .. This name occurs as 30th Bishop of Litchfield, and as connected with the history of the succeeding earl.

Leofric, Leofricus, Luric, (u) Comes Merciorum, founder abbathie

(q) Britannia.

(r) A village in the parish of Suckley Worcestershire, is thus named ; also a landholder under Longdon.—Nash Wor. In St. Peter's Wor. the name of Ailric occurs, and in Tibberton, Aelfric Alderman.—Nash II. 325. & 422.

Alfrics; the 7th and 11th abbots of St. Alban's, were so named.

(s) Harwood's Erdeswick, page 346.—Shaw Staff.

(t) A brother of Edric Streone was Alfric ; his son was Edric Sylvaticus, or the Forester, a deadly foe to the Normans, whom he cruelly treated when he appeared in battle array in the county of Hereford.—Rapin I. 169.

(u) Dugdale gives the following lineal descent, ending with Leofric, earl of Mercia.

Leofricus comes Leicestriæ.

Algarus primus, or Alger.

Coventry, earl of Hereford, liberator of Coventry. "The venerable Leofric," according to Brady, "was a wise and prudent man." He endowed the abbey of Coventry, A. D. 1042, with 24 manors, among which was Salwarp, in Worcestershire.

Leofric and his consort, A. D. 1044, enlarged and almost rebuilt, this monastery, making Leofwine abbot thereof. (v) This potent chief was compelled, but with great reluctance, to burn and plunder the city of Worcester, 1041, aided by Goodwin, duke of Wessex, and Siward, earl of Northumberland.

Hardicanute, the king, having levied a heavy tax, the collection of which the citizens resisted, a conflagration of four days ensued. The inhabitants were allowed to retire to Bevere isle. (w)

Godiva, consort of Leofric, whose humane interference in behalf of the citizens of Coventry, is held in grateful remembrance; was possessed of considerable property in the midland district of England.

Penne is recorded as her lordship, and together with Sedgley, as the

Algarus secundus.

Leofricus secundus.

Leofwinus comes.

Leofricus comes Merciorum fundator, mar. Goditha soror de Thoroldvice E. com. Linc. who died 13th Confessor.

A Theroldus was sheriff of Lincolnshire, 1052; Sir John Therold, A. D. 1723, was a correspondent of Dr. Doddridge.

Drayton, in a note to the twelfth song of his "Poly Olbion," alludes to a charter whereby Thoroldus de Buckenhale, in the presence of Leofric, Godiva, and Algar, grants the manor of Spalding to Wulgat, abbot of Crowland, to whom Algar succeeded with an hereditary possession, from the time of Ethelbald to the conquest.

Dugdale speaks of Edwin, brother of Leofric.

(v) This religious house, according to Huntingdon and others, was the richest in England, and gave name to the city.—Rapin I. 135.

Peter, successor to Leofwine, translated the see to Chester, 1067, and was first bishop of Chester and Lichfield. Robert Lympsey, the second bishop, desiring to obtain the immense riches amassed in the abbey of Coventry, by Leofric and Godiva, obtained of the king the custody thereof, and 1095, removed the see itself to Coventry, where he died 1102.—Shaw. Staff. I. 264.

(w) Rapin I. 129. Nash II. CIX.

Beverie also afforded an asylum to the citizens, 1637, in the event of a pestilence prevailing.

property of Algar her son. (x) Godiva had also Moseley, near Bushbury, Braunston, Madeley, and Essington, in Staffordshire ; and (y) Broctone, Worcestershire, before it came into possession of Urso D'Abitot. Leofric died 1057, at King's Bromley,—Shaw I. 143. Sax. Chron.

Algar son of Leofric and Godiva, 7th earl of Lancaster. (z)

Algar is represented to have been of a restless spirit ; being accused of treason, and condemned to banishment by the king, on account of his having privately conferred with Griffin, prince of Wales, to the detriment of the public ; he was pardoned at the generous intercession of Harold, and restored to his earldom.—Rapin, I. 134, 135.

The Goodwin family were nearly allied to Algar.

Harold, duke of Wessex, brother of Toston, earl of Northumberland, married his sister, to whom Algar carried it coldly, through envy of his greatness. The king, Edward the Confessor, though this family were dreaded by him, did every thing to render them more powerful.—Rapin.

(x) Shaw's Staffordshire, II. 218, 221.

(y) Nash Worcestershire. I. 56.

Broughton* is said to be registered in the record of Doomsday, as belonging to this illustrious lady, alone, not to her husband.

The neighbouring lordship of Belne, together with this, being divided into five manors in succeeding times, and given to the daughters of Roger Somery ; † the several appellations of Bell Broughton, Bryan's Bell, Bruens or Belne, Moor hall Bell, &c., were conferred upon them. Bellington, in Chaddesley Corbet, is probably of similar derivation.

Adam de Belne is mentioned, Nash Appendix XXI. 14th Edward III. Thomas, member for Worcester, temp, Henry IV.

Of Berinington, Herts, Belintone in Doomsday, it is asserted that it was a seat of the Mercian sovereigns, and a council of Nobles and Prelates was held there under Bertulph.—Beaut. Eng. and Wales, VII. 195.

Belne hall, once the residence of a family of that name, has in modern times been in possession of those of Perrot ‡ and Noel, now in the occupation of the Rev. Henry Hickman.

(z) Hereward was a younger son of Leofric.

* Probably Brook town, as Brook la, or Brooktown near the Stour, Warwickshire.

† Ralph, grandfather of Roger, held Belne, 12 and 13 of John.

‡ Shaw II. 49.

Algar and Turchill are said to have held Grafton Fliford, Wor. Brictric, son of the former, had one hide in Bushley. Goderic and Alward, his thanes, held Aka or Rock, in part.—Nash Wor. I. 181, 467, also 10.

Staffordshire lordships in his possession, were Kinver, Penne, Burton upon Trent, Barton under Needwood, Arlewas, Clifton Camville, Drayton Basset, Elford, Lapley, Pattingham, Leek, Crakemarsh, and Sandon.—Shaw and Eardeswick.

This potent chief died, A. D. 1059, and was buried at Coventry near to his father.

Edwin, earl of Chester and Leicester, brother of Morcar or Morcard. (a)

Edwin possessed, in Worcestershire, Bromsgrove, some salinae at Droitwich, &c.; in Staffordshire, Burton upon Trent, and Rolleston, in that vicinity; in Derbyshire, Caton.—Nash I. 150, 296.

Edwin, according to Speed, was slain; he and Morcar having rebelled against William I., and his property was transferred to William Fitz Ansculph, 1068. See also page 568.

Respecting the indiscriminate application of the terms duke and earl to the same person, the following observations may not be inappropriate.

“Comes and Dux,” says Dugdale, “were titles often given to the same man.” The former related to civil employment, (and was substituted by Canute, the Dane, 1020, for Ealderman, a Saxon term, denoting not the age, but wisdom in the possessor,) Consul, Regulus, and Sub-Regulus, are elsewhere mentioned.

The title of Comes, companion of the king in council, and on all great occasions; had annexed to it the name of the shire over which the

(a) A sister of Edwine, Lucia, married Ranulph, earl of Chester. The brothers, Edwin and Morcar, were defeated by the king of Norway, and their army destroyed.—Rapin I. 140.

The latter, successor to Toston, brother of Harold, in the earldom of Northumberland, after this fatal disaster, escaped into the isle of Ely.

nobleman presided or had his seat, thence called a county. Dux related to the military employment of a nobleman.

CHIEFS OF WICCIA.

Oshere, petty prince of the Wiccians. He perswaded Ethelred to found the bishopric of Worcester, or Wiccia, of which Tadfrid was first bishop. (b)

Other, king of the Wiccians. His son Ethelward, by consent of Conred, his successor, gave land in Ombersley to the church at Evesham.

