

A description of Malvern, and its environs : comprising an account of the efficacy of the Malvern waters ... / by the Rev. J. Barrett.

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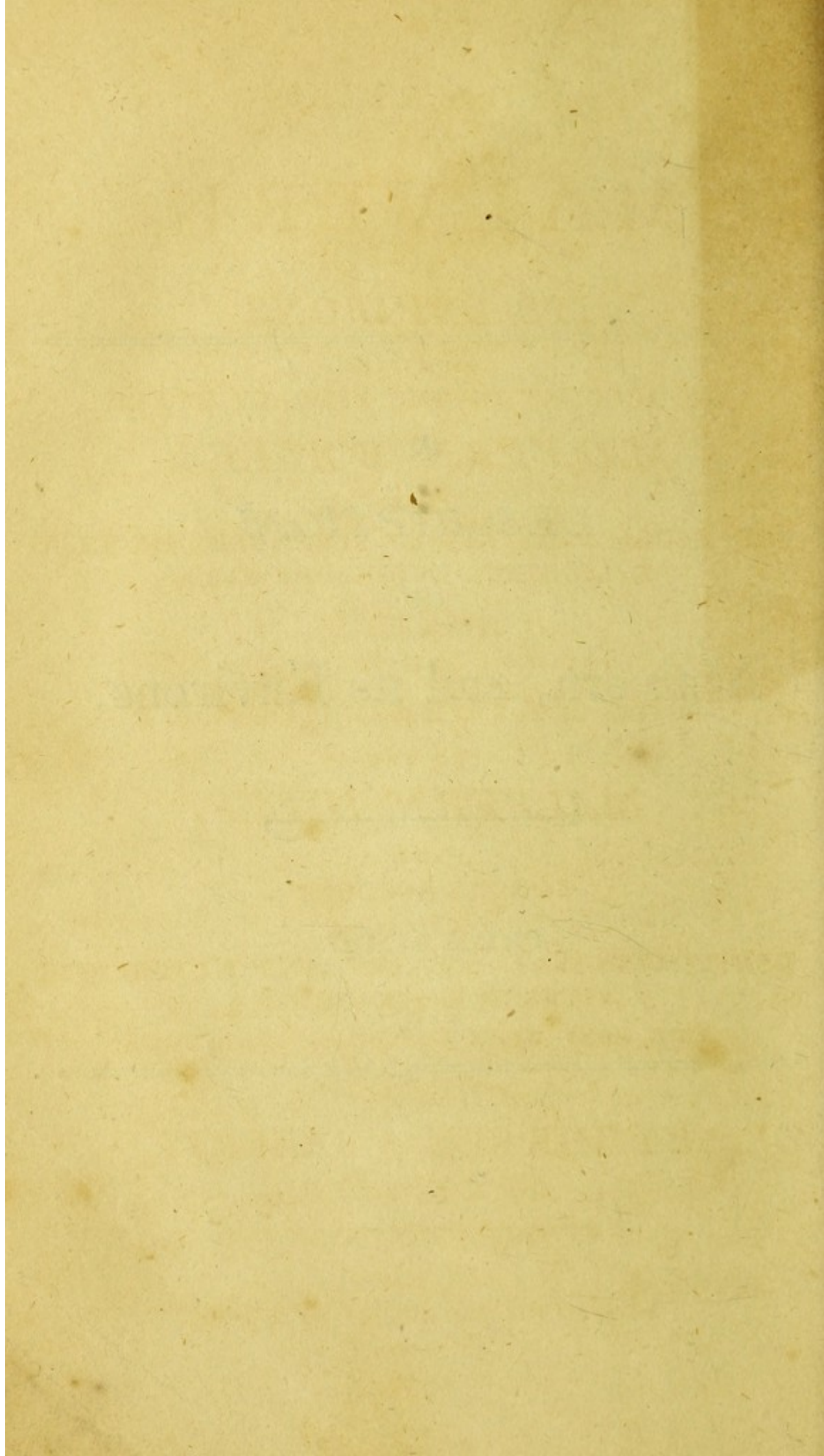


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A
DESCRIPTION
OF
Malvern, and its Environs.

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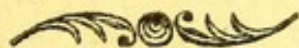


A DESCRIPTION
OF
MALVERN,
AND
ITS ENVIRONS.

COMPRISING
AN ACCOUNT OF THE EFFICACY OF THE
MALVERN WATERS,
AND
THE ACCOMMODATION OF STRANGERS IN THAT
DELIGHTFUL NEIGHBOURHOOD.

A SKETCH
OF
THE NATURAL HISTORY
OF THE
MALVERN HILLS,

AND
CONCISE ACCOUNT
OF THE
GENTLEMEN'S SEATS, SCENERY, AND PICTURESQUE
VIEWS IN THEIR VICINITY:
WITH MANY OTHER INTERESTING PARTICULARS.



BY THE REV. J. BARRETT,
OF COLWALL.

Worcester:

PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR BY T. HOLL.

1796.

THE HISTORY

OF THE

AMERICAN

REPUBLIC

IN THE

SEVENTH

EDITION

BY

THE NATIONAL HISTORICAL

COMMISSION

OF THE

UNITED STATES

OF AMERICA

AND

THE

AMERICAN

REPUBLIC

IN THE

SEVENTH

EDITION

BY THE

A DESCRIPTION, &c.



CHAP. I.

THE SITUATION, EXTENT, AND HEIGHT, OF
THE MALVERN HILLS DESCRIBED — SOME
ACCOUNT OF THEIR COMPONENT MATTER
—CONJECTURE RESPECTING THEIR STATE
IN REMOTE ANTIQUITY—SKETCH OF THEIR
SURFACE.

IT appears that the MALVERN HILLS
have been long distinguished by that
title; but, according to the rules of
geography, they will not properly bear
the appellation.—The *strata* in these
elevated tracts are arranged in a

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per-

perpendicular direction, which is the discriminative mark, or characteristic, of a mountain, always attended to by those who have treated scientifically of that branch of knowledge. However, since the name of *Malvern Hills* is rendered familiar by custom, I shall speak of them under that denomination.

* * * * *

These eminences are situated in the several counties of Worcester, Gloucester and Hereford; environed on the east by an expansive plain, and on the west by an uneven, but fertile tract of country. They are about eight miles south-west from Worcester, twenty east from Hereford, and fourteen north-west from Gloucester. Their geographical situation is in about 52 degrees of north latitude, and one hundred and fifteen miles north-west, or 3 degrees longitude

longitude west, from the meridian of London.

The Hills extend about nine miles in length; namely, from Leigh-Sinton, in the county of Worcester, to Bromfberrow, in the county of Gloucester; the former being the most northern, and the latter the most southern, extremity.

Their breadth is very unequal; so much so, that it varies from one mile to two miles, and upwards.

The highest parts are those distinguished by the names of the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Beacon, probably so called from their being used as signal places, when the adjacent country was the theatre of military achievements. These elevated protuberances are about four miles distant, and situated in the respective counties, which distinguish

their appellation. The Herefordshire Beacon was formerly computed to be the highest point of the hills; but by an accurate mensuration, the Worcestershire Beacon is found to be something higher; the former being about twelve hundred and sixty, and the latter about thirteen hundred feet, perpendicular height from the surface of the adjacent level.

