

A brief account of the rise, progress, and patronage of the Leamington Spa Charity : instituted for the gratuitous relief of invalids, with short notices - respecting the accommodations of the village, rides, walks, &c.in; the neighbourhood, and general rules for drinking the Leamington waters, &c.;

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A BRIEF ACCOUNT ---

Leamington Spa

Charity

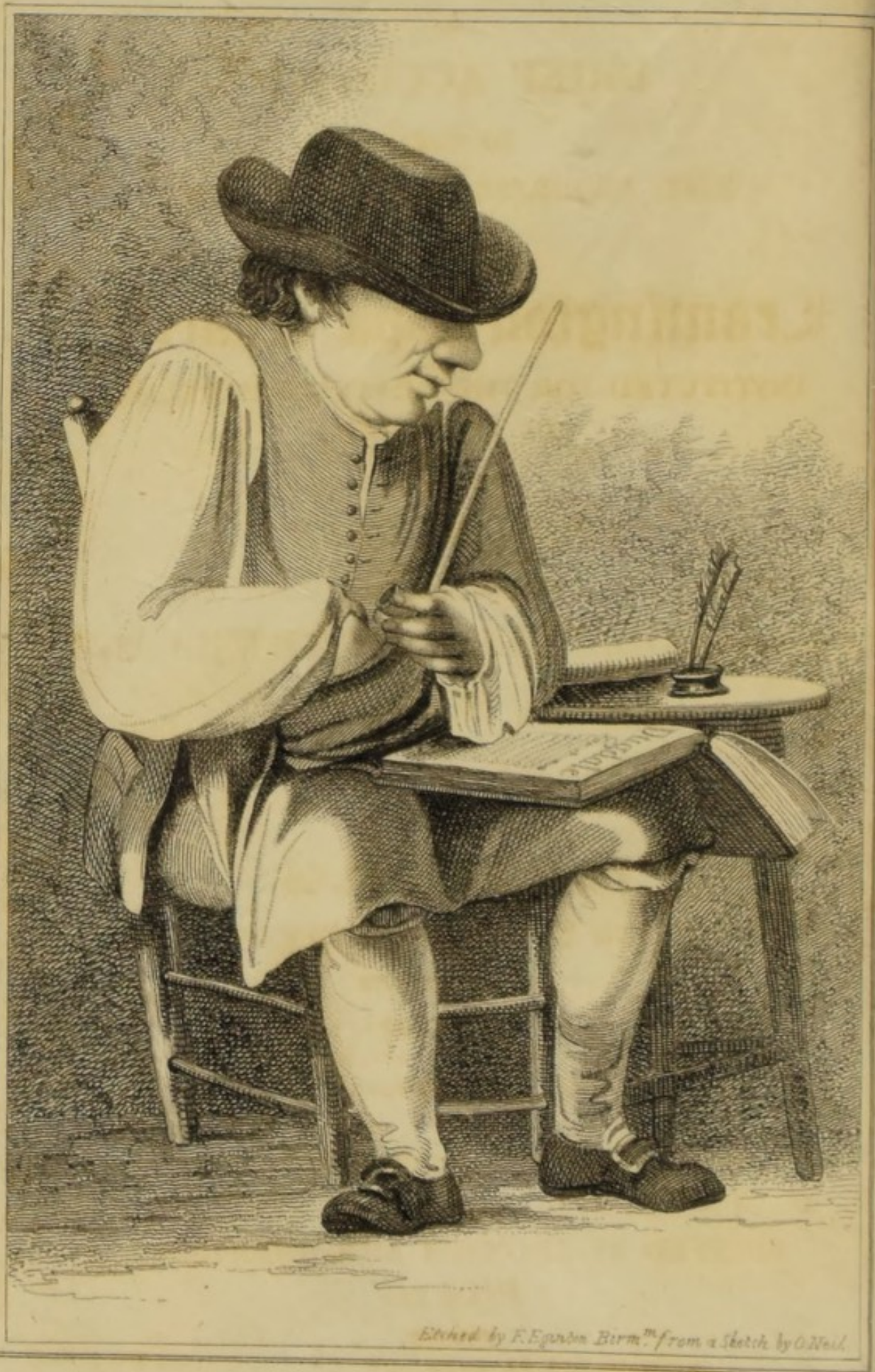
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Engraved by F. Egerton Birm.^m from a Sketch by O. Neil.

A
BRIEF ACCOUNT
OF THE
RISE, PROGRESS, AND PATRONAGE
OF THE
Leamington Spa Charity,
INSTITUTED FOR THE GRATUITOUS RELIEF
OF INVALIDS,
WITH
SHORT NOTICES
RESPECTING THE
ACCOMMODATIONS OF THE VILLAGE,
Rides, Walks, &c.
IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD,
AND
GENERAL RULES
FOR DRINKING THE LEAMINGTON WATERS, &c.

"MERCY is twice blest,
It blesseth him that gives, and him that takes:
It is an attribute of GOD himself!"

SHAKESPEARE.

BIRMINGHAM:
PRINTED BY THOMSON AND WRIGHTSON.

Price 1s.

1812.

As the expences of this publication,—so far as relate to the paper, printing, and engraving of the sketches,—are to be disbursed by the treasurer from the fund in hand, a price, though the lowest possible, is put upon the circulation of the copies: except that one in each Hotel, in Mr. Bisset's Rooms, Mr. Olorenshaw's Library, and other places of general resort, will be left for gratuitous inspection. After these charges are defrayed, the profits arising from the further sale of the pamphlet will be entirely for the benefit of the fund, and the money, thence produced, will be paid, with the several collections on the Charity account, into the hands of Mr. John Campion, the treasurer.

The author of the SKETCHES and of the PAMPHLET, beg that their respective shares in this publication may be considered as a small, but sincere free-will offering to the Charity.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
<i>PORTRAIT of Benjamin Satchwell</i>	
<i>Account of the Charity</i>	<i>1 to 14</i>
<i>General Remarks on Leamington, its ancient and present State, and Objects in the Village</i>	<i>14 to 15</i>
<i>WALKS</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Exhibitions, Hotels, &c.</i>	<i>20 to 28</i>
<i>RIDES, &c. including Original Poetry, appropriate to the Objects</i>	<i>32 to 59</i>
<i>General Rules respecting the Leamington Waters</i>	<i>60</i>
<i>Coaches, Posts, &c.</i>	<i>64</i>
<i>Retrospective View</i>	<i>67</i>
<i>Address to the Public</i>	

BRIEF ACCOUNT, &c.

THE following is a brief account of the life and labours of the late Rev. John Wesley, who died on the 2nd of March 1791, at the age of 78 years. He was born on the 17th of December 1703, at Epworth, in the County of Lincoln. His father, Samuel Wesley, was a learned and pious man, who was a member of the Society of Friends. He was educated at Epworth School, and at King's College, London. He was ordained a Minister of the Gospel in 1725, and was appointed to the Rectory of Epworth in 1727. He was a zealous and successful preacher, and was the author of many valuable works. He died on the 2nd of March 1791, at the age of 78 years. His remains were interred in the church of St. Andrew, in the City of London.

BRIEF ACCOUNT, &c.

EVERY person whose assistance is solicited for a CHARITY, has an undoubted right to know all that relates to its aim and end, design and execution. These circumstances are so obvious, it very rarely happens that any benevolent plan is offered to public protection without some previous account of it. This has, indeed, been done in *detail* by the first Projector of the LEAMINGTON SPA CHARITY, Mr. Benjamin Satchwell; but, during the life time of that worthy man, it was amongst the great and constant delights of his heart, to write a correct statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and CASES. This mode of proceeding, however, from a few names of patrons and patients, almost imperceptibly grew into a large manuscript volume, a considerable time before the good man's decease. Since that event, his successors in the meritorious office have followed his example, inso-much that the list of contributors, being almost

daily enlarged, is become of less portable size than could be wished for the ease and satisfaction of those to whom it is presented by the different persons appointed to collect the benefactions. It cannot, in truth, be supposed that any part of the company at a public dinner table could bestow the necessary time to examine a book of this kind; especially as the daily arrivals make daily inspection necessary, even though only a single new visitor should be added to the former sets.

The consequence of this, has, hitherto been, either that the President of each hotel has generously taken upon himself the trouble of explanation, or the recent comers have been requested to turn over the leaves of an unwieldy book, amidst the hurry and confusion inevitable on such occasions. And what is a still worse alternative, if no history or explanation previously be given, not only the CHARITY is in danger of losing fresh contributors, but the gentlemen, who, on the best and purest motives, have, most disinterestedly, taken upon themselves the attention, guardianship, and appropriation of the benefactions may, and, indeed, have, in more than one instance, been obnoxious to surmises of neglect, which it is impossible any of them can deserve.

To obviate, therefore, this impediment to necessary information on the one hand, and to prevent on the other, the frequently unpleasant task of presidents in the hotels, going into daily repetitions, as well as to furnish those visitants who may reside in private houses or lodgings, it has been thought expedient to offer a short printed account, chiefly extracted from the documents before alluded to, in the way of concise, yet full explanation of the LEAMINGTON SPA CHARITY.

It has been said, that the man who plants a single tree to embellish, or sets an oak acorn to defend the country, is to be ranked among the benefactors of the public, whatever be his condition in life. An equal mark of distinction cannot be denied to *him*, who, after having been an eye witness to the efficacy of any *newly discovered* good, to that part of the community whom *fortune* has blest with the means of alleviating or wholly subduing the infirmities of nature, first projects and then assists a plan to benefit those that are equally the victims of disease, and yet greater sufferers from *wanting the power* to procure similar relief.