Uthred, A. D. 770, reign of Offa.

Ulhedus, 775, and

Aldred, about 790, were considerable benefactors to the church at Worcester; the former granting Stoke Prior and Uverabyrie, (Overbury.)—Nash II 379, 448.

Eanberght, duke of Wiccia.—Nash II. 427.

The princes Uthred, Aldred, and Eanberght, were also lieutenants of the district, including the city, bearing the titles of *Duces et Reguli*, and the Bishops, *Episcopi Wicciorum*.—Nash II. CIX.

Ethelred, consort of Ethelfleda, was styled viceroy of the Wiccians. This prince and princess rebuilt, enlarged, and endowed the city of Worcester, after it had been sacked by the Danes, conferring upon it many privileges.—Nash II. CIX.

Leofric.—See Mercian chiefs.

Urso D'Abitot, Vice comes, brother of Robert D'Abitot, steward of the household to William I. was hereditary sheriff of Worcestershire,

(b) Nash I. XXXIII. According to Florence, Oshire was bishop of this district. According to "Atlas Classica," six Mercian bishops presided previous to the separation of the see of Worcester, which was again subdivided, Gloucester being taken from it 1541, and Bristol 1542. Saxwulfus, according to Rapin, was first bishop.

and constable of the royal castles. His family married into that of Beauchamp, earl of Warwick.

Urso, first earl of Worcester, in contradistinction from the Wiccian and Mercian titles, was son of Almeric D'Abitot, lord of a territory of that name in Normandy, and brother to Robert Despencer, ancestor of the noble family at present bearing that name.

The possessions of Urso came to the family of Beauchamp. Walter de Beauchamp, temp. Henry I. married Emeline, daughter and Heir of Urso D'Abitot; Ann, heir of Beauchamp, married Richard Lygon, of Powick, hence the family of Lygon became ennobled under the title of Beauchamp. (c) This powerful family also held, for a long period, the Earldom of Warwick.

From the time of Urso to the 10th of Edward IV. the office of hereditary sheriff continued in the family.—Nash I. 381.

The election of Sheriffs in the reign of Edward II., was vested in the Chancellor, Treasurer, and Barons of the Exchequer, and Justices, on which footing it remains at the present day. (d)

From the lords of Dudley, and contemporary chiefs, we proceed to

(c) Beaut. of England and Wales XV. 10 & 264. For the pedigree of Beauchamp, see Nash, II. 263.

(d) Nash I. 14. Wiccia appears to have been one of those peculiarly privileged provinces belonging to noble families in fee. This territory had likewise a sub Regulus of its own.

Sheriffs of Worcestershire who resided in the vicinity of Stourbridge.—

1377, Hen. de Haggeley, arm. Hagley.

1418, Thomas Lyttelton, arm. Frankley.

1772, John Tristram, Esq. Moor hall, Bell Broughton.

1778, John Foster, Esq. Wordsley.

1795, William Waldron, Fsq. Stourbridge.

1796, Thomas Hill, Esq. Dennis, near Stourbridge.

1798, John Addenbrooke Addenbrooke, Esq. Stourbridge.

1816, Joseph Lee, Esq. Stourbridge.

1830, John, Scott, Esq. Stourbridge.

take a retrospective view of other eminent personages, recurring to the time of Edward the confessor.

Olwin, or Ulwin, (e) a thane of Edwin, earl of Mercia, lord of Dudley ; is considered by Mr. Hutton as a descendant of the founder of the house of Birmingham, who came over with Cridda, the Saxon chief, A. D. 582.

In 1050, he was lord of Birmingham. (f) To give a brief summary of the history of this house, identical, according to Mr. Hutton, with that of Arden ; this author records the names of Richard, 1066, William, 1130, Peter, 1154, with ten others as lords of Birmingham ; of whom Edward, who was unjustly deprived of his possessions by John Dudley, earl of Northumberland, is the last.

From the time of Cridda, to the date of his history, Mr. Hutton states that the period during which the Ardens held the lordship of Birmingham, was 955 years.

He knew of no male descendant of this honourable stock, excepting in one branch, of which the earl of Louth is the head.

(e) Alwin, Alwine, Uluine, or Allen, according to Verstegan, signifies, beloved of all ; Ulwin, beloved of each.

Thanes of two descriptions, Kings, and Ordinary, were instituted by Canute. Thani manores were lords of manors. Those, in Edward the Confessor's time, attended the Saxon princes in their courts, and held their lands immediately of them ; acknowledging no other superior ; and were succeeded by Barones Regis, after the conquest, hence courts baron.

William I. according to Abbè Millot, instituted these baronies after the example of France and Normandy. They were subdivided into tenancies in capite, and knight's fees.

Siward de Arden in the time of Henry I. was grandson to Alwin, Sheriff, in Edward the confessor's reign ; Osbert de Arden, half brother.--Eardeswick.

(f) See Old Swinford, and Halesowen, he had also Bromsgrove, with Wellingwich, Chadwich, &c., likewise a salt pan at Wich, and a house at Worcester.

Dugdale gives the pedigree of Arden, complete from Alwin, to Robert Arden, 1643, to which elaborate memoirs are annexed under Curdworth. See also Shaw I. 102.

Dugdale, in his "History of Warwickshire," (g) says, "Alwinus vice comes had the custody of the county of Warwick for the king, as deputy of his uncle Leofric, earl of Mercia. He succeeded Wigod in the earldom of Warwick," inheriting numerous lordships in that county, to which Turchill his son succeeded, (h) holding them at the period of the conquest.

The greater part of his property was subsequently disposed of to Henry Newburgh, first Norman earl of Warwick. Removing to Hemlingford, he assumed the name of Turchill de Earden, derived from the woodland district of Arden. (i) Not appearing in arms against the conqueror, he was allowed to keep 46 of his manors. (k)

The immediate descendants of Turchill were Siward, Peter, and Ralph.

Rudolphus, lord of Hampton in Arden, 5th Stephen, is supposed to have been a son of Turchill. Among their posterity were William de Arden, earl of Warwick, 52 Henry III. who held Arden's Grafton; Robert, of Park hall, who married Elizabeth Clodshale, heiress of Saltley, and of Pebmore, Worcestershire; (l) Joanna, who married John Swinford, about the time of Edward III.; and Sir John Arden, who resided at Pedimore, near Sutton Coldfield. (m)

(g) Mr. Field observes, "that Warwick castle, completely repaired by Ethelfleda, A. D. 915, became the residence of the reputed earls of those times, deputy lieutenants of the earls of Mercia, or officers immediately appointed by the king.

(h) As Henley and Hampton, both in Arden, Compton, Winyate, &c.

(i) See Kinver, pa. 164.

(k) His son was despoiled of many of his paternal estates, as Leamington, granted to Roger Montgomery, earl of Shrewsbury.—Field's Warwick.

(l) Walter Clodshale, a native of Birmingham, founder of a Chantry there, purchased the manor of Saltley, 1332. Charles Bowyer Adderley, Esq., is maternally descended from Clodshale.

There seems to be some affinity between Pedmore, Worcestershire, and Pedimore, Warwickshire, in respect to their names. The families of Clodshale and Arden are among the former proprietors of both manors.

(m) Pedimore having been purchased by the late Mrs. Mary Addyes, of

Walter Arden, Esq., lord of Bordesley, founded a chantry in the church of St. Martin, Birmingham.

Longcroft, in Yoxall, Staffordshire, (n) is in modern times the seat of a branch of this family. The editor of Eardeswick continues the line down to John Arden, sheriff, 3 Geo. II.

