Griffith's new historical description of Cheltenham and its vicinity / Embellished with nearly 100 ... engravings from drawings by the first masters, maps of the town & county ... and a plan of Pittville.

Contributors

Griffith, Samuel Young.

Publication/Creation

London : Longman, Rees, Orme, Brown, & Green, 1826 (Cheltenham : S.Y. Griffith.)

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GRIFFITH'S NEW HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION OF Cheltenham AND ITS VICINITY.

Dedicated to the Most Excellent Kings Majesty.



EMBELLISHED

Engravings

from Drawings by the first Masters;

with nearly 100 highly finished

MAPS OF THE TOWN & COUNTY FROM THE LATEST SURVEYS,

and a Plan of Pittville.

Cheltenham

PRINTED BY S.Y. GRIFFITH, CHRONICLE OFFICE, PITTVILLE STREET;

Published by

LONGMAN, REES, ORME, BROWN & GREEN,

LONDON;

and Sold by all Booksellers.

1826.

31178

TO

HIS MOST SACRED MAJESTY

GEORGE THE FOURTH

THE MUNIFICENT AND STEADY FRIEND

OF

SCIENCE AND THE ARTS

IN WHOM THE BRITISH EMPIRE RECOGNISES HER

PATRIOT KING

THIS ACCOUNT OF A PLACE WHICH HAS BEEN HONOURED BY

THE ROYAL PRESENCE

IS WITH THE MOST PROFOUND RESPECT

DEDICATED

BY HIS MAJESTY'S HUMBLE AND FAITHFUL SUBJECT

WHOSE GREATEST PRIDE IT IS THAT HE ENJOYS A SHARE OF THE ROYAL PATRONAGE

S. Y. GRIFFITH

PROPRIETOR OF THE CHELTENHAM CHRONICLE.

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EXECUTED EXCLUSIVELY FOR THIS WORK.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE patronage under which the following work has been prepared, and the liberality that has fostered it, demand from the publisher at least an expression of his feelings, and an acknowledgment of his obligations: and various as are the ways by which such feelings may be made known, he cannot suffer the publication to appear before the world without bearing the stamp of his gratitude on its front.

CHELTENHAM has for some years past been progressing towards a station of high celebrity. The rank it now holds amongst its rivals is such as the most enthusiastic could not have dared to predict, nor its greatest admirers, nor those most sensible of the extent and variety of its attractions, and claims to the public favour, could have ventured to anticipate. Long as it has been the resort of the valetudinarian, long as the efficacy of its waters and the salubrity of its air have been experienced by the returning invalid from the east and western Indies; conspicuously as the wealth and fashion of the sister isle have deigned it a peculiar patronage; and uniform as the current of public opinion has run in its favour—unequivocally evinced by the presence of the most distinguished nobility and commonalty; honoured, too, as it has been by the residence, and not a momentary residence, of royalty itself, Cheltenham, like other places, while it had its season of peculiar bustle, might have had its return also of gloomy inactivity. But the manner in which the

public feeling and preference have been displayed in the selection of Cheltenham as a place of constant and permanent residence, has fixed its prosperity on an immoveable basis; on a foundation of such extent and solidity as to be capable of supporting any increase its warmest friends can desire, or that persons speculating on such increase, and the owners of property in the vicinity can provide for.

CHELTENHAM is not now the mere summer retreat, owing its attractions to the tasty cottage, and a rural scenery interesting only during the congenial season; or boasting in common with others its libraries, its assembly-rooms, and its theatre, with the usual conveniences of a fashionable watering place; Cheltenham has now, with its twenty thousand inhabitants, assumed the port of a city. It is distinguished by a vigilant and well regulated police: it has its abundantly supplied markets, its arcades and bazaars, botanic gardens, and riding schools; its numerous and liberally supported charitable establishments; and its capacious and commodious hotels, at and from which near seventy coaches are daily arriving and departing: many of its mansions may almost be termed palaces; and its elegant villas are innumerable.

The annual races at Cheltenham are rising into celebrity; and even in its winter assemblies and concerts it can boast of such a display of rank and fashion, of beauty and elegance, as many summer resorts may regard with envy.

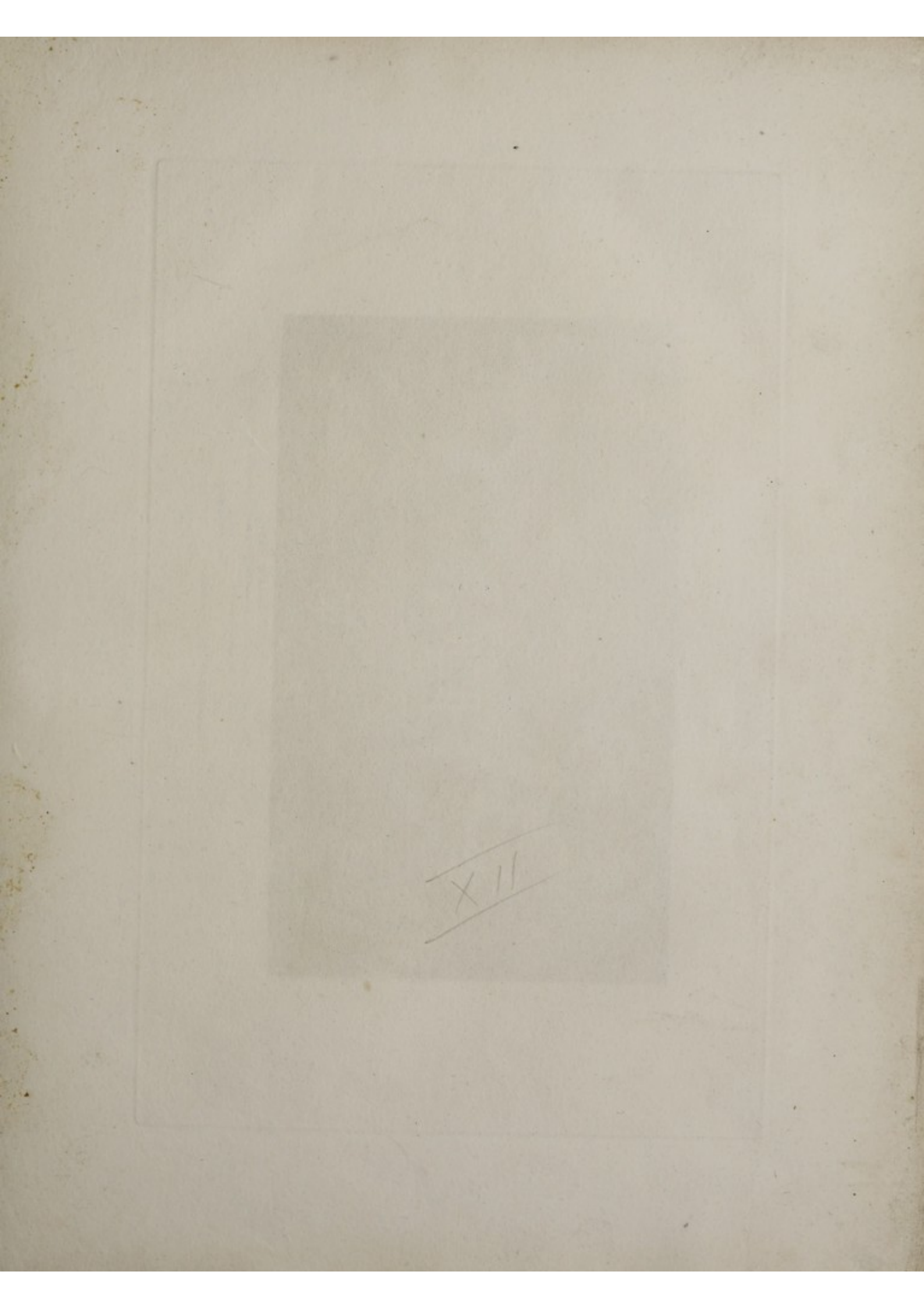
Accommodations, too, for the grave as well as the gay, for the serious as well as the thoughtless, have not been neglected. Extensive and advantageous improvements in the mother church, a new one lately built, another in progress, a free church, and an episcopal chapel

in contemplation—these all with the national ritual service; together with numerous places of public worship for separatists of all denominations, afford unequivocal proofs that the wants of a rapidly increasing population have been met by corresponding exertions, and accommodations: even the retiring meditant, though surrounded by an unexampled display of life and animation, in the most seductive forms, may find ample opportunity for passing his days in congenial pursuits, to which, under less happy circumstances, the giddy whirl around him might oppose a barrier, or an antidote.

But amidst all these advantages a prominent, and characteristic feature presents itself. Cheltenham exhibits, and will ever continue to exhibit, the happy union of town and country. While boasting the properties and conveniences of the well-frequented city, here is the ever-desired intermixture of art and nature; here is to be found, in reality, the "*rus in urbe.*" However surrounding buildings may yet increase, to whatever bulk the directory of streets and squares, crescents and places, may expand, the town must for ever hold within its bosom a grateful variety of umbrageous walks, and an enchanting display of rural scenery. Cupidity has shown itself wise by sacrificing to liberality! and the bold speculation, which, disdaining the usual narrow limits of a town house *site*, at a paltry price *per foot*, laid out its terraces, its pleasure grounds, its attached inclosures, its plantations, walks, and approaches—worthy the environs of a palace, has been adopted by the liberal purchaser, and secured a freedom and a magnificence of appearance that the ancient and venerable city can never possess, and that few modern ones will ever rival.

The contrast between Cheltenham—the little town that lay almost unperceived in the extensive vale of Gloucestershire, enlivened by the weekly market, and the rustic merriment of the fair, and the mop;—between Cheltenham—secured in its lonely loveliness by almost impassable roads and footways, and CHELTENHAM—the *celebrated*, the *fashionable*, and the *gay!*—as its galaxy of white buildings appears from the distance, and as it now presents itself to the visitor in its every day array, is, for the few years by which the difference has been effected, almost miraculous! it is like the instantaneous production of the magic lamp, or the fairy's wand! He who knew it as it was only twenty years ago may be placed on many a spot, around which he will see hundreds of houses—of noble and sumptuous buildings, that had then no other existence than in the distant, but now contiguous quarries, or as the untempered and unformed clay still beneath the feet of the astonished gazer! He will find a change greater than what the Roman Emperor boasted of when he had converted his royal city of brick into one of marble: for the delight of the spectator is enhanced by the luxuriant introduction of indigenous scenery, that gives fragrance and freshness to this new *Emporium* of the neighbourhood.

It is within the recollection of many of the present inhabitants that where one of the principal hotels now almost centrically stands, the paved town, and the street promenade had their termination. Directly opposite thereto was a farm-yard; beyond it were only detached houses, till the late residence of a worthy magistrate, now another of the numerous hotels, made the still more marked division between town and country. While at the back of the street, on both sides, from one end





Henry Lamb del.

J. Fye sc.

TO JOHN GREGORY WELCH ESQ.

This S. E. View of his Seat ARLE HOUSE, near Cheltenham (Engraved at his Expence)

Is most Respectfully Inscribed by

The Publishers.

Printed & Published by J.T. Griffith & C. Delamotte.



Drawn by J. Byrne. Engraved by J. & Lucius Byrne.

TO CAPTAIN MANSELL,

This View of his Seat at Charlton Kings

(ENGRAVED AT HIS EXPENCE)

Is most Respectfully Inscribed by *The Publishers.*

Printed & Published by S.Y. Griffith & Co. Cheltenham.

to the other—a mile nearly in extent, there was scarcely a single inhabited building. The original and Royal Well stood at a distance from the town. Cambray, and the Sherborne walks and plantations had no existence except as beautiful meadows; Portland-street, and its well populated vicinity, was a ploughed field; and Montpellier a distant estate. It is beyond, and around all this that streets have been formed, and magnificent mansions have been erected: and could not some yet living afford authentic testimony to the former state of things, even in their time, the history of the change would seem romantic to most of the present inhabitants, and as altogether fabulous to their descendants.

But the improvements of Cheltenham are not to be confined even within the present extended limits; its boundaries appear interminable! Detached colonies are rising around it; and *Pittville*, and *Southtown*, with the formerly distant villages of Charlton, Prestbury, Leckhampton, and Shurdington, brought in contact by new roads, and hardly beyond a turnpike space, are becoming the *Devonports* of this haven of fashion!

The influx of wealth, and the deposit of capital that have effected all this are probably without precedent. From the increase of houses since the first census in the year 1801, only twenty-five years ago, *viz.* 3317, the known sums that have been expended on many public establishments, and on the superb mansions of not a few individuals, to gether with the great prices the land, after numerous transfers, has been sold for, it may be estimated that not less than five millions of money have been expended in this favoured neighbourhood within that period! A circumstance which has so extended and multiplied the ramifications of private interest in the continued welfare of the place, that it may be

regarded as no longer dependant on the fickleness of fashion, or the caprice of the restless enquirer after novelty.

SUCH IS CHELTENHAM!

The expression of the publisher's individual wishes for its enduring and increasing prosperity would be useless, because they must be known to be interested: but the meed of thanks to his liberal patrons may be more than pardonable. The embellishments which have been afforded at their expense will, no doubt, be highly acceptable to the public; and for them, as well as for himself, he has to offer a public acknowledgment. Amongst the plates many, it is believed, will be allowed to be of considerable merit, since no expense has been spared in the execution; and it is hoped that the accompanying relation will not be thought unsuitable to the subject. To many kind friends is he indebted for assistance herein: which, though not of so costly a nature as the *picturesque illustrations*, demands also an acknowledgment, and thanks. It will ever be a source of honest pride to him if his conduct shall prove deserving of such favours.

Cheltenham Chronicle Office, Pittville-street,
June 26, 1826.

Dedicated to the King's most Excellent Majesty.


HIGH STREET
HIGH STREET
High Street
To London
High Street
Cheltenham
Gloucester
Tewkesbury
Worcester
Oxford
Bath
Bristol
Cirencester
Evesham
Stratford
Warwick
London
Birmingham
Leamington
Coventry
Banbury
Oxford
Bath
Bristol
Gloucester
Tewkesbury
Worcester
Evesham
Stratford
Warwick
London
Birmingham
Leamington
Coventry
Banbury
Cirencester
Chelt
Chelt
Chelt

CHELTENHAM.

Its Origin—Antiquity—Lords of the Manor—Ancient and Present Customs of the Manor, &c.

" Time in his ivy'd sepulchre hath hid,
" Amid the gothic lumber of the earth,
" Thy origin; and dark oblivion wrapped
" Thy early title in a nighted shroud."

CHELTENHAM, pre-eminently distinguished as it now is, as the favourite resort of fashion, and the shrine of health, has its etymological origin involved in much obscurity. There is a discrepancy in every ancient record, to which access can be had—an orthographical difference, at least. In Domesday Book, compiled in the reign of William the Conqueror, it is mentioned as " Chintenham;" in the reign of John, " Chilteche;" in Testa de Nevill, " Cheltham;" in Dugdale's Monasticon, " Chelteham;" by both Leland and Holinshed, it is called " Chiltenham;" and in Prynne's MSS. " Chelteham." Amongst all these varieties we have no definition, or trace of its etymology. Some, with great plausibility, ascribe its name to the river Chilt, or, more modernly, Chelt, running by it: and others find in its nomenclature the simple " Town of Clay.' Another conjecture, however, is so indicative of the character of the town, and its situation, that we feel more disposed to adopt it, and to recognize in Cheltenham—" The Town under the Hills."

Of its early history, at least prior to the conquest, little can be ascertained. It once formed a parcel of the possessions of Edward the Confessor, and became part of the spoil of the conquering William,—as we gather from Domesday Book, commenced in 1081, and completed, after a labour of six years, from the verdict of juries. The Manor will be found among Ancient Demesnes, under the title of " Terra Regis"—the King's Land, and is thus described:—" King Edward held Chintenham. There were eight hides* and a half. Reinbald† holds one hide and a half, which belongs to the church.

* As much land as could be tilled by one plough in a year, or about one hundred acres.—*Bailey.*

† Dean of the collegiate church of Cirencester.

There were three plough tillages, in demesne, and twenty villeins,* and ten bordars,† and seven *servi*,‡ with eighteen plough tillages. The priests have two plough tillages. There are two mills of 11s. 8d. King William's steward added to the manor two bordars, and four villeins, and three mills, of which two are the king's; the third is the steward's; and there is one tillage more. In the time of King Edward it paid 9l. 5s. and three thousand loaves for the dogs. It now pays 20l. and 20 cows, and 20 hogs, and 16s. instead of the bread."§

Although nominally vested in the crown, yet in 1199 Cheltenham was the actual property of Henry de Bohen, earl of Hereford, who exchanged it with King John,‖ and not with the Conqueror, as has been supposed, for other lands; and in 1219, the manor and hundred were granted by Henry III. to William Long Espee, natural son to Henry II. by Fair Rosamond de Clifford.¶ This William, becoming afterwards Earl of Salisbury, bequeathed Cheltenham, at his death, (10 Henry III.) to his son William, who forfeited his estates by leaving the kingdom without the monarch's license or knowledge, The manor, which, as just shown, was possessed by the illegitimate offspring of Henry II. was by his royal grandson (27 Henry III.) granted to his lawful wife, Queen Eleanor. It was next granted (31 Henry III.) to the Bishop of Hereford, and in five years afterwards, (36 Henry III.) the Priory of Montburi, Feschamp, or Fescamp, in Normandy, purchased the manors and hundreds of Cheltenham, and Slaughter, with free warren, by the exchange of lands in Winchelsea and Rye; and the right to those and other important privileges they enjoyed therein, was allowed and confirmed by the subsequent monarch (15 Edward I.) Three years afterwards they obtained the royal license to sell the manors and hundreds, which they, however, retained, and had again confirmed to them in the 25th year of the same reign. John Limel, who is supposed to have held only by lease, died, seized of this manor, in the 2d year of King Edward II.

As the lands of alien priories were vested in the crown, (2 Henry V.) the manor and hundred of Cheltenham were granted to the nunnery of Sion, in Middlesex; which grant was confirmed by Henry VI. in the 22d year of his reign, and further ratified by Edward IV. In 1465, (4 Edward IV.) Sir Maurice Berkeley, of Beverstone, (brother to James, the fifth Lord Berkeley,) held the manor by lease, from Maude, the abbess;

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* Holding by the tenure of villenage, by which the tenant was bound to perform certain services. Such as are now called copyholders.—*Bailey and Rudder.*

† Those holding cottages or lands on condition of supplying the lord with poultry, eggs, &c. *Bord* signifying a cottage.

‡ Pure villeins, under the arbitrary pleasure of the lord, receiving wages at discretion.

§ Domesday Book, p. 67. ‖ 1st of King John.

¶ Who is said to have been truly so fair, that the blood could be seen to flow through her veins. She was born at Frampton-upon-Severn, in Gloucestershire. According to Dryden, however,

"*Jane* Clifford was her name, as books aver,
"*Fair Rosamond* was but a *nom de guerre*."

for we still find it in the possession of the nunnery at the period of the dissolution, in the reign of Henry VIII. From that time it remained vested in the crown, in fee; and was held by lease, viz.: by Lygon and Butler, for their lives, (1 and 2 Philip and Mary,) and at their deaths by Sir J. Woolley, (16 Eliz.) for thirty-one years. Sir John assigned his interest in the lease, sixteen years of which were unexpired, to William Norwood, Esq. who was adjudged, upon an information* filed against him by the queen's attorney-general, to all rights, privileges, &c. so assigned. The manor and hundred then descended, subject to the leases, to King James, who conveyed them to Sir Francis Bacon and others, as trustees, under which deed Charles, Prince of Wales, afterwards King Charles I. became lord of the manor† (5 James I.) and sold‡ it for 1,200l. in 1628, to John Dutton, Esq. of Sherborne, who held his first manorial court here, June 3, 1629.§

This worthy ancestor of the present noble possessor, was "noted for his great hospitality far and near, and for his charitable relief." He died in 1656,‖ and was succeeded by his nephew, William Dutton, Esq. (son to his elder brother, Sir Ralph Dutton, who died in 1646,) who leaving no issue, the property devolved to his elder brother, Sir Ralph Dutton, Bart. to whom succeeded his son, Sir John Dutton, Bart. He also having no issue, bequeathed his estates, in 1742-3, to his nephew, James Lennox, Esq. of Ireland, who assumed the name and arms of Dutton; and dying in 1776, was succeeded by James Dutton, Esq. the twenty-third lineal descendant from Huddart, Huddard, or Odard; and eighth in descent from Thomas Dutton, Esq. who purchased the manor of Sherborne nearly three centuries ago.

This benevolent character was, on the 11th May, 1784, created an English peer, by the title of Lord Sherborne, Baron Sherborne, of Sherborne, in the county of Gloucester, and for many years enjoyed, with his well-merited dignity, the respect and veneration of all who could justly appreciate the value of his public acts, and the social virtues

* By this information he was called upon to show cause why he neglected to return two members to parliament for the town of Cheltenham, as had before been customary; and he pleaded an indulgence granted to him by Queen Elizabeth, as the reward of some services, that he might be spared the trouble of such elections.

† Prince Charles caused a survey of the manor and hundred to be made by J. Norden, Esq. surveyor-general to the crown. Vide Appendix, No. 1.

‡ The act ratifying this sale, passed in 1625.

§ *Nomina Dominorum ex Stemmate Duttoniano.*

1629 to 1661.	Johannes Dutton, Armiger.
1661 to 1675.	Gulielmus Dutton, ——
1675 to 1709.	Radulphus Dutton, Bart.
1709 to 1743.	Johannes Dutton, ——
1743 to 1776.	Jacobus Lenox Dutton, Armiger.
1776 to 1811.	Jacobus Dutton, Ar. and paucos post Annos, Regia ex Gratia, Baro de Sherborne in Comitatu Glocestriensi creatus.
1811 to 1820.	Johannes Dutton, Filius and hæres dicti Jacobus Dutton.
1820.	Idem Johannes Dutton, nunc Baro de Sherborne.

‖ It appears by the rolls, that courts were held in his name till 1661.

which adorned his private life. He died on the evening of Monday, May 22, 1820, in the 78th year of his age. The following humble but sincere tribute to the memory of one who was ever anxious for the prosperity of the place, appeared in the Cheltenham Chronicle of Thursday, May 25:—"Distinguished through a long and honourable life, by the exercise of every generous and noble quality that could adorn the heart of man, Lord Sherborne enjoyed, in unbounded good-will, the respect, the esteem, and the regard of all to whom the many excellent traits of his nature were known. Possessing an extensive property, his first pride was the character with which the gratitude of his tenantry invested him; and to be known as "A GOOD LANDLORD" was to him the chief gratification derived from his possessions. Proud of the birthright of an Englishman, he was ever patriotically ranged beneath the banners of our glorious constitution; and in the domestic circle, his virtues were as unostentatious as they were earnest and active. Whilst the remembrance of human excellence—of patriotic purity—and of honourable principle, is dear to posterity, the name of "SHERBORNE" will be recollected with melancholy pride:—and when the titles and honours of this world shall have past away, the record of his Christian zeal, of his piety, and of his benevolence, will be greeted with a sacred enthusiasm, and a mournful reverence inseparable from the memory of worth."

His Lordship had, in the year 1811, conveyed the manor and hundred of Cheltenham to his son, the Hon. John Dutton, now the Right Hon. Lord Sherborne;—a nobleman who may be truly said to have inherited, with the title of his revered father, the still more admirable and enviable qualities which add lustre to nobility.

The manor and hundred of Cheltenham, at a period now far remote, gave name to a family of a certain degree of rank—as we find in the civic records of Gloucester, in 1248, 1255, and 1270, William de Cheltenham, chief officer of that city. It possessed, in the early ages, the privilege of a market and fairs, although the date of the grant or grants to this effect be not accurately known: for Leland, who wrote in the time of Henry VIII. describes it thus:—"Chiltenham, a large towne, havynge a market. It belonged to the abbey of Cirencester, now to the kynge. There is a brook on the south side of the town."

King Edward IV. halted and refreshed his whole army here, on the day before the desperate battle of Tewkesbury, as we learn from Holinshed:—"On this Fridaie, King Edward, at length he came with all his armye unto a village called Chiltenham, like a fiue miles distance from Tewkesberie. King Edward therefore made no longer delaie, but took a little refection himselfe, and caused his people to doo the like: this done, he set forward towards his enimies, and lodged that night in a field not past three miles distant from them."

In the civil war between the ill-fated King Charles I. and his Parliament, Cheltenham was garrisoned by "a gallant brigade of the king's horse, commanded by Lord Gran-

dison and Lord Chandos.* But on Sept. 5, 1643, the Earl of Essex, with the Parliamentary forces, amounting to ten thousand men, appeared on the hills above Prestbury; and soon afterwards encamped at Cheltenham, whence they marched to Gloucester, upon which the siege was raised by the royal army."

That it was once occupied by the Romans, and was, if not the scite of a camp, at least a place of temporary sojourn to the hardy soldiers of the south, at that period when, as we are told, "the country from Cirencester to Painswick, Bisley, Sapperton, Woodchester, Uley, Kingscote, &c. was much peopled with Romans," is a conjecture of great probability, for it is on every side environed with the remains of camps and barrows, and so lately as the summer of 1818, (July 28,) some labourers digging up a piece of ground near the Bath turnpike, found at a considerable depth, an antique jar, containing many hundred Roman coins, bearing impressions of the emperors, and other devices; and many solitary pieces of coin have been dug up since that period, in other places in the immediate vicinity.