The component matter of the Malvern Hills, principally consists of a mass of stone of various kinds; but which is in general so rugged and brittle, as renders it unfit for carving, or being applied to any valuable purposes. About two-thirds of the mass is granite, a filicious substance of a grey colour mixed with veins of red. In some places this stone can be raised in blocks of a considerable magnitude, but rarely without a mixture of some heterogeneous matter. It is of an exceeding durable nature,

nature, and possesses the chymical property of resisting acids. Both the grey and the red takes a good polish, and the latter then somewhat resembles cornelian.

The hills contain a considerable quantity of quartz, small pieces of which may sometimes be found perfectly exempt from any other substance; but in general it is united with the granite into an aggregate body. This is a species of flint of a whitish colour; it strikes fire with steel, and resists acids.

Exclusive of the various kinds of stone that compose the *strata*, are contained a great variety of calcarious, mineral, and argillaceous substances, detached in masses among the rocks, or deposited in veins in the incumbent beds of gravel.

The

The most remarkable of these productions is a large mass of ore, lying in the summit of the hill, about one mile to the southward of the village of Great Malvern.—This substance is rather ponderous, therefore no doubt was formerly entertained that it might be productive of some kind of metal. Hence, about the year 1715, a smelting house was erected at a small distance from the spot, by one Williams, of Bristol, and furnished with proper utensils for the purpose of refining the above mineral substance.—But this process could not be effected; in consequence of which, the building was taken down, and of course the business wholly relinquished.

Now it has been asserted, that the miscarriage proceeded from a deficiency of skill in the workmen who were employed in the operation; and that
it

it was still practicable to be brought to some degree of perfection. But this assertion has been refuted by recent experiments, which have proved this substance to be a kind of mica, not fusible by any process whatever.

Though this is the precise nature of the ore, taken at no considerable distance from the surface of the hill; yet the interior parts may contain ore, not only fusible, but even valuable. That this is the case, has been the opinion of several gentlemen conversant in mineral researches; and likewise of the ingenious Dr. Wall, of Oxford, who in a note to his appendix on the Malvern Waters, makes the following observation:—"Whatever metallic substance this hill may be found hereafter to conceal, many circumstances lead us to imagine, that if the researches formerly undertaken should
 " ever

“ ever be renewed, and pursued with
 “ liberality and unremitting perseve-
 “ rance, the exertions of the proprietor
 “ will not be unrewarded. It requires
 “ no common degree of patriotism, and
 “ the assistance of great wealth to pro-
 “ secute such enquiries. Hence many
 “ spots, which have been generally be-
 “ lieved rich in mineral productions,
 “ have been neglected for years, from
 “ the parsimony or timidity of their
 “ possessors.”

It may be proper to observe, that
 the trials, made about the year 1715,
 were never carried to any great extent,
 being in some measure cramped by
 the narrow circumstances of the pro-
 prietor, who in the course of this
 business expended about six hundred
 pounds; which is said to have been
 nearly the whole of his property.

Among

Among the above-mentioned ore is found that curious production asbestos; an inconsumable matter, which is well known, and was much esteemed by the ancients.

In one part of the Hills I observed a small quantity of spar lying in the soil, or gravel, about two feet below the surface: It was hard and quite pellucid, and formed in hexagonal chrystaline figures.

That beautiful elevated ground called Old-Castle Bank, which branches out of the hill, and extends in a transverse direction about a mile to the westward, is chiefly composed of waterstone; a brittle substance, not sufficiently durable for the exterior purposes of building. When it is applied to the repair of the public roads, or long exposed

exposed to the weather, it dissolves to a greyish soil, that is said to be favourable to vegetation.

The western declivity of the Hill contains a bed of limestone, which is the course of a vein that commences near Pensax, in the county of Worcester, and terminates at Ledbury, in the county of Hereford. It produces excellent lime, at least in the vicinity of the Malvern Hills, where large quantities are made annually; particularly in the parishes of Colwall and Mathon. This stone, which is of a blue cast, is interspersed with veins of a whitish colour, which together take an excellent polish. It is sometimes used for chimney-pieces; and, when properly finished appears little inferior to the Derbyshire marble.

In

In the above limestone are an almost infinite variety of marine productions, particularly the remains of shell-fish; such as cockles and muscles, of various sizes; some of them partly, and others of them wholly, petrified, or changed to a perfect limestone. I have likewise seen the fragments of different kinds of fish, in a state of petrification, but retaining their natural figure. These *strata* also abound with the relics of several kinds of zoophytes, a most singular marine production, which are always found in a petrified state, and are commonly known by the name of screw-stones. They are the remains of substances that possessed animal and vegetable life, and which are therefore considered by naturalists, as the grand concatenation of the animal and vegetable kingdoms. I have recently discovered in this limestone the fragment of a
horn,

horn, which probably belonged to a cornigerous marine animal.—It is in a petrified state, but not totally divested of its original testaceous matter. Here is also found the *cornu-ammonis*; specimens of which I have seen of different sizes, but always divested of their native shell.—I have likewise found the *nautilus*, the head of an exceeding large *encrinurus*, several species of gryphites, corals, *fungi marini*, &c. Many of these marine relics are in great preservation; the shell-fish retain their *striae*, and the other kinds their respective *vertebrae*, with their figures so extremely perfect, as leave no room to doubt of their species, and incontestibly prove that they belonged to the aquatic element.

It undoubtedly exceeds the limits of human abilities to demonstrate the origin of the Malvern Hills, or to ascertain the period of their existence.

Never-

Nevertheless, it is obvious that they are either primary productions of nature, or were produced at some very remote æra, and might probably have been rocks involved by the ocean.—This latter idea, at the first perception, may appear rather romantic, till it be recollected that the globe has suffered various revolutions, and that its surface, in many parts, has undergone a similar alteration.—Those marine productions contained in the limestone, as before recited, form the principal basis of this conjecture. The method of their arrangement in the *strata* evidently shews, that they were thus deposited by water: hence those parts must have been pervaded by that element. That vast aggregate mass, or rock, which composes the Hills, is perfectly exempt from any marine production; an indication, not only of their primary existence, but,

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that

that they had acquired their solidity previous to the limestone. It was before observed, that the remains of zoophites, by some termed sensitive plants, were extremely numerous; which substances, when in a living state, always inhabit the cavernous recesses of rocks in the sea, such places only being adapted to the nature of their existence—hence the discovery of these relics pleads strongly in favour of the conjecture. The beds of limestone which contain those marine bodies, when the water subsided, (which might have been either at the grand deluge, or some subsequent period), were probably banks of soil, which, from being saturated with water, were subject to petrefaction. Therefore, it is presumable, that this law operated progressively to the production of the limestone, and the preservation of those adventitious substances.

Various

Various other productions of the natural kingdom, abound in the environs of the Malvern Hills, from which inferences might also be deduced to illustrate the above conjecture ; but natural history not being my peculiar study, nor its subject the design of the present treatise, I shall, therefore, refer that detail to those more conversant in such disquisitions.