On July 20th, 1802, Charles George Percival was created baron Arden of Arden, county of Warwick. His brother, the late hon. Spencer Percival, Chancellor of the Exchequer, was youngest surviving son of the late earl Egmont, by baroness Arden, his second wife.

Having described the original fortress of Dudley, and given some account of its lords, previous to the conquest, adding some account of contemporary chiefs of Mercia, &c., and brought down the narrative to the time when Earl Edwin was dispossessed of his patrimony, conferred by the Conqueror on William Fitz-Ansculph; it is proposed to insert a document showing the vast extent of the last mentioned nobleman's domains in several contiguous counties.

Terra Willihelmi filii Ansculfi.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

	<i>Modern Names.</i>
Segleslei.	Sedgeley.
Morve.	Morfe.
Catspelle.	Gospel End.
Penne.	Penn.
Overtone.	Orton.
Wamburne.	Wombourn.
Oxelle.	Oxley,
Efnefeld.	Enville.

Barr, came into possession of the late Mrs. Ann Scott, who bequeathed it to John Scott, Esq., and the Rev. James Scott, since the property of the former, now deceased.

(n) Longcroft, granted by William Ferrers, earl of Derby, to Roger de Yoxall, in the reign of Henry III.; was purchased by Simon second son of Thomas Arden, of Park hall, county of Warwick, temp. Elizabeth.

	<i>Modern Names.</i>
Cippemore.	Cippemore.
Himelei.	Himley.
Elmelecote.	Amblecote.
Treslei.	Tresle.
Cocortone.	Cocortone.
Seisdone.	Seisdon.
Etinghale.	Etingsal.
Biscopesberie.	Byshbury.
Pendeford.	Penford.
Moleslei.	Moseley.
Eseningetone.	Essington.
Bradeley.	Bradeley.
Alrewic.	Aldridge.
Barra.	Barr.
Rischale.	Rushall.
Pirio.	Perry-Bar.
Barre.	
Honesworde.	Handsworth.

Harwood's Eardeswick, p. 418.

WORCESTERSHIRE. (o)

Escelei.	
Nordfield.	Northfield.
Frankelie.	Frankley.
Wellingwiche.	
Werwelie.	Warley Wigorn
Circehulie.	Churchill.
Bellem.	Bellbroughton.
Hageleia.	Hagley.
Dudelei, (p) site of his castle.	Dudley.
Swineforde.	Swinford.
Pevemore.	Pedmore.

(o) Nash Worcestershire, II. App. 5, number of hides in each stated.

(p) Dudlei et ibi est castellum ejus.

	<i>Modern Names.</i>
Cradeleie.	Cradley.
Belintone. (q)	Bellington.

WARWICKSHIRE.

Estone.	Aston.
Witone.	Witton.
Hardintone.	Eardington.
Corweldestene.	
Birmingham.	Birmingham.
Edebaston.	Edgbaston.

These lordships, together with others in various counties, amounted to 80, and, according to some authors, to more than 90.

It would not be within the province of a writer, professing to give a history of Stourbridge and its vicinity, to pursue the history of the fortress of Dudley through succeeding periods, to notice the additions ascribed to Athelstan, the erections of the times of Henry VIII. or Elizabeth; or to enter into the events of the civil wars, when the castle endured a siege by the Parliament army; nor would it comport with our design, to give additional memoirs of the families of Fitz-ansculph, Paganell, &c., &c.

D

DEPOSITIONS RESPECTING BEDCOTE, (r) pa. 43.

by several witnesses made before certain commissioners appointed by the court of Marshes in Wales, about 1595, in a suit between Richard Maidstone one of the trustees of Stourbridge school, complainant, and Gilbert Lyttelton and others, defendants :

“ whereby it appears, that the chief part, if not the whole of the

(q) Tenet Bellintones in castellaria sua.—Eardeswick, 239.

(r) Nash Wor. II. 207.

town of Stourbridge, was comprised within the manor of Bedcote, but that the same was an inferior manor dependant on Old Swinford."

It was deposed, "that the manor of Old Swinford extended no farther towards Stourbridge than to Studley-gate, and the manors were bounded by a hawthorn at a place called Knaves Greave; and farther, that the court was held in Sir J. St. Ledger's time, at a house called the Gate-house, in Old Swinford, but removed not many years since, by Sir John Lyttelton, father to the defendant Gilbert, to the Townhall, in Stourbridge." (t) (Anno. 1622, 20th James I.)

"METES AND BOUNDS

of the manor of Bedcote particularly set forth, at a court baron of Sir Thomas Gervois. Anno. 1622, 20th James I. (u)

Bedcote, beginning at Withibroke Bridge, went down the rivulet to the middle of Stour, and from thence along the lane leading from the Lye to Addenbroke Mill, to Pensnet Chace, and from thence, by the said river Stour, southward, along Dark Lane, Hay-Green Common, and across the common, to a lane leading to a little rivulet, and so by Grange ground to a lane near Stamborn Mill, and leading from thence to Stourbridge, and along that lane to Highman's Green, and beyond it, to a lane leading to Old Swinford, and so to Kowbatch, (v) and Percote Grainge; and taking in a close called Gorstic Leasow, to the upper end of Fryar Meadow, so to a place called Knaves Greave, and from thence to the King's Highway leading from Stourbridge to Pedmore, so to Yarnborough Hill, (w) so to the King's Highway leading from Stourbridge to Kidderminster, and along it to Studdle Gate, and so by a long old ditch, to Sir Thomas Lyttelton's meadow, and including Short Heath, to the tail of the Upper Pool, and so to Castle Orchard,

N. B. They farther deposed, or presented upon oath, that the vill of Stourbridge was within the manor of Bedcote.

(t) Evidence from an original MS volume, in the evidence chest at Stourbridge school.

(u) Among Lord Lyttelton's Evidences.

(v) Now Clatterbatch.

(w) In later times, Hanbury hill.

near Wollaston Field, and from thence to the cataract of the pool called Washing Pool, and from thence to Withibroke Bridge, above mentioned."

ST. THOMAS' CHURCH, STOURBRIDGE.

pa. 44.

The loan of a document entitled—"Case of the inhabitants and freeholders of the town of Stourbridge, in the county of Worcester, who have petitioned against the Bill brought into the Honourable House of Commons, relating to the church in Stourbridge;" having been obtained by favor of Joseph Dixon, Esq.; the following additional particulars are subjoined:—

The contributions alluded to, p. 44, were applied to the purchase of a piece of freehold land, conveyed to six trustees and their heirs, on which a church or chapel was built, the property being invested in the inhabitants, and no one else, independent of the rector of the parish, and the patron of the living; the building being lay property.

The rector of Old Swinford, previous to the completion of the building, claimed it as a chapel of ease, appointing a curate, and procuring the bishop's licence for him to officiate therein. The petition alluded to prepared by the rector, was for a bill to create a new parish, and to enclose a part of the common to raise a revenue.

The petitioners against the bill, rather than submit to its provisions, wished that the seats should be set to maintain the curate and finish the steeple; but they were willing to consent that the new building should be a parish church, the town of Stourbridge and hamlet of Amblecoat forming the new parish; provided that the tithes thereof should be appropriated for the maintenance of the minister.

Or if this proposal were not acceded to, the petitioners hoped that the chapel would be made a free chapel, vested in five or seven inhabitants. One gentleman designed to give £1000. to support the claim of the inhabitants. Other contributions are alluded to, as £600. by the inhabitants, and the sums of £20. and £10. by members of the family of Milward, in whom the trust has been principally vested.

The result of these proceedings is, that the investment of this property remains as noticed in first paragraph under St. Thomas' Church, page 44.

E

SILK. pa. 71.