THE EXISTING CUSTOMS OF CHELTENHAM MANOR, as settled by act of Parliament.†—Apud Civit. Westmonast. 18 Die Junii, 1 Car. I.

"An act for the settling or confirmation of the copyhold estates and customs of the tenants in base tenure, of the manor of Cheltenham, in the county of Gloucester, and of the manor of Ashley, otherwise called Charlton Kings, in the said county, being holden of the said manor of Cheltenham, according to the agreement thereof made between the king's most excellent majesty, being then Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall and of York, and Earl of Chester, lord of the said manor of Cheltenham, and Giles Grevill, Esq. lord of the said manor of Ashley, and the said copyholders of the said several manors: *cujus quidem statuti tenor sequitur in hæc verba.*

Whereas, within the said manor of Cheltenham, and within the said manor of Ashley, the said copyholders in base tenure of those several manors having customary estates of inheritance to them and their heirs in their several customary messuages and lands, many questions and doubts have been of late made, touching their customs; many of them being so uncertain, unreasonable, and inconvenient, that it hath caused many suits in law, and great expences in money, and much loss and trouble, insomuch that in many years past the said manors have yielded but little profits, either to lords or tenants; for remedy whereof, and for avoiding of suits, and for the quieting and establishing of the estates of tenants and their posterity within the said manors, there being a composition made, and an agreement had between our said sovereign lord the king's majesty, (being then Prince of Wales, and lord of the said manor of Chelten-

* See Atkyns, Clarendon, and Corbet's Military Relation.

† So very considerable a part of the property in Cheltenham, being on a copyhold tenure, and such an immense capital having been of late years invested therein, that the introduction of the whole act must be considered essential.

The fine paid to the crown for obtaining this act was 1200l.

ham,) with the advice of his then council, and commrs. for his revenue, and the copyholders of that sd. manor, and between the said Giles Grevill, Esq. lord of the said manor of Ashley, and of the copyholders of that manor, according to which compositions and agreements it is humbly desired by the said tenants and copyholders of the said several manors, that it be enacted,

And be it enacted, by the king's most excellent majesty, the lords spiritual and temporal, and the commons, in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same parliament, that the said copyholders of the said manors, and either of them, shall and may henceforth hold the said customary messuages and lands of the said manors, severally and respectively, by copies of court roll, to them and their heirs, by suit of court, and by the yearly rents, work, silver, Peter-pence and bead reap money, to be paid annually and respectively, as heretofore hath been used: and that the said copyholders shall pay their several fines for admittances, both upon descents and surrenders, unto the several lords of the same manors, severally and respectively, double the rents only payable for these copyholders, not adding thereunto the work, silver, Peterpence and bead reap money, or other payments.

And further, that the said copyholders, upon their several deaths and surrenders, shall pay for and in lieu of an heriot, the sum of thirty shillings for every messuage and the lands and tenements thereunto belonging, or therewith used, and so according to that rate for the quantity, more or less, if it shall happen any messuage, lands, or tenements to be divided: and that the descents of the said customary lands shall be from henceforth in fee simple, according to the rules of common law.

Saving only, and be it also enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that if any copyholders of the said manors, or of either of them, shall die without issue male, having daughters, that the eldest daughter shall inherit solely, as the eldest son ought to do by the course of the common law: and that if any of the said customary lands or tenements shall or ought, according to the course of the common law, to descend to any sisters, aunts, or female cousins, that then, in every such case, the eldest sister, aunt, or female cousin, shall inherit the same lands and tenements solely and alone.

And be it further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that all and every the copyholders of the said several manors, for the time being, shall and may surrender their several messuages and lands customary, or any part thereof, to the use of any person or persons, as well in open court before the steward of the said several manors respectively for the time being, as out of court, before two copyholders at the least of the said manors respectively; and shall and may, likewise, make a grant of their several messuages and lands customary, or any part or parts thereof, to any person or persons for the grantor's life and twelve years after his decease, or for twelve or any less number of years, according as now the said copyholders may do, by the custom of the said copyholders paying to their said lords, severally and respectively, (upon every grant) for life and

twelve years of a messuage, with the lands and tenements thereunto belonging, or therewith used, one whole year's ancient rent for a fine, and so according to the quantity of the lands to be granted.

And be it likewise enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that it shall and may be lawful for every of the copyholders of the said manors, for the time being, to grant, limit, and assign, all or any part of their several customary messuages and lands, to any of their wives, for term of the life of any wife, for her jointure, paying for a fine to the lords of the said manors respectively, upon every such grant of a whole messuage, with the lands and tenements thereunto belonging, or therewith used, half a year's ancient rent; and so likewise, according to the quantity of the lands so granted; and that all and every such grants, limitations, and assignments, so to be made as is aforesaid, shall be made either in open court, before the steward of those several manors respectively, or out of court before two copyholders at the least of the said several manors respectively. And that such of the said surrenders, grants, limitations, and assignments, as shall be made out of court, shall be presented at the next public court of the said manors respectively, to be holden upon lawful summons by those copyholders before whom such surrenders, grants, limitations, and assignments shall be so made or the survivor of them, upon pain of forfeiture to the lord of that manor, within which the default shall be, ten shillings a-piece, to be levied and recovered by actions of debt or distress, as shall seem good to the lord and the steward or stewards of the said respective courts. And upon default of presenting such surrenders, grants, limitations, and assignments, at every public court, shall be holden, as aforesaid, they shall forfeit such a fine as shall be imposed on them by the steward or stewards of the respective manors for the time being, so that none of the said fines, so to be imposed, exceed the sum of twenty shillings a-piece for any one default; and every such fine so to be imposed, shall and may be levied and recovered as aforesaid.

And be it also enacted, that all such surrenders, grants, limitations, and assignments, so to be made, as aforesaid, shall be enrolled in the several court rolls of the said manors respectively, paying to the steward for the enrolling and copying thereof, such fees as hath been accustomed.

Provided always, that all former grants, at any time heretofore made, for the life of the grantor and twelve years after, or of or for any lesser term, according to the custom heretofore used, shall and may be enjoyed accordingly.

And further be it enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that the wives of all and every the copyholders of the said manors, and every of them, shall, from henceforth, have for dower, during their lives, the third part only of their husband's customary lands; and the said third part to be set forth and assigned to them by the homage of the court wherein the presentment of the death of the husband shall be presented, or within such time next after the same court as shall be limited by the stewards in that behalf. But

all such wife and wives as shall hereafter accept and take a jointure of their husband's customary lands within the said manors or either of them, by grant, limitation, or assignment as aforesaid, before her marriage, or shall accept of such a jointure after marriage, and agree thereunto, after the death of her said husband, shall be concluded and barred to demand any dower of those or any customary lands of such husband, within the said manors, or either of them.

Provided always, that women now living, being heretofore wives of any of the copyholders of the said manors, or either of them, dying tenants, and also the now wives of any of the copyholders of the said manors, or either of them, shall and may enjoy the customary lands of their now or late husbands dying tenants, for their lives and twelve years after, as if this act had never been had or made.*

And further be it enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that all and every the wife and wives of the copyholders of the said manors, or either of them, which shall join in any grant or surrender with her or their husbands, of any the customary messuages or lands, being first solely and secretly examined in court according to the custom there, shall be concluded and barred afterwards to claim any right, title, or estate, whatsoever of or in those lands so by her surrendered and granted as aforesaid.

Be it further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that no husband which hereafter shall be married to a wife seized of any copyhold land within the said manors, shall have any power, right, or interest, by surviving the wife and fining with the lord, or otherwise by customs of the said manors, or either of them, to have, hold, or keep, or otherwise to convey or dispose the said lands from the right heir of the said wife; or that any woman which hereafter shall be married to a husband seized of any copyhold lands within the said manor, shall have any power, right, or title by surviving her husband, or otherwise by the custom of the said manors, to have, hold, or keep, or otherwise to convey and dispose, the said lands from the heir of the said husband.

And be it further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that all customs and usages heretofore used or allowed within the said manors, or either of them, concerning the having and enjoying of any of the said customary lands and tenements by any widow of any customary tenant of the same manors or either of them, or by any after taken husband of such widow, or by the heirs of any such wife or after taken husband, or concerning the descending of any of the said customary lands or tenements to any other person or persons, or in any other manner or form than is hereinbefore declared, shall be utterly void and of no effect; and that all other lawful customs and usages heretofore used or allowed within the said manors, or either of them, not being repugnant and contrary to the true meaning of this act, shall be and remain good and effectual, and are and shall be ratified and confirmed by the authority of this present act."

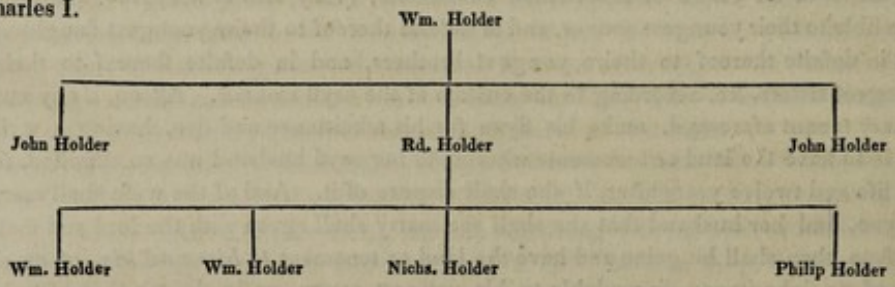
* This was the custom before this act passed: Cro. Car. 568.

"THE ANCIENT CUSTOM as to the estate of the husband and wife, in the manor of Cheltenham, in the county of Gloucester, previously to the preceding Act, 1 Car. I. extracted from the survey of the manor:—

To the fowerteenth and fyfteenth articles they answere and saye, that to theire knowledge, not any ffreehoulder, customary tenante, or other houlding land of or belonging unto this mannor, hath committed any treason, felony, or other acte, whereby the land or other benefit ought to fall to the prince. And they knowe not of any tenante of this mannor to stand outlawed; neither know they that any bastard doth possesse any land within or belonging as hereunto a supposed father, or unto any other, nor any alien or stranger not made denison.—To the sixteenth article they answere and saie, that the customs of the mannor are divers:—Feyrst, the customary tenants in basse tenure of this mannor doe respectively hould and are seized of their tenements of an estate of inheritance customarie, (viz.) *sibi et heredibs. suis*, descendible to their youngest sonnes, and in defalte thereof to theire youngest daughters, and in defalte thereof to theire yongest brothers, and in defalte thereof to theire youngest sisters, &c. according to the custom of the sayd mannor. Allsoe, if any customary tenant aforesayd, make his ffyne for his admittance and dye, having a wyfe, she is to have the land or tenemente whereunto her sayd husband was so admitted, for her life and twelve years after, if she shall dispose of it. And yf the wyfe shall marry agayne, and her husband that she shall soe marry shall agree with the lord and make his fyne, then shall he gaine and have the land or tenement *to him and his*, of an estate of an inheritance discendable to his yongest sonne, or in default thereof to his yongest daughter, according to the custome of the mannor; and yf he over live his wife, and dye without issue of his body, his customary tenement shall goe to the youngest yssue male of the body of the fyrst husband by whom the land did move; and for defalte of such issue male, then shall it go to the youngest issue female of such fyrst husband: and if such fyrst husband be deade w^th^ out such issue of his body, then doth it go to the kindred of every last husband in order so longe as any can be found being heires by descente, or take in marriadge by purchase; that is to saye, yf he bee a taker, then only to the issue of his body in manner as afosesayd, and if he be heir then in full course of discente according to the custom of the mannor as is before first declared in answer to this article. Allsoe, yf any man marry with any heire female of any customarie tenement in basse tenure, then yf he will make a fyne with the lord to make himsealfe the lord's tenante of his wieves tenement, as he may if he will, his ffyne is certyne (viz.) double the rente. Allsoe, if any man who doth purchase any customary tenement escheated, doth marry a wyfe, which wyfe over liveth, shee is to have the same customary tenement during her life and twelve yeares after, yf she shall so dispose it; and yf the same wyfe shall happen to marry another husband whoe shall make his ffyne and agree with the lord of the manor, then such second husband, yf he shall

over live his wyfe, shall have the customary tenante to him and his heirs in state of a customary inheritance, as a taker hath the same by the custome as aforesaid. Allsoe, no customary tenant in basse tenure of the said manor, forfeiteth or looseth his tenement nor any parte thereof by treason, petty treason, murder, felony, utlagary, or any other offence or act, but that the said tenemente shall be enjoyed by such tenante and his, according to the custom of the manor, any such offence or acte to the contrary notwithstanding. All which several customes before men'coned they believe to be trewe; and many other customs of the sayde mannor that are as they suppose, which may be known as the case shall hereafter fall out, but p'sently they do not remember them. The sayd customs have ever been past the memory of man, used and confirmed by theire long continuance, the beginning whereof is unknown; and they ought not to paye any thing for brewing beare ore alle."

The following curious entry appears on the rolls:—At a court held Friday, 20 Sept. 10 Charles I.



The Land is borrowe, English customy. land, goeing to the youngest. } Ad hanc cur ven Phillippus Holder, in ppria. pson. sua et in plena and apta cur et apponit Clameum ul sequitur in his verbis anglicanis.

William Holder, the great uncle, having a wief him surviving, wch wief marryeth one Packer and shee dyeth, and Packer being a prisoner in Worcester jayle, the jayler marryeth him to his daughter under the age of twelve years, and presently after the marryage the same day the said Parker dyeth, and afterwards one Gower marryeth the said jayler's daughter whom Packer had so marryed, and they two afterwards, when she came to age, surrendered the land in court to others and their heyres, and Gower and his said wief are yet living. Packer never made his fine to the lord, nor could hee, because he died presently the same day after his marryage; and so Gower gayned nothing by the marryage, because Packer had by his marryage with the widow Holder but only his life and yeares, which are long since expired. So as now Richard Holder and John Holder, the uncles of the said Phillip, being dead without issue, the land cometh to Phillip Holder, youngest son of John Holder, the eldest son of the said William Holder, the great uncle. This Phillip had notice of his right now of late, for hee hath lyved in the lowe countreys these xxti years past.

The following particulars as to the act shew the difference of the times:

Mem.—The Parliament began Saturday, 18th June, 1625.

Monday, 20th June.—Mr. Deighton and I did put our act into the upper house of parliament.

Saturday, 25th June.—Our acte was twice read in the upper house and committed.*

Monday, 27th June.—The committee sate and reported the amendments Tuesday, 28th June, whereupon the bill was engrossed.

Thursday, 30th June.—The bill was read againe, and sent by Baron Treavor and a serjeant into the lower house.

Friday, 1st July.—Our bill twice read in the lower house, and upon a mocon made by Sir Walter Pye, attorney of the court of wards, ordered to pass without a committee.

Monday, 4th July.—Our bill was read the third time and passed the lower house.

Monday, 11th July.—The parliament was adjourned until the 1st day of August unto Oxford, his Majesty having first given his royall assent to this and some other actes.

The fees of passing the acte, being a double bill between lordes and tenants, question was made of a treble bill, for that it concerned the king's tenants, and Mr. Greville and his tenants, being three parties. The king payeth no fees.

Upper House.	Mr. Elsinge, clerk of the upper house	£10	0	0		
	To John Throckmorton, his clerk	2	0	0		
	For printing 57 breviatts	0	7	0		
	The Lord Keeper's fee	20	0	0		
	For the order of our committee	0	2	6		
	For writing the same	0	2	6		
	For reading the acte in the upper house	0	10	0		
	To Serjeant Bridgeman, for attending the lords at the committee	1	0	0		
	To Mr. Maxwell, the gentleman usher	8	0	0	£54	16 0
	To him for wafers and ipocras for the lords	4	0	0		
	To Mr. Crane, the yeoman usher	3	0	0		
	To the doorkeeper of the upper house	1	0	0		
	To Mr. Parkinson, for attending at the committee	0	10	0		
	To John Throckmorton, for attending there	0	10	0		
	For ingrossing the acte	1	10	0		
	Mr. Elsinge's fee, being above 2 skinnes	2	4	0		
Lower House.	To Sir Thos. Crewe, the speaker	10	0	0		
	To Mr. Wright, the clerke	4	0	0		
	To the serjeant and other officers	4	0	0	£19	5 0
	To Mr. Wright's two clerks	1	0	0		
	To the doorkeeper there	0	5	0		
					£74	1 0

The following singular historical document is from one of the old books:

"CHARLES R.—Trusty and well-beloved, we greete you well. Whereas all our subjects of our kingdome of England and dominion of Wales, are both by their allegiance

* The following noblemen formed the committee:—Lord Treasurer, Lord President, Lord Privy Seal, Lord B. of Durham, Lord B. of St. David's, Lord B. of Gloucester, ab. Lord Conway, ab. Lord Berkeley, Lord Scroope, ab. Lord Russell, Lord Danvers, and Lord Spencer.

and the acte of pacification, bound to resist and suppress all such of our subjects of Scotland as have in a hostile manner already entered, or shall hereafter enter into this kingdom. And by lawe your personal service, attended in a warlike manner, for the resistance of this invacon, may be required by us, which we desire to spare, chusing rather to invite your assistance to the maynetenance of our army in a free and voluntary expression of your affections to our service, and the safety of this kingdom. And whereas the members of both houses of parliament, assembled at Oxford, have taken into their consideracon the necessity of supporting our army for the defence of us and our people against this invasion, and for the preservation of the religion, lawes and liberties of this kingdome; and thereupon have agreed upon the speedy raysing of the some of one hundred thousand pounds, by loans from particular persons, towards the which themselves have advanced very considerable proporcons, and by their examples hope that our well-affected subjects throughout the kingdome will in a short time make up the remaynder, whereby we shall not only be enabled to pay and recruit our army, but likewise be enabled to put our armies in such a condicon as our subjects shall not suffer by free quarter or the unruliness of our souldiers, which is now in present agitacon, and will (we noe way doubt by the advice of the members of both houses assembled) be speedily effected. We doe towards so good a work, by the approbation and advice of the saide members of both houses here assembled, desire you forthwith to ***lend*** us twenty pounds, or the value thereof in plate, toucht plate at fyve shillings, untoucht plate at foure shillings foure pence per ounce, and to pay or deliver the same within seaven daies after the receipt hereof to the hands of the high sheriffe of that our county, or to such whom he shall appoint to receave the same (upon his acquittance for the receipt thereof,) who is forthwith to retorne and pay the same at Corpus Xti college, in Oxford, to the hands of the Earl of Bath, the Lord Seymour, Mr. John Ashbournham, and Mr. John Fettiplace, or any of them who are appointed treasurers for the receaving and yssuing thereof by the same members (by whose order only the said money is to be disposed,) and to give receipts for the same, the which ***we promise to repay*** as soon as God shall enable us. This sume to be advanced with speede. We are necessitated to apply ourselves to such persons as your selfe, of whose liability and affection we have confidence, giving you this further assurance, that in such further charges that the necessity of our just defence shall enforce us to require of our good subjects, your forwardness and disbursements shall be considered to your best advantage, and so presuming you will not fayle to expresse your affection herein, we bid you farewell.—Given at our court at Oxford, the 14th day of February, in the nyneteenth year of our reigne, 1643.

By the advice of the members of both houses assembled at Oxford.

ED. LITTLETON. (L.S.)
SIMP. EYRE. (L.S.)"

Glouc^r.

To John Stubbes, of Charlton-Kings.

CHAPTER II.

The Healthful Situation and Local Advantages

OF

CHELTENHAM.

" Still bounteous Nature o'er the lovely vale
" Poured forth her gifts profuse, perennial springs
" Flowed for her habitants, and genial suns,
" With kindly showers, to bless the happy clime,
" Combined their gentle influences."—SOUTHEY'S RODERICK.

IN a vale of very considerable extent, unsurpassed in beauty and fertility, stands CHELTENHAM, watered by the winding stream of the Chelt;—itself the central point of the most opulent, flourishing, and interesting towns in this quarter of the kingdom.* It is situated in 51 deg. 51 min. north lat. and 2 deg. 5 min. west long. in the hundred to which the parish gives its name, and in the first (Kiftsgate) division of the county.—It is bounded on the north, east, and south-east, by the vast ridge of the Cotswolds, uniting those known as the Cleeve-Cloud, Prestbury, Dowdeswell, and Leckhampton hills, and forming a semicircular barrier in that direction. On the west, distant about twenty miles, "the towering Malverns grace the chequered vale," sheltering, whilst they beautify, the scene. On the south-west, May-hill, Churchdown, (commonly called Chursden and Chosen,) and Robin's-wood-hill, spring up in the vale, and gracefully vary the local charms of the landscape.

* The following scale of distances will illustrate this remark:—

Bath	43	Gloucester	9	Monmouth	35	Tewkesbury	9
Berkeley	25	Hereford	39	Oxford	40	Thornbury	32
Bristol	44	Leamington	44	Painswick	11	Warwick	42
Birmingham	46	Ledbury	25	Ross	25	Winchcomb	7
Cirencester	16	Marlborough	44	Stratford-upon-Avon	34	Witney	29
Evesham	16	Malvern	25	Stroud	14	Worcester	24

Thus seated under the screen of the Cotswold hills, in the bosom of that delightful vale, of which Drayton says—that "who beholdeth, to Paradise may think a second he had found,"* Cheltenham is sheltered from the rude inclemency of the winter winds, and free also from the ill effects of baleful exhalations and pestilent vapours, the concomitants of marshy grounds and swamps.

The protection afforded to the town by the hills which surround it, in the points most liable to the boisterous visitations of the elements, has been manifested upon two singular, and not remote, occasions:—In March, 1818, a dreadful storm from the south-west came on, and raged for some hours; and although the effects of the hurricane were terrible upon the hills,—every farm bearing proofs of its devastation,—the injury sustained in the town was confined to the roofs of a few houses, and the uptearing of some lofty trees. The second instance we have in the remembrance of the winter of 1823-4, when whilst almost every other town in the neighbourhood suffered from the tempest, and the awful scathing of thunder and lightning; they were seen and felt in Cheltenham, comparatively, but as the presence of heavy clouds, rolling over our heads, and restraining their wrath till they reached the summits of our mountain barriers.

It has been said, that "mountains and headlands not only change the direction of the wind, but also regulate the temperature and humidity of the circumjacent countries;" and whilst the moderate and equal altitude of the Cotswold hills curtails not our diurnal hours, it effectually screens us from the blighting influence of the harsh east, and still bleaker north-east winds: nor, though more exposed to the west wind, have we cause to complain of its severity even in the winter, except when it tends more to the northward; whilst in the warm summer season, when it principally prevails, it breathes a delicious and refreshing coolness over the wide and blooming valley. So tempered is its climate by the very circumstances of its situation; so bountifully has this favoured spot been adorned with all the beauties of scenery; that it would seem as if the hand of an All-merciful Providence had devised it for the fountain-head of Health; and ordered that whilst the virtues of the springs imparted new life to the human frame, the mind worn down by disease and anxiety, should be charmed from despondency, soothed into tranquil pleasure, and once more inspired with hope, by contemplating the loveliness of creation; and turning with increased enjoyment

"From grand to soft—from wonderful to fair."

When viewed from the surrounding eminence, Cheltenham appears to lie in a flat country; this, however, is by no means the case:—it rests rather upon the last slope of the long chain of hills forming an amphitheatre around it, and is considerably elevated above Gloucester, Tewkesbury, and the intermediate neighbourhood.

* Polyolbion, 14th song.



Drawn by J. Byrne.

Engraved by J. & Louisa Byrne.

TO ROBERT MORRIS ESQ.

This View of his Seat VITTORIA HOUSE, *Cheltenham*

(ENGRAVED AT HIS EXPENCE)

Is most Respectfully Inscribed by

The Publishers.

Printed & Published by S.T. Griffith & Co. Cheltenham.

The soil is, for the most part,—on the east a loose, white sand; on the west, a very strong clay; on the south, a fine rich loam; and, on the north, pasture and tillage land. In many places, not only in Cheltenham, but in the valley, large beds of blue marly clay are found to go deep under the surface, hardening as they deepen.

The immediate approaches to the town are invariably marked by the peculiar beauties of a rich landscape, heightened by the interspersion of neat and elegant dwellings adapted in their style to the stations they occupy, without disturbing the keeping of the picture. From the rugged, but picturesque, top of Leckhampton, the town suddenly breaks upon the sight; and whilst the eye rests with unmingled pleasure upon the smiling valley, for miles in view, the mind is at once attracted and surprised by the still growing extent and importance of Cheltenham. This is the entrance from Bath, through Stroud and Birdlip, leaving the original road, through the Sandford grounds and the London turnpike, on the right, at the base of Leckhampton hill. A new road from Bath now runs through Painswick and Shurdington to Cheltenham, and commands some of the most delightful prospects in the neighbourhood: the views from Cooper's-hill should be particularly noticed as vieing even with the softest luxuriance of Italian scenery. From Dowdeswell, the view of the town is intercepted by the projection of the surrounding hill, and the entrance is through a wooded and picturesque country, becoming gradually more beautiful as we approach. From Gloucester, Tewkesbury, and Coombe-hill, until arrived at the turnpike-gates, little can be seen of Cheltenham: but one of the last new entrances from the north of England, by Marl-hill, affords occasional and striking views of the town and neighbourhood.

In fact, when the natural situation of Cheltenham is considered—its local peculiarities and attractions, the diversified and surpassing charms of its scenery, the salubrious temperature of its climate, and "though last not least," the healing qualities and medicinal virtues of its waters, the imagination is almost transported to that retirement which formed the chief delight of the great Roman bard, and which he has described, as no body else could have described it.