To the above-mentioned Founder of the Leamington Spa Charity, this praise is unquestionably

due; as he not only first projected, but to the utmost extent of his power, within his sphere of action, brought it into notice, and carried it into beneficial effect. It is on this account the author of these pages has derived the most heart-felt pleasure in offering a tribute to his memory in the lines which will be found engraved on his tomb; nor is it with less gratification that Mr. O'Neale has adorned this little tract with a drawing of that tomb, and of the cottage where this father of the village resided to the 77th year of his age, in the chearfulness of content and the utility of self-taught knowledge.

His portrait is from a sketch taken from the life by Miss Fox, one of the first and most zealous promoters of the institution.

The Leamington Spa was first instituted in 1806, and is still annually supported by the charitable contributions of the liberal and humane, for the purposes stated in the title page of this hasty tract.

The Conditions have varied very little from those proposed by the Founder, who was warmly supported, assisted and patronized by the Rev. James Walhouse.*

I.

Each subscriber, during the term of his or her residence at Leamington, becomes a member of the committee and is authorized to nominate a select committee, to give all necessary orders, &c. &c.

II.

None admitted to this Charity without the sanction of the medical gentlemen appointed on the recommendation of some other of the faculty.

* This gentleman is to be placed amongst the most early, indefatigable, and unwearied patrons of this institution, as will be seen in the records of its progress preserved by the Founder.

III.

None admitted without a sufficient witness, or certificate from some respectable friend, or a parish officer, as to the *circumstances* of invalids.

IV.

No person to continue on the Charity a longer term than one month, without an order of the physician and committee.

V.

No invalid to be paid any expence for being brought to this Spa, or for being taken away, *without an order of the said committee.*

VI.

The treasurer or secretary to pay each invalid his or her allowance weekly; and visit such as are not able to go for the said allowance.

(Signed,) B. SATCHWELL,

Treasurer and Secretary, 1806.

A memorandum was made at a general meeting of the subscribers, the 22d June, 1809, to the following purport:—The spirit of the Charity appearing to have been misunderstood in the case* of Elizabeth Rose—Resolved, that every person

* Particulars of which may be seen in the MS. volume
• on the Charity.

applying for relief must produce a written certificate, specifying that he or she is *a proper object*, and that such certificate shall be *countersigned* by *two* subscribers for the year, and a medical gentleman of the neighbourhood: or should there not be two subscribers at the Spa, to be signed by one of the medical gentlemen who may be disposed to offer assistance.

On the death of the Founder it became necessary to appoint a substitute in the department of treasurer. Accordingly, April 8th, 1811, at a meeting of the committee, present,

HENRY LANE, Esq.
DR. WATSON,
MR. GEORGE BIRCH.

It was ORDERED—That Mr. T. CAMPION* be requested to accept of the office of treasurer to this Charity.

ORDERED—That books be left at each of the hotels at the library, and that the proprietors of the said hotels be requested to receive from time to time the contributions of the company, as

* A man of unimpeachable and almost proverbial Integrity.

heretofore, and to pay the amount to the said treasurer, Mr. Campion, on the first day of every month; deducting the usual allowance one shilling in the pound.

ORDERED—That Thomas Satchwell, son of the late Benjamin Satchwell, be appointed collector from the company who reside in private lodgings, and pay the same weekly to the treasurer.

ORDERED—For the satisfaction of the subscribers, that a continuation of the cases of the poor who are relieved by the Charity, be kept for reference and inspection.

ORDERED—That between the first of May and the last of October, the committee shall meet at Sinker's hotel and Mrs. Smith's, every Monday, to transact all necessary business, when the medical gentlemen will attend to report the cases of such poor persons as shall then be on the Charity, and to consider the cases of such as may be recommended.

HENRY LANE,
DR. WATSON,
G. BIRCH, *Surgeon.*

On the decease of the truly lamented, because truly estimable, Dr. Watson, of Warwick, new regulations and appointments took place.

At a meeting of the subscribers of this institution, held at the Bowling green, on Monday, 29th June, 1812, Mr. Birch having announced to the meeting the death of Dr. WATSON, who had kindly officiated as physician to the institution, it was unanimously resolved, that Dr. WAKE be requested to accept the appointment as his successor, and (B. Satchwell's son Thomas being defunct,) Richard Brown was appointed the collector to the institution.

RESOLVED—That a notification of the days on which the committee meet be taken by the collector to each of the boarding houses, accompanied with a request to the chairman of each house, and each of the subscribers as may find it convenient, to attend such meeting.

RESOLVED—That the foregoing resolution be inserted in the subscription books left at the several boarding houses.

				£.	s.	d.
1808	Total receipts	..	..	..	39	12 10
	Total paid	..	..	..	20	0 10
	In hand	..	..	..	19	12 0
1809	Total receipts	..	..	..	44	10 6
	Total paid	..	..	..	29	0 10
	In hand	..	..	..	15	9 8
1810	From the late B. Satchwell	..		..	35	4 5½
1812	In the Treasurer's hands	..		..	53	8 0½
	Received since that time	..		..	40	1 0
	Paid	..	..	..	52	3 9
	In Treasurer's hands Sept. 10th			26	1	9½

Particular accounts of the above, with their connecting cases and other documents are deposited with the secretary, Richard Brown, to whom the committee will, at their next meeting, be petitioned to appoint a small annual remuneration for considerable trouble and diligence in collecting, registering, attending, &c. &c.

The number of baths made for invalids in this present year, up to Sept. 8th, 1812, amounts, already, to 868, and by the names still on the Charity, and those which are daily introduced to Mr. Birch, upwards of a thousand persons will

have received, by immersion only, the benefit of the waters.

At Read's Baths	396
Smith's ditto	210
Robbins's ditto.. ..	142
Wise's ditto	120
	<hr/>
Total	868
	<hr/>

This statement was made by Richard Brown, the secretary, to the date above written. It is proposed in future to settle the accounts on the first day of every month.

The form of the recommendation of objects is as follows :—

TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE CHARITABLE FUND,
AT LEAMINGTON.

Gentlemen,

Please to allow
of the Parish of *the Benefit of the*
Charity, if a proper object, and you will oblige,

Your obedient Servant,

Examined the above *and find*
h a proper object.

Although this small tract is intended almost exclusively to explain and to promote what its title imports; and notwithstanding its author reserves himself for a less hasty moment when he may perform the long-given promise of arranging those materials which have been collected from the best sources of enquiry, in various tours of observation; and in a series of visits to the Spa and its vicinity, it seems impossible to resist the temptation of this opportunity to give a *general*, though very imperfect outline of some of the objects.

The progressive rural and architectural improvements of this place, both in the village and adjacent country, as viewed and examined from time to time; the increased celebrity of its waters, as demonstrated in a train of happy effects on the invalid part of its visitants; and in a variety of those complaints to which the infirmities of nature, or the abuse of her bounty "are heirs," must be manifest to every beholder who has opportunity and inclination to make a deliberate and comprehensive survey.

It is among the most profound remarks of a penetrating observer, and sagacious moralist, that, whoever contemplates the first effects of the pick-axe

and spade, and other rude implements of building, to their last results in any great operation—that, for instance, of a city rising out of a few scattered hamlets,—would never be brought to believe the progresses of human industry and ingenuity *possible* to human achievement, were not the *ultimatum* of such small beginnings, however stupendous, brought under the view.

The author has not, at hand, the book in which the above observation is made, but he originally read it with too much care, and meditated on its undeniable truth too frequently not to be fully persuaded that, although time may have robbed it of some of the graces of diction, his memory is faithful to the sentiment.

Another powerful illustration in respect to the advancements made at Leamington Spa, and in tracing them from their infancy to their present very imperfect, but comparatively greatly advanced state, the mind cannot but be pleasingly impressed with the application of the above remark.

“ UNTIL the time of Dr. Lambe’s Analysis,
 “ in 1797, (observes Dr. Middleton in his “ Chemi-

“cal Analysis,” &c.) neither the village of Leam-
 “ington Priors, nor the mineral springs, for which
 “it is now so deservedly famous, were either much
 “known or much noticed. It is true, that the
 “waters had been slightly mentioned by most of
 “our older writers, but their reputation had
 “extended only to the country people in the
 “neighbourhood, who flocked in numbers, every
 “day, to drink at the common spring. Upon the
 “appearance, however, of Dr. Lambe’s* papers in
 “the Manchester Memoirs, they began to excite
 “attention, and, their efficacy being acknow-
 “ledged by Dr. Kerr† and Dr. Johnstone, through

* In the excellently written prefatory part of Middleton’s pamphlet, the valuable productions of Dr. Lambe, and Dr. Saunders are recommended in the following terms. “The scientific chemist will peruse, with pleasure, the highly ingenious, but purely chemical work of the former, which, however excellent as an analysis, touches, in no respect, upon the medical virtues of the waters, and to a common reader, desirous only of such information, must tend rather to confuse than inform. While those, who are anxious to enter more extensively into all subjects connected with mineral springs, than the limits of a pamphlet will allow, may consult the copious, and general treatise of the latter gentleman, whose long experience, and profound knowledge of the subject justly entitle him to confidence.”

† A recent conversation which the editor of this explanatory pamphlet held with this eminent practitioner will be

“ the recommendation of those gentlemen, they
 “ rapidly gained ground in the public estimation.

“ Since that time, the place has been constantly
 “ increasing, and the excellent effects produced
 “ by the waters in many chronic disorders, in
 “ plethoric habits, in diseases of the skin, and in
 “ visceral obstructions, particularly such as have
 “ arisen from a residence in hot climates, or from
 “ too great indulgence in the pleasures of wine and
 “ the table, have stamped them with the highest
 “ value, amongst that class of natural medicines
 “ to which they so eminently belong.