The history of the introduction and manufactory of this elegant article, being somewhat similar to that of wool; some particulars relative thereto, are here introduced.

The edict of Nantes, granting valuable privileges to the protestants, was promulgated by Henry IV. of France, A. D. 1593.

(x) In 1685, in the reign of Louis XIV. the revocation of this edict took place when not less than 800,000 persons were thereby driven from France, and £20,000,000 of property carried away by the fugitives.

Denmark, Holland, and England, opened their arms to receive them, the latter made yearly grants for their support, which continued for a long time to many of their descendants.

The silk manufactory of Spital Fields, dated its origin from this event.

(x) The silk manufactory appears to have been introduced A. D. 1718, at Derby, by Mr. John Lombe. This artist procured his model from Italy, to which country the silk manufactory had been previously confined.—

Beaut. Eng. Wales.

Picardy-place, Edinburgh, was also the site of a colony of silk weavers, driven from France on the revocation of the edict of Nantes.

Worsley's Obs.

In 1787, an edict in favour of the French protestants was announced by Louis XVI.

“ Before the silk-worm itself, that first artificer of the luxury of nature, was introduced into Italy, the Romans received their silk from China. The route of the caravans was across a desert to Samarcand, and through Persia to Syria.”—Miller's Hist. Mohamedanism.

MAGISTRATES. (in continuation.) pa. 116.

Rev. — Clare	Wolverhampton.
George Talbot, Esq.	Kidderminster.
Henry Talbot, Esq.	ib.
John Jefferyes, Esq.	ib.

Additional.

Thomas Badger, Esq.	Dudley.
William Trow, Esq.	Ismere.
Thomas Webb Hodgetts, Esq.	Hagley.
— Brown, Esq.	Lee Castle, Wolverley.
James Foster, Esq.	Stourbridge and Coton.
Edward Amphlett, Esq.	Broom.
Simcox Lee, Esq.	Hagley.
Samuel Briscoe, Esq.	Ashwood.
Richard Hickman, Esq.	Old Swinford.

In the Commission of 1831.

Edward Dixon, Esq.	Kingswinford.
Michael Grazebrook, Esq.	Belle Vue.
Rev. Thomas Philpot,	Pedmore.
Richard Brettell, Esq.	Ludley.
John Scott, Esq.	Stourbridge and Barr.
Robert Scott, Esq.	Stourbridge.

The two latter also deputy lieutenants for the county of Worcester.

On the 1st of December, 1831, died, in his 82d year, Thomas Biggs, Esq. father of the bench, in whom the country sustained the loss of an able upright magistrate, who administered justice during a long period of years, with impartiality and with mercy ; a promoter of peace

and amity in the neighbourhood at large. His venerable associate as banker, Francis Rufford, Esq. died June 20th, preceding, aged 78.

Joseph Lane, Esq. whose name is inscribed on the above list of magistrates, paid the debt of nature during the same year, aged 82.

Respecting Mr. John Scott, to whom, as a tribute of fraternal affection, this volume was intended to have been dedicated; it is the melancholy duty of the writer to record, that on January 3d, 1832, in travelling from Stourbridge towards Barr, in his carriage, he suddenly expired, to the great loss of relatives, friends, and other connexions, in his 69th year.

Without attempting to obtrude the various private virtues of the deceased on the attention of the public, we may adopt the words of his late brother, the Rev. James Scott, adding thereto, some observations relative to events of later years.

“After the death of Mrs. Ann Scott, of Birmingham, in 1813, he, (Mr. John Scott,) came into possession of a handsome fortune, and was liberal in his contributions to various religious and charitable institutions.

From this time he usually resided at Barr, where he displayed great judgment and skill in architecture and painting—in which he excelled,—in the pursuits of agriculture, and in ornamenting his grounds with beautiful plantations.

One of his favorite amusements was painting and staining glass, in which he much excelled, and decorated his country house with many beautiful specimens of his productions.” (y) The principal effort of his genius in this department is the painting in the chancel window of St. Paul’s church, Walsall, presented in acknowledgement of numerous attentions received from the inhabitants of that town. The subject of the piece is St. Paul preaching at Athens. The composition of the

(y) See *Posthumous Sermons and occasional Services, with a Memoir of the author, and some other biographical notices*, pa. 36.

piece is entirely original, relative to the grouping of the figures, and the specimens of Grecian architecture discernable in perspective.

As a landholder, Mr. John Scott was liberal and generous. A prosperous and contented tenantry flourished long under the lenient care of Mrs. Mary Addyes, Mrs. Ann Scott, and our lamented relative.

The attachment of Mr. John Scott to his native town of Stourbridge was ardent and permanent; evinced by his regularly attending upon public worship there, though generally residing at Barr, more than twelve miles distant therefrom.

As a public character, he was consistant, zealous, and persevering.

Nominated more than once as high sheriff of the county of Worcester, he awaited the repeal of the Corporation and Test Acts, and then cheerfully undertook the office, February, 1830. His services were kindly appreciated by the county at large; and the uniform, friendly, and even affectionate co-operation which he received from all ranks in society while fulfilling the unusually arduous duties of his office, made a most grateful and lasting impression upon his heart.

POPULATION.

pp. 43, 102, 111, 117, 159, 185, 192, 248.

N. B. The population report, pa. 248, is that of the Salopian part of Halesowen, only. This inadequate statement is copied into many publications.

POPULATION OF THE FIVE PARISHES,
according to the 4th Decennial Census of 1831.

PARISH OF OLD SWINFORD.

	Families.	No. of Houses.	Houses occupied.	No. of Males.	No. of Females.	Total of Population.	Increase.
Township of Stourbridge...	1240	1262	1202	2982	3166	6148	—
Hamlets of Swinford. ..	1306	1329	1326	3191	3299	6490	—
Hamlet of Amblecoat...	250	253	244	603	633	1236	—
Total in the Parish.	2796	2844	2672	6776	7098	13874	2647

PARISH OF KINGSWINFORD.

	2992	3046	2808	7699	7457	15156	4134
--	------	------	------	------	------	-------	------

PARISH OF KINVER.

	381	391	380	915	916	1831	96
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	------	----

PARISH OF PEDMORE.

	68	—	66	188	206	394	118
--	----	---	----	-----	-----	-----	-----

PARISH OF HALESOWEN.

Shropshire...	—	—	—	4937	4828	9765	1578
Worcestershire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cradley.....	432	448	401	1004	1018	2022	326
Ludley.....	—	—	—	64	67	131	—
Warley.....	—	—	—	482	439	921	—
Total in the Parish.						12,839	

Grand Totals. 44,094 | 8899.

PARISH CHURCHES OF KINGSWINFORD AND
 WORDESLEY. pp. 130, 154, 157.

On the demise of the Rev. Nathaniel Hynde, Rector, the former church now become an endowed chapel, was presented to the Rev. William Henry Cartwright, A.M. by the Earl of Dudley. Trinity church, Wordesley, was opened for public worship, Nov. 13th, 1831.

Rev. Edward Davies, A. M. and Rev. James Alexander Baxter, A. M. of Kingswinford, officiated on the occasion.

The Rev. George Saxby Penfold, D. D., is presented by the same patron to the Rectory of Wordesley.

TUMULUS, QUATFORD. p. 331.

From subsequent information, it appears, that a few human remains, not a complete skeleton, occurred on opening this tumulus, 1830. A Norman spur, and an antique ring, with a cross attached, were also found.

E
ITINERARY. pp. 139, 353, 364.

ROADS, CANALS, &c.

Description of Roads leading from Stourbridge on the model of Patterson's description of Roads, 15th edition.

First District of Stourbridge Roads, from Stourbridge to Bromsgrove, &c.

§ 1st.