The salubrity of the air of Cheltenham, and its general healthfulness, have been so long established, and acknowledged by the world, that we have merely to notice this great blessing amongst the many gracious dispensations of Providence which here so peculiarly claim the lively gratitude of man: were it, however, a matter of question, a most gratifying and decisive proof is afforded by the longevity of its inhabitants, whether of such as are "native and to the *manor* born," or of those who, from casual visitors in pursuit of health and pleasure, have become, from choice, enrolled amongst our residents.—As a matter of curiosity we subjoin a scale, taken from an unerring authority —the memorials of the dead—from which it will probably be seen, that, within the last century, the instances of the prolongation of human life adduced in the parish of Cheltenham, have scarcely ever been exceeded in any realm or country.

LONGEVITY

of some of the

DECEASED INHABITANTS OF CHELTENHAM.

YEAR.	NAME.	AGE
1734	John Sturmy	81
1755	John Davis	85
1761	Mary Wills	91
——	Mary Pope	91
1762	Thos. Benfield	84
1763	M. Applegarth	88
——	H. Skillicorn	83
1764	Ethelbert Perks	92
——	Eliz. Mason	82
1766	Mary Arkell	92
1767	Sarah Nichols	92
1768	John Mason	88
1769	Jane Wells	84
——	Eliz. Dobbins	80
1777	John Arlway	85
1778	Thos. Colleral	96
——	John Cooper	88
——	Thos. Hooper	87
1779	F. Stevens (Sisters.)	80
1783	D. Hopkins (Sisters.)	83
1795	A. Hopkins (Sisters.)	93
1780	Arthur Spencer	80
——	Sam. Aiton	80
1782	John Roberts	82
1783	Anne Benfield	83
1785	Dan. Cook	93
——	Sarah Jackson	80
——	Thos. Tinet	80
1787	W. Gregory	80
1789	Anth. Dawkes	80
1790	Thos. Markham	85
——	Thos. Barnard	81
1792	Sarah Timbrell	94
——	Anne Tinet	80
——	Anne Puller	82
1793	Jos. Brumyard	87
1798	Henry Ballinger	92
1799	Thos. Forty	80
1800	James Arkell	82
1802	Mary Pearson	94
——	King Dee	80
1803	Mary Andrews	94
——	David Pearson	88
——	Samuel Hooper	83
1804	Mary Smith	80
1805	Thos. Humfrys	91
1808	Eliz. Timbrell	82
1811	John Cook	84
1812	Ben. Mason	89
1813	Eliz. Angel	91
——	— Cherrington	90
——	Mary Young	87

YEAR.	NAME.	AGE
1813	Mary Cresser	82
——	Rev. W. Chester	80
——	Abr. Birch	78
——	Chas. Price	72
1814	Thos. Merrell	90
——	Dulcinbel. Perks	90
——	Wm. Haskling	90
——	Thos. Ballinger	89
——	Mary Webb	81
——	Eliz. Edwards	70
——	Mary Coffee	76
——	Martha Hinton	76
——	Silas Wells	74
——	Richard Leigh	72
——	Anne Adams	72
1815	Hannah Hall	88
——	Sir Robert Herris	85
——	Susanna Whitmore	85
——	Marshall Allen	85
——	Thos. Stroud	84
——	William Stiles	80
——	Mary Weaver	79
——	Thos. Watkins	77
——	Anne Nash	74
1816	Mary Smith	86
——	Mary North	86
——	Jane Watkins	82
——	Esther Allen	78
——	Eliz. Deere	78
——	Sarah Phillips	77
——	Eliz. Cox	77
1817	Eliz. Edwards	87
——	Eliz. Felton	80
——	Thos. Scrivens	80
——	Rev. W. Elliot	79
——	Jas. Norgrove	78
——	John Hinton	77
1818	Mercy Jordan	87
——	Hannah Stroud	85
——	Eliz. Morhall	85
——	Alex. Jaffray	83
——	Eliz. Birch	81
——	Mary Jenkins	81
——	Anne Cook	80
——	Thos. Webb	80
——	Wm. Capstack	80
——	Anne Gawn	77
——	Eliz. Bastin	75
——	Sir G. King. bart.	72
1819	Wm. Portlock	85
——	John Bridgstock	79
——	Margar. Kindall	77

YEAR.	NAME.	AGE
1819	Edw. Welch	76
——	Ann Jones	76
——	Rebec. Davidson	75
——	Mary Evans	80
1820	Sarah Bowles	88
——	Mary Page	85
——	Eliz. Nicholls	84
——	Mary Hitchfield	84
——	Mary Marsh	84
——	Richard Taynton	81
——	Sophia Harris	81
——	John Higgs	78
——	Gen. J. Kimmis	77
——	Reb. Champion	76
——	Martha Parker	76
——	Mary Nicholls	76
1821	Eliz. Newman	87
——	Eliz. Poulson	84
——	J. L. Boissier	79
——	Daniel Field	79
——	Sarah Price	78
——	John Ward	78
——	Letitia Ironside	77
1822	Sarah Webb	86
——	John Hunt	86
——	Francis Jones	84
——	— Rumphrey	83
——	John Page	83
——	Francis Jones	84
——	Anne Page	79
——	Eliz. Jackson	79
——	Anne Smith	76
——	Wm. Snelus	72
1823	Eliz. Gregory	88
——	Thos. Carter	87
——	Winifred Larnar	80
——	William Scrivens	78
——	Eliz. Cherrington	77
——	Esther Hayward	77
——	Wm. Gregory	75
——	Wm. Kear	75
——	John Page	74
——	Ann Pratt	73
1824	Ann Hunt	83
——	Sir H. B. Dudley	79
1825	Rd. Lilly	106
——	Esther Stroud	104
——	— Williams	102
——	Catherine Stone	75
1826	Wm. Stone	78
——	Eleanor Ballinger	78
——	John Ballinger	74



Drawn by J. Byrne. Engraved by J. & Letitia Byrne.

TO THEODORE GWINNETT ESQ.

This View of ALBION HOUSE, *his Residence,*

Is most Respectfully Inscribed by

The Publishers.

Printed & Published by J.T. Griffith & Co. Cheltenham.

CHAPTER III.

The Rapid Increase and Present Appearance
OF
CHELTENHAM.

" ———— Lavish Nature the directing hand
" Of Art demanded, shew'd him how to raise
" His feeble force by the mechanic power,
" To dig the mineral from the vaulted earth.
" Taught him to chip the wood and hew the stone,
" Till by degrees the finished fabric rose.
" Hence, every form of cultivated life
" In order set, protected, and inspired,
" Is to perfection wrought. Uniting all,
" Society grows numerous, high, polite,
" And happy."—THOMSON.

THE uncertainty in which the pristine history of the town is involved is admitted. Of its less ancient state, as to buildings, population, &c. little can, with confidence, be stated beyond a century.—It is known, however, that not more than a hundred and ten years have elapsed since the first and most singular discovery of the mineral springs, from which the celebrity of Cheltenham emanated, and to the undiminished purity and salubrity, but vastly increased variety, of which the town is indebted for its still rising fame. The surpassing charms of its local scenery have been before noticed: it is now our " bent to speak " on a subject more confined, and less beautiful indeed, but certainly not less interesting—the gradual advancement of this favourite resort of all that is noble, dignified, and fashionable in this mighty empire.

It may not be unamusing to contrast the present aspect of this most flourishing and prosperous place, with the idea which tradition, and even oral testimony would suggest of its rural, and, comparatively, uncultivated, appearance.—All that we can with certainty affirm is this;—a few houses irregularly and stragglingly built, without any view to ultimate proximity, or any apparent connection,—adapted rather to the ancient notion of the British yeoman's comfort, than to the entertainment of frequent visitors of the highest sphere in

life; these formed a sort of continuous and populous village, one of such as ***William de Malmesbury*** describes as "enriching the vale:"—for there was little about it of the order, or the design of a street. Of the style of building in general, a few, and but few, specimens even now remain, like isolated vestiges or scattered emblems of the olden times; preserved partly by accident, and partly by the lingering fondness of their possessors for the memory of the younger and happier days with which they are associated.

Through the centre of the highway, on either side of which the houses stood independent, a stream branching from the Chelt, at some distance above Barrett's mill, held on its rippling course, refreshing as it went, and cooling the air in the summer time, whilst it administered, at once, to the cleanliness of the town, and the comfort and convenience of the inhabitants. At intervals a passage from one side of the street to the other was afforded by stepping stones, and such was then the depth of this water-course that many a careless or unwary foot has immersed the heedless passenger, knee deep, in the cool water. Not far from the scite of the Old Market House, a large tree partly overhung the stream, and in no slight degree heightened the rustic beauty of the scene. On the 5th of June, 1731, a storm of thunder and lightning and hail was experienced, by which damage was sustained to the amount of 2000l.

The first mineral spring is said to have been discovered, as we have before remarked, in the year 1716, on the spot now covered over by the small building in front of the Old Well pump-room.—It has been said, however, that the first discovery of the mineral properties of the waters was made close to the southern bank of the Chelt, near the small coppice at the foot of Bay's Hill.—Be this as it may, in a newspaper, published 95 years ago, there appears the following most curious advertisement:—

"Whereas, the famous purging mineral waters at Cheltenham, in the county of Glou-
"cester, has not been, for some years past, so much resorted to as formerly, from a report
"that the inhabitants of the said town were exhorbitant in their demands, and no conve-
"nience to be had reasonably: By an unanimous meeting, consent, and agreement of the
"gentlemen, tradesmen, and innholders of the said town, This is to certify that all gentle-
"men, ladies, and others, may meet with kind reception, and good usage, with convenient
"lodgings and ordinaries kept, if encouraged, at reasonable rates.

"Note—'Tis a pleasant town, situate in a fine sand, and in a fine air; and many per-
"sons of quality and distinction have been there, and received great benefit.

"The chief vertues are the rheumatism, sciatica, scurvey, stone and gravel; internal and
"external ulcers, and asthmas.

"The season holds all the summer.

"There is a good bowling-green and billiard tables for the gentlemen's diversion."

Without undervaluing the persuasive rhetoric of this address, we may be permitted to ascribe to some less fortuitous circumstance, the success, which in a few years had so extended the reputation of the mineral waters of Cheltenham, as to render them worthy of



Drawn by Shilley from a Sketch by R.Lord

W.Radclyffe Sc.

Proof

TO THE REVD RICHARD SKILLICORNE.

THIS N.E. VIEW OF BAYS HILL LODGE, NEAR CHELTENHAM, HIS PROPERTY,
(ENGRAVED AT HIS EXPENCE) IS MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED BY The Publishers

Printed & Published by S.J.Pitts No.7 Chalton.

becoming the subject of medical discussion.—In the year 1740, Dr. Short, in his "History of Mineral Waters," made much and honourable mention of these springs, giving them a decided preference over any other discovered in this country: and from this period the history of Cheltenham is but one series of growing prosperity.

In 1779, the town consisted of one handsome street, nearly a mile in length—the buildings being chiefly of brick; and so great did the accession of visitors in those days appear, that when in 1780 they were estimated at 370, it was found necessary to appoint a Master of the Ceremonies to regulate their amusements, and the general voice selected Simeon Moreau, Esq. who in 1788 had the honour of receiving and attending their late Majesties, with other distinguished members of the royal family, during their visit. As it may amuse our readers, we extract from the London papers of that period, a few memoranda, connected with the royal presence in Gloucestershire.

"Cheltenham will be the summer village of all that is fashionable and all that is dig-
"nified; the residence of the royal family being a thing quite new so far from the metro-
"polis. Already we hear of nothing but Cheltenham modes—the *Cheltenham cap*—
"the *Cheltenham bonnets*—the *Cheltenham buttons*—the *Cheltenham buckles*,—in
"short all the fashions are completely *Cheltenhamized* throughout Great Britain. The
"approaching fashion attending the steps of Majesty will complete the climax of its pros-
"perity.—In consequence of the overflow of Cheltenham, Tewkesbury and Prestbury are
"crowded. Lodgings have increased in such a degree and at such a rate, that for apart-
"ments let the preceding season for three guineas, no less than *twenty-five guineas* per
"week have been asked and received.—Lord Fauconberg's house,* occupied by their
"Majesties, is most delightfully situated about a quarter of a mile from Cheltenham."

"Their Majesties arrived at Cheltenham at five o'clock on Saturday evening, July 12.
"There were no guards, and only four footmen with the carriage—the bells rung out their
"merriest peal—all was enthusiastic loyalty and joy. The town was grandly illuminated
"—the band left the theatre at an early hour, and paraded the streets, playing the national
"anthem, whilst all hearts and lips joined in the triumphant shout of God save the King!
"—One remark was emphatically made—nothing pleased the inhabitants more than the
"unguarded manner in which his Majesty lived, conversed, and moved about amongst his
"faithful, his devoted subjects—like a father in the midst of his children.†"

"On Monday evening, July 21, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales arrived here
"on a short visit to their Majesties.

"On the 1st of August his Royal Highness the Duke of York arrived, and occupied the

* Built for his lordship in 1781, by Mr. Wm. Skillicorne. His late majesty built seventeen additional rooms at his own expence, with a view to rendering the lodge his place of residence in the annual visits which he then contemplated.

† A short anecdote, on this point, speaks volumes—The king one day walking up the street, the common crier (then a woman) concluded a public notice by exclaiming "*God save the King!*" The good and venerable monarch turned round and emphatically replied "*God save the crier and the people!*"

" Wooden House,* originally erected in the town, and carried up to Bay's Hill entire on " the 28th of July.—The following noblemen had the honour of being visited by the " royal family,—the Duke of Beaufort, at Badminton; Earl Bathurst, at Oakley Park; " Earl Coventry, at Croome; the Lord Bishop of Gloucester, at the Episcopal palace; the " Lord Bishop of Worcester, at Hartlebury Castle, and at the Episcopal palace.

" When their majesties honoured the Cheltenham theatre with their presence, so rap- " turous was the applause with which they were received, that they were upwards of five " minutes engaged in acknowledging, by the most courteous bows, the gratification elicited " by the love and attachment of their people."

" On the 16th of August the royal family returned to Windsor, but as they set out, per- " ceiving the streets crowded on each side with personages of fashion, anxious to pay " them the last mark of respect, the carriage proceeded at a footpace through the town, " whilst the bands played, and the people rent the air with the vivid acclamations of ' God " save the King! long live the King! may the King live for ever!' "

As a proof both of the singularly acute memory of our late good old king, and of the impression which the scenery of Cheltenham, and the circumstances of his visit, had made upon his mind, we now, for the first time, place upon record an anecdote of unquestionable authenticity. In the month of Sept. 1788, his late Majesty, being then at Weymouth, was enjoying his evening walk on the Esplanade, amidst a concourse of some thousand persons, when suddenly encountering a face which he recognized, he desired one of his suite to enquire if the gentleman were not from Cheltenham, and if so, to say that the king would be glad to see him. Mr. H——s, (the gentleman in question) immediately advanced, and had the honour of being introduced to his majesty, who seemed delighted in an opportunity of making many almost paternal enquiries with respect to the town, its prosperity, and general condition; exclaiming, with peculiar emphasis, " Ah, Mr. H——s, you have come from one of the finest counties in England—and good as Dorsetshire may be, it can bear no comparison with the vale of Gloucester—the finest part of my kingdom that I have beheld."—The good monarch was thus not forgetful of any circumstance connected with his visit, of which he spoke with unbounded satisfaction.

We have a confident hope that the most fastidious reader will pardon this digression, since every thing possesses a claim to our reverential regard which is associated with the memory of that good and patriotic monarch who, " born and educated in this country, gloried in the name of Briton.†"

Thus prospering and to prosper, we might with retrospective glance contemplate the genius of improvement holding on its course of countless strides—but the allotted limits of our chapter warn us that we must bring our account down to a more recent

* The Wooden House was afterwards removed to the site of Sadler's Wells House, but has been long since destroyed.

† See the first address of King George III. to Parliament on his accession to the throne.



VIEW OF WELLINGTON MANSION, CHELTENHAM.

Proof



Drawn by J. Byrne. Engraved by J. & Louisa Byrne.

TO CAPTAIN RICKETTS

This View of his Seat THE ELMS, *Cheltenham*

&c.

ENGRAVED AT HIS EXPENCE,

Is most Respectfully Inscribed by *The Publishers.*

Printed & Published by J.Y. Orr & Co. Cheltenham.





TO BAYNHAM JONES ESQ^{R}

THIS VIEW OF CAMBRAY HOUSE, HIS RESIDENCE,

(ENGRAVED AT HIS EXPENCE) IS RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED BY

The Publishers

Proof

Printed & Published by S.J. Griffith & Co. Chelsea.

period. In 1786, the first act of parliament, for paving, cleansing, and otherwise beautifying the town, was obtained.* From 1788 to 1793, the purchase of lands began to influence the spirit of speculation, and here and there a neat box, a handsome dwelling-house, and at length a something in the unfinished semblance of a street sprang up as if by the gradual operation of magic. One of the earliest sales at this period was the ground on which St. George's-place now stands, and upon which it was quickly raised —then the Cambray meadow was purchased, and " where cattle fed upon the green-sward the dwellings of man arose." Soon after the church meadow was to assume a new aspect; the Crescent was projected, and, by degrees, from time to time, but with short intervals, fifteen excellent houses were built—the three wanting to complete its form have been recently erected. Nearly at the same time the Colonnade was commenced.—Of the Wells, and other public buildings, our notice must be reserved for a future chapter; though we shall merely observe that in 1801, the ' one long street,' was all our town could boast of; it contained 710 houses, with the addition of its suburbs, and its inhabitants numbered little more than 3070. There were four inns, and about as many boarding-houses.—At this period one of the most important of all the purchases that had been hitherto made, took place, when the Montpellier property, as it is now called, (but was then known as the Delabere property,) came into the possession of the late Henry Thompson, Esq.†

Having briefly noticed the Colonnade, Cambray, and other quarters of the town where improvement and increase were earliest manifested, we shall now enumerate the present number of streets, and the site of new houses and public edifices.—Commencing *de novo* from the old " one long street," we now have St. George's-place, opening to the southward, the carriage-road to Bay's-hill Lodge, and the new road to Bath through Painswick; and on the north, nearly opposite St. George's-place, Henrietta-street, leading to the ground formerly known as the Marsh, the customary ride for visitors in the " olden time." The Colonnade, although commenced so many years ago, has never been completed, a circumstance at which we should rejoice, since we now behold so very superior a range of building in the Sherborne Promenade, delightfully displaying the " *rus in urbe.*" Nearly opposite the Colonnade, North-street leads up to the end of Albion-street, whence North-place and St. Margaret's-terrace branch off, as do Winchcomb-street, Gloucester-place, Grosvenor-place, and Sherborne-place. Branching off from nearly the centre of the High-street, Pittville-street opens into

* See Appendix.

† This repected and lamented gentleman died Nov. 2, 1820, in the 72d year of his age, when, it may with truth be affirmed, he closed a life of anxious and commendable industry, leaving behind him the enviable record of a reputation untainted even by suspicion. Mr. Thompson will long be remembered as the most enterprising amongst the many to whom Cheltenham stands indebted for the promotion of her interests, and the established fame her springs enjoy.

Portland-street on the north; and on the south the Regent-buildings, (in which the Post-office is now held) are nearly completed. To the south, the Cambray affords a handsome opening, through Bath-street, to the new Bath road, passing over Leckhampton-hill, and leads at the same time directly to the entrance of the Montpellier walks and pump-room—around which within a few years Suffolk-parade, the Montpellier Spa-buildings, and Montpellier-place, have presented to the eye some delightful edifices, which have been invariably occupied by families of the first distinction. Returning to the High-street, and proceeding towards Charlton on the London road, Gyde's-terrace and St. James's-street, branch off to the northward; about one hundred yards farther on, Berkeley-place, a fine range of buildings, attracts the eye; beyond which a line of houses and cottages, intermingled, leads to Hewlett's turnpike, on the old road to Stow. Oxford-buildings, Priory-street, Montague-place, Witcomb-place, Oxford-place, Oxford-street, Corpus-street, Keynsham-bank, Keynsham-place, and Oxford-cottages, engage the attention on the right and left of the road. Returning towards the Gloucester turnpike, Bond-street and Church-street lead through the Well walk to the Crescent, and so directly to the Old Well; beyond St. George's-square, Ambrose-street leads to St. James's-square, where great improvements have lately been made. Near the opening of Ambrose-street, are Chapel-street and New-street, leading to Alstone. Between Henrietta-street and the turnpike, are King-street, Milsom-street, and the White Hart-row, opening northward, as do various other minor streets.

In 1823, the New Market House, built by Lord Sherborne, as lord of the manor, was opened. It is situated on the north side of the High-street, and is altogether on a scale admirably calculated to afford every requisite accommodation to the public. The building, which is 84 feet in length, and 42 feet in breadth, stands in the centre of a spacious square, the principal access to which is through the Arcade, containing, on the right side of the covered flagway, (an uncovered space being on the left for the market people, basket women, porters, &c.) a neat and very elegant range of shops, in which fancy goods are principally sold. Three portions of the square are appropriated to butchers' shops, constructed on a very convenient and airy plan. In the interior of the market-house, poultry, eggs, &c. are sold; and the ground in the rear is occupied by the stalls of green grocers, &c. This arrangement has given the highest satisfaction to all parties, concentrating the sale of all the necessaries of life, and removing from one of the principal promenades of this fashionable town, the great inconvenience of a public market, and the annoyance of petty stalls. Frequently as we have occasion throughout this work to notice the lavish endowments of nature, let stoics and philosophers say what they please, there are certain essentials without which life itself would have little of comfort, and but slight chance of prolongation. But, when "the good things of this world" were meted out, Cheltenham was by no means forgotten; and if our "happy valley" no longer boasts of its luxuriant vines, nor teems



TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE LORD SHERBORNE.

THIS VIEW OF THE ARCADE & ENTRANCE TO THE NEW MARKET HOUSE, CHELTENHAM,
(ENGRAVED AT HIS LORDSHIPS EXPENCE) IS MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED BY

The Publishers.

Printed & Published by S.Y. Griffith & Co. Cheltenham.



Drawn by E. Jenkins Architect. W. Radclyffe sc.

TO WILLIAM WHITEHEAD ESQ^{R}
THIS VIEW OF THE CASINO, HIS RESIDENCE,
(ENGRAVED AT HIS EXPENCE) IS MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED BY The Publishers.

Proof

Printed & Published by J.T. Griffith & H. Chatterton.

with the juice of its native grapes,* as it did in the pleasant days of the jovial William de Malmesbury,—we have still left us, (and no mean boast) the choicest productions of the animal and vegetable world, for which we are indebted to the bounty of Providence, and the great fertility of the soil. The excellence of the Cotswold mutton has been, for time immemorial, and still continues to be, admitted, beyond dispute; nor is the beef of our markets less prized in general estimation. The surrounding villages provide the finest poultry in great abundance; and the bacon of Gloucestershire is almost proverbially good. The Severn, (the "water-warring Severn") contributes its supplies of salmon,† (in the season, "its chief pride,") shad, eels, soles, plaice, flounders, shrimps, lampreys, &c. The Chelt abounds with remarkably fine trout, and affords, in its serpentine course, considerable amusement to the angler, to whom, upon proper application to the respected steward of the manor, permission is never refused. —Game is in great plenty, and excellent in its various kinds; and venison may be had in abundance.—The principal market is on Thursday. There are four fairs held in the town during the year, for the disposal of cattle, cheese, &c. viz. on the second Thursday in April, the 5th day of August, the second Thursday in September, and the third Thursday in December. There are beside two statute fairs, called mops, held on the Thursday preceding, and the Thursday following Old Michaelmas day.

As the public buildings not hitherto described will be noticed in their distinct departments, we now proceed to record the introduction of the gas light. Early in the year 1818, a plan was submitted to the commissioners by the late Mr. J. D. Kelly, for lighting the town of Cheltenham with gas, and when the preliminaries were arranged, a contract was entered into for that purpose. On this occasion the liberal spirit of the inhabitants was conspicuous, for in less than a week a sum amounting to nearly 20,000l. was raised by the sale of shares at 50l. each; and on the next meeting of parliament, the Cheltenham gas-light act was obtained; an abstract of which may be seen in the appendix. An extensive gazometer, with the usual apparatus, was built just beyond the Tewkesbury turnpike, and on the evening of the 28th of September in the same year, the oil lamps were relinquished, and the town was for the first time lighted by gas. Since that period many improvements have of course been made, and so admirably has the undertaking succeeded, that it is not possible for a stranger to form any adequate idea of the brilliant appearance of Cheltenham by night; when we may,

* "Grapes, famous for their flavour, are here produced in quantities, and manufactured into wines of the highest relish, equally luscious with those of France."—WM. DE MALMESBURY, Book iv. De gentis pontif:
And thus saith Drayton, in his Polyolbion—

But of her vines deprived, now Gloucester learns to plant
The pear tree every where.

And the cider and perry of Gloucestershire are held in much esteem.

† A white curdly substance between the more solid red parts, marks the high perfection of the Severn salmon."

with the greatest confidence, assert, it excels any town in the kingdom in the splendour of its illumination.

CENSUS OF CHELTENHAM.—We have the highest satisfaction in displaying to the subscribers to this work the extraordinary increase of Cheltenham, from the year 1666 (the date of the earliest census we can find) to June, 1826.