The more elevated parts of the Malvern Hills, which are not enclosed nor cultivated, chiefly belong to proprietors of land in the adjoining parishes. The surface, in some places, is productive of gorse and fern ; in others it is a sweet turf, affording an excellent sheep-pasture :—Large numbers feed thereon, and the mutton, which is small, is much esteemed for its mild flavour.

CHAP II.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE CAMPS—DIMENSIONS
OF A CAVE IN THE HILL—PARTICULARS OF
THE DISCOVERY OF A CORONET, OR CROWN
OF GOLD—DESCRIPTION OF BRANSEIL CAS-
TLE.

ON that part of the Malvern Hills called the Herefordshire Beacon, are the remains of an old camp; but by whom it was formed, or at what period of time, cannot be ascertained, as there is no history extant that mentions the circumstance: but it may be conjectured that it was formed at a very distant period; if not before history was known in Britain, yet before any progress

gress was made in that science; otherwise it is probable, that history would have afforded us some information concerning its origin. Some have imagined that it was a Roman or Saxon, and others a British camp. The latter opinion seems to carry the appearance of most probability; for it is natural to suppose, that when the Britons were driven by the Romans beyond the Severn, they posted themselves in some situation where they might be able to make a stand, and repel the further progress of their enemies. Now the Malvern Hills being advantageously situated for that purpose, they probably availed themselves of the eligible position. The existing remains of this camp consist of two intrenchments, or what is usually termed a double ditch, formed in a circular direction round the declivity of the eminence. The uppermost, which is very near to
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the summit, is about seven hundred feet in extent. The other is formed lower on the descent of the hill, and is much more extensive, being upwards of half a mile in circumference. These trenches are from six to twelve feet deep, and in some places more than thirty feet broad, and supposed capable of containing an army of twenty thousand men. The avenues or passes are still to be seen, and the greatest part is in fine preservation.

On a protuberance of the Hill, about a mile and half further to the southward, are the remains of another camp, consisting of only a single ditch. The form and appearance of this, seem to bespeak that it was not made by the same people as the abovementioned; and perhaps was formed at a more remote period.

On

On the declivity of the Herefordshire Beacon, at a small distance from its summit, is a cave cut in the rock rather of an oval form, but of rude workmanship and small dimensions. The entrance is about four feet wide, and six feet high. The concavity, or hollowed part, is ten feet in length, six feet broad, and seven feet high. It is unknown for what purpose, or by whom this cell was made; but it is not unlikely to have been the retreat of some recluse individual.

A notion has long prevailed among the inhabitants of the adjoining country, that much treasure has been lost or deposited on the Malvern Hills; but from whence such an opinion originated I am at a loss to conjecture. However, a quantity of silver coin was found about forty years back on the west side of the Hills, in the
parish

parish of Mathon. It is said that it amounted to a considerable value; but I could never procure any further particulars of it. But the most valuable, as well as singular discovery, was the coronet, or crown of gold, and its appendages, mentioned by Camden, and other writers and historians. There is a manuscript account of the particulars of this discovery, kept in the library of Jesus College, Oxford, of which the following is a copy:—

“ Within the distance of a musket
 “ shot of the trenches of the camp,
 “ in the parish of Colwall, in Hereford-
 “ shire, was found, in the year 1650,
 “ by Thomas Tailer, near Burstners-
 “ cros, as he was digging a ditch
 “ round his cottage, a coronet, or
 “ bracelet of gold, set with precious
 “ stones, of a size to be drawn over
 “ the arm and sleeve. It was sold to
 “ Mr.

“ Mr. Hill, a goldsmith, in Gloucester,
 “ for 37l. Hill sold it to a jeweller in
 “ Lombard-street, London, for 250l.
 “ and the jeweller sold the stones,
 “ which were deeply inlaid, for 1500l.
 “ as Mr. Clough, of Lombard-street,
 “ reported.”

It has been supposed that the gold
 alone of this coronet, might have been
 worth about 1000l. which, added to
 the value of the diamonds abovementioned,
 amounted to the amazing sum
 of 2500l. This curious relic should
 certainly have been preserved as an
 invaluable piece of antiquity; but being
 only in the possession of mechanics, and
 of such great value, profit prevailed
 against curiosity; therefore it was soon
 demolished, even before the discovery
 was made public, or any of the learned
 got the inspection of it. The opinion
 of some is, that this was the diadem
 of

of a British prince, who might have been slain in some contest not far distant.

It appears from the registers of Colwall, that there were several of the name of Thomas Tailer, lived there about the year 1650. On examining the deaths, I found the entry of two of that name, one who died in 1654, and another who died in 1661. In the margin of the register, opposite to the name of the latter, is prefixed an asterisk, which, in all probability, was inserted, both to distinguish that this was the person rendered memorable by the above discovery; and also as a reference to some particulars made relating to it.

On the declivity of the Malvern Hill, in the parish of Eastnor, are the ruins of Branfil Castle. A vestige of the wall is the only part remaining of this ancient structure, which was fortified
with

with a double ditch faced with stone. The appearance of this venerable ruin immured in wood, together with the obscurity of its situation, and stillness of the surrounding water, fills the mind of the beholder with a contemplative melancholy. I have not been able to obtain information at what time it was erected, or who was its founder; but the general opinion is, that it was built by the Britains, soon after the Romans left this island. Some ancient records, I am informed, shew, that this castle came to the crown by forfeiture, from the Earl of Dorset; and that Henry VI. granted it to the great Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury. It afterwards became the property of the Reeds, of Lugwardine, in the county of Hereford; from a descendant of which family it was purchased about the year 1778, by Charles Lord Sommers, the present proprietor.

CHAP.

CHAP III.

OF THE HOLY WELL, THE EFFICACY OF ITS
WATERS, AND THE METHOD OF USING IT—
SOME OTHER SPRINGS TAKEN NOTICE OF—
DESCRIPTION OF THE LODGING HOUSE—
EXTENT AND BEAUTY OF THE PROSPECTS
FROM THE MALVERN HILLS—ACCOUNT OF
THE RIDES IN THEIR VICINITY.

A Variety of springs rise from the Malvern Hills, some of which are uncommonly pure, and others are impregnated with different substances.—Experience has proved that many of these springs are serviceable in various diseases; but there is one called the Holy Well, that is allowed to be more eminently salubrious, which has attracted peculiar attention.—

This

This rises on the east side of the Hill, in the county of Worcester; distant two miles from the village of Great Malvern; and is the source of that much esteemed clear element, called Malvern Water. From whence this spring derived its appellation is not certainly known; but tradition says, that it was in great repute with the antients, who ascribed the virtue of the water to a supernatural effect, communicated by some celestial benefactor; and therefore this well was dignified with the epithet, *Holy*. It is probable that the title thus originated; at least, however, the above assertion is not repugnant to the superstitious notions which prevailed in former ages.

The medicinal virtues of this water have been repeatedly experienced by the afflicted; not only among the inhabitants of the neighbouring country,

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but

but by invalids who have come there from different parts of the kingdom. It has proved singularly beneficial in scrophulous cases. Objects thus afflicted, have arrived at Malvern in the most deplorable condition, who soon found relief, and in no long time were perfectly cured, by the constant use of this salutary water. It has seldom failed of being serviceable in most disorders of the eyes; and there are many instances of its having effected a cure in these complaints, when the prescriptions of some very eminent of the faculty had proved ineffectual. This water has also proved very beneficial to people afflicted with cancerous complaints, and old ulcers, whom it has restored to soundness, health, and vigour. It is likewise efficacious in most cutaneous disorders; also in glandular obstructions, and nephritic complaints: but, though the water has been found more peculiarly

culiarly successful in the cure of the above diseases, yet it has proved serviceable in a great many others.