PARISHES,

*Old Swinford, Pedmore, Hagley, Clent, Broughton, and
Bromsgrove.*

Worcestershire.

	MILES.	
Old Swinford village	1	1
l, old road through Wollescot to Birmingham, r, to Hartlebury and Worcester. White hall, Mrs. Rogers. Cross and Crab Mill inns.		
Pedmore village	$\frac{3}{4}$	$1\frac{3}{4}$
Hall, R. Homer, Esq. Thomas Biggs, Esq.		

	MILES.	
Quarry, Charles Roberts, Esq. Foley Arms Inn. <i>l</i> , to Dudley, <i>r</i> , cross the lanes to Hartlebury road.		
Hagley village cross the Kidderminster and Birmingham road. Park and Hall, Lord Lyttelton. Rockingham hall, S. Lee, Esq. William Robins, Esq. Thomas Webb Hodgetts, Esq. Lyttelton Arms Inn.	1	23
<i>Staffordshire.</i>		
Clent village John Amphlett, Esq. Mrs. Liell. Henry Addenbrooke, Esq., Field house.	$\frac{3}{4}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Holy Cross village <i>l</i> , Moor hall.	$\frac{1}{2}$	4
<i>Worcestershire.</i>		
<i>r</i> , to Broughton and Chaddesley, <i>l</i> , to Clent church.		
Bell end <i>l</i> , to Halesowen.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bell hall, Rev. Henry Hickman. Bell Inn.		
Fairfield	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	7
Catsell <i>l</i> , to Burcot and Alcester.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bromsgrove	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	10
End of district.		
Worcester	13	23

Collateral branch, from Old Swinford to Clap gate, the junction with Birmingham and Kidderminster road, 2 miles.

§ 2d.

Stourbridge to Kidderminster, and Bewdley, &c.

PARISHES,

Old Swinford, Kinver, Churchill.

Worcestershire.

		MILES.	
Heath			$\frac{3}{4}$
Philip Rufford, Esq.			
Star and Garter and White Horse Inns, r, to Kinver, also to Dudley and Kidderminster, upper road.			
<i>Staffordshire.</i>			
Iverley hill		1 $\frac{1}{4}$	2
<i>Worcestershire.</i>			
Churchill field corner.		2 $\frac{1}{4}$	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
End of District.			
Kidderminster		2 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
l, Stourport 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Stourbridge.			
Bewdley		3	9 $\frac{3}{4}$
Collateral branch, from Dennis, to the Gate Inn, on Kidderminster road, forming part of Bridgnorth road, 1 mile; thence to Churchill field corner. .. .. .		| 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ |	| 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ |

§ 3d.

NORTH ROAD.

Stourbridge to Wolverhampton.

PARISHES,

Old Swinford, King Swinford, &c.

Staffordshire.

Cross Stour to hamlet of Amblecoat.			
Hollow's end.			
The Hill, J. Addendrooke, Esq.			
Coalbournbrook			$\frac{3}{4}$
l, to Wollaston. &c.*			

* A detached branch of the road extending to Churchill field corner on Kidderminster road.

	MILES.	
Dennis, W. S. Wheeley, Esq.		
Wollaston hall, J. Addenbrooke, Esq. jun.		
Platts, J. Pidcock, Esq.		
Brettell Lane	$\frac{1}{4}$	1
r, to Dudley, 4 miles		
<i>Staffordshire.</i>		
Audenhams, Mrs. Grazebrook,		
cross the brook.		
Wordsley	1	2
End of the district.		
Wolverhampton	8	10

SECOND DISTRICT.

Stourbridge to Halesowen, &c.

PARISHES,

*Old Swinford, Halesowen.**Worcestershire.*

Porto Bello		
Highman's green.		
Lye		$1\frac{1}{2}$
r, to Bromsgrove,		
l, to Dudley		
Lye Waste		
Hayes	$\frac{1}{2}$	2
Cradley Park	$\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$
l, to Netherend.		
Colley gate	$\frac{1}{4}$	$2\frac{3}{4}$
Cradley field		
r, to Wollescote and Swinford.		
<i>Shropshire.</i>		
Drew's holloway and brook	$\frac{3}{4}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$
Corngreave house, John Attwood, Esq.		
l, Hawn, M. Attwood, Esq.		
Witley, D. Homfray, Esq.		
Halesowen	$1\frac{1}{2}$	5
Lyttelton Arms and New Inn.		
End of the district.		
Birmingham	7	12

THIRD DIVISION—SEPARATE DISTRICT.

Stourbridge to Bridgnorth.

PARISHES,

*Old Swinford, Kinver, Enville, Bobington, Alvely, Worfield,
and Liberty of Bridgnorth.*

Worcestershire.

	MILES.	
Wollaston lane end, r. to Dudley. Gate Inn, l, to Kidderminster.		
<i>Staffordshire.</i>		
Stourton r. to Wolverhampton, l, to Kinver and Kidderminster. Stewpony Inn. Stourton castle, Mrs. Grazebrook. Prestwood Hall, J. H. H. Foley, Esq. cross Staffordshire canal and Stour.		2½
Enville Enville hall, the Earl of Stamford and Warrington. Hollies, — Campbell, Esq. Four Ashes, James Grove, Esq.	3	5½
Six Ashes <i>Shropshire.</i>	3	8½
Morfe. Gatacre hill, l, to Kidderminster.		
Bridgnorth	6	14½

CANALS.

STOURBRIDGE CANAL.

PARISHES,

Old Swinford, King Swinford, Kinver.

§ 1st.

Staffordshire.

					MILES.	
The Trunk.						
Descend by four locks.						
Wharf near Stourbridge.						
Old Trench.*						
Coalbourn wharf.						
Junction, with eastern branch						1
<i>Worcestershire.</i>						
Aqueduct over Stour						
<i>Staffordshire.</i>						
Stapenhall.						
Newtown wharf.						
Conjunction with Trent and Severn canal.						
near Prestwood					3	4
End of main trunk.						
Stourton					1	5
To Stourport				12½	miles.	
Grand Trunk				34½	—	
Shardlow				76	—	
Runcorn				99	—	
Liverpool				113	—	
Hull.. .. .				172	—	

* The Trench was part of a cut collateral with the Stour, excavated in the reign of Charles II. and left unfinished.

§ 2d.

	MILES.	
First, or eastern branch, ascending 16 locks <i>Staffordshire.</i>		
From Junction, central office, residence of principal clerk, to Wordesley		$\frac{1}{2}$
William Foster, Esq. Summit.		
Lays, Wide water, Brockmoor.		
Reservoirs in Fens	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$2\frac{1}{4}$
Pensnet chase. End of branch.		

Dimensions of Reservoirs.

	A.	R.	P.
Upper Pool	15	3	15
extent of drainage, 140 acres, supplied by Pensnet engine.			
Middle Pool	9	2	19
(extent of drainage, 160 acres,) is supplied by Barrow hill feeder.			
Lower or Buckley Pool, repaired, 1827-8.	4	2	38
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	30	0	32

The lower pool only is delineated in Whitworth's Plan, surveyed 1774, engraved by Faden, 1775 ; as also in Sheriff's map of Birmingham and its vicinity, 1798.

§ 3d.

Second or collateral branch, from the Lays to Black Delph, (union with the Dudley canal,) being part of the summit.

Staffordshire.

Lays, by Moor lane, round part of Brierley hill, under Brettell lane long bridge.			
Black Delph			2
union with Dudley canal at Nine locks.			

Total Dimensions of the Canal	..	..	M.	F.	C.
			7	1	498
			Feet. In.		
Fall	..	..	181	3	
Total Descent	..	..	186	0	
Width at surface	..	..	28	0	
Depth	..	..	5	0	

Baron Dupin's Commercial Power of Great Britain.