Date of the Census.	Number of Inhabitants.	Number of Houses.	Houses Building.
1666	1500*	321	2
1797	2700	530	10
1801	3076	710	15
1811	8325	1556	27
1821	13,388	2411	119
1824	17,647	2912	297
1825	19,160	3464	653
1826	21,376	4027	774

In addition to this estimate, the purchasers of ground in Pittville have contracted to build not less than six hundred houses within six years.

* 200 of whom were freeholders.—ATKYNS.

CHAPTER IV.

Discovery of the Spa—its early History—various Springs, and the respective Properties of the Waters.

" Here we see
" The water at its well-head, clear it is;
" Not more transpicuous the invisible air,
" Pure as an infant's thoughts; and here to life
" And good directed, all its uses serve."—SOUTHEY.

THE portion of our work, which we now approach, comes to us with such a cheering spirit of gratitude—our enquiries have been so promoted by the learned, patient, and scientific discussions of professional gentlemen; the merits of the subject are now so generally and extensively understood, and the reputation of the Cheltenham Waters so established by the incontrovertible test of experience, that we are bound to acknowledge the comparative facility of our task.

In the early part of the eighteenth century, that is, in the summer of the year 1716, it was observed that flocks of pigeons daily resorted to the head of a small stream, in a meadow, distant a few furlongs south from the town, for the purpose of feeding on particles of a white salt, casually formed from the water by the heat of the sun:* curiosity being thus excited, it was afterwards remarked, on the setting in of the frosty weather, that when other springs were congealed, this continued fluent. In the very year in which this spring first attracted notice, it had previously been sold by its original proprietor, Mr. Higgs, of Sandford, to Mr. Mason; at a time when both parties were

* To this circumstance the discovery has been ascribed, and although the versions of this accidental developement are various, we adhere to this as the most probable of any.

alike unconscious, the one of selling, and the other of purchasing, the simple source of the future prosperity and aggrandizement of Cheltenham. For nearly two years no particular attention was paid to the spring, and the inhabitants of the town drank of it, as if of common right;* until in 1718, the proprietor finding it so much in request, had it railed in, and a thatched shed thrown over it. In 1721, the first analytical experiment was made by Drs. Greville and Baird, and its salutary properties ascertained; whereupon a small pavilion was erected, and it was, for the first time, leased out to Mr. Spencer, at the yearly rent of 61l. In 1738, Capt. Henry Skillicorne, son in law to Mr. Mason, becoming proprietor, raised a dome over the well,† and likewise built the original pump-room‡ on the west, for the reception and accommodation of visitors. It then received the name of "Cheltenham Spa." The grounds and walks about it were laid out, and considerable improvements were made in the path which led to the Well. In 1740,‖ the Treatise of Dr. Short, who, in his examination of the mineral waters of England, gave it a decided preference to any in the kingdom, "as a neutral, purgative, chalybeate water," first spread its fame over the country. In 1743, the lofty elm trees sheltering the great walk, leading from the church, were planted by Mr. Andrews, a surveyor of the town, after a design furnished by the Hon. Norborne Berkeley, Lord Botetourt. The original plan was to have continued this fine avenue up to the church; yet, though this intention was defeated, we cannot help thinking the effect "better as it is." In 1775, the long room on the east, was built, at the joint expence of Capt. Skillicorne and Mr. Miller, the then tenant, for the further accommodation of the increasing concourse of water-drinkers from all parts of the world. It is 66 feet by 23½, and was occasionally used as a ball room. Grove-cottage, with which the vista from the entrance to the walk terminates, has lately been highly improved, and with its embattled top, adds much to the scene. The spring, on its first discovery, was found about six feet

* "While the salts dissolved in the waters purge, the mineral spirit, charged with iron, warms and invigorates the whole frame. In these the peasants commit extraordinary excess, without feeling any sensible ill effect. I have seen old men drink Cheltenham waters by the quart, without number or rule. Upon enquiring their intention and method they have answered, they had drank them on such days and holidays for thirty years."—Dr. SHORT.

† It is said, in his monument in the middle aisle of the parish church, "He found the spring open, and exposed to the weather."

‡ This has since been converted into a handsome dwelling-house, and is occupied by Mr. Chambers, the present proprietor:—one portion of it, facing the dome, has been reserved for a fancy and jewellery warehouse; and a spacious carriage entrance has been formed from the new Painswick-road.

‖ In 1741, Senkenberg, of Leyden, and Mr. C. Mortimer, published their "Observations on the Cheltenham Waters," in No. 461, of the "Philosophical Transactions." Dr. Rutty, in 1756, in his "Synopsis of Mineral Waters," noticed this spring in terms of high praise; as did Mr. Barker, in his "Treatise on the Cheltenham Water," 1786:—and Dr. Fothergill, in his "Experimental Enquiry," 1788. Nor has the subject been neglected within the present century, for in 1801, it was ably resumed by Dr. Smith, and in 1803, by Dr. Jameson, whose judicious work has gone through three editions. It has recently been treated of by Dr. M'Cabe, Dr. Thomas, Dr. Gibney, and Mr. Fosbroke, whose essays have obtained considerable circulation.



TO PEARSON THOMPSON ESQ.

THIS N.E. VIEW OF MONTPELLIER PUMP ROOM.

(ENGRAVED AT HIS EXPENCE) IS MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED BY *The Publishers*

Printed & Published by S. Ireland & C. Chadwyck



Mr Thompson's Montpelier Pump-Room
Cheltenham.

Printed and Published by S.V. Griffith & Co

beneath the surface of the earth; in 1808, it was sunk and enlarged to the depth of twelve feet, and six feet in width; and in 1819, its depth was, at a considerable expense, extended to seventy feet. For many years this well was known as "Mrs. Forty's Well," the venerable old lady having personally officiated at the salutary fountain for upwards of fifty years; and such celebrity had she acquired by her courteous demeanour, that her name became familiar in every quarter of the globe.

As we purpose to devote this chapter to the annals of the springs, we must, *en passant*, observe, that on the 1st of July, 1803, the late Dr. Jameson opened a new well, at the bottom of Badgeworth-lane; but the supply, though of a good chalybeate saline water, proving scanty, he shut it up; and in 1804, he sunk another at the top of the lane, forty feet deep, erected a pump-room over it, and called it "Sherborne Well," in compliment to the lord of the manor. Here three hogsheads of water were consumed almost every morning for two years. The purchase of the De-la-Bere property, in this quarter, by the late Henry Thompson, Esq. was soon afterwards followed by the formation and establishment of the Montpellier Wells, by which the Doctor's new well was completely drained, and the building, consequently, removed. Mr. Thompson's extensive arrangements having been at length completed, at an almost incalculable expence, the Montpellier Wells were opened in May, 1808, and the deservedly great reputation which attached to them from that period, stimulated their liberal and judicious proprietor to still greater exertions, and the pump-room was finished and thrown open to the visitors of Cheltenham in 1809. In 1817 this building was greatly improved by the addition of the long room, in front, which affords a spacious promenade to the company, and being now surrounded by a verandah, supported by handsome pillars, it forms, in warm and cold weather, an equally agreeable and pleasant reception-room; well ventilated throughout in summer, whilst it is protected from the intense heat of the solar rays, to which it is exposed by its southern aspect; and rendered proof against the inclemency of the season, by the constant practice of heating by steam, in winter. Such material improvements have, at an expence of several thousand pounds, been effected by Pearson Thompson, Esq. that the form and structure of the Pump-room have undergone a total alteration: the principal feature of the building is a circular room, fifty-one feet in height, and fifty feet in diameter.—This spacious and splendid room is surmounted by a massive dome, from the top of which it is lighted. In the pump-room not less than six distinct crystal tubes are supplied from upwards of eighty wells. Of their various salutary qualities, which are no where surpassed in excellence, we shall speak hereafter, as we treat of all the wells. Its situation, in every sense of the word, is admirable. Scarcely a thousand yards from the very centre of the High-street—it commands some of the finest views of the country: from the lofty chain of hills extending from Cleeve-Cloud to the bold projection of Leckhampton, the eye may range uninterruptedly, or rest in calmer contemplation on the lower landscape, still retaining the spreading town itself in the foreground.—The walks and rides all around the Montpellier fields are well laid out, and, in a

great measure, sheltered by trees from the oppressive heat of the sun, and at all times enjoying the benefit of pure and refreshing air, in consequence of their elevated situation. From the seventh hour in the morning until nearly the tenth, the animation and gaiety continue unabated;—whilst the pleased beholder might well exclaim—

" Here's the spring head of Pleasure's flood,
" Where all the riches lie, that she
" Has coined and stamped for good.
" Pride and ambition here
" Only in far-fetched metaphors appear."—COWLEY.

In this agreeable manner may three hours be passed every fine morning during the season;* when pleasure, borrowing the roseate bloom of health, is not the less acceptable from the diversity of her pursuits.—Here may the invalid, whilst seeking relief, feel " the gloomy and desponding sensations of disease" dispelled, by contemplating the enlivening crowd around him; whilst the soothing sound of music heightens the charm—revives his hope—and softens his affliction.

The Original Chalybeate Spa, situated near the upper part of the town, in a " pleasant meadow," immediately on the south bank of the Chelt, from which it is distant but a few paces, was discovered by Mr. Cruikshanks, chemist to the Board of Ordnance, in 1803, who traced it from a small running stream, to which the country people resorted in cases of disorders in the eye. A neatly commodious room was built over it, and gravelled walks laid through a small shrubbery (which was planted to protect the spring from the solar heat) communicate directly with the High-street.

The Cambray Chalybeate Spa was discovered in 1807, in the Cambray, on the northern side of the Chelt, and soon acquiring considerable celebrity, an octagon pump-room, with a verandah, was erected above the spring, which is conveniently situated close to the foot-path leading from the Cambray into the Montpellier and Sherborne Walks.

We now come, in due and progressive order, to the New Sherborne Spa—we may truly add, " though last not least in our regard." Amongst the many enterprising friends of the town, by whom such beneficial improvements have been designed, and carried into effect, to none is Cheltenham more deeply indebted than to the projectors and proprietors of these Wells. In almost every other undertaking there were local facilities and pre-disposed advantages, to induce and aid the enterprize of taste and judgment; but in this instance there were difficulties to encounter, which, even in themselves, it would have been meritorious to surmount; but to see the very obstacles which presented themselves in

* We use the word " season," as referring solely, and exclusively, to the period of drinking the waters:—Cheltenham, in fact, knows no such distinction, being now equally the favoured resort of the fashionable world in winter as in summer.

the situation and nature of the ground, turned to account, and made subservient to the general plan, is a circumstance entitled to more than ordinary credit, since it evidences the success of perseverance under skilful management. But to form a just estimate of the advantage thus conferred upon the town, it may be sufficient for us to state, that so lately as ten years ago, the now delightful Sherborne walk was a swampy, and scarcely passable, lane, leading from the High street to the Chelt, over which the passenger could only cross upon "the unsteadfast footing" of a plank; and when this feat was accomplished, an uncultured marsh on the other side, not only offended the sight, but from its often stagnant waters, issued no wholesome exhalations. Such as it then was, how pleasing is the contrast! With what gratification does the visitor, in his perambulations, find, even in the principal street of the town, a sudden break by which his view is carried at once to a charming country prospect, of well diversified scenery, whilst his attention is attracted by, and then fixed upon, the elegant structure situated on an easy eminence, which apparently terminates the well regulated carriage drive and wooded walks, upwards of a quarter of a mile in extent. Mid-way from the Colonnade the stream rolls its babbling tide through culverts, surmounted by lightly handsome iron railings on each side, which heighten the beauty of the spot, and, as barriers, protect the playful careless feet of infancy and youth from the water that flows beneath.—On either side of the carriage-road, trees and plants, the graceful mountain-ash, the leafy sycamore, the birch, the beech, pine and larch, witch elms, and flowery shrubs, lend to the scene the charms of their varying foliage. As we approach the Spa, on the left is Ware's nursery garden.

But our attention must now be directed to the principal object of attraction, the Pump Room; the model of which, if we be not mistaken, may be found in the Grecian Ionic Temple, on the Illyssus,—and well may the modern structure be said to blend the correct and tasteful simplicity of the ancient, with the accommodating usefulness of the modern, school. In front, beneath a handsome portico, nearly one hundred feet in length, supported by stately Ionic pillars, and surmounted, at the height of twenty feet, by a well-proportioned bold entablature, at each end of which stands a vase of exquisite workmanship, are the grand entrances. Upon entering the pump-room the mind is for a moment lost in that sudden admiration which springs from unexpected pleasure—such as we feel in contrasting the grandeur and exquisite decorations of the interior with the external magnificence of the building. Two ranges of coupled Ionic columns grace the spacious room, eight on each side, having richly ornamented architraves, from the centre of which spring four fine arches of twenty feet space, which not only enhance the elegance of the building, but admit the construction of two semi-circular lights. The ceiling is truly tasteful,—its workmanship of the first style; and the central dome is chaste, yet stately; surmounted by a pedestal, on which stands a colossal statue of Hygeia. In a recess, fronted by stone balustrades, immediately opposite to the principal entrance under the portico, the pump rests upon a large marble base;—

on each side a piece of mechanism is placed, by which the actual depth of the wells may at any period be ascertained. The water, of which the supply is abundant from springs of the highest excellence in their various healthful properties, is drawn through cocks of pure crystal, expressly constructed for the purpose.

At each of the three wells, excellent bands of music are constantly in attendance from the arrival, to the departure, of the fashionable concourse.

We now come to the consideration of the various properties of the springs, and of their several effects upon the human frame and constitution;—first, setting forth the diseases in which they are most efficacious, and next such general directions for their use as we find not merely sanctioned by custom, but confirmed by experience.

In detailing the general system of using the waters, it may not be amiss to suggest, as a precautionary measure, that the invalid, on his way hither, should travel, especially in hot weather, by gentle and easy stages—nor would his object be the less promoted by indulging in quietude for a day or two, subsequent to his arrival. The motives of this advice are obvious. But the principal and most important advice we can offer is, that the invalid should never commence the course of waters, but under the express direction of a physician; and we may, with confident pride, assert, that in Cheltenham there are some members of the faculty, who, in point of science, skill, and liberal feelings, will not yield to any in the kingdom.

DISEASES IN WHICH THE CHELTENHAM APERIENT WATERS ARE GENERALLY APPLIED.—Disorders of the digestive organs, indigestion, hypochondriasis, bilious complaints, visceral obstructions, obstinately costive habits, nephritic diseases, feminine complaints, consumptions, organic diseases, cutaneous eruptions, inflammatory diseases, scrophula, tumours, worms, &c. &c.

ANALYSIS OF THE ROYAL OR ORIGINAL WELLS,

Taken from one pint of the Waters, which are denominated as follows:

No. 1. The Original or Old Well.
2. Sulphuretted Saline.
3. Strong Chalybeate Saline.

No. 4. Pure Saline.
5. Strong Sulphuretted Saline.
6. Strong Muriatic Saline.

No. 1.

Sp. Gr. 1,0091.	GRAINS.
Muriate of Soda	58,20
Lime	6,21
Magnesia	2,54
Sulphate of Soda	14,56
	81,51

Carbonic Acid Gas, 1,10—Sulphuretted Hydrogen Gas, 3,53
Oxide of iron, a minute portion.

No. 2.

Sp. Gr. 1,0089.	GRAINS.
Muriate of Soda	22,60
Lime	3,68
Magnesia	5,16
Sulphate of Soda	52,32
	83,76

Carbonic Acid Gas, 1,15—Sulphuretted Hydrogen Gas, 4,60
Oxide of iron, a minute portion.

No. 3.

Sp. Gr. 1,0083.	GRAINS.
Muriate of Soda	17,60
Lime	3,08
Magnesia	3,30
Sulphate of Soda	43,20
	67,18

Carbonic Acid Gas, 1,5—Sulphuretted Hydrogen Gas, 1,35
Oxide of iron, a large proportion.

No. 4.

Sp. Gr. 1,0122.	GRAINS.
Muriate of Soda	47,80
Lime	4,29
Magnesia	7,30
Sulphate of Soda	59,20
	118,59

Oxide of iron, a trace.

No. 5.

This water contains saline constituent parts, similar to No. 2, and also a proportion of Carbonate of Iron. It besides contains a large impregnation of Sulphuretted Hydrogen Gas—but little inferior in quantity to that in the Harrowgate waters. This water and No. 2, should be drank immediately at the pump, where they are pumped up, as the Sulphuretted Hydrogen Gas rapidly disappears if not directly taken.

No. 6.

Sp. Gr. 1013.	GRAINS.
Carbonate of Lime	1,6
Sulphate of Lime	14,5
Magnesia	12,4
Soda	3,7
Muriate of Soda	97,0
	129,2

A large proportion of Carbonic Acid Gas.

N. B. This water contains a nitrate and salt of potass in very small quantities, and a trace of silex.

ANALYSIS OF THE MONTPELLIER WELLS.

The Waters are denominated as follows:

No. 1. Strong Chalybeated Saline.
2. Strong Sulphuretted Saline.
3. Weak Sulphuretted Saline.
4. Pure Saline.
5. Strong Chalybeated Magnesian or Bitter Saline.*
6. Strong Chalybeated Muriatic Saline.

No. 1.

Sp. Gr. 1,0085.	GRAINS.
Muriate of Soda	55,50
Lime	3,31
Magnesia	2,10
Sulphate of Soda	21,80
	82,71

Oxide of iron, a minute portion.

No. 2.

Sp. Gr. 1,0065.	GRAINS.
Muriate of Soda	25,70
Lime	3,31
Magnesia	1,52
Sulphate of Soda	21,76
	52,29

Carbonic Acid Gas, 1,5—Sulphuretted Hydrogen Gas, 2,5
Oxide of iron, a minute portion.

No. 3.

Sp. Gr. 1,0067.	GRAINS.
Muriate of Soda	31,00
Lime	1,64
Magnesia	2,05
Sulphate of Soda	22,80
	57,49

Carbonic Acid Gas, 1,5—Sulphuretted Hydrogen Gas, 2,15
Oxide of iron, a trace.

No. 4.

Sp. Gr. 1,0077.	GRAINS.
Muriate of Soda	46,40
Lime	3,07
Magnesia	2,02
Sulphate of Soda	28,64
	80,13

* These waters are peculiar to Mr. Thompson's spas.

No. 5.

Sp. Gr. 1,0065.	GRAINS.
Muriate of Soda	23,50
Lime	4,92
Magnesia	3,61
Sulphate of Soda	38,80
	70,83

Carbonic Acid Gas, 1,15—Sulphuretted Hydrogen Gas, 4,0
Oxide of iron, a minute portion.

No. 6.

Sp. Gr. 1,0098.	GRAINS
Muriate of Soda	76,15
Lime	3,07
Magnesia	3,02
Sulphate of Soda	11,62
	93,86

Oxide of iron, a minute portion.

ANALYSIS OF THE SHERBORNE WELLS.

No. 1.

Sp. Gr. 1,0011.	GRAINS.
Muriate of Soda	3,31
Lime	1,23
Magnesia, a trace	
Sulphate of Soda	4,37
	8,91

Carbonic Acid Gas, 1,20—Sulphuretted Hydrogen Gas, 1,58
Oxide of iron, probably half a grain in a gallon.

No. 2.

Sp. Gr. 1,009.	GRAINS.
Muriate of Soda	72,80
Lime	4,29
Magnesia	0,59
Sulphate of Soda	6,76
	84,44

Carbonic Acid Gas, 1,0—Sulphuretted Hydrogen Gas, 3,78

No. 3.

Sp. Gr. 1,0012.	GRAINS.
Muriate of Soda	1,67
Lime	1,85
Magnesia, a trace	
Sulphate of Soda	2,43
	5,95

Carbonic Acid Gas, 0,78.——Sulphuretted Hydrogen Gas, 1,15.

ANALYSIS OF THE CHALYBEATE SPA.*

A wine gallon of this water contains—

	GRAINS.
Carbonate of Iron	7,05
Muriates of Lime and Magnesia	15,50
Muriate and Sulphate of Soda	24,00
Sulphate of Lime	9,00
Carbonate of Magnesia and Lime	8,95
Solid Contents ..	64,50

GASEOUS CONTENTS.

Carbonic Acid Gas, 24 cubic inches.

* The above Spa is eligibly and romantically situated at the end, and to the right of Cambray-parade, in one of the pathways to the Montpellier spas.

CHAPTER V.

A MEDICAL SURVEY OF THE CHELTENHAM MINERAL SPRINGS.

——— "Cùm enim ex pestilenti in salubrem locum corpora ægra translata fuerint et è fontibus salubribus aquarum usus subministrabuntur, celeriùs convalescent."

VITRUVIUS.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.—Medicinal Springs have obtained a sanction for their usefulness in the concurrence of physicians and the experience of mankind, from the earliest periods of antiquity, down to the present time;—magnificent temples were erected upon the spots where they were originally discovered, and tutelary spirits or divinities were created to preside over their administration and effects.—Crowds of suffering individuals whom the baffled physician had relinquished as incurable, here found a fresh stimulus to their hopes;—and the "order for death" which his abandonment of them implied, was not unfrequently exchanged by the guardian deity of the fountain for a blooming testimonial of "health."

In modern times, we find that a reliance upon the efficacy of mineral springs has increased, rather than diminished; and that nearly the whole tide of professional, as well as public, experience is in their favour—and even where the scepticism of a few in the "medical department" may have induced them to estimate their virtues at so low a rate as that of "common water," yet we have detected even these sometimes compromising their professional sagacity and responsibility with their patients, in recommending to them a journey of eighty or a hundred miles to drink of a fluid, with which, according to their own theories, they might have been very amply furnished nearer home.

Sometimes particular springs have been spoken against, in order to depreciate one, and raise another, in public estimation; and we are sorry to say that this dishonourable practice is but too often resorted to by members of the medical profession;—nay, some have gone still further, and have boldly asserted, in spite of the dictates of common sense, propriety and honesty, that the Cheltenham waters are actually "medicated." There is no

species of falsehood, however great, that does not find credulity enough to back it; and we are not to be surprised if some individuals, even of this town, have been made converts to such a ridiculous belief.

The analysis of chemists—the judgment of experienced physicians—and the relief afforded to suffering invalids, must form the only rational data upon which we are to ground opinions relative to the utility and efficacy of our mineral springs:—the chemist will tell us that we possess the finest and strongest saline chalybeate of any country in Europe—the physician, that it is compounded of two ingredients, which exercise a most beneficial influence upon the human constitution—that its saline particles cleanse the liver and biliary passages; whilst the minutely diffused portions of iron restore tonicity and strength to the debilitated stomach, and invigorate the general frame. It might have been expected, perhaps, *a priori*, that a water possessing such directly opposite properties as a tonic and an aperient, would have been in some measure neutralized in its effects; and indeed the supposition would have been legitimate enough, if the iron had been found in a material quantity; but its portion is so minute, and so intimately diffused by its immediate solvent, the carbonic acid, that it produces its own specific effect, without, in any degree, counteracting the operation of the cathartic salt.

The nature of our present treatise, however, does not permit us to lay before our readers an elaborate and systematic view of every circumstance relative to the springs of Cheltenham: their minute chemical history—the scientific arrrangement and discussion of every class of disorder and disease in which they have been found serviceable—and the comparison of them with other similar springs, both at home and abroad, are all of them subjects which must be looked for in works exclusively scientific. The following pages are intended merely as a manual for the general reader and invalid, and if we can succeed in divesting it of the technical obscurities, which in general render works of this nature the very reverse of what they ought to be—"intelligible to all,"—we shall have answered the main object of our design, reserving to ourselves only the hope that we have rendered it "serviceable to the many."

Medicinal Properties.—If our readers refer to the analyses of the waters in the preceding chapter of this work, they will observe that the springs of the Old and Montpellier Wells have been arranged under six heads, whilst those of the Sherborne have been restricted to three: these divisions were adopted by the chemists, and were founded merely upon some minute differences in their component parts. To take a medical survey of the properties of each of these springs separately would be a waste of time, and by no means conducive to the information our readers require—we would much rather adopt a division which has been already pointed out by a talented physician of this town,* at the same time that we pay him the tribute of acknowledgment for the hints

* Dr. Gibney.

his work has afforded us. This division has been founded principally upon a view of their more active medicinal ingredients; and as the cathartic salt and the steel, either separately or taken together, form the essential bases of our mineral springs, we find them, as it were, naturally resolving themselves into two principal divisions.

1. Pure Saline, where no iron exists.
2. Chalybeated Saline, which contains a small portion only of that metal.

This division is sufficient for every medical purpose.—The first, or "pure saline," corresponds to No. 4, of the Old and Montpellier Wells, and No. 2, of the Sherborne. —The second, or "chalybeated saline," with No. 1, of the Montpellier and Sherborne, and No. 3, of the Old. These are the waters principally recommended by physicians, to which numerous individuals have been indebted for their health, and Cheltenham for its intrinsic and unrivalled superiority. We shall now describe their several properties and effects.

The first time that a person commences drinking them, it is by no means unusual to hear a complaint either of languor, drowsiness, or some degree of head-ache—symptoms which have usually subsided even before the operation of the waters upon the bowels. A moderate dose of them will generally succeed in producing a mild aperient effect, and what constitutes one of the principal characteristics of these waters, and raises their advantages above every other remedy of a like nature is, that their purgative properties are rather increased than diminished by use—and that the patient far from being obliged to increase the dose, has the satisfaction of finding that a lesser quantity will answer the purpose; where, however, the quantity has been too scanty, or has failed of its usual stimulating effect upon the coats of the intestines, it is by no means unusual to find them tending either to the urinary or perspiratory organs. Occasionally we have witnessed some anomalous symptoms either attending or following their use, symptoms which were generally referrible either to some peculiarities of habit in the individual, or some remote sympathies dependent upon their specific action upon the stomach.