The numerous cures of dangerous complaints effected by this water, prove, beyond a doubt, that it possesses a powerful efficacy; but from what origin this quality proceeds has not, perhaps, been clearly ascertained, tho' various trials have been made for that purpose. The most general opinion formerly was, that it arose from a mineral impregnation; but that idea has been long since refuted by a variety of experiments, made or sanctioned by Dr. M. Wall, of Oxford, who, in his *Treatise** thereof, concludes, " That from the whole of the experiments contained in his appendix, it

* This TREATISE may still be had of MR. HOLL, *Bookseller*, WORCESTER.

“ appears that the Holy-Well water,
 “ at Malvern, does not contain any
 “ uncombined vitriolic acid, nor any
 “ volatile alcali, nor any metallic salt;
 “ that it is slightly impregnated with
 “ fixed air, some common air, some
 “ selenites, and some unneutralized
 “ calcarious earth. Hence it is obvi-
 “ ous, that the principal virtue of Mal-
 “ vern water, must depend upon its
 “ extreme purity, assisted by the fixed
 “ air which it contains.”

Doctor Johnstone, an eminent phyfi-
 cian in Worcester, informed me, “ That
 “ he had made experiments on the
 “ Holy-Well water, but could not find
 “ that it contained any fixed air; that
 “ his experience had confirmed its great
 “ efficacy in scrophulous cases, cuta-
 “ neous eruptions, and also in nephritic
 “ complaints; and this efficacy he as-
 “ cribed to the great purity of the
 “ water

“ water alone.” He moreover observed,
 “ That the temperate warmth of the air,
 “ and great purity of the water at Mal-
 “ vern and its vicinity, induced him
 “ to consider that situation peculiarly
 “ adapted for patients afflicted with
 “ nervous disorders, or inclined to con-
 “ sumptions ; especially in the summer
 “ or autumnal months.”

It may be proper to observe, that in most complaints for which the water is prescribed, it must be used both by drinking and lotion. In scrophulous and scorbutic complaints, bathing the whole body and drinking freely of the water are exceedingly necessary ; and in ulcerous disorders, the methods of admitting the water into the affected part as it falls from the spout, and the application of wet linen, are found the most beneficial.

Early

Early rising, and a proper degree of exercise, either by riding on horseback or walking on the Hill previous to using the water; and also at intervals afterwards should by no means be omitted; as such exercise in that pure air will promote a due circulation, and indeed prove a powerful auxiliary in the cure of those diseases, for which the Malvern waters are recommended.

The source of the Holy-Well is secured by a decent building, containing a bath and several apartments suited to the various purposes that using the water require.

Near the village of Great Malvern is a spring that affords a lightly impregnated Chalybeate water, of which kind this is perhaps the most free from earthy or calcarious matter of any that is produced in Great Britain. It has proved
eminently

eminently serviceable in consumptive complaints, nervous disorders, and emaciated constitutions.

The late Dr. Wall, of Worcester, says, “ It seems to challenge one of
 “ the first places amongst the waters
 “ of this class. For though it be not
 “ so highly impregnated with iron as
 “ some others, yet it is sufficiently so
 “ to answer all our expectations from
 “ it as a Chalybeate; and being much
 “ less loaded with earth than others,
 “ it seems probable that the ferruginous
 “ particles will for that reason be more
 “ readily and intimately mixed with
 “ the blood and juices, whilst the
 “ water, by its extreme purity, pervading the finest vessels, washes away
 “ the accrimonious salts and obstructing viscidities.—This water at the
 “ spring head instantly strikes a fair
 “ purple with galls; and if carefully
 “ taken

“ taken up and close corked, will
 “ retain the same property several
 “ hours; but the colour grows gra-
 “ dually more and more pale, and at
 “ the last approaches to the orange.
 “ To have this water, therefore, in full
 “ perfection, it must be drank at the
 “ source.”

On the west side of the Hill, in the
 parish of Colwall, is a spring called
 Moorarls Well, that affords a water,
 which has proved serviceable in scro-
 phulous cases. Here a building con-
 taining a bath is erected near to the
 spring, for the convenience of people
 who use the water.

There is another spring on the west
 side of the Hill, called Walms Well.
 This water is much esteemed by the
 neighbouring inhabitants, who assert
 that it is beneficial in a great variety of
 disorders

disorders, and particularly in cutaneous complaints. It is said that this water contains sulphur, from which, it perhaps derives that salubrity for which it is celebrated.

There are two other springs rise from the west side of the Hills, the one in the parish of Colwall, and the other in the parish of Eastnor, which have a petrefactive property. This is evident from the moss and vegetables immersed in their streams; which, for a considerable distance from the springs, are incrusted with a lapidious matter. These concretions are of various sizes, some of them several inches in diameter, and are the effects of a calcarious matter contracted by the water, in its current through beds of limestone.

At a small distance from the Holy-Well, is a commodious Lodging-house,
at

at present kept by Mr. Steers. It is a well built structure, situated on the descent of the Hill, commanding extensive and beautiful prospects. This is chiefly the resort of genteel company, who generally board and dine together in a large room, and are supplied with excellent accommodations. It is seldom visited in the winter, the air here being very sharp in that season: but in the summer this spot is most delightful, rendered particularly so in the morning, by aurora's enlivening aspect and the rising sun; whose meridian rays are tempered by refreshing breezes, peculiar to the Malvern Hills. It is a situation desirable to the healthy; but highly so to invalids, who here enjoy a salubrious air and water, the beauties of nature, and in some degree, the tranquillity of retirement.

Near

Near the above lodging-house are several delightful walks on the Malvern Hill, which, by a gradual ascent, lead to its summit, where, in addition to the local beauties, the eye enjoys most expanded prospects. From hence are seen ten counties, namely, Monmouth, Radnor, Hereford, Brecknock, Stafford, Salop, Gloucester, Worcester, Oxford, and Warwick; some of them appearing uniform by distance, and others beautifully diversified by art and nature. Here the cities of Gloucester, Worcester, and Hereford are visible; several market towns, and with the assistance of a glass near a hundred churches. It is extremely delightful to behold the surrounding country from hence, in the months of April and May, when the plantations of apple-trees and pear-trees are in blossom. The splendid colouring of this bloom, added to the other tints of nature, form a scene most pleasingly

singly interesting. No view, perhaps, can exceed it for variety and beauty, or more forcibly strike the delighted fancy.

There are several pleasant rides about the Malvern Hills, particularly the Worcester road, from the western ascent of the Hill, to the village of Great Malvern. Here a constant succession of new objects meet the eye of the traveller; something that still awakens his curiosity and attracts notice. He is pleased with the distant prospects, but impressed with mixed ideas of delight and wonder, on viewing that singular variety in the features of nature, which more immediately surrounds him. The luxuriant appearance of the adjoining country, and the barren aspect of the Hills, equally and at once conspicuous, form a striking contrast. The one presents nature in her richest dress,
the

the other nature, romantic, wild, and naked. Each, however, has its peculiar powers to attract the philosophic mind. The former will add delight, and the latter will excite speculation.