DUDLEY CANAL.

PARISHES,

King Swinford and Dudley.

Staffordshire.

Delph.

Nine Locks.

Worcestershire.

Netherton, Blower's Green	..	..	..	..	3½
near Dudley.					

Staffordshire.

Tipton Green

conjunction with Dudley extension, through
Dudley tunnel.*

..	2½	6
----	----	----	----	----	---

DISTANCES.

			Miles.
From Stourbridge to Birmingham, through Dudley and Netherton canals,	..	..	19½
Birmingham to London, by Warwick and Napton canal	..	..	172
Coventry	..	..	199¾
Worcester, by Worcester and Birmingham canal	..	..	51
Gloucester	..	..	80
Bristol	..	..	140

* From private information, according to Faden's map, 2m. 1f. 4p. rise 75.

DUDLEY & NETHERTON CANAL.

			Miles.	Feet.
Length of trunk	..	..	10	5
Collateral branches	..	..	4	8
Rise	..	64 ft. 3 in.		

Worcestershire.

From Netherton, Blower's Green, near Dudley, to

Staffordshire.

Gosty Green tunnel.

Shropshire.

Halesowen—Haywood wharf.

Lappal—tunnel 11,280 feet according to Baron Dupin.

Selly Oak—conjunction with Worcester and Birmingham. | | 9½ |

Baron Dupin observes, that from Selly Oak to the Nine locks, the canal extends on the same level 10½ miles ; and then descends 85 feet.

That in branching to Dudley, it ascends 31 feet by five locks in the space of 4200 feet, here the tunnel commences.

That the length of the tunnel under Dudley is 8778 feet ; at the end of which, after passing two locks, it reaches the old Birmingham canal near Tipton.

Another branch rising 64 feet, by 8 locks, 1¼ mile in length, with a branch to the collieries of the vicinity, is described as issuing from the main line previous to entering the tunnel. Fifteen miles are stated as the total length of the canal.

RIVER STOUR.

PARISHES.

Frankley Halesowen, Rowley, King Swinford, Old Swinford, Kinver, Wolverley, Kidderminster.

Shropshire.

Head of Stour near to Halesowen.

WORKS.

- 1 Halesowen Slitting Mill.
- 2 Halesowen Forge.
- 3 Grange Furnace and Slitting Mill.
- 4 Hay Sitch gun boring and Grinding Mill.

Staff. and Worcestershire.

- 5, 6 Corngreaves Forge and Steel Furnace.
- 7 Hedge's Rolling Mill.
- 8 Lodge Iron and Steel Work.

N. B. One of the abbots of Halesowen made a temporary diversion of the stream to accommodate his lands in Rowley, for which the convent payed an annual fine; at present its course is the same as previously to that event.

- 9, 10 Cradley Old Forges.
- 11 Cradley Slitting Mill.
- 12 Lye Forge.
- 13 Amblecoat Corn and Iron Work.

Worcestershire.

- 14 Clatterbatch Forge.
- 15 Stourbridge Leather Fulling Mill.
- 16 Royal Forge.
- 17 Wollaston Slitting Mill.
- Aqueduct of Stourbridge canal over Stour.
- 18, 19 Prestwood Wire Works.*
- 20 Stourton Rolling Mill*
- 21 Hyde slitting mill.
- 22 Kinver Slitting Mill.
- 23 Whittington Slitting Mill.
- 24, 25 Cookley forges.
- 26 Wolverley Forge.
- 27 Wolverley Slitting Mill.
- 28 Kidderminster Slitting Mill.
- 29 Falling Sands Rolling Mill.
- 30 Wilden Forge and Rolling Mill.

* Bell's Mill, now disused, was formerly the eighteenth work in the catalogue, 18, 19, 20, taken down.

- 31 Upper Mitton Forge.*
 - 32 Lower Mitton Forge.
 - 33 Jenney Forge.*
- Stourport confluence with Severn.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

On making a superficial survey of the ground over which communications both by land and water, have been formed; it will appear, that they have been conducted over elevated tracts in some instances; and not through vallies, or along the ledges of hills.

The turnpike road from Dudley to Stourbridge is an instance in point, extending over the ridge of the promontory of Brierley, although a lower level on each side presented itself to view. From the lowest part of the town of Dudley, opposite to the hills of Cawney and Tansley, a deep channel is apparent, a strong natural feature in the country, and extending under Netherton hill by the Level, to the ravine separating Brierley from Amblecoat, and terminating at Coalbourn bridge.

On each flank of the ridge over which the eastern branch of Stourbridge canal is conducted, is a small brook, occasionally swelling into pools of various dimensions; those of Wordesley and Audenham. Not only a chain of pools, but expansive meadows seem to invite the attention of the inland navigator.

In the instance of Halesowen or Mucklow hill, on the road from that town to Birmingham, a very considerable ascent is to be encountered by the traveller, and a great obstruction is presented to the numerous heavy laden vehicles frequenting this line of road.

Many projects for obtaining a more gradual ascent by means of a route in some measure circuitous, yet ultimately occasioning little or no loss of time to the traveller; have been formed, but hitherto without any practical result.

* Mitton and Jenney forges disused in or before 1821.

By making a sudden digression from hence to the site of Stourton, on the road from Stourbridge to Bridgnorth, the probable effects of a complete communication by land and water across the country will be apparent.

This village, on the Trent and Severn canal, situate between the ports of Liverpool and Bristol, if every possible facility were afforded, with respect to a communication with Birmingham, consequently, and ultimately with London ; might probably become a very important commercial station in connexion with the inland navigation of the country.

On this supposition, every local improvement of land or water communication within the intervening tract, would tend to an important result ; as lowering the ridge of Iverley, a work now in progress, 1831 ; widening the narrow passes which traverse the town of Stourbridge, in the direction of E. and W. depressing and elevating various portions of the turnpike road from Stourbridge to Halesowen, and the grand project of relieving that steep acclivity of the midland range already alluded to, Halesowen hill : these and other obvious improvements would render commodious the nearest line of road from the midland district to the metropolis.*

MEMORABLE OCCURRENCES. p. 390.

Dec. 21st, 1831, a requisition to the magistrates of the district having been signed by a respectable body of the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood of Stourbridge, requesting them to call a meeting “ to consider in what manner they could best express their gratitude to the Earl of Plymouth and the Officers, non-commissioned Officers, and Privates, of the Worcestershire Yeomanry Cavalry, for their noble and patriotic conduct during their late arduous duties ;” a general meeting was accordingly held this day, when suitable acknowledgments were voted to the Nobleman and Gentlemen, particularly expressive of the

* The vale of Stour, from Halesowen to Stourbridge, replete with mineral treasures, remains unsupplied with either canal or rail road ; though projects for effecting both have been frequently suggested.

sense entertained by the inhabitants at large, of their valuable services, effectual for the prevention of tumult and the preservation of the peace of the country.

The South Staffordshire collieries had recently been the scene of some commotions here alluded to, which speedily subsided.

During the closing months of this year, frequent meetings were held at the Talbot Hotel, in Stourbridge, to promote the establishment of a

BOARD OF HEALTH,

consisting of Medical Gentlemen, and to appoint a Committee to cooperate with that body. After several general meetings, at which Lord Lyttelton usually took the chair, select ones of the Committee were held on Mondays and Thursdays, in order to superintend the distribution of clothing adapted to the season of the year, with a particular view to the guarding against prevalent contagion. In addition to this effort, a complete cleansing of all places where an infected atmosphere might be supposed to be caused by the accumulation of noxious substances, or the stagnation of impure waters, was carried into effect.