Some of the waters are strongly impregnated with sulphuretted hydrogen gas, the odour of which is very perceptible on the approach of a rainy season. This gas, however, is so extremely evanescent, that we recommend all patients, drinking this water, to repair to the fountain head.

Neither of these waters, but more especially the saline chalybeate will bear transportation from place to place; for the iron, which is held in solution only by its weak affinity to the carbonic acid, is soon precipitated by the escape of its æriform solvent.

Uses.—Looking to the extensive applicability of mineral waters generally, and the beneficial results that arise from their judicious administration, we should not be bestowing too high an encomium upon them, in saying, that they approach the nearest of any thing in nature to an universal remedy, or "*panacea.*" But though their virtues are great and their value inestimable, yet they have this in common with all other re-

medies, that their good effects will entirely depend upon their prudent and judicious use. We would not, however, have our readers believe that the few short directions we are now about to give are intended to supersede the salutary aid and instructions of a physician; in most cases it must inevitably be necessary to have recourse to him, but where the complaint is of so trivial a nature as to set aside the necessity of professional advice, we see no objection to trusting to the dictates of common sense, when aided by a few simple instructions. We proceed, as briefly as possible, to furnish some of those which we conceive to be the most obvious and important; and shall conclude our remarks under this head, with a short summary of those disorders which have generally been found to be most benefited by a course of the medicinal springs of Cheltenham.

Much has been said with respect to the season of the year at which these waters should be taken, and we find most writers agreed in limiting their use entirely to the summer months; but we are inclined to view this rather as an arbitrary restriction, and think the framers of it might as well have limited the taking of any kind of medicine in the same way; for our own parts we think the waters may be used with almost as much safety and advantage in the winter, as in the summer months, and in venturing this assertion, we have yielded more to facts than theories. If patients, however, can wait to take their choice, the warmer months would certainly be more desirable.

On this part of the subject the late Dr. Jameson observed, " the best season for a course of these waters is the summer, on account of the advantages derived from the co-operation of air and exercise with the water. It is also the season which renders the removal of bile and undigested food from the bowels most necessary for health. The waters are likewise strongest, and their refreshing effects most felt in summer; for most superficial mineral springs are weaker in cloudy and rainy seasons, than in clear and dry weather. But they may also be drank in the middle of winter with considerable advantage, by taking off the chill, or drinking them at the fire side. The spring and autumn are likewise proper seasons for their use, on account of the tendency of the constitution to inflammatory and eruptive diseases at these periods."

As the waters, on first taking them, are apt to lie heavily and sluggishly upon the stomach, it is customary for the patient to be provided with some kind of mild aperient pills—these which generally contain a small portion of calomel, or some milder preparation of mercury, are taken at bed time occasionally, and very much facilitate the operation of the water—the dose of the latter should be regulated by its aperient effect, and as the judgment of the patients will be the best guide in this, they will begin with one of the smaller goblets, or half pint tumblers first, exchanging it daily for a larger, till they succeeds in stimulating the bowels to somewhat more than their ordinary healthy action; we recommend them also to take the quantity in divided doses, walking for the space of a quarter of an hour between each glass, since, if the water be thrown upon the stomach in too large a quantity at a time, it is very apt to produce distension, flatulency, and other

unpleasant effects. It may sometimes become a question of moment likewise, whether they ought to keep up a gentle daily evacuation, or whether they should use it as a brisk and powerful cathartic at longer intervals of time; in the course of our observations we shall have an opportunity, perhaps, of pointing out those cases in which the latter method would be attended with more beneficial results. The time established by custom and experience for taking the waters, is from the hour of seven till ten o'clock in the morning, though a different regulation from this has been adopted in the use of the pure chalybeates.

With regard to the nature of the diet to be observed during a course of the waters, this must be regulated according to the habits of the patient, modified by the nature of the complaint; but, for a general rule, we would recommend one which is neither too stimulating on the one hand, nor yet too impoverishing on the other.

It is not our intention, as we before observed, to swell these pages with a lengthy nosological arrangement of those complaints in which the Cheltenham waters have been found most essentially serviceable. It has been justly remarked by a celebrated physiologist* of the day, that "the functional derangement of the digestive apparatus is the fruitful parent of a numerous and multiform progeny of disease;" and it is to this offspring, whether directly or collaterally derived, that we would more especially prescribe their use. Functional disorder, if long continued, inevitably leads on to structural disease; and we are anxious to impress upon the minds of our readers, how much safer and more easy it is to check an enemy in its first incursions, than when by repeated and unopposed invasion it has raised a barrier impregnable to every assault; for this reason, therefore, we warn them to resort to the remedy in time.

We now proceed to an enumeration of a few of the complaints in which the Cheltenham waters are most decidedly indicated, and at the head of them we shall rank affections of the liver and other organs connected with the functions of the alimentary canal: thus we find that persons who have destroyed their health by a long residence in hot climates, and in whom the liver is suffering from some irregularity of function, denoted either by an increase, diminution, or alteration, in the qualities of the bile, derive the greatest advantage from the use of these waters, and are sometimes restored to health in a very rapid manner; and the incipient symptoms of local or general dropsy, which occasionally accompany the affections of the liver, are frequently removed by their use. Individuals, likewise, who are suffering from obstinate and habitual costiveness, derive the greatest possible advantages from them—these persons must be aware how often the strongest purgatives have lost their specific effect upon the bowels after a frequent repetition; but here is a remedy presenting itself, which, contrary to all others of a similar nature, increases in activity with its use. In the complaints which we have now enu-

* Abernethy.

merated, and particularly where there is great sluggishness in the natural actions of the bowels, and where they are much loaded with their fœcal contents, it would be adviseable for the patient during the first few days, to take them in larger and more active doses than usually employed. In many cases of indigestion, particularly when arising from a costive habit of body, or from some irregularity in the functions of the liver, their use is strongly recommended.

As the lining of the stomach and intestinal canal is but an inflexion of the external covering of the body, we are not surprised in finding the skin sometimes participating in the disordered functions of the former, and displaying its sympathy in different species of cutaneous disease; all of these, but more especially that extensive class usually denominated scorbutic, generally yield to a judicious and persevering course of the Cheltenham water. Many of those diseases usually termed chronic, such as the slow and protracted inflammation about joints, and similar affections of those chains of absorbent glands found in the different flexures of the human body, are of a nature disposed to yield to this remedy, even where the mode of cure by the ordinary means may be found exceedingly difficult, if not impossible. And, lastly, some other varieties of disease, but more especially those which have reference to the economy of the female, in which the "saline chalybeates" prove of the utmost utility, and seem admirably and specifically adapted to remove that distressing species of disease technically denominated chlorosis, together with its accompanying train of symptoms, indigestion, depraved appetite, deficient mensturation, and obstinate costiveness.

Although we cannot always ascertain, *a priori*, those cases in which the use of the waters may prove detrimental, since such a capability would necessarily imply an accurate knowledge of the causes of every complaint, yet experience has furnished us with a fact which will materially assist us in the enquiry. It is a truth, we believe, generally admitted, that all chalybeate waters aggravate "*irritability*," and increase "*vascular action*"—if so, we would deduce as a corollary from this axiom, that all diseases specifically dependant on these states, are such as would contra-indicate their use; for this reason, therefore, we would caution the patient against their employment in all cases of specific active inflammation of any of the organs of the body; in all active hemorrhages; in all epidemic cutaneous affections, accompanied with much febrile action; in irritable states of the stomach; and above all, in cases of plethora, or where there is so much determination of blood to the head as to threaten the patient with apoplexy.

Abuses.—Perhaps there is no one remedy more liable to injudicious use than the one now under our consideration. The mildness with which mineral waters generally act, and the quantities in which it is sometimes necessary to take them, have induced some individuals to think them but a harmless remedy at the best; and accordingly, in the full possession of their health and strength, they have swallowed large quantities of them, merely in compliance with caprice or fashion—but this custom ought to be severely repro-

bated, since some who have begun for amusement have been obliged ultimately to adopt them from necessity, if they have not even gone near to verify the Italian epitaph—"*Stavo bene, ma per ster meglio, sto qui.*"* Others again have attributed more virtues to the waters than, unassisted by their necessary coadjutors, they could rationally be expected to possess. Regardless, therefore, of air, diet, or exercise, they send for their bottle of water from the pump, and their bottle of wine from the tavern; and think that Hygeia and Bacchus may be safely associated.

Enough has now been said to impress the utility of these medicinal springs upon the public mind—and we cannot descend to one line of useless and disgusting panegyric in praise of their virtues:—let those who have tried them speak of their effects;—let those who have not, be silent, for gratuitous assumptions are but weak arguments in opposition to facts.

The Pure Chalybeates.—Independent of the waters we have just been engaged in reviewing, and for which Cheltenham is pre-eminently distinguished, we may boast of another class of medicinal springs; which, though more numerous than the former, and much less extensively serviceable, are still entitled to some share of our consideration, on the score of their occasional utility. These waters have been called the "simple carbonated chalybeates," a term which, though not chemically correct, is sufficiently so for all medical purposes. We have two of these, one situated in Cambray, the other in Sandford field; and from a review of their chemical analyses, we should pronounce them not at all inferior to those of Tunbridge Wells. But we shall not detain the reader with a tiresome detail of their virtues and effects, since these will in a great measure correspond with those of the saline chalybeates referred to before, allowing only for the proportionate absence of the purgative salt.

Their effects are decidedly of the stimulant kind, the pulse is raised on taking them, and the patient, if previously chilly and pale, becomes sensible to a degree of warmth, in consequence of the increased circulation—by a perseverance in them the appetite is improved, and the spirits considerably raised. Sometimes, however, on a first commencement, the patient feels somewhat disordered, and complains of nausea, heaviness of the head, and a sense of general plethora, more particularly if their use has not been premised by a recourse to some purgative. A long course of them is very likely to induce costiveness, a state the patient might guard against by occasionally substituting a dose of the saline aperient. The evacuations under the use of the chalybeates are commonly of a black colour, a circumstance which sometimes gives rise to a considerable degree of alarm if the patient is not previously aprized of its unimportance.

The method prescribed for their use, and which appears to be the most judicious, is, to

* I was well; I would be better; and here I am

regulate their dose according to the age, sex, and general constitution of the patient; and the quantity usually taken varies from one to three quarters of a pint, taken at two or three equal intervals of time, beginning at eight in the morning, and finishing about noon.

These waters are principally indicated in diseases incident to the female, a list of which we have already given, and which there is no need now of enumerating. The same precautions, also, with regard to their non-indication and injudicious use as we have given when speaking of the saline chalybeates, must guide the patient here—and we shall finally take our leave in directing patients, if they have any doubt with regard to the propriety of the plan they are pursuing, to seek farther instructions from their medical attendant; and heaven grant he may be one of those men who to a liberal mind and a liberal education, add that feeling of professional honour which raises them superior to the pitiful artifices of disgusting quackery!

CHAPTER VI.

On the Warm and Cold Baths of Cheltenham.

" Let those who from the frozen Arctos reach
" Parch'd Mauritania, or the sultry west,
" Or the wild flood that laves rich Indostan,
" Plunge in the tepid wave;
" Untwist their stubborn pores, that full and free,
" The evaporation thro' the softened skin,
" May bear proportion to the swelling blood."—ARMSTRONG.

" This is the purest exercise of health,
" The kind refresher of the summer heats;
" Nor when cold winter keens the brightening flood
" Would I weak shivering linger on the brink.
" Thus life redoubles and is oft preserved—
" Even from the body's purity the mind
" Receives a secret sympathetic aid."—THOMSON.

WARM BATHING.—An erroneous opinion has long prevailed on the subject of warm bathing, it being supposed by many that the use of the warm bath is oftentimes injurious, in relaxing the human frame, and increasing, if not creating, a susceptibility to cold; —whereas, if applied under professional regulations, the warm bath in reality indurates the system, and guards it from any such injurious consequences. We know that the practice of ablution was amongst the ordinances of the Mosaic law; and in the pages of antiquity we find cold bathing recorded not merely as a religious ceremony, but especially as strengthening the body and fitting it for the endurance of fatigue, and even of the harassing struggles of warfare. We have no vain or idle purpose in quoting that memorable passage of scripture,* in which Naaman is described as having been purified from his leprosy by bathing in the Jordan, in compliance with the command of Elisha, saying

* 2 Kings, v. 10, 14.

" Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean. Then went he down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God; and his flesh came again, like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean." In the writings of those physicians who lived in remote ages, mention is frequently made of the bath, and it is evident that its application was warm as well as cold. In every quarter of Europe, in Turkey, in Asia, and in Arabia, the use of the warm bath has existed from the earliest times, and we know that in Russia, and in Germany, it not merely constitutes a favourite remedy, but is indeed one of their most indispensable luxuries. What estimation it enjoyed, and still enjoys, amongst the Greeks and Romans, it is scarcely necessary to remark; but within a few miles of Cheltenham a striking proof of its use in the days of the Roman conquest, may be seen in the tesselated pavement discovered at Witcomb, on the estate of Sir Wm. Hicks, Bart.—where amongst other vestiges of antiquity, the bath is in full and excellent preservation, and precisely similar in construction to those now so much frequented in our own fashionable town.

The strengthening or debilitating effects of bathing, however, must depend entirely upon the state of the body on its immersion—this is obvious: for the same application which must add vigour to the robust frame of a healthful person, may produce the most weakening results on the already feeble frame of the invalid. On the temperature of the body every thing depends—its heat, when in health, may be said generally to indicate 98° Farenheit—whilst in some fever cases it often exceeds 108°. Hence arises the necessity of adopting, or continuing, the use of the warm bath, expressly under the direction of professional judgment. Properly applied it can never be injurious or relaxing,—on the contrary, we find, from the observations of the most eminent of the faculty, that even persons of a habit of body naturally weak, have felt their power increased, and strength imparted by the bath, to which they were previously utter strangers; and it is only in cases where the degree of heat has been beyond the constitution of the invalid, or the immersion has been too long protracted, that any thing like debility has ensued.

Modern practice, whilst it has established and confirmed the perfect safety of warm bathing, has also shewn that the perspiration produced by the bath is totally distinct from that caused by the rapid motion of bodily exercise—and clearly demonstrated that as, in the latter instance, the perspiration evaporates as fast as it appears, or lays with a clammy chillness on the surface of the skin, so on the contrary, in the former, it preserves and accumulates the internal heat of the system, and enables the body instantaneously to repel the influence of cold. The mistaken absurdity of creeping at once from the bath to the aired bed, has been for some time exploded; and nothing is more frequent than to see even invalids walking home from the hot baths, in their customary habiliments, with no other precaution than simply buttoning up their coats more carefully than usual.

The mawkish affectation that would seem to regard bathing as an act of effeminacy, has now been taught to look upon it as one of the most healthful exercises, giving to the en-

tire system a glow of health,—an elasticity of spirit, and revigorated circulation of the blood—cleansing whilst it strengthens the body, and arousing from the torpor of indisposition all the finer energies of the mind. Care should be taken, however, that this gratification be not too suddenly indulged in—but cases have been known to exist, in which the warm bath has been used, with gradual repetitions, until its daily application for upwards of a month, has been free from the slightest prejudicial consequence. In all cutaneous disorders, the peculiar efficacy of the Cheltenham baths is universally admitted. One important desideratum has, within the last few years, been supplied by the introduction of the salt water baths, which was effected by Mr. Thompson. The vapour bath is likewise in use, and its beneficial effects, in many cases of obstinate disease, furnish the best evidence of its salutary practice. By its power, in exciting the action of the superficial arteries, the determination of the blood to parts deeply seated is considerably lessened, whilst the copious perspiration it produces, may be continued or checked, as is agreeable to the patient; but it should never be of too long duration. The action of the surface is regulated and equalized; and the influence of cold air, which is then most refreshing, is perfectly without danger. In cases of inflammation of the bowels, in bilious and liver complaints, in diabetes and dropsy, in gout, in rheumatism and sciatica, in cases of gravel or paralysis, in all nervous disorders, dyspepsia, &c. the use of the vapour bath has been attended with the best results. Its temperature and time of application must entirely depend upon the complaint and constitution of the patient.

Cold Bathing.—We have already, in adverting to the origin of bathing, exhibited the beneficial and almost miraculous effects of the immersion of Naaman in the cool waves of Jordan, and shown that the antiquity of the practice is recorded, we had almost said, through "time immemorial." The use of the cold bath, however, must, like the warm bath, be administered under the advice of professional skill—or the result may be prejudicial in the last degree. The immersion should be sudden, and the first momentary sensation will be succeeded by a glow of warmth. The custom of delaying long in the cold bath is by no means judicious, nor is it productive of a continuance of that pleasurable feeling which accompanies the warmth of a short immersion. The sense of cold will only be experienced when the bather descends slowly and shrinkingly into the water—the reaction of the system not being carried on as in the sudden plunge—and where such a reaction has not been produced, then it is evident either that the person is not in a state to warrant the application of the bath, or that it has been improperly and ineffectually used. When judiciously and properly administered, the body receives a powerful shock on its sudden immersion: and even the natural heat seems, for an instant, withdrawn: but, it is as instantaneously restored in increased temperature by the internal reaction of the system. The bath, thus used, stimulates all within—rouses the vital powers of the frame, bracing the nerves, and exciting the physical energies of man. Its superior efficacy must be found in the reduction of excessive heat, in producing a healthful

reaction of the system; and, in increasing the activity of the cutaneous vessels. The time for bathing, recommended by the faculty, is not in the morning, when the system is empty; nor in the evening, when the digestive process is in operation,—but in the afternoon, an hour or two before dinner, when the temperature of the body is rather above than below the standard. The colder the water is, the shorter space of time should the immersion continue. The use of the shower bath is also excellent, and has nearly the same effect upon the body as the immersion: but the reaction is not so powerfully produced. The custom of lingering on the edge of the bath before plunging in is injurious, and should be avoided. Care should, however, be taken on coming out of the bath, to have the skin rubbed perfectly dry; and, on first going into the open air, gentle exercise will be found to increase the internal sensation of warmth.—We now proceed to enumerate the several baths, which we shall do in the order of their establishment.

Freeman's Original Warm and Medicated Baths, the first established in Cheltenham, were opened in 1787, at No. 61, High-street.

The Montpellier Baths are situated on the Bath-road, beyond the Cambray, within a very short distance of the High-street, and immediately adjoining Mr. Thompson's salt laboratory. From the enlargement of this establishment every species of bath can be obtained at the shortest notice, as an unceasing supply of water flows through the numerous rooms. In addition to the smaller warm or cold fresh water baths, warm and cold shower baths, warm salt water baths, sulphur and vapour baths, medicated baths, and an excellent dry pump,—they possess the advantage of a warm bath and also a cold bath, each of uncommonly large dimensions; and the several baths are fitted up with taste and with strict attention to the accommodation of the bathers, who may here enjoy at all times the luxury of fresh water from the springs; so that a bath, after it has once been used, is emptied in less than five minutes, and may be refilled with water hot from the reservoir in as short a space of time.

At the Regent Baths, which are opposite the Post Office, dry sulphur fumigating, medicated vapour and shampooing, salt water, sulphurious, common warm, perpetual cold and warm shower, warm douch, perpetual cold, cold plunging, wooptong or paste, baths; together with artificial baths, in imitation of every celebrated mineral water at home or on the continent, are prepared.

At the above establishments the baths are divided into two departments—one for the ladies, the other for gentlemen.

Mr. Thompson's Laboratory for the Preparation of the only genuine Cheltenham Salts.—We have already adverted to the extensive purchase of the "De-la-Bere property," on the south side of Cheltenham, which was made by the late Henry Thompson, Esq. twenty years ago; and the successful efforts pursued by that gentleman to enhance the prosperity of the town, by obtaining a copious supply of the mineral waters for which it was so justly celebrated, by searching and opening upwards of eighty

new springs. Finding these valuable resources literally inexhaustible, from the great quantity of water impregnated with various medicinal properties, which they yielded, and contemplating the important results that might be derived from concentrating these waters, and crystallizing the salts from them, Mr. Thompson erected a laboratory for that purpose, and the consequence has been that the genuine Cheltenham salts are now sought for with avidity in every part of the world, and that, in order to meet the great demand of the metropolis, depots have been established for their sale in not less than four districts of London. The expence incurred in order to convey a sufficient quantity of the water by pipes, from the fountain-head in the Montpellier fields to the laboratory in the vicinity of Cambray, was immense. In pursuance of the judicious plan of Mr. Thompson, a number of wells were sunk, distant at least one hundred feet from each other—and by the means of leaden pipes placed in the augur holes, these were all connected with one grand or principal well, in which a pump was fixed, and a working cylinder placed sufficiently low to draw the waters from the fountain-head into the main reservoir—emptying several wells at the same time.

The pumps, which are completely protected from injury by small buildings, with tubes of sufficient dimensions, aided by forcing pumps, convey the waters of the several springs into reservoirs calculated to contain upwards of one thousand gallons each—and from these receptacles, which are situated on the high ground of the Montpellier property, the waters are conveyed at a considerable depth from the surface to the laboratory, where, being deposited in a large cistern, forcing pumps are again employed to conduct them into the spacious boilers for concentrating their properties, which are constructed of wrought iron, with which they are likewise covered, the whole work being bound together with iron rivets. The industry, skill, and enterprize displayed in the process by which all these tributary streams are made to discharge their several contents into one grand reservoir, conducted, as they are, from such a distance, and at so great an expence, reflect high credit on the proprietor.

In the cover of the largest boiler, an iron pipe is fixed for the purpose of carrying off the steam, which is thus conveyed into the adjoining building, where it serves to heat the public baths, and also warm the dressing-rooms and avenues appertaining thereto. The three boilers, being placed in a continued row, are all heated by one large fire, and when the evaporation from the largest boiler is completed, the whole contents are sent by means of a stop-cock into a large cooler, in which a strainer is placed for the purpose of arresting the carbonate of lime, magnesia, &c. which are precipitated from the fluid by the action of boiling:—the magnesia thus precipitated, is separated from the carbonate of lime by the addition of sulphuric acid, which forms with the first a soluble, and with the latter an insoluble, salt. The solution of the magnesia being thus effected, it is placed in an evaporating pan, where it is concentrated, and prepared for crystallization, a similar process being observed with respect to the second boiler. When completely

filtered, in ten or twelve hours, and the salt has subsided, the liquor is conducted into the third boiler, to undergo a further concentration, and after a full evaporation has taken place, the concentrated lixivium is removed to a large wooden cistern, whence, after remaining twenty-four hours, it is conveyed to the crystallizing vessel (an iron pan lined throughout with marble,) and on the surface of the water a number of loose sticks are thrown, to which the salts attach themselves.

The crystallization being complete—a process which generally occupies four or five days—the "mother liquor," is poured off into other vessels, in which a second crop of crystals is formed, and the salts which are termed "the Cheltenham alkaline salts," are then placed altogether in baskets, that they may be thoroughly drained previous to their being stove-dried for use.

By such renewed and prolonged evaporation in several iron pans, to which they are conveyed, the mother liquors are so concentrated, that the muriate of soda is apparent at the top of the pans, where it collects until the entire of the muriatic salt is detached.

When the whole muriate of soda is precipitated, the warm mothers are conveyed into a cold stone vessel, where sulphate of magnesia, charged with carbonate of iron, is obtained abundantly; the crystals being freed from the iron, and having a second time undergone crystallization, are drained perfectly dry for some weeks, and then taken to a small water mill, in which they are ground to powder, and thus become "the effloresecent magnesian Cheltenham salts." The muriate of magnesia, charged with iron, which remains in the mothers, is then diluted with ten times its proportion of warm water, which precipitates the iron, and the lixivium becoming almost colourless, carbonate of magnesia is produced by dissolving, with hot water, carbonate of potash in cast-iron pans—in which it is suffered to remain for near a fortnight, until the sulphate of potash has subsided; when a portion of the solution of muriate of magnesia is mixed with the alkaline lixivium in iron pans, lined with marble—and a mutual decomposition taking place, the result is the production of carbonate of magnesia, which precipitates muriate of potash, and remains in solution. The magnesia is then put upon filters of cloth, that it may be properly drained. When sufficiently dry it is removed to a chamber, the temperature of which exceeds 106°—where it is spread out upon shelves purposely constructed of porous sand stones, and every residue of water is speedily absorbed. The process terminates with passing the carbonate of magnesia through sieves made of lawn.—Calcined magnesia is also prepared here, in a strong iron cylinder, into which the carbonate of magnesia is thrown, and covered by an iron stopper;—the fire bricks by which the cylinder is, at other times, guarded from the fire through which it passes, are removed, and in a few hours the process of calcination is complete.

One peculiar and important advantage has been derived from the establishment of this laboratory, since the visitors of Cheltenham, and indeed the world at large, may now be supplied from this source with several varieties of these salts, as for instance, crystallized

alkaline sulphats—or effloresced and ground to powder, for the use of invalids in warm climates—magnesian sulphate in a state of efflorescence—murio sulphate of magnesia and iron, in brown crystals, highly tonic—subcarbonate of magnesia, in powder, and calcined magnesia.*

RESIDENT PHYSICIANS.