At the distance of two miles to the northward is another public road over the Hill, through the Wytch, or Chasm, cut by art in the summit, in order to shorten the ascent, and render the passage over more safe and easy. This road is rather steep and uneven, and therefore seldom used for carriages: It is, however, convenient as a shorter way for travellers on horseback, from Ledbury to Malvern and Worcester.

There was a road made about eight years back, by means of which carriages may be taken round the

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north

north parts of the Hill. This undertaking was promoted by the late Sir Hildebrand Jacob, Bart. who it is said contributed largely towards defraying the expence of the execution.

The air that we breathe in these rides, and indeed on every part of the Malvern Hills, is very refreshing, has a tendency to create an appetite, and revive the spirits. This pure atmosphere, so stimulating on the Hills, perhaps extends its influence to the surrounding country, where the inhabitants are seldom visited with epidemical diseases.

CHAP.

CHAP IV.

THE SITUATION AND BEAUTY OF GREAT MALVERN DESCRIBED—FOUNDATION OF THE MONASTERY—ACCOUNT OF THE PRESENT CHURCH—ANCIENT VERSES IN PRAISE OF THIS PLACE—SOME ACCOUNT OF LITTLE MALVERN.

THE Village of Great Malvern is most delightfully situated on the Eastern declivity of the Hill, distant eight miles from Worcester, and twenty-two from Cheltenham. It consists of about forty houses, chiefly neat buildings, to which are attached gardens, plantations of fruit-trees, or shrubs and evergreens; which render their appearance rural and pretty. Here the aspect of

the Hill is peculiarly striking; its bold ascent, and huge rocks that rise through the surface, have certainly a grand effect, especially in contrast with the adjoining country, where cultivation and the soft beauties of improvement, form the predominant feature.

Here is an Hotel, kept by Mr. Roberts, which seems well calculated for the reception of genteel company. It is a neat building, situated in the centre of the village, and commands variegated and extensive prospects.

Invalids who visit Malvern, and require greater retirement, may be supplied with lodgings, agreeable to their circumstances, in private families, there being several who during the summer appropriate apartments for the accommodation of strangers.

I have

I have not been able to obtain any manuscripts, which I conceive to be authentic, relative to the antiquities of Malvern; therefore have extracted the following account of the foundation of the Monastery, and its Endowment, from Dr. Nash's History of Worcestershire :

“ Before the conquest it was a wilderness thick set with trees, in the midst of which some monks, who aspired to greater perfection, retired from the Priory of Worcester, and became hermits. The enthusiasm spread so fast, that their number soon increased to three hundred, when forming themselves into a Society, they agreed to live according to the order of St. Benedict, and elected Alwin, one of their company, to be superior.— Thus was this Monastery founded

“ about

“ about the year 1083, with the con-
 “ sent and approbation of St. Wolstan,
 “ Bishop of Worcester. It was de-
 “ dicated to the Virgin Mary.

“ The greatest benefactor was
 “ Henry I. who gave them Quat-
 “ and Fuleford, in Staffordshire, Hath-
 “ field, in Herefordshire, and other
 “ lands. Gislebert, Abbot of West-
 “ minster, with consent of his Con-
 “ vent, assigned to them several manors
 “ and estates; whereupon this Mo-
 “ nastery was looked upon as a cell,
 “ or at least subordinate to Westmin-
 “ ster Abbey.

“ Gilbert de Clare Earl of Glou-
 “ cester, Lord of the Forest, contri-
 “ buted largely to the revenues of
 “ this house. Osborn and Richard
 “ Fitzpontz, or De Pontibus, were
 “ likewise considerable benefactors.

“ Wolstan,

“ Wolstan, Prior of Worcester, with
 “ consent of his Convent, gave to the
 “ church of Great Malvern, fundry
 “ lands in Powick, Braunceford, and
 “ Leigh.

“ Avicot, in Warwickshire, was a
 “ cell to Malvern, where were four
 “ monks. Brockbury likewise, in the
 “ parish of Colwall, in Herefordshire,
 “ was a cell and contained two
 “ monks. At the time of the dis-
 “ solution of the Religious Houses in
 “ the reign of Henry VIII. their
 “ revenue amounted to 318l. 1s. 5½d.
 “ according to Dugdale; but accord-
 “ ing to Speed, it was 375l. os. 6d. ob.
 “ It consisted chiefly in the follow-
 “ ing articles.—The manors of New-
 “ land, Wortefeld, and Powyck, in
 “ the county of Worcester; North-
 “ wode, in Shropshire; the town of
 “ Hatfield, and lands in Baldenhale,
 “ Malvern,

“ Malvern, Braunsford, and Lye;
 “ tythes at Archesfonte, in the diocese
 “ of Salisbury, of the yearly value of
 “ 40s. The Priory of Malvern had
 “ likewise the appropriate churches of
 “ Longeney, Powyke, and Malvern;
 “ the patronage of the churches of
 “ Hanleye, in the deanery of Powyke,
 “ of Upton Snodsbury, in the deanery
 “ of Fayrford in the county of Glo-
 “ cester.

“ This Priory was granted, 36th
 “ Henry VIII. to William Pinnocke,
 “ who alienated it to John Knotes-
 “ ford, serjeant-at-arms, whose daughter
 “ Ann married William Savage, of
 “ the family of Savage, of Rock
 “ Savage, in the county of Chester;
 “ from whom, by inheritance, it came
 “ to Thomas Savage, Esq. of Elmley-
 “ castle, in Worcestershire. His de-
 “ scendant (by a female) Thomas
 “ Byrche

“ Byrche Savage, Esq. sold the de-
 “ mesne to James Oliver, of the city
 “ of Worcester, about the year 1774,
 “ the scite of the old priory being
 “ sold a few years before.”

The present Church of Great Malvern was purchased by the inhabitants of John Knotesford, for the sum, it is said, of 200 pounds. It is a magnificent structure, in length one hundred and seventy-one feet, and in breadth sixty-three feet; and the architecture rather light for the age in which it was erected. The tower, which stands near the centre, contains a ring of six bells, and a set of chimes; it is one hundred and twenty-four feet high, and ornamented with pinnacles and battlements of curious workmanship. This church was formerly celebrated for its beautiful windows of stained glass, consisting

ing of various representations, particularly scripture history; but which is now partly demolished. A view, however, of this edifice in its present state, will convince the observer of the improved taste of the architect, and the opulence of its original possessors.

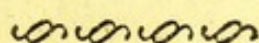
Several parts of the choir in this church, are ornamented with a tessellated pavement, containing the coats of arms of many ancient and noble families. Some of these panes are in excellent preservation.

There are numerous monumental inscriptions; but the following are most worthy of notice.