“ Instead of an insignificant village, known
 “ only to a few invalids, who, from the benefits
 “ they received from the waters, were contented
 “ to put up with any accommodation, Leamington
 “ is now become the resort of rank, elegance and
 “ fashion; spacious buildings are constructed,
 “ both for hot and cold bathing; the public spring
 “ is enclosed in a handsome stone edifice,* for
 detailed more at large in the proposed “ Leamington Guide.”
 In the interim it might be injurious to delay the sanction of
 such a respectable opinion in favour of these waters, which
 Dr. Kerr believes firmly among the very best in the Empire,
 and, in *their proper sphere of action*, as enumerated by Middle-
 ton and others of unrivalled excellence.

* This has been done by the liberality of the Earl of
 Aylesford, whose patronage is never wanting to any under-

“ the accommodation of those who drink the wa-
 “ ters; a grand, extensive, and beautiful new range
 “ of houses has been erected, fit for the reception
 “ of people of the first distinction, and every con-
 “ venience, that health or sickness can require,
 “ is amply provided. From the anxiety of the
 “ sick, and from the eager attention, and perse-
 “ vering efforts of speculative individuals, many
 “ new springs have been discovered; and instead
 “ of one solitary fountain, there are now no less
 “ than seven.”

That the spirit of pleasure may at least keep
 pace with the spirit of health, which, indeed, are
 never so naturally or pleasantly placed as when
 they approximate, the visitants will now perceive
 there are few villages in the kingdom where more
 natural advantages, or, to use the far-famed words
 of Brown, greater *capabilities* of uniting their

taking, for the public benefit. A visit from this benevolent
 nobleman is anticipated with much solicitude, as there are
 some *improvements*, which it is the unanimous opinion of those
 who are best acquainted with his character, will be adopted
 so soon as their expediency is made known, particularly the
 downfall of the skeletons of some old cottage ruins, that are
 a serious annoyance to the part of the village where they
 stand, as well as the filling up a moat in the very heart of the
 old town, where it has long been a public nuisance, and still
 remains an object at once disgusting and dangerous.

powers, are to be found than in Leamington and its neighbourhood. The new assembly room, including all the contingent accommodations such an edifice can supply, will be ready for the reception of the public, even before this little manual can pass through the press. A new range of baths is also in preparation on a scale of great magnificence, with a pump-room, appropriate music room, &c. &c. &c. not inferior to the ball and pump-room of the first pleasure city in Great Britain—BATH may certainly be so denominated. New houses, new hotels, new roads, new walks, and new streets are also compleated or compleating, in addition to those which have long enjoyed and which will doubtless, through the good conduct of the several proprietors, long continue to enjoy the public favor, according to their different powers of accommodation. And as the wished effect of all seems to be that of giving satisfaction, it would be invidious to particularize any, at least in the present desultory account, beyond that of a simple enumeration of the places of view, or of accommodation, in or beyond the town.

Leamington would certainly have been considered a village of distinction for its agreeable and healthy situation, pleasant rides and walks, and scenic beauty, as well as for being a central

point, at only an agreeable distance from some of the most worthy objects of a traveller's curiosity, independently of any thing else.

The villa of Mr. Wise, at the entrance of the town from Warwick, and that of Mr. Wills at the other, with their respective domains; together with a great variety of neat cottages, opulent farms, &c. would have attracted the notice and could not fail to engage the admiration of the passenger.

Among the most agreeable and picturesque of the home

WALKS

must be noticed the field-way to Warwick.

The attracting points in this promenade are the winding of the Lem through meadows, rich and fertilised; the ascent from the first dell, by the foot path, gently expanding; the prospect to the left over a beautiful but level horizon, opening gradually upon Warwick castle tower, of St. Mary's, the spire of St. Nicholas, and parts of the town of Warwick, to which it leads. The alternate grounds and pasturage with their appro-

priate objects of animal and vegetable life, are of peculiar interest. Midway you arrive at a farmhouse called Emscot House, near which is a horse-chesnut tree, of ample shade and foliage, encircled by a rustic seat, calculated not simply to invite but demand the attention of every unfatigued, and ensure the repose of every weary passenger. It likewise affords pleasant grouping of objects for the pencil.

A road to the right takes you back to the village, in your way to which, it is said, that, antiently, a subterraneous passage, from a particular point in this lane, communicated with Kenilworth castle, which prominent and interesting object we shall treat of in its place. This supposed passage is discoverable only by a small aperture in the road near the bridge. The end of the lane opens on the New Town.

A curious anecdote connects with the before-mentioned pleasant perambulation. About 40 years ago, when there was nothing remarkable but the waters themselves, Warwick apprentices and others of the lower order were in the habit of setting off at early day to drink them in frolic, and in the proportion of about two or three quarts as a dose,

and, by way of counteracting, or rather of aggravating, its effects, poured upon it an equal quantity of new beer, the fermentation of which, in the action of a two mile heat, may be better imagined than described. However it may serve to shew even at that time the medicinal character of the water.

Not inferior to the above, in another style of beauty, is the HOLLY WALK, at the end of which, passing the rural gate, there is, to the right, one of the loveliest risings of corn fields and woodland; then taking the path by one of Mr. Wills's farms to the opposite stile, you gain a retreat called the Wilderness, so thickly over-arched with verdure, and resorted to by the birds which love the deeper foliage, that, though sorrow and sickness might prefer it to the gayer scenery, it is better suited to the contemplation of those in whom love of the pensive pleasures is not disease, but enjoyment. This profound foliage, however, is too inviting to be slightly passed, even by healthful wanderers.

The stile, at the end, leads, by open meadows, to the hospitable farm of Mr. John Champion, on the brow of a hill that commands a fine sweep of country, and in this house the traveller will find a ready chair and a smiling welcome. The author

writes from experience. From the eminence above mentioned, at the back of Mr. Champion's house, called New Comyns Farm, the objects of attraction and interest are innumerable: Edge Hill, celebrated by the muse of Jago, Miller's Town, Shugborough Hill, Mr. Knightley's domain, Offchurch tower, the noted fox cover, called Upton Wood. Beyond the copse that forms a screen to this eminence, the eye catches views of Coventry, of the seat of Lord Dorner, and of the castles of Kenilworth and Warwick; in themselves objects of unfatigued attention and contemplation, and a fine diversified country in every direction.

BISSET'S NEWS ROOM, including a Picture Gallery and Promenade, is certainly amongst the most distinguished objects of curiosity and attraction, as to the pictorial amusement it furnishes, at a very easy price, on account of its supplying the London and provincial papers, and several of the fashionable monthly publications.

OLORENSHAW'S Library, Reading-Rooms, Trinket Shop, and Toy Warehouse afford most of those objects which the grave or the gay, the busy or the idle expect or desire to meet with at a watering place.

The long established HOTEL of SINKER, the one newly opened by FISHER, and that of the widow SMITH, in the Old Town, are all as well and amply fitted up at Leamington, as in any other public place whatever, with appropriate stabling and attendance.

Nor must the Bowling Green House, kept by Mrs. SHAW, be forgotten; because, to the extent of its powers of accommodation, a good table, in a style of tranquility and comfort, is always at the command of company for the day, or of a quiet-loving party, who may occasionally wish for the relief of such a change, or whose valetudinary state solicits the indulgence of family repose. It is but justice to add that the said Bowling Green House can give its guests not only good fare, but a good bottle of port, of which assertion the said guests are presented with a two-fold proof; first in the bottle on their board, and secondly in the prospect of a noble cask which is always in view, and is to succeed its predecessor when the red and generous stream can run no longer.

Albeit the author of this pamphlet resembles Anacreon in nothing but feeling that he grows old, the first sight of this spirit-stirring object excited his muse to devote some spontaneous lines on the

FOURTH OF LAST JUNE; and, as they conclude with a *wish*, in which every reader will heartily join, were the inspiration of wine or poetry out of the question, they shall here be given in full confidence of their being acceptable for the sake of that wish.

The gods and goddesses decide
That love and wine are near allied !
And hence this jolly pipe is plac'd,
To night, where it may *best* be grac'd.

O BACCHUS ! didst thou stride this tun,
—And VENUS near thee, with her son,
Double the number of the graces,
With corresponding forms and faces,
To justify o'erflowing glasses,
Among the married dames, and lasses,
And invalids, resuming bloom
Thou soon might find to fill the room.

Fair Cask ! when these plump sides so round, }
In a full stream, shall jovial bound, }
Oft shall dull Care by Joy be drown'd.
Nay, wert thou broach'd this blithsome night,
—A proud, exhilarating sight,—
Deep tho' thou art, and broad, and stout,
Defying many a hardy bout,

I could a single toast propose,
 —E'en at the thought my bosom glows—
 A single toast!—I'd lay my life
 There's not a widow, maid, or wife,
 Who would not, pleas'd, forego her tea,
 And *brim the bumper three times three!*

Where is the MAN—the WOMAN where,
 Who does not breathe a wish sincere,
 And feel a genuine, generous glow,
 That heav'n its choicest gift below
 Would waft on summer's balmy wing,
 The gift of *health*, to—*bless the King!*

With respect to the Ladies, there is a most abundant supply of decorating articles, which in point of etiquette, ought, perhaps, to have taken the lead even of a *pipe of wine!* except it may be admitted in apology, that an author feels it somewhat presumptuous to touch on a theme to which the dealers in those articles are the most appropriate Guides. It shall therefore only be hinted, that Fashion and Fancy, from the best parts of town and country, have sent down their representatives to Leamington, with chaise, coach, barge, and waggons full of their wares and commodities, from top to toe, from the feather in the head, to the new-invented clasp or rosette for the

foot. There seems, indeed, a considerable emulation amongst the misionaries of the above-mentioned millinery goddesses, *which* of them shall out-glitter, out-straw, out-lace, out-gauze, out-bonnet, out-cap, and out-*trim*;—the author has coined the above words expressly for the occasion, and who will refuse to give currency to what comes from Fashion's mint?—out-*trim*, therefore, et cetera the other. But rivalship is the parent of ambition, and ambition is as necessary to pre-eminence in one trade as in another; to those who equip the light troops for a BALL, as they who cap-a-pee and caparison the heavy corps for a BATTLE; conquest being the aim and end of both, it is meet *that* end should be equally well appreciated. So wishing victory to ALL armed batteries, the adventurous author humbly retracts and marches off to a subject more suited to his abilities.