Allardyce, J., M.D.
Boisragon, H. C., M.D., Member of the Royal College of Physicians
Cannon, Æ., M.D., Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, and late of the Military Medical Department of his Majesty's Ordnance
Chichester, J., M.D., Hon. Member of the Society of Practical Medicine, of Paris; late Physician to the Bath Eye Infirmary
Christie, T., M.D., Member of the Royal College of Physicians, and late Medical Superintendant-General at Ceylon
Coley, R. W., M.D., Surgeon in the Royal Navy, and late Physician and Surgeon of a Naval Hospital in India
Faulkner, Sir A.B., M.D., Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, Physician in Ordinary to his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, and Physician to his Majesty's Forces
Gibney, W., M.D., Member of the Royal Medical Society of Edinburgh, Physician Extraordinary to his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland
M'Cabe, J., M.D., Graduate of the University of Edinburgh and late Surgeon of the Royal York Rangers
Newell, T.B., M.D., Surgeon-Extraordinary to the King
Thomas, J., M.D., Member of several learned societies, and many years resident Physician at Toulouse.

SURGEONS.

Averill, Mr.
Cradock, Mr.
Cooke, Mr. C. T.
Dangerfield, Mr.
Eves, Mr.
Fosbroke, Mr.
Fowler, Mr. H.
Fowler, Mr. C.
Fricker, Mr.
Goullett, Mr.
Martin, Mr.
Minster, Mr.
Mountjoy, Mr.
Murley, Mr.
Nind, Mr.
Seager, Mr.
Salt, Mr. C.
Whitmore, Mr.
Whittaker, Mr.
Wood, Mr.

* So far back as 17 George III. the spa of Cheltenham was made the first instance in this country of a rate being payable on any portion of the profits of mineral waters.

CHAPTER VII.

ECCLESIASTICAL ESTABLISHMENT.

St. Mary's Church—Church of the Holy Trinity—New Church in Suffolk Square—Chapels, &c. and Charities of Cheltenham.

OUR earliest knowledge of the ecclesiastical affairs of the town is derived from Prynne's MSS. wherein mention is made of "a ***priory*** in Cheltenham;" and which we find confirmed in Tanner's Notitia Monastica. This priory is supposed to have been founded A. D. 803, and to have belonged, at one period, to the nunnery of Sion. As an evidence of the antiquity of the parish church, which is dedicated to St. Mary, we may adduce the fact that "the chapel of Charlton Kings was dedicated and made subject to the ***mother church*** of Cheltenham, by William, bishop of Hereford, in 1190":—and from the style of its architecture, we are warranted in affirming, that it was erected in the middle ages—tradition fixing the period in A. D. 1011. It is situated almost in the centre of the town, on the south-west of the High-street, and is, altogether, spacious and venerable. The form is that of a cross, and the building consists of a nave, chancel, side aisles, and transept;—a square tower, rising from the intersection, is surmounted by a lofty octagonal spire. In the tower are eight bells, which with their merry peals occasionally greet the arrival of royal and distinguished visitants.[3] The original building of the exterior is perfect, and has undergone but trifling alteration. The interior, which is 117 feet in length, and 65½ feet in breadth, and capable of seating 1400 persons, retains a considerable portion of the ***rood-loft;****[*] and in the northern transept is a circular window, 15ft. in diameter, with very beautiful ramifications. There were, in the "olden time," two chantries founded here, one dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and the other to St. Catherine. In the chancel an exceedingly curious lavatory is preserved, and many of the monumental

* The cross, or "rood-loft," was placed between the church and the chancel, implying that all who entered the latter should pass beneath the cross.

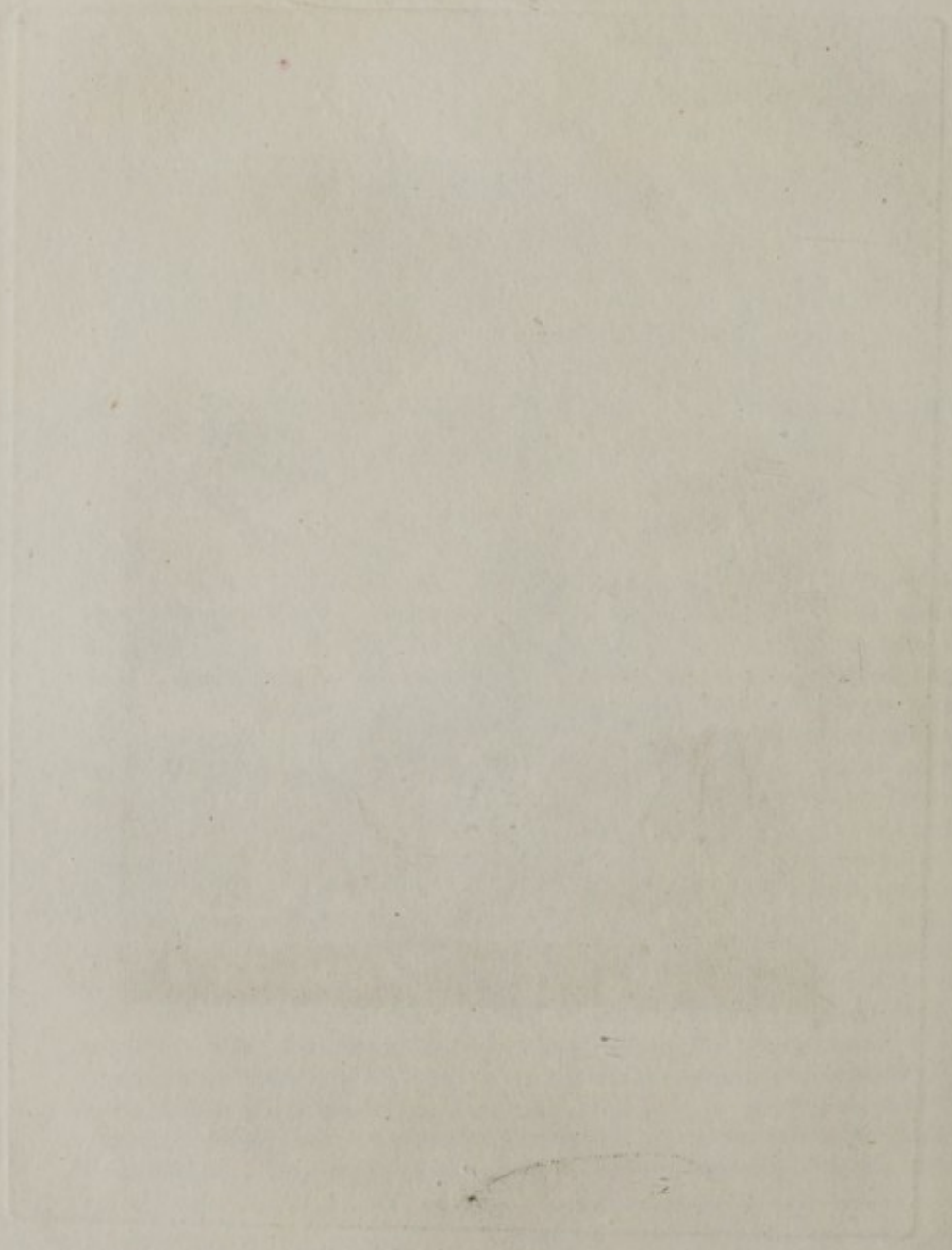


TO THE REVP CHARLES JERVIS, A.M.

INCUMBENT OF CHELTENHAM, RECTOR OF LUDDENHAM, KENT, & CHAPLAIN TO
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE.
THIS N.E. VIEW OF ST MARY'S CHURCH, CHELTENHAM, (ENGRAVED AT HIS EXPENCE)
IS MOST RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED BY *The Publishers.*

Printed & Published by J. T. Smith, 5, Bridstreet.

(49)



devices and inscriptions are of great antiquity.* The benefice, an endowed curacy in the deanery of Winchcomb, was granted by King Henry I. to the abbey of Cirencester, A. D. 1133,† four centuries before the dissolution of monasteries; when it reverted to the crown, and was held on lease, successively, by Sir H. Jerningham, W. Greenwell, Richard Stephens, Sir Francis Bacon Lord Verulam,‡ and Sir W. Ryder. In 1624, the impropriation was granted to Sir Baptist Hicks, who vested the nomination in the principal and fellows of Jesus college, Oxford, under restrictions that the candidates should be "sufficient preaching ministers, masters of arts of two years' standing, and unmarried—to hold no other benefice, to remain unmarried, and to hold the curacy but for six years unless re-elected."‖ The impropriation was subsequently held by the Earl of Essex and John De-la-Bere, Esq. In 1801, allotments of commonable lands were substituted for tythes, by an act of parliament for enclosing lands within the township; and in June, 1816, another act was obtained, sanctioning, and effecting, the exchange of the advowson of Bagendon church, then belonging to Joseph Pitt, Esq. M. P., for the right held by Jesus college of nominating a curate to the impropriate rectory of Cheltenham, which was at

* On a very ancient, curious flat stone, near the vestry-room, are visible the effigies, in brass, of a man in his judge's robes, his wife, three sons, and seven daughters, their children; round the margin of the stone are the remains of the original inscription, in old English characters—

——"Slaughter. whiche William decessid the XI daye of Marche, in the IIIIth yere of the reigne of King Henry VIII."

This is the monument of Wm. Greville, of Arle Court, a justice of the Court of Common Pleas, in the reign of Henry VII.

And near the altar the following attracts attention:—

"Qui mundo suspirans, et cœlum aspirans.
In desinenter clamat
Bone Iesv esto meus Iesvs!
Sis meus o Iesv! sis Iesvs (Christe) meorum.
Sweet Saviovr of mankind,
The Saviovr bee of mee and mine.
Sic { Spirans oravit / Expirans exoranit / Respirans perorabit.
Iohn **E**nglish **S**acri anctæ empeternæ **V**erbi eritatis itæ. **S**tudiosus.
Obijt anno Christi— AMEN."

† This grant was confirmed in 1280, by Pope Cœlestine.

‡ The lease was dated February 17, 1597, for forty years, at 75l. 13s. 4d.

‖ Names of the incumbents, from the restoration of Charles II.

1660.	Maurice Roberts.	1716.	Humphry Lloyd.	1767.	John Lloyd.
	Richard Tapping, pro. tem.	——	—— Maurice.	1778.	Hugh Hughes.
1662.	R. Bowen.	——	Thomas Ray.	1789.	H. Llewellyn.
1668.	Henry Maurice.	1724.	Thomas Edwards.	1793.	W. Rowlands.
1671.	—— Lloyd.	1729.	George Stokes.	1794.	H. Mesham.
1673.	Ralph Weld.	1734.	Edmund Meyrick.	1799.	Henry Foulkes.
1688.	Kenrick Palestone.	1741.	Thomas Morgan.	1816.	Chas. Jervis, who read himself in, Sept. 1, 1816.
1692.	Luke Williams.	1754.	Jones Reid.		
1709.	Henry Hease.				

the same time the property of Mr. Pitt. In the same year, the impropriation was purchased by six trustees, for the sum of 3000l. and at their instance the perpetual curacy was presented by Mr. Pitt to the Rev. Charles Jervis, A. M., rector of Luddenham in Kent, and chaplain to his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge.

Our respected incumbent has laboured indefatigably to render the parish church in every respect worthy of the rising importance of the town, by providing for the greater accommodation of a congregation, which is weekly becoming more numerous. At his suggestion, and in consequence of his remonstrance, the old galleries, which formerly rendered the nave so gloomy, have been removed;—the church has been repewed—the heads of the pews levelled, so as to admit a view throughout, (interrupted only by the massy pillars;) they have also been lined with green baize, at the expence, with a few exceptions, of the pew proprietors. A new and chastely ornamented reading-desk has been erected; and the richly carved mahogany doors and pannels have an admirable effect. The old door at the south aisle has been closed, and a new one opened at the transept: a decided improvement, which by the formation of additional pews, has been effected, not only without expence, but to the profit of the parish. The church organ, which is a finely toned instrument, was built by general contribution, in 1810, and first opened in May, 1811. Mr. Woodward is the organist. There are three services every Sabbath-day, in the parish church, commencing at eleven o'clock in the morning, three in the afternoon,* and seven in the evening. For the last (as well as for a sermon on New Year's Day, Ash Wednesday, each day of Passion Week, and Ascension-day,) we are indebted to the Rev. C. Jervis, by whom it was commenced December 14, 1817; and who generally, after the full evening services, delivers a series of lectures, illustrating passages of scripture: to these extra and gratuitous duties he has added the administration of the sacrament early on the mornings of the first Sunday in every month: it is also administered at mid-day on all the festivals throughout the year. On every Wednesday and Friday, and on all appointed days, divine service commences at half-past eleven o'clock. A splendid communion-service has recently been purchased by a public subscription.—The extent of the parish was estimated by Sir R. Atkyns, at ten miles; but at the perambulation, which took place in 1823, the boundaries included an extent of twenty miles. The duties of the cure are necessarily heavy, and are every year augmented: but though the stipend remains, as originally fixed, by Sir Baptist Hicks, 40l. per annum, the value of the incumbency is considerably enhanced by various contingencies—Easter dues, surplice fees, and voluntary donations. At a vestry meeting, held in May, 1754, the right of the incumbent to choose, nominate, and appoint his

* A document in the episcopal records, dated some fifty years ago, states that the parish of Cheltenham had agreed to allow between 50l. and 60l. per annum, for the delivery of the sermon at the close of the afternoon service. We know not whether any such allowance is now made.

parish clerk on every vacancy, was admitted.—Over the northern porch of the church is a school-room, set apart for the instruction of poor children, on the foundation of Lady Capel, in which fifty boys, sons of indigent parents of the town and county, are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic. The election of pupils, from the age of seven to fourteen years, is vested in trustees. Mr. Garn has been the master of this school for a period of twenty-seven years, at a salary of 60l. per annum —The church-yard, which was considerably enlarged a few years since, is uniformly kept in a state of perfect cleanliness, and the double rows of lime trees, by which its walks are shaded, shed a sombre aspect over the contemplative scene. The broad flagged footway, passing through it, leads directly from the High-street, through the Crescent, to the Royal Well. On the north side of the burial-ground an ancient stone cross, consisting of a single shaft, rises from the centre of a square pedestal, on each side of which are three stone steps. This was, doubtless, one of the many "parochial crosses"* which, in the days of superstition, were erected in the way leading to parish churches, in order, as we are told, "to inspire reverence for the mysteries which the people were about to witness." It is of simple ornamental structure, and apparently entire.—The Rev. D. R. L. Moxon, B. C. L., is the assistant curate of St. Mary's church.

The Church of the Holy Trinity.—One natural consequence of the increasing extent of Cheltenham was the occasional want of sufficient room in the parish church for the parishioners, the additional residents, and the visitors. To obviate this defect, it was determined to erect a chapel of ease, on the present site, in Portland-street,—and for this purpose it was, at first, proposed, that application should be made to government for a loan of 4000l.; but this plan was abandoned, and the completion of the design was most liberally undertaken by Lord Sherborne, and has been accomplished at an expence exceeding 14,000l. The principal property of the church, therefore, is vested in his lordship, who pays an annual sum to the incumbent, adequate to the stipend of his assistant curate, and the employment of the customary officers of the church; and provides for the essential repairs. The church consists of three aisles, and two spacious galleries—it is 74ft. in length, 51 ft. in breadth, and capable of affording accommodation to 900 persons. The organ was built by Messrs. Hale and Binfield, who, as a remuneration, have been granted three pews, and permission to give three public oratorios in the church; no provision having been made by the deed of consecration, either for the purchase of the instrument, or for the services of the organist, whose recompense depends entirely upon the contribution of the congregation on a Sabbath-day, appointed for that purpose. Over the principal entrance, which is on the south side of the church,

* The antiquity of this cross has been referred to the reign of Edward I. but similar crosses were raised in England before that period, It is true, indeed, that when the body of his queen, Eleanor, was conveyed from Lincolnshire to Westminster, that king had a cross erected at every station where the corpse rested—and this was the origin of Charing Cross in London.

is a handsome tower, surmounted by eight light pinnacles. The cemeteries beneath the aisles are large, and the external burial ground spacious. The Rev. F. Close, A.M., is the assistant curate of Trinity church. On April 11, 1822, the interesting ceremony of consecrating the new edifice was performed by the Hon. and Right Rev. Dr. Ryder, then Lord Bishop of Gloucester, but now of Lichfield and Coventry. The deed of consecration declares it to be a church or chapel of ease to the parish of Cheltenham, and thenceforth set apart from all profane or common uses, and dedicated as a place for the worship of God, and for the purposes of Christian burial: it grants full power to clerks, duly admitted and licensed, to celebrate divine service therein—that is, to read the public prayers; expound the scriptures; and, with the consent of the incumbent of the parish, to administer the holy sacrament; to church women; to bury the dead in the cemeteries and burial ground; and to perform all other divine offices usually done in other churches or chapels: it sets apart certain seats, the rents of which are to be appropriated to the incumbent for the payment of the assistant-curate and other officers; and provides that a fund shall be established for its good and sufficient repair. The pews are to be the property of persons named in the schedule, and of their heirs, being inhabitants of Cheltenham, or having a house therein; subject to the repair of such pews, and keeping them in conformity with the adjoining pews. Two wardens are to be annually chosen, one by the incumbent, or his curate duly authorised; the other by the majority of persons interested in the sittings and pews, at a vestry meeting legally convened. No pews are to be disposed of to any person who shall not, at the time of such disposal, be resident, or have a house, in Cheltenham. Any person having a pew in the said church or chapel of ease, refusing or neglecting, for the space of three calendar months next after a demand in writing, left at his or her usual place of abode, to pay the rent of such pew, may be dispossessed by the incumbent and churchwardens, who are thenceforth authorised to dispose of such seat or pew to any other inhabitant.

New Church in Suffolk-Square.—There is now erecting in the southern district of the town, a new church, for the performance of divine worship according to the rites of the Church of England. In this district, there has been within a few years a most wonderful increase in buildings, many of them occupied by families of the first distinction and respectability. This edifice will be a most beautiful gothic structure, according to the plans and elevations of Mr. Edw. Jenkins, architect, of this town.—The church is erected under the provisions of an act of parliament of the fifth of his present majesty, and with the sanction and support of the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, who laid the foundation-stone on the 29th November, 1825. Its site is on the east side of Suffolk-square: it is of large dimensions, and will be capable of accommodating, including its free sittings, nearly 1500 persons.

The Cheltenham Chapel, situated in St. George's-place, was founded and built by voluntary contribution, and first opened for public worship in August, 1809. The chapel

is vested in the hands of trustees, by a deed enrolled in the Court of Chancery, and registered in the Episcopal Court of the diocese. By this deed the members of the congregation are denominated Protestant Dissenters; and the ministers, by whom the gospel is delivered to them, are required to believe in, preach, and maintain, the doctrinal articles of the Church of England, as they are specified in the act of toleration; and must have been regularly ordained. The building is 65 ft. in length, and 45 ft. in width; and in the northern gallery a well-toned organ has been erected. In the lower part of the chapel, which is capable of containing upwards of 1000 persons, private pews are set apart under the galleries; in the centre are seats for visitors. The present minister is the Rev. John Brown.

The Countess of Huntingdon's Chapel, a handsome edifice, situated in North place, built at the individual expence of Robert Capper, Esq. of Marl-hill, was opened in the month of August, 1816; and in 1819, was generously presented by the founder to the trustees of the late Countess of Huntingdon. The doctrines of this religious connexion, founded upon the articles of the Church of England, are upheld by ministers successively sent hither from the college at Cheshunt, in Hertfordshire. The chapel, which has seats for about 800 persons, is 67 ft. in length, and 47 ft. in breadth. The building is heated by steam, the apparatus for which was likewise the gift of Mr. Capper. Beneath the chapel is a large school-room fitted up for the instruction of children, on the plan of the British and Foreign School Society.

The Baptist Chapel.—The second dissenting place of worship built in Cheltenham, was erected in 1701, but taken down in 1821, and a new and commodious one erected on the site of the old one. The Rev. Jenkin Thomas is the present officiating minister.

Ebenezer Chapel, situated in King-street, was erected by voluntary subscription in the year 1812, and opened in 1813. It is admirably constructed for the accommodation of a large congregation. It is vested in certain trustees, and the deed enrolled in Chancery. It is supplied by two ministers from the annual conference of the Wesleyan Methodists: one who acts as the superintendent, and the other as his assistant. Their doctrines are professedly those of the Church of England, as contained in the thirty-nine articles, the homilies, and liturgies. The stewards or trustees let the sittings at a small quarterly rent, not to support the ministry, but to help to defray the interest of the debt of the chapel; but every attention is paid to strangers and visitors.

The Catholic Chapel, situated in Somerset-place, was begun to be built in the year 1809, and opened in the spring of 1810. It is a neat and commodious edifice, has a roomy gallery, and is capable of containing 300 persons. It is supported by the contributions of those who resort to it, which are received at the door weekly. The Rev. John Birdsall officiates.

The Quakers' Meeting-House is situated in Manchester-street, and is capable of containing 200 friends. It was built in the year 1660.

LIST OF ALL THE ENDOWED CHARITIES,

IN THE PARISH OF CHELTENHAM.

By whom founded.	When Founded.	To what purpose.	Persons able to give information relative to the endowments.
Richard Pate, Esq.	1574	Founded and endowed a free school in Cheltenham with a maintenance for a master and usher; as also an hospital for poor people.	Rev. W. H. Hawkins, Master. T. Gwinnett, Esq. Solicitor.
Thos. George, Esq.	1620	Gave, by will, 3s. 4d. to be paid yearly to the poor, and the like sum to the minister for ever.	The Churchwardens for the time being.
J. Walwyn, Gent.	1627	Gave, by will, 2l. 10s. a-year for ever, to be distributed among the poor inhabitants of Cheltenham.	The Churchwardens for the time being.
	1667	The poor's grounds were purchased with divers charities left by several pious persons.	The Churchwardens of Cheltenham, and R. Hughes, Esq.
G. Townsend, Esq.	1682	Gave an estate at Aston, of the value of 80l. a-year, towards the maintenance of eight scholars in Pembroke-college, Oxford; three to be elected out of Cheltenham School: he also gave out of the manor of Wormington, among other signal charities, 4l. a-year for teaching poor children of the place to read; and 5l. more for the yearly apprenticing a boy.	A. Rogers, Esq. of Winchcomb, and J. Gardner, Esq. of Cheltenham.
Rev. W. Stanesby	May 3, 1704	Gave an estate at Badgworth to certain trustees, with the minister of Cheltenham, for the time being, upon trust to receive the rents, and pay 5l. to Badgworth and 3l. to Churchdown, and the residue to Cheltenham, for binding out apprentices, poor children of honest day-labourers.	Rev. Charles Jervis, Minister of Cheltenham.
Lady Capel	Aug. 18, 1727	By will, gave her estates at Preston, Feversham, Ospring, and Luddenham, Kent, to trustees in trust to receive the rents, and to pay one twelfth part thereof for a charity school for boys at Cheltenham.	Rev. C. Jervis. John Garn, Master. Tewkesbury Trustees.
Giles Cox	1727	By deed vested in trustees, a ground called Picked Oakley, in trust, and to pay yearly for ever, 4l. either for teaching poor boys to read and write, or for apprenticing out such boys every year.	The Churchwardens.
Miss Wells	1782	Gave 170l. to purchase lands for the relief of 16 poor men and women, upwards of 60 years of age, belonging to the parish of Cheltenham.	The Churchwardens.

The Alms' Houses were founded in 1574, by Richard Pate, Esq. of Minsterworth, recorder of Gloucester, for the reception and maintenance of "six poor people, two of whom, at least, shall be women:" with a weekly allowance of 6s. to each, and 2d. monthly. They formerly occupied the site of the Vittoria Hotel, nearly opposite the Assembly-Rooms: but at the period when the inclosure act was passed, an exchange of property was effected, with the concurrence of Corpus Christi college, and the alms' houses were removed to Albion-street.

The Free Grammar School was also endowed and established by R. Pate, Esq. of Minsterworth. Queen Elizabeth granted some lands in aid; and was therefore styled the foundress. The nomination of the head master is vested in Corpus Christi college, Oxford, "after the death of R. Pate; but if the president and scholars do not appoint within three months, the power is given to the president and scholars of Magdalen college; and if they do not appoint within two months, the power is given to the ordinary of the diocese

of Gloucester; and if he does not appoint within six weeks, the power reverts to Corpus Christi college."—The annual income of this endowment was (including the alms' houses) 73l. 19s. 3d. in 1580. The present rental is about 600l. Three-fourths to be appropriated to the maintenance of the said grammar school and alms' houses, and the remaining fourth to the use of Corpus Christi college. The master of the school is required, to be able properly to fill this office, to be a master of arts, and to be 30 years of age. The situation is at present filled by the Rev. W. H. Hawkins, B.D., (who was elected in October, 1816,) late fellow of Pembroke college, rector of St. Aldate, Oxon, and vicar of Farringdon, Berks; by whose endowments, unwearied attention, and regard to the improvement of the school, it is now restored to its former rank and character. The number of scholars generally amounts to about fifty, the number contemplated by the founder.*

Thirty pounds per annum is allowed by the college to the master, together with a house for his residence. The salary will be shortly augmented to 280l. per annum, and will gradually increase as the rents of the estate improve.