On the north side of the communion table is a flat stone, with this inscription upon it in capitals:

“ Here

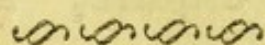
“ Here lyethe the bodye of Penelope, the wife of Robert Walweyn, of Neulande, gentleman, the daughter of Richard Ligon, of Madersfyelde, esquire, the sonne of William Ligon, esquire, sonne of Sir Richard Ligon, knight, the sonne of Thomas Ligon, esquire, and Anne his wife, one of the daughters of the lorde Beauchampe, her mother was Marye, the daughter of Sir Thomas Ruffell, of Strensham, knyghte. Obiit 13 Januarii, 1596.”



On the south side of the choir is an alabaster tomb, on different parts of which are seven figures, said to represent John Knotesford, his wife, and five daughters; and on a pillar adjoining is this inscription:

“ Here lieth the body of John Knotesford, esquire, servant to king Henry the VIII. and Jane his wife, daughter to Sir
Richard

Richard Knightley, knight, who being first married to Mr. William Lumley, had issue John lord Lumley; and by John Knotesford had issue five daughters, and co-heirs; he dyed in the year 1589,—Novem. 23."



Upon a flat stone is the following inscription :

“ Siste, hospes paulisper
 Moræ pretium erit te fire
 quæ fœmina fit hic sepulta,
 Subtus depositæ jacent exuviæ Katharinæ
 Richardi Dafton de Wormington,
 in agro Glocestrienfi genere armigeri.
 Fucultatis gradu juridici purpurati,
 Filiæ familia sua dignæ;
 Æigidii Savage de Elmley Castle
 in agro Vigornienfi
 Armigeri, ex equestri ordine oriundi,
 Conjugis æque amantis ac redamantæ;
 Quæ

Quæ viro suo superstes,
 Quo melius Christo soli sponso cælesti nuberet;
 Viduam annos quadraginta se continuit:
 Eadem in rebus domesticis provida,
 Seu Salomonis mater familias illa,
 Eleemosynariis larga quasi Dorcas altera,
 Divinis pia velut Anna ipsa.

In amicos, familiares, vicinos, advenus omnes,
 Amænitate morum suavi prædita,
 Mortalitatem exuit, immortalitatem induit
 (Die anni longissimo in æternitatem translata)

Mensis Junii 11^o,

Anno Christi 1674, ætatis suæ 84.

Effigiem habet Elmley supramemorata
 (Una cum conjugis prolisque sculptilibus)

Cælum animam, sepulcrum corpus,

Exemplum superstites ac posteris;

Δι' αὐτῆς ἀποθανὼν ἐτι λαλεῖται

Dat mundus famam virtuti, dat pietati

Aureolam, cælum, vivit utroque loco."

In different parts of the choir are these inscriptions:

“ Margaret, late wife of William Lygon, Esq. and only child of Thomas Corbyn, Esq. obiit 21 Oct. 1699, ætat. 42.”

“ William Lygon, junior, of Madresfield, Esquire, obiit 4 September 1716, ætatis 26.”

“ Here lies the body of William Ligon, of Madresfield, Esq. who departed this life 16 day of March, anno Dom. 1720, ætatis suæ 79.”

“ Hic jacet Maria, uxor Gulielmi Ligon de Madresfield, armigeri, filia Francisci Egiocke, de Egiocke, militis, et cohæres fratris.—Obiit decimo Novembris 1668, ætatis suæ 59.”

At the bottom of the stone are these lines :

“Stay,

“ Stay, passenger, and from this dusty urne
 Both what I was, and what thou must be, learne :
 Grace, virtue, beauty had no priviledge,
 That everlasting statute to abridge,
 That all must dye ; then, gentle friend, with
 care

In life for death and happiness prepare.

*Flebilis hoc posuit thalami consors,
 Mortuus est Januarii 29, 1680,
 Ætatis sexagesimo octavo.”*

“ To the dear memory of Richard Lygon,
 of Madresfield, in the county of Worcester,
 who departed this mortal life, April 15, 1687,
 in the 49th year of his age : Anne, his
 sorrowful wife, eldest daughter to Sir Francis
 Russell, of the same county, Bart. dedicates
 this.”—

“ Here resteth the body of Elizabeth, the
 wife of John Wallfam, Esqr. and daughter
 to William Lygon, Esqr. who departed this

transitory life the 12th day of April, anno Dom. 1674."

" John Woodehouse, Esqr. third son of Sir Philip Woodehouse, of Kimberly, in Norfolk, Baronet, died 26 June, 1718, aged 62 years."

" John Dickins, of Bobinton, in the county of Stafford, Esq. buried April 25, 1656, aged 78 years and 6 months."

" Richard Brindley, died 30 January, 1714, aged 29 years; also Richard, son of the above-named Richard and Anne his wife, died Feb. 9, 1719, aged 6 years and 9 months."

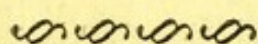
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Towards the west end of the church is a flat stone, with the following inscription upon it in capitals. It was dug up in a garden adjoining to



to the church, in the year 1711, and is the epitaph of Walcher, who was the second Prior of Malvern.

“ Philosophus dignus bonus astrologos  
lotheringus, vir pius ac humilis, monachus  
prior hujus ovilis, hic jacet in cista geome-  
tricus ac abacista, Doctor Walcherus; flet  
plebs dolet undqve clerus; huic lux prima  
mori dedit octobris feniori; vivat ut in  
cœlis exhoret quisque fidelis. 1135.’



The following eulogium of Great Malvern, and its waters, is said to have been composed by the Parish Clerk about the year 1590, from which time it remained in manuscript till 1778, when it was published in the History of Worcestershire. It is, however, I believe, not very generally known, and therefore may



prove acceptable to many of my readers.

As I did walk alone  
 Late in an evening;  
 I heard the voice of one  
 Most sweetly fingering;  
 Which did delight me much,  
 Because the song was such,  
 And ended with a touch,  
 O praise the Lord.

The God of sea and land  
 That rules above us,  
 Stays his avenging hand,  
 Cause he doth love us;  
 And doth his blessings send,  
 Altho' we do offend:  
 Then let us all amend,  
 And praise the Lord.

Great Malvern on a rock,  
 Thou standest surely,

Do



Do not thyself forget,  
Living securely:  
Thou hast of blessings store,  
No country town hath more,  
Do not forget therefore,  
To praise the Lord.

Thou hast a famous church  
And rarely builded:  
No country town hath such  
Most men have yielded.  
For pillars stout and strong,  
And windows large and long:  
Remember in thy song,  
To praise the Lord.

There is God's service read  
With rev'rence duely:  
There is his word preached,  
Learned and truly:  
And every sabbath day  
Singing of Psalms they say,  
Its surely the only way  
To praise the Lord.



The fun in glory great,  
 When first it riseth,  
 Doth bleſs thy happy feat,  
 And thee adviſeth,  
 That then its time to pray,  
 That God may bleſs thy way,  
 And keep thee all the day,  
 To praise the Lord.

That thy proſpect is good,  
 None can deny thee;  
 Thou haſt great ſtore of wood  
 Growing hard by thee:  
 Which is a bleſſing great  
 To roaſt and boil thy meat,  
 And thee in cold to heat,  
 O praise the Lord.

Preſerve it I adviſe  
 Whiſt thou haſt it;  
 Spare not in any wiſe,  
 But do not waſte it:

Leaſt



Left thou repent too late,  
 Remember Hanley's fate,  
 In time shut up thy gate,  
 And praise the Lord.