In doing this, advancing towards the new town, he has to notice that the new Baths are in rapid progress, in a style of magnificence, which bid fair to challenge whatever can be brought into competition in their way. The pump room alone has been rated at more than ten thousand pounds. There is an old proverb which saith, “it cannot rain
“but it pours;” and there is another that asserts
“all is not gold that glitters.” It is to be hoped

neither of these grave saws will apply to what is doing, or yet to be done, at Leamington.

But to take the onward path, in pursuing which, we are called upon by youth, worth, and abilities, to pause at the door of a select seminary for young ladies, prospering, and *deserving* to prosper, under the conduct of

THE MISS WALKERS,

whose terms have been distributed in the village and its surrounding neighbourhood, and may be had at the seminary.

WILLIAMS'S hotel, called the BEDFORD, comes next to our view, and in every point of that view, is a praise-worthy and splendid house of public resort; situate almost in the centre of as handsome a range of buildings for accommodation, as can be seen any where out of the great metropolis of this little great island. The Mews, which is placed at a proper distance in front, is extremely convenient for the reception of those who bring their own horses, carriages, &c.

OFFCHURCH BURY,

The seat of Mr. Knightly, although the least obtrusive, as to meeting the view in any distant prospect, has the full effect of most retiring beauties, as to attractive power, when unexpectedly discovered. This must be allowed as a general truth; but in the instance of the first of these objects, the Bury, applies so particularly, that, a solitary wanderer and *unobserved observer*, as the author of these pages has ever been, and trusting much to his own explorings in every direction of walk or ride, in the character of a deliberate rather than a post-haste traveller, Offchurch Bury did not happen to come within his view till very late in the present season. He considers it, however, so worthy of observation, that although he can only note it among the present brief hints to the Leamington parties, he trusts he shall do it more ample justice in a future performance.

To this mansion, by Radford, is an agreeable walk. Taking the road from the turnpike to the left you gain the navigation bridge: the way to which, by the canal, makes a pleasant return. The first white gate leads into the grounds, passing the coach road, through which you see the sequestered mansion, once the residence of the

Mercian king, unexpectedly before you, assuming, from its comparatively humble station, less claim to attention than it might fairly assert.

THE Chesnut,* an apparent clump or cluster of trees of the horse chesnut kind, at a small distance from a vestibule on the south side, would no otherwise excite the attention of the traveller than as a peculiarly large mass of redundant and refreshing foliage, were he not told that the vast circumference is supported by one trunk, and nourished by its roots, forming a sort of verdant and canopied apartment, umbrella-fashion, and ample enough to accommodate at least as many guests as ever sat at King Arthur's round table. The branches are numberless, and the exterior, so far from being constrained by the tyranny of art, enjoys all the liberty as well as luxuriance of nature, with as few improvements of art as possible; and these few have been guided by judgment and taste. The author saw it only after the nut was formed, but in its blossoming time it must have been yet more beautiful—indeed sublime; for it partakes and justifies the application of both epithets. It possesses the power of enfolding in its shade 150 persons. It stands on a lawn to the

* It is entitled to be so called, as being of unequalled size, perhaps, in the kingdom.

south of the Bury, and part reaches to the edge of a fine piece of water, which, at the time of viewing it, glittered through the foliage.

The *ancient* part of the house asserts its consequence, and, yet more, its comforts, distinct from the *modern*, which, however, is of the same sober colouring, and seems not, and indeed has no reason to shrink from the closeness of the connection: never did youth or age better assimilate.

The ornaments of the old porch are converted into vases for flowers, in the Roman fashion. Within the precincts are many objects of consideration.

It is proper the reader should be apprized, that Offchurch Bury is not considered by its proprietor as one of the places of public exhibition for the resort of indiscriminate travellers. Mr. Knightly seems, in this instance, to act in uniformity with the retired and unostentatious situation of the place itself; but that gentleman is not of a character to refuse the lovers of nature or of antiquity the pleasure of gratifying their wishes, on those wishes being made known to him.

By such a visit, curiosity will be well repaid by various particulars: but the speed with which

this account is written, to save time, and to add a few more golden ears to the *invalid* sheaf, while the harvest weather invites the company to remain at Leamington, will not allow the detail.

The same imperious difficulty, *want of time*,—alas, the cross-bar of half the designs of human life,—prevents the author from more than *pointing out*, with a rapid pen, the truly laudable plan of the school on Mr. Knightly's ground, the beautiful school itself, in the *true* cottage style, the play ground, Mr. Wise's elegant parsonage, the church, and the diversified country they command.

Whoever acts upon these hints, will have reason to be well satisfied with this outline, however hastily given.

But although many pleasantly social or solitary WALKS branch out from these already mentioned, it is more than time we offer something in the way of notice to a few of the

RIDES.*

LEAMINGTON may be considered as the central point of excursions to

* Some of these are included in the WALKS, as being of easy distance, but will naturally come into the circuit of a morning's excursion, whether on foot, on horseback, or in a carriage.

MILES.

Warwick	2
Kenilworth Castle	5
Stonleigh Abbey.....	5
Guy's Cliff	2
Offchurch Bury	3
Stratford-upon-Avon....	10
Coventry	8
Tachbrook	3
Baginton Hall.....	6
Coombe Abbey	10
Lichfield	20
Birmingham	22

The ride from *Leamington* to Coventry, by the way of Warwick, may be considered as an excursion of almost singular novelty in England: a considerable part of it is along an avenue of lofty trees, in the style of France, Flanders, and Germany, but by roads neither Germany, Flanders, or France could ever supply to the traveller. An occasional opening into an extensive and highly cultivated country, diversified and enlivened by those unexpected windings in the road, so truly English, give new scenery at every turn—scenery neither so suddenly presented, nor so rapidly shifted, perhaps, in any quarter of the world as in the British empire.

The return to Leamington by **KENILWORTH** exhibits a totally different series of pictures; the bridle road good, and, till the rain has fallen heavily on the leaves, will remain by no means difficult for carriages. In this retrograde movement the examiner will be amply overpaid for a few less smooth parts of the road itself, by partial openings on

STONLEIGH ABBEY.

This mansion, and its noble domain is, in every natural and moral point of view, an object of attention, not only for the vast sweep of rural beauties it commands, but as it is in connexion with several highly attaching circumstances, both antient and modern, respecting the property as well as the structure: or, rather, the benevolent disposal of that property. The antient part of its history may be seen in **Dugdale**, **Cambden**; and the **Magna Brittanica**.

Much of the more recent points must have a place of distinction in the remembrance of every traveller; after being reminded that it has long been in possession of the family of the **LEIGHS**. Indeed, every attendant upon such traveller will combine the routine intelligence of the buildings,

the woods, the groves, the gardens, the waters, the late improvements of Mr. Repton, with information the most gratifying to the best feelings of human nature; for there is scarcely a person, that retains power of speech, who will not be still found in his office, nor any one residing within the wide precincts of the abbey, nor indeed within the farthest limits of the county, who cannot from recollection, and will not from inclination, prove a faithful historian on this occasion.

A ride to

STONLEIGH TOWN,

And a visit to the church of that village, will impress on the mind thus gratified before, a not unpleasing, though pensive charm, as the records of departed worth are perused on the monuments sacred to those who may be truly said to have “died the death of the righteous.”

*Inscription on the Tomb of the Honourable Mrs.
Leigh.*

She was eminently
Religious,
and constant in the
Practice of every
moral Virtue;

And by her extensive
 Charities and Liberality,
 Became, under Providence,
 a munificent
 Disposer of
 Good to all !
 Go, Reader,—
 follow her excellent example,
 And share with her, through the merits of Christ,
 the high Rewards of
 Immortality.

It was scarcely possible to resist the impulse of
 pencilling down the subsequent

VERSES,

in addition to this truly just eulogy to the virtues
 of the Deceased. The author hopes it will not be
 thought obtrusive in *this place* to preserve the
 tribute, and present it to the reader.

*Lines, written after reading the prose Inscription
 in Stonleigh Church, Warwickshire, on the Cha-
 racter of the Honourable Mrs. Leigh, of Ston-
 leigh Abbey.*

WHAT tho' some pious hand has mark'd her name
 On the pure marble, sacred to her fame,

That fame which lifts its column to the skies,
 Rais'd on the base of all the Charities;
 Still shall the Muse in heart-felt homage bend
 To heavenly Virtue's *universal* friend !
 Such, *only* such *should* awake the Muse's lyre,
 The thought ennobled, and the verse inspire;
 Entwine a wreath, more fragrant than the flowers
 That Nature ever gave to Stonleigh's bowers :
 More lovely colours, and less fading bloom,
 Than pilgrims heap upon their Prophet's tomb.