Cottages have been completely washed with fresh lime, either at the expense of their respective proprietors, or by means of public contributions raised by the liberality of the public.

The Legislature and the Privy Council have deliberated upon the measures necessary to be adopted in consequence of the spread of that dreadful disorder Cholera Morbus ; establishing boards throughout the kingdom, intended to communicate with the metropolitan one, and with each other.*

* Dr. Granville, in his late publication, entitled, "The Catechism of Health," 1831, maintains that this disorder, though epidemic, is not contagious, as described by the first Board of Health.

A terrestro-aërial origin is here given to it, arising from "a peculiar state, condition, and modification of the atmosphere we live in, and a congeries of meteorological phenomena referable to the air and to the soil we dwell upon, hostile to the human constitution when exposed to its direct and continued influence.

Commencing its course at the mouth of the Ganges, travelling thence to

MENDICITY SOCIETY.

A society so designated, was established at Stourbridge, intended to co-operate with the Board of Health, and the general Committee. By banishing mendicant vagrants from the town and neighbourhood, or supplying them with tickets, entitling them to an investigation of their respective cases, and relief when necessary at the Mendicity Office; it was hoped that one principal source of contagious communication might be cut off, and the country relieved from a most distressing annoyance.

China on the one side, and to Persia on the other; from thence to Russia, Poland, Austria, Prussia, and Hamburgh:” it at length reached the British isle, and raged with great violence in the maritime town of Sunderland. Subsequently, the disorder spread to Newcastle, Gateshead, North and South Shields, with their respective populous vicinities, but at length subsided in a very considerable degree.*

Dr. Granville, adopting the precautionary measures of his learned brethren, as to cleanliness, abstinence from the intemperate use of liquors, &c., &c., rejects Cajeput oil, and many other substances designated as Cholera drugs.†

Sanatory laws and regulations are reprobated by him as inefficacious and injurious; though highly beneficial in guarding against the plague of the Levant.

His Majesty has appointed March 21st, 1832, as a day of humiliation on account of this awful visitation, and during the interim, prayers for preservation from this fatal malady, are ordered to be read in the churches.

* Several parts of Scotland have also been visited by this pestilence.

† Croton oil has been recommended to be used with the utmost precaution. Chloride of lime appears to be an approved recipe.

THE END.