A chafe for royal deer  
 Round doth beset thee;  
 Too many I do fear  
 For aught they get thee,  
 Yet tho' they eat away  
 Thy corn, thy grafs, and hay,  
 Doe not forget, I say,  
 To praise the Lord.

That noble chafe doth give  
 Thy beasts their feeding;  
 Where they in summer live,  
 With little heeding:  
 Thy sheep and Swine there go,  
 So doth thy horse also,  
 Till winter brings in snow:  
 Then praise the Lord.

Turn



Turn up thine eyes on high,  
 There fairly standing,  
 See Malvern's highest hill,  
 All hills commanding;  
 They all confefs at will,  
 Their fovereign Malvern Hill,  
 Let it be mighty ftill!

O praife the Lord.

When western winds doth rock  
 Both town and country,  
 Thy hill doth break the fhock,  
 They cannot hurt thee;  
 When waters great abound  
 And many a country's drown'd  
 Thou ftandeft fafe and found,  
 O praife the Lord.

Out of that famous hill  
 There daily fpringeth  
 A water, paffing ftill  
 Which always bringeth

Great



Great comfort to all them  
 That are diseased men,  
 And makes them well again,  
                     To praise the Lord.

Hast thou a wound to heal,  
     The which doth grieve thee?  
 Come then unto this well,  
     It will relieve thee;  
*Noli me tangeres,*  
 And other maladies,  
 Have here their remedies,  
                     Prais'd be the Lord.

To drink thy waters, store  
     Lie in thy bushes,  
 Many with ulcers fore,  
     Many with bruises;  
 Who succour find from ill,  
 By money given still,  
 Thanks to the Christian will:  
                     O praise the Lord.

A thou-



A thousand bottles there,  
Were filled weekly,  
And many costrils rare  
For stomachs sicly;  
Some of them into Kent,  
Some were to London sent,  
Others to Berwick went,  
O praise the Lord.



LITTLE





LITTLE MALVERN, is situated in the county of Worcester, distant about three miles and a half from Great Malvern, and one and a half from the Holy Well. It lies on a *recumbent* slope, near the entrance of a great recess in the Hill, and was formerly a considerable village, though now it consists of only a few houses. No longer back than the reign of Queen Elizabeth, the parish contained 37 families, which number is now diminished to six.

Here was likewise a Monastery, but not so magnificent as the above mentioned.—Dr. Nash says:

“ It was founded for the same  
 “ cause, and in the same manner, as  
 G “ the



“ the neighbouring Priory. A con-  
 “ gregation of monks, of the Priory  
 “ of Worcester, having entered into  
 “ the wilderness of Malvern, and de-  
 “ termined to lead an austere life as  
 “ hermits.—Jocelin and Edred, of the  
 “ order of St. Benedict, are said to  
 “ have founded, and dedicated this  
 “ house and church to St. Gyles,  
 “ about the year 1171.

“ The principal benefactors were  
 “ William de Blois, and King Henry  
 “ II. Gilbert de Clare, Earl of  
 “ Gloucester, Lord of Malvern Chace,  
 “ was also a considerable contri-  
 “ butor.

“ At the dissolution the revenues  
 “ of this house, according to Dugdale,  
 “ were estimated at 98l. 10s. 9d.—  
 “ But according to Speed, they  
 “ amounted to 102l. 10s. 9d.

“ The



“ The dissolved Monastery, with  
 “ the lands, perpetual advowson of  
 “ the church of Little Malvern, &c.  
 “ were granted by Philip and Mary  
 “ to John Ruffell.”\*

Little Malvern Church, which is now partly in ruins, was rebuilt about the year 1482, by John Alcock, Bishop of Worcester.—It was ornamented with windows of stained glass, little of which is now left.—The floor exhibits the remains of a tessellated pavement; and on a beam is a piece of carving of most exquisite workmanship; but there are few monumental inscriptions.

G 2

Near

\* This was a branch of the Ruffell's of Strensham, the heiress of which was married to Thomas Williams, Esq. of Trelynnie, in the county of Flint, in whose family it now continues.



Near the church is an antique building, the property and residence of Miss Williams, situated on the spot where stood the ancient Monastery. This house, which has lately undergone considerable improvements, has in front a fine piece of water, and commands various and beautiful prospects. The declivity of the adjoining glen, clothed with bold impending wood, and the hill receding above, afford an appearance from hence pleasingly romantic. To the eastward lies an expanse of fertile meadows, variegated with trees, which add much to the beauty of this situation. This sequestered spot, viewed as a whole, either from the hill above or the plain beneath, equally attracts attention. Here art has a venerable aspect given it by time; and nature is rendered pleasing by its exuberance and charming simplicity.



## CHAP V.

A SKETCH OF THE COUNTRY, AND CONCISE  
ACCOUNT OF THE GENTLEMEN'S SEATS,  
SCENERY, AND PICTURESQUE VIEWS, IN  
THE ENVIRONS OF THE MALVERN HILLS.

THE country lying on the west-side of the Malvern Hills, is remarkable for the large plantation of apple-trees and pear-trees, and their consequent productions of cyder and perry; particularly the former, which in general is rich and fine tasted. However, it may be proper to observe, that there is in most places a manifest superiority in the quality of the fruit, and consequently of the liquor, produced on



the low ground, over that which grows on the elevated.—This difference originates from the nature of the soil, which, on the low ground, is a strong clay; on the banks a light earth mixed with gravel, which in some places is incumbent on limestone. It is well known that the fruit produced on the former soil, affords the liquor in general rich and pleasant; but on the latter more pale and acid.

On the east side of the Hills in the county of Worcester, lies a large tract of Common, which together with other land adjoining, constituted the ancient *Malvern Chace*: the greatest part of which, in the time of William the Conqueror, abounded with large grown wood. This Forest, or Chace, which was plentifully stocked with deer, belonged to the Crown in the reign of King Edward I. who gave it to  
Gilbert



Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester. Before the Earl had been long in possession, he had a dispute with the Bishop of Hereford, relating to the western boundary ; to end which, and render the division permanent, he caused a great ditch to be made along the ridge of the Hills, many parts of which are now in good preservation. After the death of the Earl the possession of the Chase was retained by his successors for several ages, and then became again the property of the Crown. In the year 1690, a grant was made of one-third of it to Richard Heath, and Sir Cornelius Vermyden, Knight ; and the other two-thirds to the adjoining Parishes. It was afterwards declared free from the forest laws by an act of parliament made the sixteenth of King Charles II. Since that period there have been several trials respecting the right of common, all which were termi-



terminated, so as ultimately to establish that privilege (with very few exceptions) equally among the inhabitants of thirteen parishes, which are situated upon the confines of the ancient Chace. That part of the Common, which is in the parish of Hanley Castle, it is expected will shortly be inclosed,\* agreeable to an act of parliament, lately obtained for that purpose.

The beauty, fertility, and inviting appearance of the country around the  
Malvern

\* Should that take place the admirer of natural beauty will have to regret the loss of its present picturesque effect.—But an accession of cultivated land, and consequently, a greater production of wheat, will undoubtedly be deemed an ample compensation; especially at the present time, when the scarcity of that article, is so severely felt by the lower classes of society.