There are several houses in Cheltenham, which were allotted towards the maintenance of this charity, by George Townsend, Esq. of Lincoln's Inn, who also left by will, in 1682, 80l. a year towards the support of eight scholars at Pembroke college, Oxford, three of

* The following extract from the original grant of Mr. Pate may be interesting:—In order to secure the diligence of the schoolmaster, and his attention to the interests of the school, it is ordered, "that if at any time hereafter there shall not be placed at, and remaining to be taught in, the said school, the number of fifty scholars at the least, of which number four at the least shall have knowledge in the Greek and Latin tongues, and be able to make exercises in prose and verse in those tongues, and to speak the Latin tongue *extempore*; and four other of that number able to translate any piece of familiar English speech into Latin; and four other able to make a sentence of true Latin between the nominative case and the verb; and fourteen other able and ready to learn the rules or accidence to the rules of construction; and the residue of that number children of good aptness to learn, then during such time as such number of scholars, in form aforesaid, shall be wanting, the schoolmaster shall be allowed no more for his wages than after the rate of twenty marks by the year, and the usher no more than after the rate of forty shillings by the year," arbitrable by the governors.—Previous to the annual visitation, the governors are to give four days' notice to the schoolmaster, and after the examinations, the visitors shall determine which four scholars have shewed themselves best of the whole number in disputation; and which of the three in the next three forums; and shall dispose to the said scholars gifts and rewards, that is to say, to the best of the four so allowed, a pen of silver wholly gilt, of the price of 2s. 6d.; to the second best of the said four, a pen of silver parcel gilt, of the price of 1s. 8d.; to the third, a pen of silver, of the price of 1s. 4d.; and to the fourth, a pen and ink-horn of the price of 6d.; which said four shall be termed the four visitors of the school for that year; and the other three adjudged the three best scholars of the next three several forums to the highest, have every of them a quire of paper price 4d. the quire for their rewards—which being done, and the oration of the examiner concluded, the whole company of scholars shall go in order to the parish church, the four visitors coming last, (next before the schoolmaster or usher) each having a laurel garland on his head:—and the other three rewarded scholars shall go together in one rank, (next before the said four visitors,) each of them holding his quire of paper rolled up in his right hand." In the church they shall sing a psalm, with a prayer, "wherein shall be some convenient making mention of the church, the prince, the realm, the town, and the said founder, with his posterity, then living," &c.——The founder likewise covenanted with the college, "that at all and every time and times when and as often as any room or rooms within Corpus Christi College, for a scholar or scholars of the county of Gloucester, shall be void and vacant, that then the said president shall choose and admit into such room or rooms *one* or *more* of the scholars of the said school of Cheltenham, being then as well qualified in every respect as any other scholar as shall stand against him or them, so to be elected out of the said school of Cheltenham."

which are to be elected from this school. The exhibitions are now worth 60l. per annum; there are also four livings, or donatives, to which these exhibitions are exclusively eligible:

Colnbrook.. (Donative) .. Bucks.	Murrock Greys (Vicarage) Essex.
Shifford .... (Rectory) .. Essex.	Uxbridge .... (Donative) Middlesex.

Another school was also endowed by Mr. Townsend for the education of the children of the poor inhabitants, with 4l. per annum to the master, and 5l. for apprenticing out lads of the parish.—Mr. John Walwyn, also, in 1627, left by will 2l. 10s. yearly, for ever, to the poor of the parish; and these two charities having been consolidated in 1667, the money was laid out in the purchase of lands, known by the name of the Poor's Grounds.

CHELTENHAM FEMALE ORPHAN ASYLUM, under the patronage of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester.—The design of this institution, which was originally established as "The Old School of Industry," under the patronage of her late Majesty Queen Charlotte, is to clothe, maintain, and educate female orphans, and other female children of the poor, under certain regulations; and to inculcate into their tender minds such principles of religion and morality, as may tend to rescue them from the contamination of idleness and vice, and to train them up to habits of industry and cheerful obedience, by instructing them in such kinds of household work as may qualify them for servants in respectable families. The charity is supported by subscriptions and donations, received at the banks and libraries, and at the school in Winchcomb-street; and by an annual ball in Cheltenham.

CHELTENHAM NATIONAL SCHOOL, ON THE PLAN OF DR. BELL.—This institution was opened on the 5th of June, 1816; and the foundation stone of the new building opposite Oriel-place, was laid on the 23d of August, 1816, by the late Wm. Hunt Prinn, Esq. of Charlton Park. The school is under the patronage of the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Gloucester, and Lady Sherborne.

CHELTENHAM DISPENSARY AND CASUALTY HOSPITAL, established in the year 1813, and supported by annual subscriptions and donations.—The object of this establishment is the providing advice and medicine GRATIS to the sick poor of Cheltenham, and villages adjoining; and attendance at their own houses, when necessary, within the limits of the town. Also, for promoting vaccination, according to its original plan, as established in 1813—with the further advantage of admission as in-patients to those, who having met with dangerous accidents, are unfit, without risk of their lives, to be conveyed to the county infirmary.

THE CHELTENHAM COBOURG SOCIETY.—The dreadful and unanticipated calamity which, by the death of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales, deprived this country of one of its brightest ornaments, and its proudest hopes;—and of an object of universal affection; was commemorated in Cheltenham, by the instant establishment of a society whose charitable purpose was the relief of indigent married women, of the parish of Cheltenham, and village of Charlton-Kings, at the eventful and perilous



CHELTENHAM
FEMALE ORPHAN ASYLUM.

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period of their confinement, when they so much need assistance not only for themselves, but for their infant offspring. The affairs of the society are conducted by a patroness—the Right Hon. Lady Sherborne; a treasurer—Mrs. C. Jervis; and a committee of 14 ladies.

Cheltenham Auxiliary Bible Society.—Patron, the Right Hon. Lord Sherborne; treasurers, Rev. C. Jervis, and R. Capper, Esq.—The operation of this society extends over the whole of the town and parish of Cheltenham, and the different hamlets dependent thereon, together with about sixteen other villages and townships in the surrounding neighbourhood.

The Cheltenham Auxiliary Society, in aid of the London Hibernian Society, instituted in the year 1806, for establishing schools, and circulating the holy scriptures in Ireland; was established 4th June, 1822.

The Ladies' Hibernian Female School Association for Cheltenham and its vicinity, in aid of the Ladies' Hibernian Female School Society in London, for the establishment generally through Ireland, of exclusive female schools; was instituted in the year 1823, under the patronage of her Grace the Duchess of Beaufort.

The Cheltenham Auxiliary Society for Promoting Christianity amongst the Jews, was established in October, 1824.

The Cheltenham Auxiliary Church Missionary Society was established in 1824.

The Auxiliary Wesleyan Missionary Society was established in 1822.

The Baptist Auxiliary Missionary Society was formed in 1824.

Sunday Schools are held at the Parish Church, and at Alstone; at the Cheltenham Chapel; at the Countess of Huntingdon's Chapel; at the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel; at the Baptist Chapel; and at the Catholic Chapel.

The Cheltenham Provident Institution, or Bank for Savings, was instituted in October, 1818, and enrolled according to act of parliament, 57 Geo. III. c. 133.—Patron, the Right Hon. Lord Sherborne. Trustees: Lord R. E. H. Somerset, K. C. B.; Sir Wm. Hicks, Bart.; Colonel Berkeley; R. Capper, Esq.; H. Elwes, Esq.; J. Browne, Esq.; Rev. C. Jervis, A. M.; Rev. R. L. Townsend, D. D.; J. Agg, Esq.; Wm. Morris, Esq.; E. Howell, Esq.; C. Cole, Esq.

CHAPTER VIII.

Beau Monde.—Morning and Evening Amusements—Field Sports—Assembly-Rooms, Theatre, &c.

" Come now, what dances shall we have?
" Where is our usual manager of mirth?
" What revels are in hand? Is there no play
" To ease the anguish of a torturing hour?
" What mask? what music? how shall we beguile
" The lazy time, if not with some delight?"

MIDSUMMER'S NIGHT'S DREAM.

THE amusements of Cheltenham are so varied in character—so ceaseless in succession—so rational and so refined, that had the town no other title to the high distinction it has so long enjoyed in the estimation of the fashionable world, the pleasures that hold here, as it were, a perpetual court—the intercourse of the most polished society, and the numberless sources of entertainment with which it abounds, would in themselves be sufficient to establish its pre-eminence. But when we consider the high name so deservedly attached to Cheltenham from the efficacy of its waters,—for here

" Reviving sickness lifts her languid head;
" Life flows afresh; and young ey'd Health exalts
" The whole creation round. Contentment walks
" The sunny glade, and feels an inward bliss
" Spring o'er the mind."—

then indeed are we proud in the consciousness we feel that this highly-gifted place possesses every attribute that can merit and ensure not merely temporary, but lasting, prosperity.

From an early hour in the morning the various promenades are literally thronged with company—and it is no vain boast to include in the glad and animated concourse some of the most graceful forms and lovely faces that ever adorned a country. Of the many by whom the walks are thus frequented, not a few are attracted by the magic gaiety of the



D. Cox Del. W. Sadler & Son

TO COLONEL BERKELEY.

THIS VIEW OF THE **BERKELEY HOUNDS**, IS MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED BY THE *Publisher.*

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scene—and the enjoyment of the surrounding landscape. The forenoon is generally past in the libraries and walks; or, during the summer, for an excursion to some place, or object, of attraction in the vicinity:—whilst in winter, Colonel Berkeley, and the members of the Berkeley hunt assemble, and with the excellent and celebrated fox-hounds, which are not surpassed by any in the kingdom, and are kept solely by Colonel Berkeley, at his own expence, amounting to several thousand pounds annually; the pursuit of the chace generally occupies three or four days in every week.*

The Cheltenham Harriers are now hunted by a subscription club, composed of gentlemen residing in the town and its vicinity.

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* COL. BERKELEY'S HOUNDS hunt in the neighbourhood of Cheltenham, in the months of November, January, March, and part of April; and in the alternate months of the season in the vicinity of Berkeley Castle.—The hunt meet at the following places; to which are affixed the number of miles they are distant from the Cheltenham kennel, and directions for finding the covers:—

Covers, &c.	Miles.	Directions.
Queen Wood	3	Up the Winchcomb Road.
Dixon Wood	7	Up the Winchcomb Road 4 miles, then to the left over Nottingham Hill.
Dumbleton Wood	11	Through Cleeve to Beckford Inn; then turn to the right to Dumbleton.
Greet Grove	8	Through Winchcomb.
Broadway Kennel	18	Through Winchcomb, a direct road.
Mr. Canning's of Foxcote	26	Through Broadway.
Weston Park	21	Through Broadway.
Buckland Wood	12	Through Winchcomb and Stanway.
Bourton Wood	20	Through Winchcomb, up Stanway Hill, then leave Snowshill close on the left, and by Spring Hill to the cover.
Lord Northwick's Park	22	Through Bourton-on-the-Hill.
West Wood	6	Through Shacklespike, up the hill by Mr. Agg's, then turn to the left for the cover.
Guiting Wood	10	Pass West Wood, and leave Charlton Abbotts close on the left, then through Roel Gate to the Wood.
Wynniatt's Brakes	12	Up the Stow Road: the cover lies on the left.
Dowdeswell Wood	3	Up the London Road.
Hazelton Grove	9	Up the London Road 8 miles, then turn to the left.
Chedworth Wood	12	Up the London Road 5½ miles, then through Withington for Chedworth Park.
Chatcomb Wood	4½	Through Charlton Kings, up the Windlass Hill
Cowley Wood	5	Through Charlton Kings, up the Windlass Hill.
Coombe End	9	Through Charlton Kings, by Chatcomb Wood, and through Colesbourn.
Moor Wood	11	Through Colesbourn, leaving Rencomb Park on the left for the cover.
Short Wood	4	Up the Bath Road.
Side Bottom	11	Up the Cirencester Road 9 miles, then turn to the right about 2.
Down Hatherly	5	On the Gloucester Road 4½ miles, then to the right about ½ a mile.
Highnam Park	12	Through Gloucester, and 2 miles on the Ross Road.
Corse Grove	12	Up the Tewkesbury Road 6 miles, then to the left thro' Apperly, and over Haw Bridge.—A shorter road passes from the Horse Shoes by the canal, when the water is not out.

THE CHELTENHAM RACES are now established on a permanent and most respectable footing, under the immediate patronage and support of the following gentlemen :—

Lord Sherborne	Colonel Berrington	Mr. Smith
Lord Ducie	Colonel Kingscote	Mr. Canning
Lord Warwick	Colonel West	Mr. Browne
Lord Rossmore	Major Ormsby Gore	Mr. Elwes
Lord Edw. Somerset	Captain Berkeley	Mr. Trye
Sir H. Lippincott, Bart.	Mr. Talbot	Mr. Edwards
Sir W. W. Wynne, Bart.	Mr. Mytton	Mr. Jones
Sir Thomas Stanley, Bart.	Mr. Wombwell	Mr. L. Charlton
Sir Berkeley W. Guise, Bart.	Mr. Justice	Mr. F. Craven
Colonel Berkeley	Mr. Crawford	Mr. Thynne Gwynne

The race-course, which is situated on the Prestbury-hills, commands the most extensive and delightful views of all the surrounding country: the turf is considered, by judicious sportsmen, as equal, if not superior, to any in the kingdom. The approach to the course, which is about three miles from the town, has been considerably improved by the alteration and lowering of the Winchcomb-road. The races, which generally take place in July, and are of three days' continuance, prove invariably attractive, not only to sporting characters, but to the fashionable world; and are most liberally supported by the nobility and gentry of Gloucestershire, and by the inhabitants of Cheltenham.

We have already so amply detailed the progressive advancement of Cheltenham, that it may now suffice to state, that, in 1780, the fostering patronage of the fashionable world had here given something more than "a local habitation" to many personages of consequence and respectability; whilst the concourse of casual and periodical visitors increased so much (then exceeding 370), that it was found not merely expedient, but indispensably necessary, to elect a Master of the Ceremonies, for the efficient regulation of the amusements: accordingly, in that year, Simeon Moreau, Esq. was the first appointed here; and retained his situation to the period of his death, December, 1810. In the very centre of the church, a plain flat stone, on which is simply inscribed his name, his office, and the time of his decease, is placed above the vault in which he lies buried, with his wife, who survived him but three weeks. In 1788, Mr. Moreau had the high honour of receiving and attending the royal family during their visit.

The election soon afterwards fell upon James King, Esq.* who was then M. C. of the Upper Rooms at Bath; and as the seasons alternated—the one commencing just as the other closed,—he was enabled to combine their duties, for many years, without inconvenience to the patrons of either town, or to himself; but the constant accession of company to Cheltenham, and its rapidly growing importance, rendered it incumbent on the part of

* Notwithstanding the many difficulties Mr. King had to surmount, at the onset, he established a system of regularity which had not, till then, been much observed. He was held in very general esteem.

the subscribers, when a vacancy was occasioned by the death of Mr. King, on Oct. 16, 1816, in the 70th year of his age, to select a gentleman whose attention should be devoted exclusively to Cheltenham; and Alexander Fothringham, Esq. was elected: his death occurred on the morning of Saturday, January 22, 1820, under the following painful circumstances. His lamented lady expired, after a short but severe illness, on the previous Sunday:—and at the very moment when the hearse arrived to convey her remains to the grave, his widowed heart gave way, and he died in convulsions in less than half an hour. On the Tuesday following they were interred together at Prestbury, in the same vault wherein five of their children had, in one year, been laid.

An active canvas soon afterwards commenced, which terminated on the 21st of March following, when Charles Henry Marshall, Esq. was duly elected.*

THE SEASON, or more properly to distinguish the two portions of our annual festivities, the ***Summer Season***, which in the olden time was regulated by the court arrangements, and did not commence until "the birth-day" (June 4) had passed, may now be regarded as commencing with the first week in May, and terminating with the close of November, or rather merging into the ***Winter Season***, as we may truly term it; in as much as that the number of residents has so increased, that throughout the year there is scarcely any

* RULES OF THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS.

1. That the books to receive subscriptions shall be put down in May; the rooms to continue open on that subscription until the 31st of October.

2. That the winter balls commence early in November, and end the 30th of April.

3. That the balls commence as soon after eight as possible, and conclude, during the summer season, precisely at twelve, and in the winter at one.—Ladies are particularly requested to give attention to this regulation, that the Master of the Ceremonies may be enabled, by their early attendance, to commence the balls at the appointed time.

4. That a reasonable interval shall be allowed between the dance for ladies of rank to take their places. Those who stand up after the dance is called, must go to the bottom for that dance; after which, should they wish to take precedence, on application to the Master of the Ceremonies, he will give them their places.

5. That ladies be allowed to change their partners every two dances; and to prevent any mistakes that might originate with respect to places, those ladies who first stand up, shall be entitled to such places as they may then procure for the remainder of the evening, should it not interfere with ladies who claim precedence.

6. That ladies do not admit other couples to stand above them after the set is formed: and they are requested to continue in their places after they have gone down the dance, until the other couples have done the same.

7. That the ladies are to be considered perfectly free in accepting or declining partners.

8. That no gentleman in boots or half-boots be admitted into the ball-room on ball nights, except officers of the navy or army in uniform; and undress trowsers or coloured pantaloons cannot be permitted on any account.

9. That no clerk, hired or otherwise in this town or neighbourhood; no person concerned in retail trade; no theatrical or other public performers by profession, be admitted.

10. That the regulations relating to dancing and all points of etiquette, at the balls, be left to the Master of the Ceremonies for the time being, and the same authority as exercised by all preceding Masters of the Ceremonies be used by him; and as incumbent upon the subscribers (inasmuch as they must be desirous of promoting good order and decorum in their assemblies) to conform to, and support him in, the execution of his office.

11. That the Master of the Ceremonies is not accountable to any individual whatever who may dispute or object to the established regulations; but in case of any misunderstanding arising from this, or other matters connected with the balls, a reference be made to a committee chosen from the subscribers, and all differences be amicably submitted to them for their consideration and decision.

diminution of the most fashionable company, linked together by one unbroken chain of elegant enjoyments, delight and gaiety. Indeed we might exclaim—

" Come hither, come hither, by night and by day
" We linger in pleasures that never are gone ;
" Like the waves of the summer, as one dies away
" Another as sweet and as shining comes on!"

THE ASSEMBLY-ROOMS may fairly compete with any establishment in England, whether in point of elegance or in the still greater *desiderata* of general accommodation and utility. Forming externally a principal feature amongst the public buildings of the town, their internal decorations and well-conducted arrangements are alike the theme of admiration, and the source of pleasure. Here all the fashion of this mighty empire, from time to time assembled, brings, as its blooming handmaids, all the youthful loveliness and grace of Britain! and where beauty is, there too will its admirers be. The style and well-regulated order of the society of Cheltenham is not its slightest recommendation; and in so numerous a concourse of visitors it is, perhaps, the singular good fortune and justly proud boast of our town that amongst its patrons are included the first personages of the country, in station, affluence, and respectability; whilst no unprivileged footstep is suffered to intrude upon the circle of their pleasures. We would here point out to all who may be about to visit this watering place, the great advantages they must derive from the precaution of obtaining letters of introduction from their friends, who may have previously resided here, or may be acquainted with the resident or visiting families of the town or its vicinity. The ball-room, with scarcely the intermission of a month throughout the year, presents, on the evenings allotted to the assemblies, a scene of the most refined amusement ; and a delight of which every heart must be susceptible, in contemplating the galaxy of beauty, shedding its soft and bewildering radiance over all ; whilst

" Up springs the dance along the lighted dome,
" Mixed and evolved a thousand sprightly ways.
" The glittering court effases every pomp ;
" The circle deepens; beamed from splendid robes,
" Tapers, and sparkling gems, and radiant eyes,
" A soft effulgence o'er the assembly waves."

The splendid ball room added to the former suite of rooms for the greater accommodation of the *beau monde*, was first opened, under the most auspicious circumstances, on the evening of July 29, 1816 ; upon which occasion the patronage and presence of the Duke and Duchess of Wellington graced the ceremony. The ante or card-room is of proportionate dimensions to the spacious ball-room, which is upwards of 87ft. in length, 40ft. in breadth, and 40ft. high. The spacious entrance-hall is upwards of 120ft. in length and 12ft. in breadth.—The whole pile of building, with the consequent arrange-

ments, it is estimated, cannot have cost the proprietors less than 60,000l.; and to the late Mr. Kelly is Cheltenham indebted for its erection, and for the liberal scale, in point of expenditure, on which it has been founded, and brought to its present state of perfection.

One department of the building is exclusively devoted to the GLOUCESTERSHIRE AND CHELTENHAM CLUB, established a few years since on similar plans to the most respectable establishments in the metropolis; the members of which, as well as those of Dublin, Bath, and Brighton, are admissible, without ballot, by an annual subscription of three guineas: and such as are not subscribers to any of these establishments are admitted on the introduction of two members, as are also visitors of Cheltenham for a short period, by a subscription of 1l. 6s. per month.

On the right of the entrance hall, and immediately beyond the staircase, leading to the club-room, there is an excellent billiard-room, with a table of the first description, which is frequented by the members of the club.

CONCERTS of a very superior order are likewise held at the rooms during the summer and winter months, by which the first professional talents of the kingdom are combined.

THE THEATRE.—It would be strange, indeed, if amidst all the pleasures of this gay scene the drama were neglected—an art which in almost every state of society is cherished, as "the most perfect imitation of human life—representing man in all his varieties of mind, manner, and action:" teeming with instruction, and informing us of all that is desirable in virtue and benevolence—of all that is to be avoided in vice, passion, or misanthropy; an art admired through long past centuries by the gravest sages and the sternest censors—an art which, above all, has made our Shakespeare familiar not only to his countrymen of every rank, but to the applauding world.

About thirty-four years since, the temporary theatre was situated in Portland-passage, (now Pittville-street,) the site of Newcastle-house being the sphere in which even the brilliant genius of a Siddons or a Jordan did not disdain to shed forth its lustre: the "tyring-room" being a hayloft, and the "arena" a stable, fitted up for the "nonce." The tragic heroine, in her sable garb of woe, came always in a chair, dressed for the character she had to perform; and was conducted by a miserable flight of steps to the general green-room.—From the gradual increase of the town, subsequent to the royal visit, it became necessary to extend the means of public accommodation, and a more spacious building was erected in the grounds at the rear of the York Hotel; but this, likewise, proving insufficient, the late Mr. Watson, having purchased a considerable portion of "the Cambray meadow," built the present theatre, in Bath-street. The internal form of the house is well adapted to dramatic effect, every seat commanding a good view of the stage, whilst the voice of the performer, and the expression of the countenance, are heard and seen to the utmost advantage. The decorations are in the best taste—the scenery admirable—the wardrobe of the first order—and the company excellent, many of them being from the principal theatres in the kingdom.

CHAPTER IX.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

In the earliest period to which our history has reference, and before the minute distinction of counties had been adopted, Gloucestershire formed a part of Britannia Prima, and likewise constituted a portion of Britannia Secunda, the course of the Severn being regarded as the line of demarcation of these provinces. On the subsequent division of the island by Constantine the Great, Gloucester was reputed the principal city in the large province called Flavia Cæsariensis. The inhabitants of the county were known by the name of "Duffen,"—*i. e.* "the dwellers in the vale;" until, under the dominion of the Saxons, Gloucestershire formed a part of the kingdom of Mercia; and Winchcomb, which was, at one time, a county within itself, was established as a royal residence. In, or about the year 890, when the kingdom was divided into ***shires***, it was denominated a county, comprising four divisions and thirty hundreds, and tithings, ***viz.***

1st, OR KIFTSGATE DIVISION;

which comprises the north and north-east part of the county, adjoining Worcestershire, Warwickshire, and Oxfordshire, contains the hundreds of

I. KIFTSGATE.—In the upper part of which are the following parishes, viz. Admonton, Aston-Subedge, Berrington, Batsford, Charringworth, Broad Campden, Chipping Campden, Cowhoniborn, Condicot, &c. Dorsington, Ebrington, &c. Hidcoat, &c. Longborough, Marstan Sicca, Mickleton, &c. Pebworth, &c. Seizencote, Quinten Saintbury, Upper Swell, Wessington and Comb, Weston Subedge, Weston Super Avon, Willersey, Lark Stoak.—Parishes in the lower part: Aston Somervil, Buckland, &c. Corndean, Coat, Cockbury, Charlton Abbots, Childs Wickham, &c. Didbrook, Dumbleton, Farmcote, Guiting Power, Guiting Temple, Greet, Gretton, Hawling, Hayles, Naunton, &c. Pin-

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s denominated a

Worcestershire,

viz. Admonton,
hipping Camp-
Longborough,
ntbury, Upper
Villersey, Lark
orndean, Coat,
on, Farmcote,
nton, &c. Pin-

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED 1825, BY
S. & J. Griffith and C. Edwards, Chronicle Office,
Castle Green.

Engraved by T. Radclyffe, Birmingham.

nock, &c. Postlip, Rowell, &c. Snow's Hill, Stanly Pont Large, Twining, Staunton, Sudely Manor, Sudely Tenements, Todington, Winchcomb, Wormington.

II. SLAUGHTER contains the parishes of Addlestrop, Barrington Great, Barrington Little, Bleddington, Bourton-on-the-Water, Broadwell, Clapton, &c. Condicot, Dunnington, Eyford, Icomb, Maugersbury, Naunton, &c. Oddington, Rissington Great, Rissington Little, Rissington Wick, Sherborne, Slaughter Upper, Slaughter Lower, Stow, Swell Lower, Westcot, Widford, Windrush.