Blest Shade ! when yonder pile, that long has
 stood

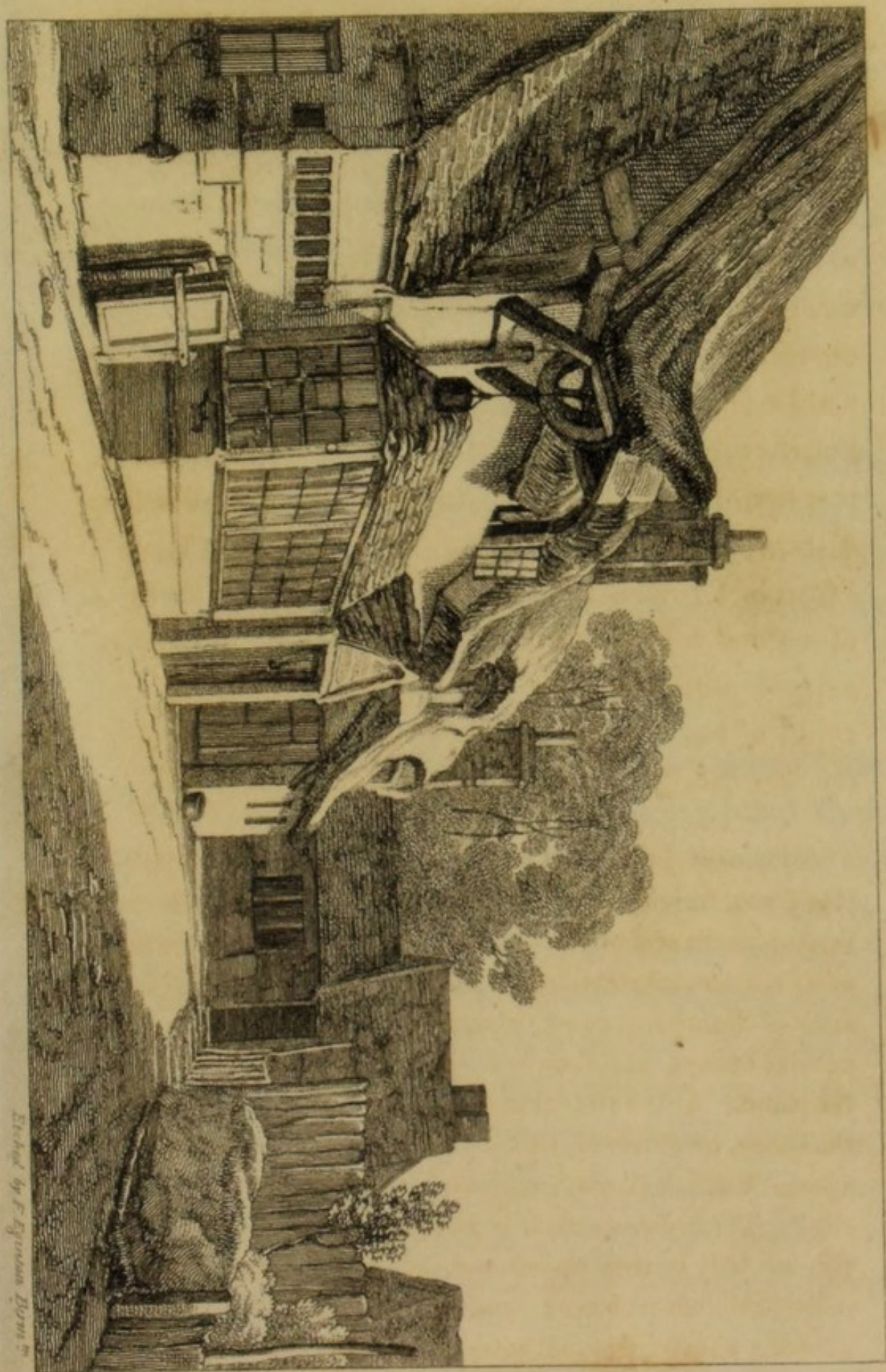
The tyranny of time; and yon deep wood,
 Yea, when the earth that bears its pond'rous weight,
 Strongest of mortal things—shall yield to fate,
 When not an eye is left to mourn the fall
 Of aught that mov'd upon this mould'ring ball;
 Spirits like thine, O LEIGH ! survive the earth,
 And on a cherub's wing assert their birth;
 Loosen'd, like gold, from the polluting ore,
 Their seven-fold trials prov'd, aloof shall soar,
 When NATURE'S SELF SHALL CHANGE, and TIME
shall be no more.

There are other honourable records of the
 family in the church; and a finely conceived and
 executed monument erected to the Duchess of
 Dudley.

COOMBE ABBEY*

Will require and assert its right to a whole day ; and even in that time many things within and without the mansion can be but imperfectly noticed, even by the traveller whose eye is *not* “ bent on vacancy.” As there is no inn, or other place of public accommodation for a party, in the neighbourhood, the best plan would be to combine the inspection of this abbey with the town of Coventry, distant only four miles. Either the King’s Head or Craven Arms would furnish the comforts of a good table, beds, &c. and thus a survey of several objects might be viewed alternately, in relief of each other. The principal ones of Coventry are St. Michael’s Church, in which will be

* Pennant informs us, that the proper mode of spelling it is CWM, from its low situation. Notwithstanding its conversion to the seat of a nobleman it retains, in part, the form of its conventual state. The cloisters are preserved on three sides of the ancient court, glazed as when occupied by the ancient owners, and their walls enriched with the spoils of the chase. At the time that the above elegant tourist visited the abbey, he observed, that “ the Abbot was represented by a jovial English Baron, not less a lover of the generous exercise.” The present earl, it is said, follows his father’s example, not only in rural sports, but in generally hospitable, and individual benevolence ; and his countess has “ bought golden opinions, from all sorts of people.”



Engraved by F. Egmont, Boston



found some curious and quaint epitaphs, the Holy Trinity, St. John's, and St. Mary's Hall. The Poor House; which is a most benevolent establishment, and excellently conducted. *Peeping Tom* need not be mentioned, as his representative stares every traveller in the face, from his window.

The tennis court recently finished at Coombe Abbey is of great elegance. The park encloses a number of attractive objects, and a noble piece of water, estimated at one hundred acres, cannot be thought one of the least.

The person who shewed the interior of the abbey to the author, is very intelligent; but there surely ought to be an accurate catalogue of articles in every antique or modern mansion, opened for the gratification of public curiosity. Both Warwick Castle and Coombe Abbey appear to want this desideratum to travellers. It shall be the endeavour of the author of this pamphlet to supply the deficiency by the opening of the next Leamington season. In the meanwhile, he refers the reader to Pennant's Journey from Chester to London for an account of many curious matters in this abbey.

Among the portraits, of which there are a great many of distinguished merit, there are none so touching as that of James Stewart, Duke of Richmond, in black, with long flaxen hair, and a dog* by him. This illustrious nobleman, we are told, forms one of the most amiable characters in the reign of Charles the First. His attachment and affection to his royal master was unequalled: he is even said to have offered his own life to save that of his devoted sovereign. He was permitted to attend the interment of the beloved remains, then lingered a few years and died a victim to grief, March 30, 1655.

The author of this pamphlet was so extremely struck with the highly finished full-length figure of this nobleman, that before taking leave, of the domain, the lines which follow were pencill'd in a book of memoranda, and may excite a wish to examine the picture more deliberately than if the connecting anecdote had not been disclosed.

WHAT interesting form attracts the eye,
Commands attention, yet invites the sigh,

* There is an anecdote about this dog, of great interest, the correct particulars of which may be gathered in time for the regular Guide.

Of manly air, yet melancholy grace?
 A noble sufferer of a suffering race.
 Worthy his regal blood ; tho' sorrow's dart
 Sever'd the silver chord that bound his heart
 To his pure bosom ; in his blooming youth,
 Martyr to friendship, loyalty, and truth.

Unhappy Charles! to close the scene of strife
 When madd'ning faction sought thy sacred life,
 This noble Scion of a hapless stock,
 Dar'd the rude tempest, like some firm-set rock
 That brav'd the frantic wave, and suppliant stood
 A god-like victim to preserve thy blood.

Hide, hide your heads ye mercenary train,
 Idols of self, and worshippers of gain,
 Who give to human deeds one sordid aim,
 And never raise the thought to *generous* fame.
 O Friendship triumph, triumph Virtue too :
 Young Richmond liv'd, and would have died for
 you.

BINLEY CHURCH, in the road to the abbey
 from Coventry, was erected by the late Earl
 Craven, and is in the highest beauty of simplicity.
 " The roof is covered and ornamented with scrip-
 ture histories, in form of medallions, and with pious
 ornaments of crosses, crowns and thorns, and other

decorations adapted to the place. The altar is a tribune, with marble pillars: and its window consists of glass painted with a fine Holy Family, by Mr. Wm. Pecket,"

It will be a most engaging variation of the ride from COVENTRY, to return to Leamington by

BAGINTON.

The road from Coventry to this village, 3 short miles, is full of agreeable scenery; and Baginton Hall, the seat of the Bromleys, now inherited by a truly worthy branch* of that distinguished family,—its park, grove, lake of water, bridge now erecting—are all deserving notice: as is a very comfortable nest of houses situate in what is called the *Lent*, from whence the eye is regaled with those views of country, in a bounded horizon, that presents every object distinct and clear.