Malvern Hills, have induced people of distinction and property to make it their residence: Hence the face of nature is diversified with some very capital houses; and its simplicity embellished with elegant improvement. Some of these residences, together with their respective situations, deserve particular notice.

In a retired valley, on the west-side of the parish of Colwall, in the county of Hereford, distant about three miles from the Malvern Wells, is *Hope-End*, the seat of Sir Henry Tempest, Bart. This is partly a modern structure, rather large and commodious, some of the apartments are highly finished. It is nearly surrounded by small eminences, and therefore does not command any distant prospect, except to the southward, nor is that very extensive; but this defect is compensated by the various and beautiful scenery



scenery that immediately surrounds this secluded residence. In front of the house are some fine pieces of water; on their banks are planted a variety of shrubs and evergreens, which, in conjunction with the water, look very ornamental. The deer park, which is a small but pleasant tract, lies on the ascent of the contiguous eminences, whose projecting parts, and bending declivities, modelled by nature, display much beauty. It contains an elegant profusion of wood, disposed in the most careless yet pleasing order. Much of the park, and its scenery, is in view from the house, where it presents a very agreeable appearance.

In the above deer park is an ash of remarkable growth, which is now in an improving state. It is the largest I have ever seen, and, perhaps, the largest in Britain.



In the parish of Colwall is also a pretty residence, the property of Richard Brydges, Esq. This house is pleasantly situated at the eastern foot of an eminence, which abounds with wood, interspersed with cultivated fields and pastures. On various parts of this eminence grows a considerable quantity of fir, whose gloomy aspect displays a kind of solemn grandeur. The gardens, which are contiguous to the house, are well situated. Springs of water rise at a small distance, affording a plentiful supply for use or ornament. However, not all the attention has been paid to the latter, which a situation thus circumstanced seems to merit. From hence is a pleasing view of the neighbourhood, terminated by the Malvern Hills, which are about two miles distant.

About



About one mile distant from the Malvern Wells, is a neat villa, called *Brand-Green Lodge*, late the residence of Colonel Roberts. It stands on the western declivity of a pleasant part of the Malvern Hills, on a situation elevated about five hundred feet from the level. From this romantic spot, is a fine view of the camp, which is about half a mile distant, and a very extensive prospect to the westward. It is not affected with that greater degree of cold peculiar to elevated situations, being happily sheltered from the east and north winds; from the former by the Malvern Hills, and from the latter by woods that lie at an agreeable distance. The front of the house is white, and shaded by a range of evergreens, which gives it a picturesque appearance.

At



At Eastnor, in the county of Hereford, distant four miles from the Malvern Wells, is *Castleditch*, the seat of Lord Somers. The greatest part of this house is an ancient building, to which have lately been added, several elegant apartments built of free-stone, on a modern plan. Its situation, being a flat, loses the advantage of a distant prospect; but the projecting declivities of the Malvern Hills, and other eminences, with which it is environed, being ornamented with a profusion of wood, display a pleasing scene of rural beauty. The park, which surrounds the house, is not very extensive, but well stocked with deer, prettily diversified with trees, and adorned with a fine piece of water.—In one part is a small elevation, whereon is erected a summer-house, that commands an extensive prospect to the southward. The gardens are

H

well



well situated, laid out with taste, and kept in excellent order. From several positions, at a small distance to the eastward, the house and contiguous scenery have a pleasing effect; the latter being devoid of that formal regularity in the disposition of its parts which often disfigures the scene it is intended to embellish.

A beautiful road extends from the Malvern Hills to Castleditch, along the summit of a small elevation called the Ridgeway, from different parts of which much beauty is visible in several directions. Here the grand elevation of the Hill, its descent clothed with wood, and the valley beneath interspersed with fertile pastures, arrest the attention, and delight the fancy of the beholder. In several parts of this natural terrace are a variety of evergreens, the spontaneous produce of its decli-



declivity, whereon the eye reposes with much pleasure, after pervading distant objects, and more romantic scenery.

Near the southern extremity of the Malvern Hills is *Bromsberow-Place*, formerly the residence of Colonel Walter Yate, and now the property of W. H. Yate, Esq. This is a handsome spacious building, containing many excellent apartments, some of them finished in a stile of taste and elegance. A gravel walk through a shrubbery, on the confines of a beautiful lawn, leads to the gardens, the walls of which are concealed from the mansion by the form of the intervening ground, so as not to intercept the prospect, nor break the line of beauty. The house itself makes a good appearance, but the foreground, which is divided from the lawn by a sunk fence, seems



to call for a border of shrubs, or ornamental wood, in order to render it more picturesque. The prospects from hence are variegated and beautiful, and to the southward very extensive, being terminated by distant hills in Gloucestershire. Some small protuberances, enriched with plantations, seen over a varied ground, adorn the western prospect. Here are also seen the Malvern Hills facing an eminence clothed with hanging wood, the view of which is very pleasing.

In the parish of Handley-Castle, and county of Worcester, distant about two miles from the Malvern Wells, is *Blackmore Park*, the seat of Thomas Hornyold, Esq. This is a modern and elegant finished structure, the situation dry and pleasant, but its prospects are not very extensive. In the adjacent grounds is a large quantity  
of



of fine elm, planted uniformly in rows; but a plantation thus disposed, though exceeding pretty in itself, does not afford that picturesque appearance to a distant beholder, as groups of trees detached at various distances. In the neighbourhood are several large pieces of water, the property of the above gentleman, which are not unworthy of notice.

In the parish of Maddersfield, and county of Worcester, distant about four miles from the Malvern Wells, is an antique but neat building, the residence of William Lygon, Esq.—Its situation is rather flat, but commands some good views, particularly of a small eminence, lying about a mile to the eastward, containing fine plantations, which produce a beautiful effect. There is, likewise, a view of the Malvern Hills, the village of Great Malvern



Malvern and parts adjacent. The grounds contiguous to the mansion are enriched with fine wood, and rendered various and pretty by well-formed pieces of water. Very near to the house is Maddersfield Chapel, encircled by a range of trees, which together affords an appearance quite picturesque.





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## CONTENTS.

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### CHAP. I.

The Situation, Extent and Height of the Malvern Hills described—Some Account of their component Matter—Conjecture respecting their State in remote Antiquity—Sketch of their Surface.

### CHAP. II.

An Account of the Camps—Dimensions of a Cave in the Hill—Particulars of the Discovery of a Coronet, or Crown of Gold—Description of Branfil Castle.

### CHAP. III.

Of the Holy Well, the Efficacy of its Water, and the Method of using it—Some other Springs taken notice of—Description of the Lodging-house—Extent and Beauty of the Prospects from  
the



the Malvern Hills—Account of the Rides  
in their Vicinity.

#### CHAP. IV.

The Situation and Beauty of Great Malvern described—Foundation of the Monastery—Account of the present Church—Antient Verses in praise of the Place—Some Account of Little Malvern.

#### CHAP. V.

A Sketch of the Country, and concise Account of the Gentlemen's Seats, Scenery, and Picturesque Views, in the Environs of the Malvern Hills.