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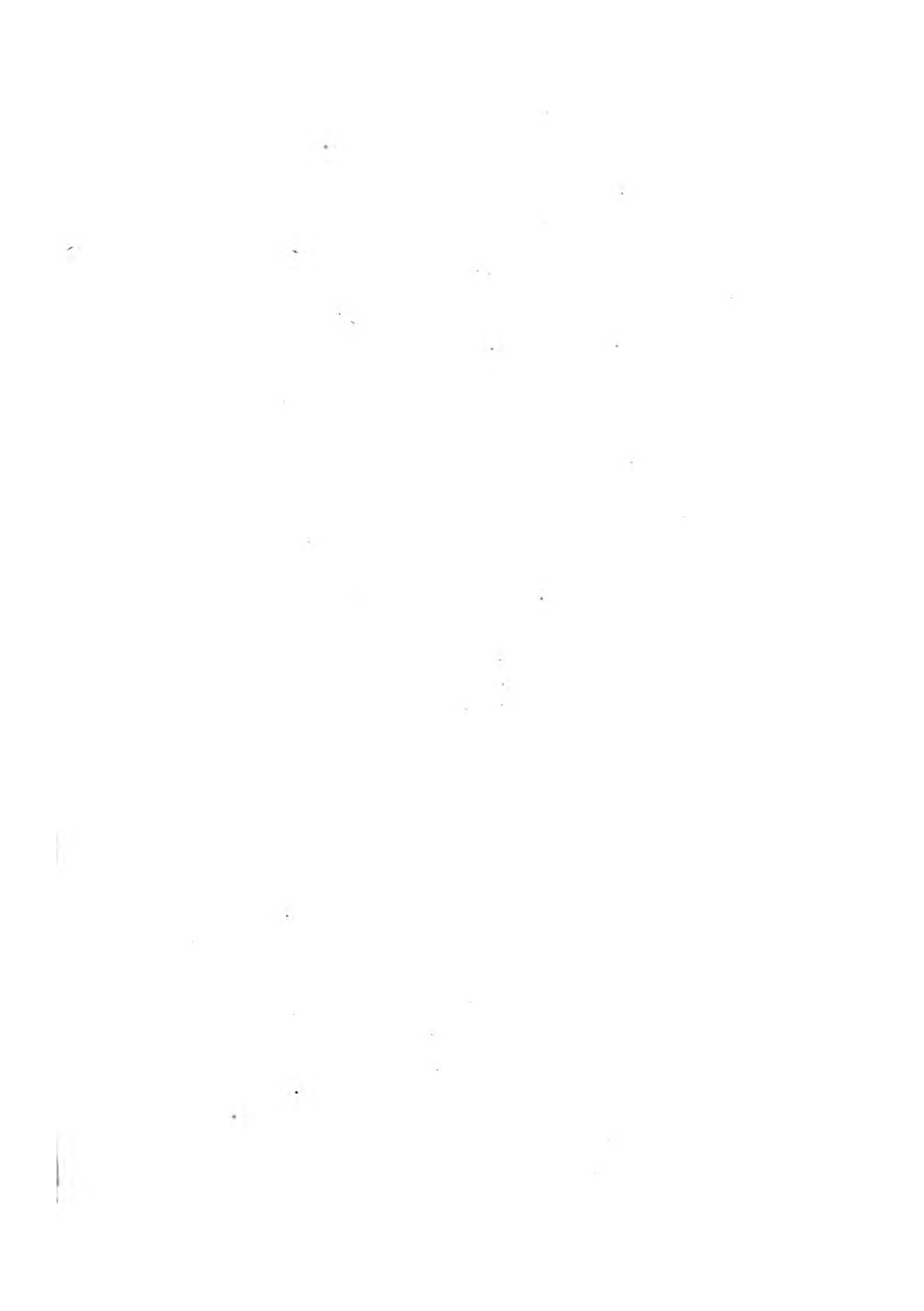
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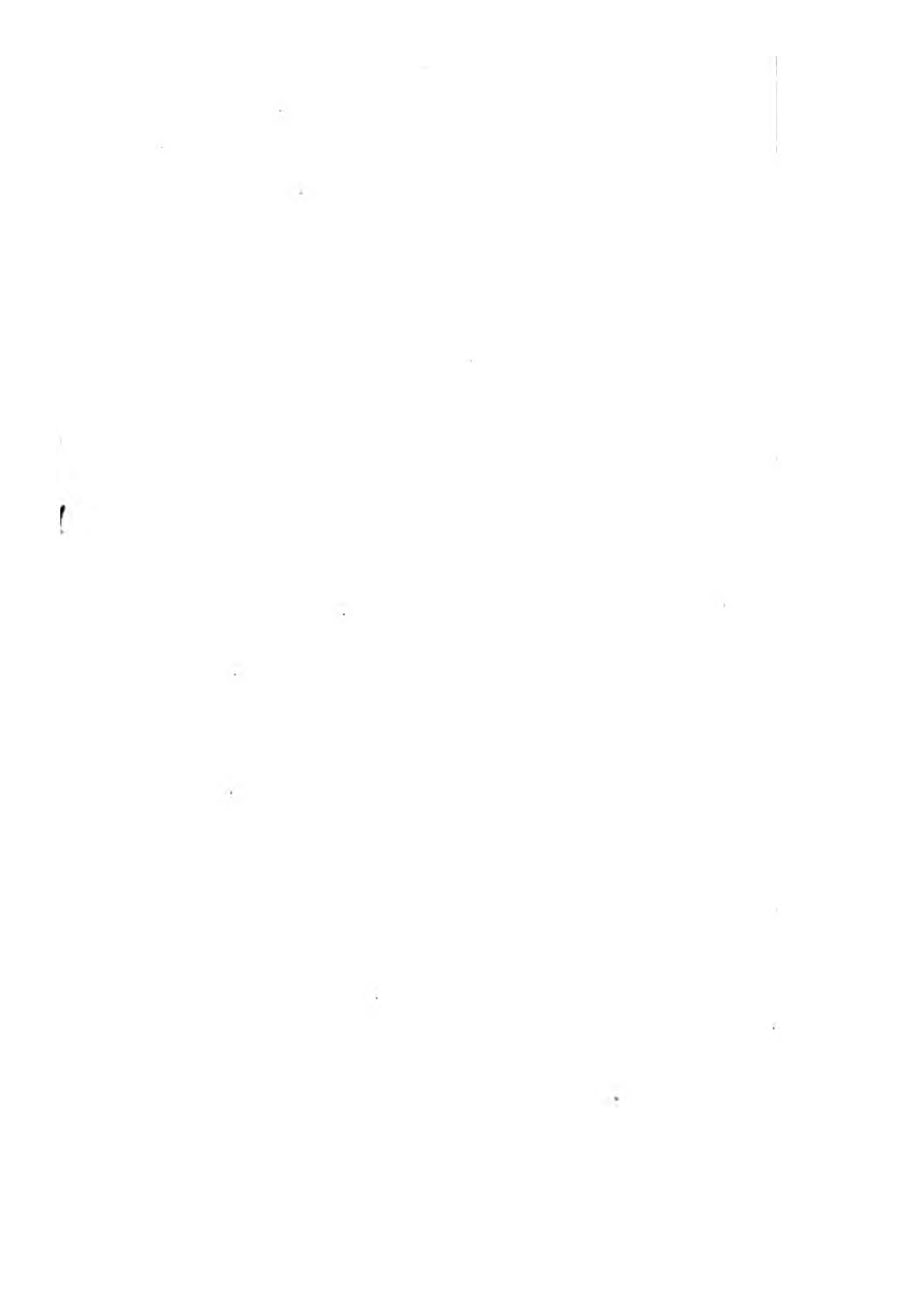
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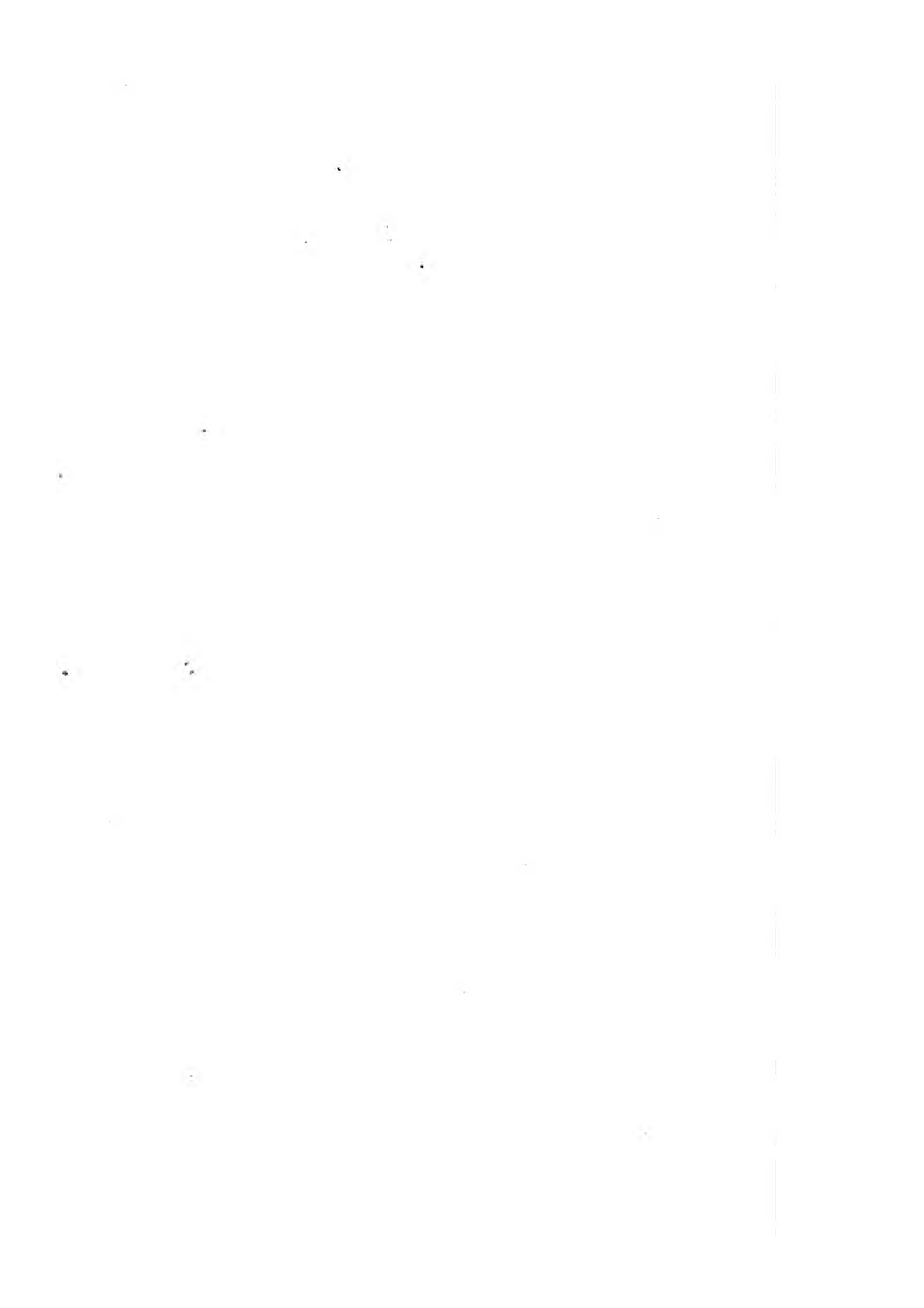


ERRATA, ADDENDA, &c.

- Page xiii, line 3 from top, for suborninate, read subordinate.
- 129, note, add Shaw's Staff.
- 176, line 7 from top, for Centurbury, read Canterbury.
- 181, line 13 from top, for Bonaker, substitute Griffiths.
- 208, bot. for which to, read to which.
- 209, top, for bears read bear.
- 215, at the end of note w. add s.
- 225, line 2, bottom, for quarry, read quarry.
- 230, line 13, bottom, for Halysowen, read Halesowen.
- 245, line 10, bottom, to to, add not less.
- 256, line 7, top, for Stewart, read Stuart.
- 270, line 7, top, after Simcox, add Lee.
- 286, note, for Himle, read Himley.
- 319, note, for no, read on.
- 305, line 8, bottom, for 1828, read 1818.
- 365, note x, to that, add of.
- 334, line 4, bottom, for Romon, read Roman.
- 374, line 6 from top, for faint read quaint.
- 381, note, add, a token presented by John White, Esq.
- 442, line 2 from top, for clustre, read cluster.
- 444, line 10 from bottom, after Hope, dele comma.
- 492, line 10 from bottom, for Scope, read Scrope.
- 525, note for Wicciangae, read Wiccianga.
- 526, note, for Iconi, read Iceni.
- 546, note, line 2 from bottom, after above, add or.
- 566, after line 5 of the poen on Ivy tree, add
And, round each pondering visitant, shall sing,
Safe from the truant school-boy and the storm.
- 582, carry note x below the text.
- 595, dele Baron Dupin, &c.







100