Baginton Hall is not what may be called a shew house, but is permitted to be seen when the family are absent.* It is an excellent habitable family house: has some highly finished pictures,

* Mrs. Price.

particularly a full length portrait of the celebrated Secretary Bromley, speaker of the House of Commons, many times member for Oxford, a man whose abilities were as great as his integrity—he flourished in the reign of Queen Anne, and died in the 69th year of his age.

Mrs. Price is about to patronize a school on the plan of Dr. Bell.

The ivy-covered spire of Baginton church, which is enveloped with that clinging plant by innumerable branches to the very topmost vane of the steeple, and issuing from one root, the expansion of which forced its way through the stone buttress, is a real natural curiosity. It has now more room to expand by means of an enlarged wooden case.

Baginton parsonage, the residence of Mr. Cox, is replete with rural graces. The garden looks into part of Mrs. Price's park, and has many beauties of its own, which shall hereafter be particularized.

The most pleasant road towards Leamington from hence is by

STARTON,

The ride to which, by the side of Stonleigh Abbey Deer Park, for nearly two miles, is Nature in her pomp of oak-crowned grandeur ; many of the trees are of three or four centuries standing.

The beautiful redundance, and frequently the magnificent sublimity of park, forest, and even road-side trees, distinguish Warwickshire generally ; and Leamington, and the parts of the county within the walks and rides above mentioned, particularly. Few, if any villages in the empire, can boast of such majestic shews of oak, elm, beech, and ash, as form the avenues, or adorn the fields appertaining to Mr. Wills ; the paths through most of which are public. A timber merchant might, perhaps, denounce the sentence of the axe upon them, as a wise and profitable measure : but a lover of natural beauty would endeavour to arrest the uplifted arm, and think its blow profanation. At any rate, Leamington is to be felicitated on this circumstance ; for had the new plantations commenced with the new buildings, the latter must have remained without the embellishment or the convenience of shade many years : and, indeed upwards of half a century must have elapsed before it could have gained its present state of vegetable grandeur.

Another circumstance no less favourable and singular is worthy of remark in regard to the village itself: the materials for extending which have been placed by the hand of nature close to the hand of the artizan. Quarries of stone, not inferior in surface or cement to those of the Portland; pits of excellent earth for bricks; rich and deep mines of gravel; and springs of pure as well as medicinal water surround the whole neighbourhood: as if it had been among the long predetermined designs of nature, and nature's great Ruler, that the place, which a very few years ago, consisted only of scattered, ill-constructed cottages, in the midst of almost impassable roads, that were never attempted but in cases of necessity, was designated as the spot whereon a beautiful town, (for to that point will it assuredly extend,) was to be erected; including in its plan, the pleasure, the comfort, the relief, and the HEALTH of hundreds, gradually expanding to thousands, of human Beings, in search, and almost in despair of even receiving or recovering that blessing. We now come to

WARWICK AND KENILWORTH CASTLES.

The author of the present pages, has observed in some former publications, that, these edifices are amongst the most prominent objects of this interesting county: whether we consider the

external architecture, or interior perfections of the first, or the picturesque *desolations* of the latter.

Every reader is doubtless impressed with the FABLE that is in connection with the venerable pile of WARWICK CASTLE; but leaving these shadows of the vulgar, the warlike accoutrements of Guy, in which he is said to have defeated Colbrand the Danish Giant; the enormous punch-bowl and other traditinary *tubs* that have been thrown out to gratify the appetite of that immeasurable whale, SUPERSTITION, we proceed to what will, for ages to come, attract the eye and affect the imagination.

The observer will be struck with the most august assemblage of varied objects, each in keeping with the other, in his survey of Warwick castle. Indeed, every step of his approach to it from Leamington, affords to the pencil almost as many sketches as points of view.

The grand entrance is an object of the first importance. Such an opening called for an exertion of the genius of elegant design; and the execution demanded a proportionate spirit. The

excavations of the solid rock on both sides are deeply cut, and place the spectator in an ample space between them. The inner gate conducts to new wonders. To a traveller of taste and feeling, the first view of the noble edifice under consideration, would inspire a thousand images that are appropriate to places and things made venerable by time and event. Such edifices, in truth, are not so much exhibitions for the eye, as for the mind: or rather, the delight received by the former is proportioned to that which is sanctioned by the latter. The towers, the columns, the colonades, the arches, the awful and religious gloom of the windows, and the rich shades of every kind of verdure with which it is surrounded, from the darkest ivy to the liveliest and tenderest green, even to a prodigality of vegetation, do not so forcibly seize on, and arrest our attention, nor do we so much consider them as objects of surprise and sublimity in *themselves*, as because the eye of an intellectual observer, associates therewith an idea of the personages who have possessed the domains, and inhabited the mansions, in the progress of centuries, down to the moment in which they are contemplated.

By a faculty, bestowed only on human beings, the *mental* eye no sooner has a glance at scenes of

this kind than it *re-creates* and *re-embodies* those who have been mouldering in their graves for, perhaps, a thousand years. By a truly magic power it assists to raise from their tombs the canonized bones of poets and of historians, of kings and conquerors ; and brings them back in their robes of state, or of royalty ; it crowns them with laurel or with diadems ; it replaces them in their palaces, their groves, or their temples ; it again fixes the sceptre and the lyre in their hands ; and, by an enchantment peculiarly its own, and in colours which even REASON deigns, on such occasions, to borrow from FANCY, the very scenes where all these illustrious persons flourished or fell, are before us. While common spectators are looking on the inanimate battlements, the lofty turrets, or the sculptured walls, with scarcely more of mind than the walls themselves, the philosophic traveller goes from dead matter to original beings ; giving them warmth, motion, and, as it were, a second life ; in which, all their illustrious actions and events are again brought under our view, bright as in the first moment of *actual* vision and vitality.

It is thus, that after all the censure or applause of evanescent criticism, taste, genius, the beauty of the imagination, or a destitution of all these, are

settled in the twinkling of an eye without prejudice or prepossession.

Thus, too, with the speed of thought, a similar observer will take, as it were at a glance, all that is most interesting in a survey of the ruins of

KENILWORTH.

These awful fragments are of the most commanding kind to travellers of almost every description. They are also in close alliance with many of the most impressive points of English history. At one time, they bring to the mind's eye, "the prison of the most unfortunate of one of our kings, *Edward the Second*,"* at another the revelries of one of our most fortunate Queens, Elizabeth. We seem, also, to be one of the spectators of these seventeen days of festivity and grandeur, during which Leicester entertained her. The wisdom of some of her ministers, and the wickedness of others, and of all those whom she favoured either

* This illfated prince being deposed by his queen, was, by her, kept close prisoner, and afterwards moved in the night by his brutal keeper, between Kenilworth and Warwick, set on the bare ground in an open field, and shaved with dirty water out of a neighbouring ditch; shortly after murdered most cruelly at Berkely Castle.

to their preferment or destruction, with the hapless Essex at their head; and even the envy-raised scaffold of her too beautiful rival the devoted Queen of Scots,* whose *superior graces* were the principal traitors that rebelled against the conscious and comparative deformity of Elizabeth,

* And yet this very Elizabeth, when the simple severity of a not unaccommodated temporary captivity came home to her own "business and bosom," in the days of her youth, she could as keenly feel, and pathetically express that feeling in the subsequent **LINES**, which we are informed, by the author of the "**BLLENHEIM GUIDE**," were written in charcoal on the window shutters of her prison house. "They are," as the writer of the above-mentioned "**Guide**" observes, "the composition of a great queen, and derive their chief merit from this peculiarity."—For even in poesy she was Mary's inferior.

" Oh Fortune! how thy restlesse wavering state
 " Hath fraught with cares my troubled witt,
 " Witness this present prisona whither Fate
 " Could bear me, and the joys I quit.
 " Thou causedst the guiltie to be losed
 " From bandes wherein are innocents inclosed;
 " Causing the guiltles to be straites reserved.
 " And freeing those that death well deserved;
 " But by her malice can be nothing wroughte;
 " So God send to my foes all they have thoughte.

ELIZABETH PRISONER."

Anno Dom. 1555.

will all come fresh to the memory. These circumstances rise at our command, nay, the ruins of the castle even seem to leap, as if by magic, into their pristine forms, till we fancy we behold the edifice stretching its unimpaired, and, at present, immeasurable length, in the meridian of its pomp and prosperity.

The above observations may serve to prepare the visitor of both these celebrated places, as well as of Stonleigh and Coombe Abbeys, for those particulars which, as to local description, will be best gathered on the several spots, from the local describers. But those who wish a more previous and intimate knowledge, may consult the following authors, with regard to their ancient history under the respective articles,—DUGDALE's *Warwickshire*, last edition, PENNANT's *Tour*, CHAMBERS' *Dictionary*, GROSE's *Antiquities*, and the progresses and public procession of Queen Elizabeth, collated and published from scarce pamphlets and original manuscripts of the times, by Mr. JOHN NICHOLS, who with his usual accuracy and diligence, has collected them under the above title.

Some acceptable information, also, on the subject of Kenilworth, may be gathered from a

compendious little tract, published by Mr. Sharpe, at Warwick; and it must be a further incitement to purchase it, as it combines useful information with sincere benevolence, the whole profits arising from the sale of the pamphlet being applied to the relief of the poor.

The TOWN of WARWICK, independently of its castle, is eminently beautiful in the uniformity of its streets, gates, churches, &c. &c. and will call on the traveller's notice and attention.

The ride to the village of TACHBROOK, situated three miles by the side of Warwick Park, becomes a two-fold object: first, as it is a place redeemed from almost savage to social life, by the bounty of its patron and proprietor;* secondly, as it abounds with rural graces in high order and cultivation.

The name of BIRMINGHAM need only be mentioned to excite curiosity. It is the grand point of remark to travellers of every cast of mind and imagination. It will form a distinguished feature in the author's proposed "Guide," which will include a circuit of twenty-five miles round Leamington, consolidating all that may be deemed notice-worthy within that boundary.

* The Earl of Warwick.

COVENTRY has lately put forth a provincial history in numbers, containing much local information from Dugdale and other ancient writers.

The excursion from Leamington to STRATFORD-UPON-AVON, stands in need of no recommendation to the attention, and even *homage* of the traveller, who has but a ray of intellect in his head, or a touch of admiration for genius in his heart. The very name of this place brings to recollection the poet of whom, if not the best tempered, certainly, one of the best informed of our critics observes, that

“ Each change of many-coloured life he drew;
“ Exhausted worlds, and then imagined new.”

There scarcely exists, it is presumed, a traveller at Stratford-upon-Avon, not pressed for time, or who is within a ten miles ride of it, that will not visit the birth and burial place of

WILLIAM SHAKESPEAR.

After this assertion, which surely is not strained to any hyperbole of praise, the reader will not wonder that in each visit, for a series of years, as the opportunity returned, the author of what is now hastily but heartily presented, felt, unimpaired, the

enthusiasm which carried him from the house where this greatest of the great, perhaps, "take him for all in all," in the realms of Genius, of Fancy, and of Truth, drew his first breath, to the spot in the same consecrated town, whereon stood his dwelling house in better days; and then repairing to the "narrow cell," where his hallowed remains are deposited. And where is the reader who will not on this occasion sanction the enthusiasm, and follow the example? Where is the visitant of Stratford who will not wish to place himself in the chair where Shakespear had rested, gaze on the antique objects he must have looked upon: now pursuing the course of that river which he has made classical and consecrated, and, lastly, bending to the shrine which, though placed in an obscure nook in a church no way remarkable for its ornaments, is more enriched by covering the ashes of such a man, than "the cloud-capt towers, the gorgeous palaces, and solemn temples" of many of the potentates and conquerors of the earth.

Neither will it, under these influences be matter of surprize to the reader, when told that the writer of these sentiments, threw the result of his feelings and reflections into VERSE. He wished, then, and he still wishes that his invocation had

been heard, and that, as emanating from the spirit invoked, the lines were worthy of their subject. They contain, however, a truth which will find an echo in every heart; and as their sincerity will render them as welcome in this place, as in that where they were first presented, they shall follow these observations upon them: particularly, as what has been previously said on the general and deep impression made upon the mind by a view of such objects, will strongly apply to the present.

LINES

Written at Stratford-on-Avon.

WHY roves the eye in eager search to see
 Whate'er, great Bard, can lead the thought to
 thee;
 Why does it hurry from each object new,
 That crowds, ambitious, on the anxious view;
 The gaudier domes of Pleasure and of Pride,
 And throws them all, as nothing worth, aside?
 Why strays wild Vision till it finds the spot,
 Where stands that poor, but consecrated cot;
 Where humble parents blest a lowly birth,
 That since has fill'd with fame thy natal earth?
 There, charm'd and aw'd, why does th' enraptur'd
 sight
 Fix, with mute wonder and a fond delight,

On things uncouth, and old, and objects mean,
 That bears the marks of what THINE eye has seen?
 Whatever Nature's darling might recal,
 Thy natal habitation, coarse and small ;
 Its crumbling brick-work, mix'd with black'ning
 wood,
 And ev'n the ground whereon the dwelling stood
 In better days,* when Fame and Fortune smil'd,
 And strove which most should bless their fav'rite
 child?

And last, though not least dear to every age,
 His honour'd tomb ! say, why do these engage
 The passenger ?—O, sacred GENIUS tell !
 For thine the magic, thine the wondrous spell.
 'Tis not from love of venerable things,
 The bones of heroes, and the dust of kings ;
 These may in dark oblivious silence rot,
 The truncheon and the sceptre both forgot ;
 'Tis deathless Genius, with a force divine ;
 Our homage claims, and draws us to its shrine.

STRATFORD-ON-AVON and its soft-flowing river
 are, on their own account, objects of notice : and
 it would be unjust not to mention, in terms

* Alluding to his house in the centre of the town, after he
 had acquired popularity.

of recommendation, an intelligent "*History*" of this consecrated town and its vicinity, by Mr. WHEELER, who is a very warm admirer of his native place, and an enthusiast to the genius of the man who is its greatest ornament. Mr. Wheeler has explored, and preserved with the most sacred care every relique he could find concerning the Poet or his family.

Among the RIDES of easy distance, or in the road to LONDON, &c. &c. should have been noticed that to HOCKLEY HOUSE, 10 miles from Birmingham. The road is good. Umberslade, the seat of the late Lord Archer, is worth seeing; the WHITE LION, at Hockley, affords excellent accommodation of every kind.

It will be thought by some a considerable omission, not more early to have noticed that a BILLIARD ROOM is to be found immediately under BISSET'S PICTURE GALLERY, leading to and from which, strangers, and particularly those of the fair sex, will be tempted to take a survey of another sort of exhibition, namely, one of the *shew* apartments of the millinery goddesses, the door of whose temple is left *invitingly* open; all these form part of the premises of MR. PALMER, who displays a third exhibition, which holds out other tempta-

tions, still less to be resisted by poor mortals, than either picture galleries or billiard rooms; a well-stored shop of numberless good things of this world, more substantial. These buildings are situate in Clemens-street, the property of Mr. Read, which leads up to the canal, over which Mr. Read has built a bridge to connect it with other part of the same property, where is a suitable situation for a circus or crescent, or other detached villas. To the left of the bridge is a small, but beautiful house, in the cottage style, the summer residence of William Moody, Esq. On the right is some newly laid out garden ground of eight acres, by Messrs. Mackee and Co. with hot and green houses, and which forms another agreeable walk for visitors.

The reader will here be presented with a sketch of the tomb, mentioned in the early pages of this pamphlet, its inscription and epitaph.

INSCRIPTION.

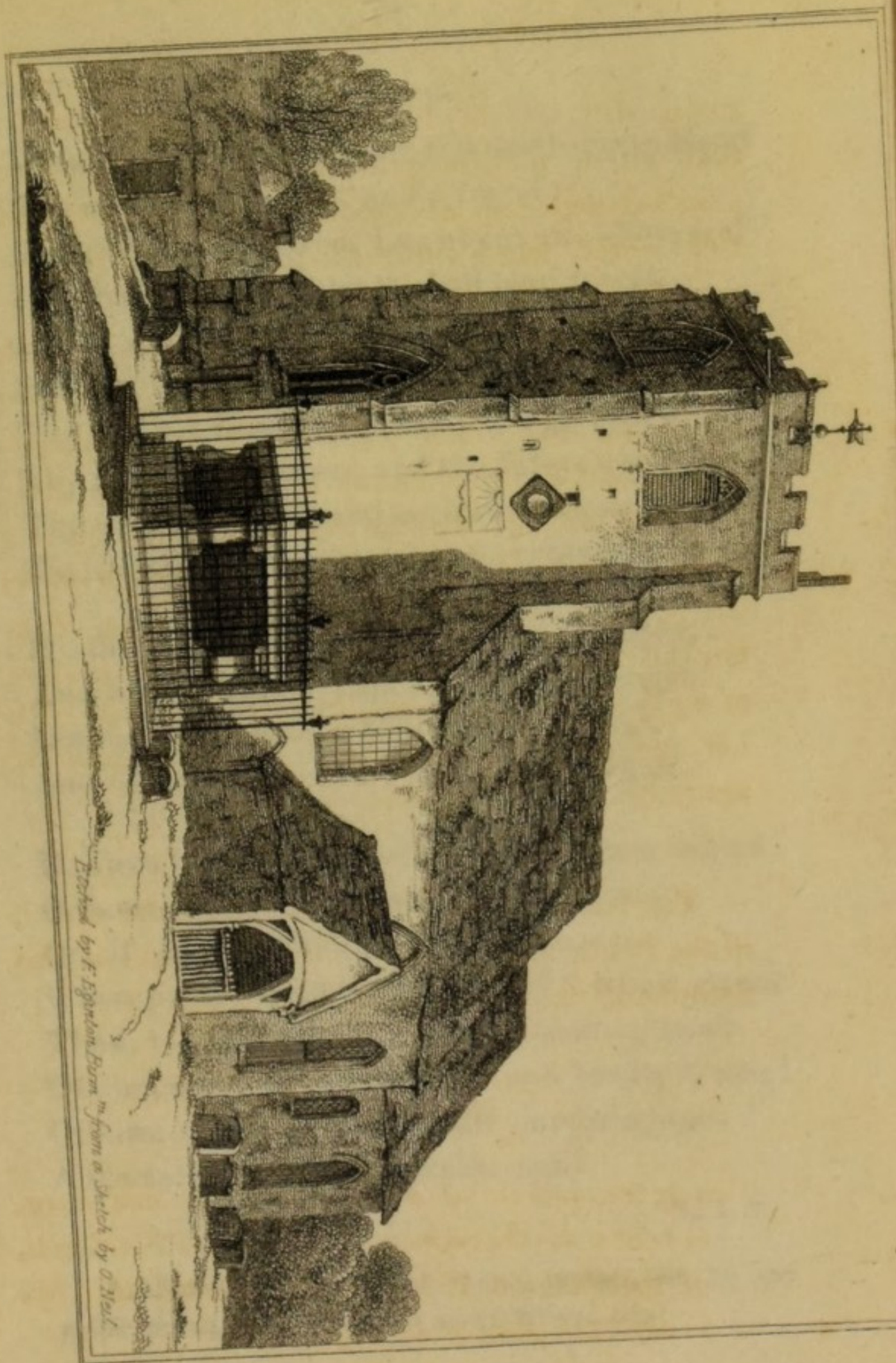
*This sacred tribute of a daughter's love and duty,
is raised to the memory of Benjamin Satchwell,
of Leamington Priors, who departed this life
in the 77th year of his age.*

tion, still less to be visited by poor mortals, than either picture galleries or billiard rooms. A well-stocked shop of youthful good things of this world, more substantial. These buildings are situated in "Penny-street," the property of Mr. Reed, which leads up to the canal, over which Mr. Reed has built a bridge to connect it with other part of his same property, where is a suitable carriage, for a circus or crescent, or other detached villa. To the left of the bridge is a small, but beautiful house, in the cottage style, the property of William Henry, Esq. On the right is a large garden ground of eight acres, the property of Messrs. Jackson and Co. with hat and glove makers, and which forms another agreeable walk for the public.

The reader will find a sketch of the tomb, mentioned in the latter pages of this pamphlet, in the margin, page 52.

APPENDIX.

The epistolary life of Washington's love and duty, is related in a history by Benjamin Smithwell, of the American People, who spent his life in the service of the Republic.



Engraved by F. Egerton from a sketch by O. Hill.

EPITAPH.

With kindred dust, beneath this death-stone blend
 The ashes of a patron, and a friend;
Thy friend, *thy* patron, LEAMINGTON, whose zeal
 Recording time, and truth shall long reveal.
 Lowly as his, *thy* birth, unknown to fame,
 But thy fair youth his latest age proclaim:
 Thy copious fountains, sparkling high with health,
 Thy growing greatness, and thy future wealth,
 Thy proudest villas, and each cot's recess,
 Bid thee the grave of humble SATCHWELL bless.

His the clear head in nature's volume taught,
 And his the wisdom sage experience brought!
 His the strong powers of body and of soul,
 And his the honest heart to crown the whole.

READER! who'er thou art; whom sickness brings
 Or more consuming sorrow, to these springs,
 Or, if gay pleasure lure thee to the scene
 Where nature spreads the charm of loveliest green;
 Thou, too, shouldst hail the unassuming tomb
 Of him, who *told** where health and beauty bloom;
 Of him, whose lengthened life improving ran,
 A blameless, useful, venerable man!

S. I. P.

* Alluding to his various essays, notices, &c. in the
 public prints, correspondence, conversations, &c.

Leamington may, perhaps, some time hence, in the progress of its popularity, be called the *Village of Painters*. Already are to be seen artists and amateurs, pencil in hand, and at work in every direction of Kenilworth, Warwick, Stoneleigh, Offchurch, &c. The author offers a hasty description of an evening sunset, with objects in keeping, to their consideration, not unworthy of Claude.

The most sublime down-going of the sun ever seen by the writer, was, at the moment he viewed it, presented mid-way between Radford and Leamington. Stopping his horse on one of the navigation bridges, under the arch of another he saw the reflected orb in an almost insufferable blaze of glory gilding the paper upon which he wrote. The real scenery of the heavens above, of every possible colouring on this side heaven itself, both above and under the earth, was such as can scarcely be imagined by the richest fancy, and the expanse of winding waters along the canal was as a continued sheet of gold!—What a banquet for the imagination, the hand, and the heart of genius!

In order to render this tract not less useful to invalid visitants, than to those objects of their

bounty who come to the Spa under less happy circumstances of fortune, it will, undoubtedly make the publication more valuable to both parties, to insert a few remarks on the medical effects of the Leamington waters, from the "Chemical Analysis" before alluded to; the author of it having liberally allowed free and full permission.

After having placed before his readers a short statement of the comparative effect of the waters, and given, by that means, some *general* insight into their nature and medical properties, Dr. Middleton proceeds, before entering into any *particular* detail of their efficacy in individual diseases, to lay down a few of those necessary rules and precautions, which EVERY invalid will find benefit in observing, whether the water be taken as an internal medicine, or applied to the skin as a warm, cold, or tepid bath.

GENERAL RULES.

Dr. Middleton prefaces these with the following remarks:—

"It will at first be necessary to reflect that mineral waters, like all other medical substances, are appropriated to certain diseases only, and that the more powerfully they act, the greater

mischief they are capable of doing, if improperly administered; for, if it be asserted that they are capable of doing good only, without the power of doing harm, we may be satisfied that their qualities are too insignificant to merit notice.

“ This consideration indicates the necessity of some caution in the use of all waters which are said to possess *any* sensitive power, and suggests the propriety of consulting some professional man upon the spot, whose judgment may determine how far the water is appropriate to each individual case, and in what manner it should be employed, so as to be most efficacious. There is, however, an advantage attending the Leamington waters, in common with a very few others, that, wherever their use can be of service, they may be entered upon at once, without any danger, or necessity for previous preparation; for at all times, and in all cases, they invariably act upon the bowels as a mild and gentle purgative. The season for drinking them is during the whole summer, and in the spring and autumn, from April to November. The water should, if possible, be always drank at the fountain head, and never kept long exposed to the open air.”

“ After a full dose,” says Dr. M. “ there is generally a slight determination to the head, which is mani-

fested by a sense of drowsiness, and a little fullness across the forehead, but this speedily goes off of itself, or is immediately removed by a walk, a ride, or any gentle exercise; and, indeed, I should always recommend some sort of exercise after drinking the water, as it prevents that sense of nausea and oppression, which arises from a quantity of *any* fluid, when taken into a stomach preternaturally weak and irritable. In general, for an adult, I should advise half a pint of the water to be taken the first thing in the morning, while the stomach is empty, and the same quantity to be repeated after breakfast. Should this quantity be found insufficient to keep the bowels open, and to act as a diuretic, I should recommend a tea spoonful of the salts to be dissolved in a wine glass of the water boiling, and added to each half pint when taken; this being far preferable to increasing the quantity of water to any great extent; for common prudence, independent of medical information, dictates, that the quantity of water taken into the stomach at one time, that some people require to act as a purgative, must be highly improper. By pursuing this method for a few days, the bowels will invariably be brought into such a relaxed state, that ever after, a pint or three half pints of the water will be found sufficient. But if the stomach should be in such a debilitated state, from age or disease,

as to reject this quantity of water when taken in the morning, which will often be the case, I should recommend it to be taken at night, as water gruel, and a small glass (about a quarter of a pint) at eleven in the morning after breakfast; as the irritable stomach will at that time better receive it, and it will be found much more grateful if a little warm; to do this, it is by far the best method to put the water into a bottle closely corked, and to immerse the whole in hot water, for by this means but little of the air can escape.

With regard to the time requisite to continue the use of the water, much depends upon the disorder, and convenience of the patient; a month or six weeks is the time commonly allotted for a trial; but this term is much too short for any great constitutional change to be effected.*"

It may add to the utility of the present publication, to observe that there is a daily Coach from

* The most safe and wise, and ultimately the most economical plan, is to advise with medical men, *acquainted with the waters*, and of such, both the village of Leamington, and the town of Warwick, are amply and happily supplied. Dr. Kerr is also a frequent auxiliary.

Birmingham to Warwick, from whence it arrives at Leamington on or about noon; leaves Leamington every day at two, and regains Birmingham about six or seven in the evening.

The above coach stops to take parcels at the **SWAN HOTEL**, Birmingham, where places are also booked.

There is likewise a Coach three times a week, viz.:—Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, which passes through Leamington to Banbury, for London. And various conveyances to and from Coventry to Leamington.

The **MAIL** from London arrives at Leamington every day generally about twelve, and sets off again a little past two from the Post Office, which is kept by Miss Satchwell, who has either entire houses, or divisions of houses, or, occasionally, single apartments for the immediate accommodation of company, adjoining the Post Office. Likewise lodgings and board, for such as require it. And a professed cook is kept solely for the use of such residents as may wish to provide themselves in any of the respective houses.

The principal Inns of Warwlck, are

The WARWICK ARMS,

The BLACK SWAN,

The GEORGE,

The WOOLPACK.

The increase of Leamington may be, perhaps, more readily ascertained from the increase of LETTERS, which, during the full season, are in the ratio of at least an hundred per day more than in the season preceding.

In taking a retrospective view of the foregoing pages, the author has almost imperceptibly been beguiled, by the interest of the subjects, into a greater length than he had at first proposed: and thereby considerably trespassed upon the ground that he designed to leave open as the field of his future observation. This anticipation, has, at the same time, invaded the future produce. Nevertheless, as he trusts the fruits he has here offered will prove of some use, and it is hoped, of some amusement, to the *immediate* reader, and render a more ample service towards attaining the object of the present publication, the *benefit of the fund*, —the matter thus expanded, shall go to the whole

edition of the pamphlet, without any increase of price to subscribers, after the impression is disposed of, the author will feel himself at liberty to reclaim the anticipated pages for the **REGULAR GUIDE**, to be published in May next; taking especial care, nevertheless, to supply the treasurer of the fund with printed statements necessary to explain whatever has reference to the Charity, *independent of other subjects.*

In the meanwhile it gives the author a *double* gratification, to have, in a manner, *forestalled his own market*; first, as it may promote the design with which he began the pamphlet; and secondly, as, even in the present season, it may be of some service to those who are still visitants; or who meditate an autumnal excursion.

The Leamington waters and surrounding scenery will, it is hoped, for some weeks following the appearance of these sheets, continue favourable, and answer every purpose of pleasure and of health.

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