III. TIBBLESTON contains the parishes of Ashton-under-Hill (part), Beckford, Bangrove, Grafton, Hinton-on-the-Green.

IV. CLEEVE contains the parishes of Cleeve, Gotherington, Southam, &c. Stoke Orchard (part), Woodmancot.

V. CHELTENHAM contains the parishes of Charlton Kings, Cheltenham (including the hamlets of Alstone, Arle, Naunton, Sandford, and Westall), Leckhampton, Swindon.

VI. DEERHURST contains, in the upper part, the parishes of Coln St. Dennis, Compton Little, Preston, &c. Wellford;—and, in the lower part, Deerhurst, Haw and Tirly, Leigh, Prestbury, Staverton, Uckington, &c. Woolston.

VII. TEWKESBURY contains, in the upper part, the parishes of Alderton with Dixon, Ashton Underhill (part), Bourton-on-the-Hill (part), Church Stanway, &c. Clifford Chambers, Didcot Pastures, Dixon Prestcot, Lemington, Shenington, Washborn.—Parishes in the lower part: Ashchurch with its tithings, Aston Super Carant, Boddington, &c. Fiddington, &c. Forthampton, Kemerton, Mythe, &c. Northway, &c. Oxenton, Pamington, Southwick, &c. Stoke Orchard (part), Tredington, Tewkesbury, Walton Cardiff.

VIII. WESTMINSTER contains, in the upper part, the parishes of Bourton-on-the-Hill, Morton-hen-Marsh, Sutton, &c. Toddingham.—Parishes in the lower part: Apperly, &c. Corse, Deerhurst Walton, Evington, Heydon, &c. Hardwick, Hasfield, Tirley.

2nd, OR SEVEN-HUNDRED DIVISION;

lies south and south-west of the former, with Oxfordshire and part of Berks on the east, and Wilts on the south-east, containing the hundreds of

I. CIRENCESTER, in which are the parishes of Castle Ward, Cricklade Ward, Dyer Ward, Dollar Ward, Gosditch Ward, Instrip Ward, St. Lawrence Ward:—CROWTHORN AND MINETY, in which are Ampney Crucis, Ampney Down, Ampney Peter, Ampney St. Mary, Badgington, Barton, Baunton, Chesterton, Coats, Duntsborn Abbots, Duntsborn Rouse, Daglingworth, Dryfield, Harn Hill, Minety, Maizeyhampton, Oakley, Preston, Siddington St. Mary, Siddington St. Peter, South Cerney, Spiringate, Stratton, Wiggold.

II. BRITWELL'S BARROW contains the parishes of Ablington, Arlington, Aldsworth, Barnsley, Bibury, Coln St. Alwin's, Eastleach Martin, Eastleach Turvil, Fairford, Hatherup, Kempsford, Leachlade, Quinnington, Southrop.

III. BRADLEY contains the parishes of Aylworth, Cold Aston, Compton Abdale,

Coln Rogers, Dowdeswell, Eastington, &c. Farmington, Hampnet, Hasleton, Northleach, Notgrove, Salperton, Shipton Oliffe, Shipton Solers, Stowell, Sevenhampton, Turk-Dean, Winson, Withington, Whittington, Yanworth.

IV. Rapsgate contains the parishes of Brimpsfield, Chedworth, Colesborne, Cowley. Cubberley, Cranham, Duntsborn Lyar, Elkstone, North Cerney, Rendcomb, Syde.

V. Bisley contains the parishes of Bisley, Edgeworth, Miserden, Painswick, Sapperton, Stroud, Winston.

VI. Longtree contains the parishes of Avening, Charleton, Cherrington, Horsley, Minchin-Hampton, Rodborough, Rodmarton, Shipton, &c. Tetbury, Upton, &c. Westonbirt and Woodchester.

VII. Whitston contains the parishes of Eastington, &c. Frampton-on-Severn, Frocester, Hardwick, Haresfield, &c. King's Stanley, Leonard's Stanley, Longney, Morton Valence, Oxlinch, Putloe, Quedgley, Randwick, Standish, Stonehouse, Saul and Frethren, Wheatenhurst.

3d, or Berkeley Division;

extends from the Seven Hundred Division to the extremity of the county towards Wiltshire and Somersetshire, and bounded on the N.W. by the Severn. It contains the hundreds of—

I. Berkeley, in the upper part of which are the parishes of Alkington, Arlingham, Ashleworth, Berkeley, Beverstone, Bradstone, Cromhall Abbotts, Cromhall Ligone, Cowley, Cam, Dursley, &c. Ham, Ham Fallow, Hinton, Huntingford, Kingscot, North Nibley, Nimpsfield, Newnton, &c. Owlpen, Ozleworth, Symond's Hall, Sinwell, &c. Slimbridge, Stinchcomb, Stone, Uley, Wotton, Wortley.—Parishes in the lower part: Almondsbury, Elberton, Filton, Horfield, Hill alias Hull, King's Weston.

II. Thornbury, containing the parishes of Falfield, Gaunts Urcot, Iron Acton, Kington, Morton, Marshfield, Oldbury, Rangeworthy, Thornbury, Tytherington.

III. Pucklechurch, containing the parishes of Cold Ashton, Pucklechurch, Syston, Westerleigh, Wick and Abston.

IV. Langley and Swineshead, containing Alveston, &c. Bitton, Deynton, Frampton Cotterell, Hanham, Hambrook, Hempton, &c. Littleton-on-Severn, Olveston, Over, Oldland, Rockhampton, Tockington, Winterborn, Wickwick.

V. King's-Barton, containing Clifton, Easton, Mangotsfield, Stapleton.

VI. Henbury, containing the parishes of Aust, Compton Greenfield, Charleton, Henbury, Itchington, Lawrence Weston, Redwick and Northwick, Stowick, Stoke Giffard, Stoke Bishop, Shirehampton, Westbury on Trim, Yate.

VII. Grumbald's Ash, containing the parishes of Acton Turville, Acton Ilgar, Alderley, Boxwell and Leighterton, Charfield, Didmarton, Dyrham, Doddington, Great Badminton, Little Badminton, Hawkesbury, Hilsly, Horton, Oldbury-on-the-Hill, Sodbury Chipping, Sodbury Little, Sodbury Old, Tresham, Tormarton, Tortworth, Upton, Wapley and Codrington, Wickwar, West Littleton.

4th, or Forest Division;

takes in all that part of the county on the N. W. of the Severn, and that part of Dudston and King's Barton, on the other side of the river; and contains the hundreds of

I. St. Briavel's, which contains the parishes of Abbenhall, Bream, Clowerwall, Colford, English Bicknor, Flaxley, Hewelsfield, Little Dean, Mitchel Dean, Ruer Dean, Lea, Lea Bayley, Newland, St. Briavel's, Staunton.

II. Blideslow, containing Awr, Almington, Lidney.

III. Westbury, containing Blaysden, Churcham, Newnham, Tidenham, Wollaston, Westbury.

IV. Botloe, containing Bromsberrow, Dimmock, &c. Kempley, Oxenhall, Newent, &c. Pauntley, Rudford, Tainton, Upledden.

V. Dutchy of Lancaster, containing Bully, Huntly, Longhope, Minsterworth, Tiberton.

VI. Dudston and King's Barton, containing Brockworth, Barton St. Mary, Barton St. Michael, Barnwood, Brookthrop, Badgworth, Churchdown, Down Hatherly, Ellmore, Hempstead, Highledden, Hascombe, Hartpury, Highnam, &c. Hucklecot, Kingsholm, Lassington, Longford, Littleworth, Matson, Maisemore, North Hamlets, Norton, Pitchcomb, Preston, Prinknash, South Hamlets, Sandhurst, Shurdington Magna, Tuffly, Twigworth, Upton St. Leonard's, Up-Hatherley, Witcomb Magna, Whaddon, Wotton, Woolstrop.

During the invasion of the Romans the banks of the Severn formed their principal defence against the incursions of the Silures; and the Cotswold country presented them with stations for military occupation, of which that warlike people judiciously availed themselves; and in the rude traces of their camps, which are not yet effaced; and in the ruins and tesselated pavements which have, in several places, been excavated; we find abundant proofs of their establishment in this district, of which Cirencester was regarded as the metropolis, and Gloucester and the hills near the Severn, were military positions. The figure of the county is elliptical; and it contains nearly 1,100,000 acres, 320 parishes, one city, and 27 market towns.* It is bounded on the north by Worcestershire, on the east by Warwickshire, Oxfordshire, and a part of Berkshire; on the west by Herefordshire, Monmouthshire, and the Bristol Channel; and on the south by Somersetshire and part of Wiltshire. Its length extending from Clifford Chambers in the north, to Clifton in the south-west, is about 70 miles; and its breadth from Leachlade to Preston is com-

* Market Towns, and Days of holding the Market in each.—Berkeley, on Tuesday; Bisley, on Thursday; Campden, on Wednesday; Cheltenham, on Thursday; Cirencester, on Monday and Friday; Coleford, on Friday; Dean, on Monday; Dursley, on Thursday; Fairford, on Thursday; Gloucester, on Wednesday and Saturday; Hampton, on Tuesday; Horsley, on Saturday; Leachlade, on Tuesday; Marshfield, on Tuesday; Newent, on Friday; Newnham, on Friday; Northleach, on Wednesday; Painswick, on Tuesday; Stanley St. Leonards, on Saturday; Sodbury, on Thursday; Stow, on Thursday; Stroud, on Friday; Tetbury, on Wednesday; Tewkesbury, on Wednesday and Saturday; Thornbury, on Saturday; Wickwar, on Monday; Winchcomb, on Saturday; Wotton-under-edge, on Friday.

puted at nearly 40 miles. Rudder, a native historian, says, that "if a straight line was drawn from Clifford Chambers to Clifton, and another from Lemington to Preston, they would intersect about Shurdington." It is worthy of observation that every part of Gloucestershire is within seven miles of another county; this arises from the circumstances of the city forming a county within itself, and the parish of Kingswood, although comprised in the diocese of Gloucester, being actually a part of Wiltshire. From boundary to boundary the whole tract of country is by nature so diversified as to form three districts, which are not only distinguished in their natural appearance, but locally divided by peculiar demarcations: thus the rigid and unpromising aspect of the upper ***Cotswolds**** is gradually tempered in the descent to the luxuriant and fertile ***Vale***, whilst the ***Forest*** division is totally dissimilar to either. The ***Cotswolds***, which in this county extend from Bredon-hill to Tetbury, form links of the mountainous chain which, commencing in Derbyshire, runs on through Wiltshire to the Land's End; including in their area upwards of three hundred square miles. Sheep form the principal object, and the just boast, of Cotswold husbandry. The ***Vale District***, which, "in richness and beauty has no where, perhaps, its equal,"† lies between the ***Cotswolds*** and the Severn; and is subdivided into the ***Upper*** and ***Lower Vale***—the ***Vale of Gloucester*** and the ***Vale of Berkeley***. In noticing this district, Marshall, in his Rural Economy, observes of the Severn,—"Passing downward, its more finished scenery commences with the Malvern hills, from whence to Chepstow its area and its banks form one continuous scene of picturable beauty—a garden forty miles in extent—a grand suite of ornamental grounds in nature's finest style. Every part is pleasing. The banks are bold, happily varied, and partially hung with wood. The soil is every where rich, and mostly in a state of grass. The Severn here winding with unusual freedom, and the Welsh mountains rising in happy distance—these features, well associated, give this passage of scenery a preference to every other this island possesses. Gloucestershire might well be styled the seat of picturesque splendour. It is equally a subject for the painter and the rural artist; not in the outline only, but in the detail;—the Stroudwater hills and the banks are full of secluded beauty. The eye must be dim and the heart benumbed, which can be insensible to the rural charms of Gloucestershire." Wainload hill commands the finest and most expansive view of the vale, which once, and at the same time, possessed three of the most remarkable trees in the kingdom—Piffe's Elm, which still stands between Cheltenham and Combe-hill; the Tortworth Chesnut; and the famous Oak at Boddington, which was twenty paces in circumference, but was destroyed by fire in 1790. The Vale of Gloucester, or the Upper Vale, which is frequently confounded with the Vale of Evesham, is semicircular, "the Severn forming the

* So called according to Camden, from Sheep-cotes, and hills, "for mountains and hills, the Englishmen, in old times, termed Woulds."

† Marshall's Rural Economy.

chord, the Cotswolds the arch, and the towns of Gloucester, Cheltenham, and Tewkesbury, a triangle within its area." It is fifteen miles in length, and about eight miles in breadth. It is described by William de Malmesbury, as being "rich in corn, productive of fruit in some parts by the sole favour of nature, in others by the art of cultivation, enticing even the lazy to industry, by the prospect of a hundred fold return. You may see the highways clothed with trees, bearing apples, not by the grafter's hand, but by the nature of the ground itself: for the earth of its own accord rears them up to fruit, and that excellent in flavour and appearance; many of which wither not under a year, nor before the new crops are produced to supply their place. No county in England has so many, or so good, vineyards as this, either for fertility or sweetness of the grape."

The ***Vale of Berkeley***, or the ***Lower Vale***, extends for twenty-four miles from Aust to the foot of Matson hill; and in fertility surpasses even the ***Upper***, or ***Gloucester, Vale***. It is eminently beautiful, and abounds with the most picturesque scenery—the Severn winds with majestic grandeur through its highly cultivated and ever verdant banks; and the views, especially those from Stinchcomb-hill, are surpassingly fine, and as varied in their beauty as in their magnificence. The cheese of this Lower Vale is superior to any other; and that which is known throughout England as the "Double Gloucester Cheese," is in this county properly called "Double Berkeley Cheese," the principal part of the thick Gloucestershire cheese being the produce of the Vale of Berkeley. In 1783, the rental value of the dairy farms of the Vale of Berkeley was estimated by Marshall at 37,000l. and, as a proof of the natural strength of the land, it has been stated, upon good authority, that "wheat had been sown upon one piece of extraordinarily good land for six years successively,—the last crop being nearly as valuable as the first."

The appearance of the Vale district from the Cotswolds* is thus admirably and justly described by Mr. Gilpin. The picture will be recognised by every mind that has ever contemplated its original loveliness. "I know not that I was ever more struck with the singularity and grandeur of any landscape. Nature generally brings different countries together in some easy mode of connection. If she raises the grounds on one side by a long ascent, she commonly unites with the country on the other, in the same easy manner. Such scenes we view without wonder or emotion. But when nature works in the bold and simple style of composition in which she works here—when she raises a country through a progress of a hundred miles, and then breaks it down at once by an abrupt precipice into an expansive vale, we are immediately struck with the novelty and grandeur of the scene. It was the Vale of Severn which was spread before us. Perhaps no where in England a distance so rich, and at the same time so extensive, can be found. We had a view of it almost from one end to the other; winding through a space of many

* Seen from the extreme height of Crickley hill, between Leckhampton and Birdlip.

leagues in a direction nearly from west to north. The eye was lost in the profusion of objects which were thrown at once before it, and ran wild, as it were, over the expanse, with rapture and astonishment, before it could compose itself enough to make any coherent observations. To the north we looked up the vale along the course of the Severn. The town of Cheltenham lay below at the distance of two or three miles. The vale appeared afterwards confined between the limits of Bredon-hill on the right, and Malvern on the left. Right between these, in the middle of the vale, lies Tewkesbury, bosomed in wood—the great church even at this distance appearing. A little to the right, but in distance very remote, we may see the towers of Worcester, if the day be clear; especially if some accidental gleam of light relieves them from the hills of Shropshire, which close the scene. Between Robin's Wood-hill and Churchdown the great object of the vale is Gloucester, which appears rising over rich woody scenes. Beyond Gloucester the eye still pursues the vale into remote distance till it unites with a range of mountains."

The Forest district is divided from the hills and vales by the river Severn, and is generally denominated the Forest of Dean. It was, at one time, so highly valued for the superiority of its timber, and in such estimation was its oak held for naval purposes, that, in the reign of Elizabeth, an emissary was dispatched from Spain to this country to procure the destruction of this forest, either by treaty or by treachery. * Iron and coal are plentiful in this district; and the veins of iron are supposed to have been wrought even in the Roman epoch,—certain it is that in the reign of Edward I. nearly one hundred furnaces for melting the iron ore were built here. In the reign of Charles I. the forest tract contained upwards of 43,000 acres, of which 14,000 were woodland. The customs of the miners are peculiar, and the forms of their courts, and system of their internal laws are not regulated by any written law of the realm.

The rivers of Gloucestershire are the SEVERN, the WYE, the UPPER AVON, the BERKELEY AVON, the LOWER AVON, the FROME, the LEDDEN, the LEACH, the ISIS, and the THAMES, with the tributary streams of the ***Windrush***, the ***Bourne***, the ***Boyd***, the ***Colne***, the ***Corin***, or ***Churn***, the ***Stroudwater***, the ***Carant***, the ***Chelt***, the ***Swilgate***, the ***Evenlode***, the ***Ewelm***, or ***Cam***, the ***Isbourne***, the ***Badgworth***, and the ***Trim***. Of these the Severn, which was called by Nennius, "one of the arms of Britain," and must be considered the second commercial river in the kingdom, has its source in Plinlimmon Hill, Montgomeryshire, and is there called the Haffren; but at Newtown it takes the name of Severn; near Welshpool it is joined by the Vernew; then first becomes navigable, and passing by Shrewsbury, which it nearly insulates, it flows on to Colnbrookdale, Bridgnorth, Bewdley, and Worcester; entering Gloucestershire near Tewkesbury, where it forms a junction with the Upper Avon; and, passing by Deerhurst, it divides its

* This fact is stated by Evelyn. The timber of the Forest of Dean has been considered the best in the world for shipbuilding, from its roughness and durability; neither is it apt to splinter.—The forest which in the olden time flourished at Kingswood, in this county, extended from Nibley Green to the Avon, but was disafforested in the reign of Henry III.

current near the city, and forms the Isle of Alney, at the extremity of which the river re-unites, becoming deeper and broader; the country through which it flows assumes a bold and picturesque appearance; and the tide rushes with a degree of rapidity and strength, which frequently overswells its banks. From Framilode it sweeps suddenly away, and forms a semicircle of nearly 10 miles to Frethren, which by land is scarcely two miles distant from Framilode. Its appearance at this point is thus well described by Skrine.—"The cliff on which the church of Newnham is situated, commands this immense semicircle with admirable effect; whilst the Cotswold range, terminating in the bold elevation of Stinchcomb hill, bounds the vale to the east; and the undulating hills of the Forest of Dean close in upon it on the west, opening in various sweetly picturesque glens. The Severn after this, studded with sails, and gliding between a range of fine pastures and villages, grows wider gradually till it receives the Wye near Chepstow, and the Avon from Somersetshire, thus forming the Bristol channel, and spreading into a grand estuary ten miles in width." The river is navigable for vessels of considerable burthen up to Gloucester, where the last bridge crosses it. The other bridges in the county are at the Mythe, near Tewkesbury, and at the Haw Passage, both being of recent structure. At Framilode, Newnham, Purton, Aust, and the New Passage, the communication between the banks is effected by boats; but all these ferries are precarious and dependent upon the tides and the influence of the winds. To obviate the difficulties that have hitherto existed, a company has lately been formed for the establishment of steam-boats at the New Passage, which must prove a valuable acquisition to travellers—at once ensuring the facility, expedition, and safety of the passage.

The rapidity of the river has, by its frequent inundations, proved very destructive to the lowlands in the upper and lower levels, through which it runs; and in 1606, 1687, 1703, and 1737, the devastation caused by its overflowing was very extensive. But the peculiar characteristic of the Severn is the celebrated "water-war"—in which, at particular seasons, the tide from the Atlantic ocean rushes in till it rises suddenly to a height of six or seven feet, as if contending with the inland current for superiority, and raging like a boisterous sea. It is thus described by Drayton:

"With whose tumultuous waves
"Shut up in narrow bounds, the Hygre wildly raves;
"And frights the straggling flocks, the neighbouring shores to fly
"Afar, as from the main it comes with hideous cry.
"And on the angry front the curling foam doth bring,
"The billows 'gainst the banks, when fiercely it doth fling:
"Hurles up the slimy ooze and makes the scaly brood
"Leap madding to the land, affrighted, from the flood;
"O'erturns the toiling barge whose stearsman doth not launch,
"And thrusts the furrowing beake into her ireful paunch."

The river Wye rises on the south side of Plinlimmon, not far from the source of the Severn, and, partly separating Breconshire from Radnorshire, passes to Chepstow, below which

it forms a junction with the Severn. The Wye, if not the largest, is assuredly the most beautiful, river of South Wales, and presents, almost at every turn, features of grandeur and magnificence amidst the most picturesque and lovely scenery. At Hereford it becomes navigable, and having passed through that county, it forms the boundary between Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire. Its beauties have been most happily characterized by Archdeacon Coxe, who observes, that "the banks of the Wye for the most part rise abruptly from the edge of the water, and are clothed with forests broken into cliffs. In some places they approach so near that the river occupies the whole intermediate space, and nothing is seen but wood, rocks and water: in others they alternately recede, and the eye catches an occasional glimpse of hamlets, ruins, and detached buildings, partly seated on the margin of the stream, and partly scattered on the rising grounds. The general character of the scenery, however, is wildness and solitude, and if we except the populous district of Monmouth, no river, perhaps, flows for so long a course through a well-cultivated country, the banks of which exhibit so few inhabitants." At Ross, the celebrated prospect adjoining the church-yard commands a view of the horse-shoe curve of the river, and the ivied towers of Wilton castle. The ruins of Goodrich castle next attract the traveller's attention, to which succeeds the view of Symond's Yat, rising spirally about two thousand feet above the Wye, which here forms a peninsula of nearly five miles. It were a work of supererogation to set forth in detail the varied and almost countless beauties which adorn the banks of this river, so justly celebrated for the richness and general grandeur of its scenery; but it is impossible not to recur to the surpassing attractions presented by the following objects: Goodrich castle, "cresting a steep eminence enveloped with trees;"—the view at Ruerdean, "a noble piece of natural perspective;"—the amphitheatre at Welsh Bicknor;—the sublime view at the foot of Coldwell rock;—the new weir;—the majestic prospect from the Kymin; the woody declivities around St. Briavel's;—the ruins of Tintern abbey, "the most beautiful and picturesque view on the river;"—the wooded acclivities of Windcliff;—the bay of Piercefield, presenting a "panorama of rock scenery and deep abyss, not simply grand but dreadfully sublime;"—and "though last not least," the majestic remains of Chepstow castle.

The Upper Avon rises near Naseby, in Northamptonshire, and flowing at the base of Warwick castle, through a delightful country, to Stratford-upon-Avon, it traverses Worcestershire, and passing by Evesham and Pershore, it unites with the Severn near Tewkesbury.

The Berkeley Avon rises in two heads at Boxwell and Kilcot, and receiving the waters of several small brooks in its course flows by Berkeley into the Severn.

The Lower Avon rises in the hilly district of Wiltshire, near Wootton-Bassett, and partly dividing Gloucestershire from Somersetshire, passes Bath, and joining the Severn near Kingroad, forms the Bristol channel.

The Isis rises in the parish of Coat, and blending with the Corin at Cricklade, where it joins the Thames, partly separates Gloucestershire from Berkshire.

The Thames, the highest source of which is at the Seven Springs,* takes its name at Thames Head, near the village of Coat, two miles south-west of Cirencester, and enters Wiltshire at Cricklade, where it receives the Isis and Corin, and becomes navigable.

The Churn, or Corin, rises at the Seven Springs, near Coberley, and is called the source of the Thames. It passes Colesbourne, Rendcomb, North Cerney, Barrow's Bridge, Cirencester, and South Cerney, and joins the Isis at Cricklade.

The Froome rises in two heads at Dodington and Rangeworthy, and flows by Acton, Hambrook, and Stapleton, to Bristol.

The Stroud rises near Brimpsfield, and runs by Miserden, Sapperton, Stroud, Stonehouse, and Eastington, entering the Severn near Framilode.

The Windrush rises near Temple Guiting, and passing by Naunton, Bourton-on-the-Water, Windrush, and Barrington, enters Oxfordshire near Burford.

The Coln rises near Withington, and flows by Dowdeswell, Compton Cassey, Fossbridge, Coln Deans, Coln Roger, Bibury, Coln St. Alwyn, and Fairford, into the Isis at Leachlade.

The Trin or Trim runs through Westbury into the Avon.

The Evenlode rises in a parish of the same name in Worcestershire, and passing through the eastern extremity of Gloucestershire, joins the Thames near Ensham in Oxfordshire.

The Ledden rises in Herefordshire, passes through Ledbury, and joins the Severn near Gloucester.

The Chelt or Chilt, rises near Dowdeswell, and joins the Severn near Wainlode Hill.

The Ewelm, or Cam, rises near Owlpen, passes Uley, and at Dursley is augmented by the waters of Broadwell. It gives the name of Cambridge to the village a little below, and falls into the Severn at Frampton Pill.

The Leach rises in the parish of Hampnet, and passes through Northleach and Eastleach to Leachlade, where it flows into the Thames.

The Boyd rises near Henton, and enters the Avon at Bitton.

The Swilgate rises in the parish of Prestbury, passes by Swindon, and being joined by the Carrant, which rises in Beckford, runs into the Severn near Tewkesbury.

The Isbourne, a small stream, rises in Charlton Abbots, and passing Winchcomb, empties itself into the Avon, near Evesham.

The Badgworth river, joined by a brook springing in Brockworth, falls into the Severn at Sandhurst.

* A source still higher may, we believe, be traced to the parish of Sevenhampton.

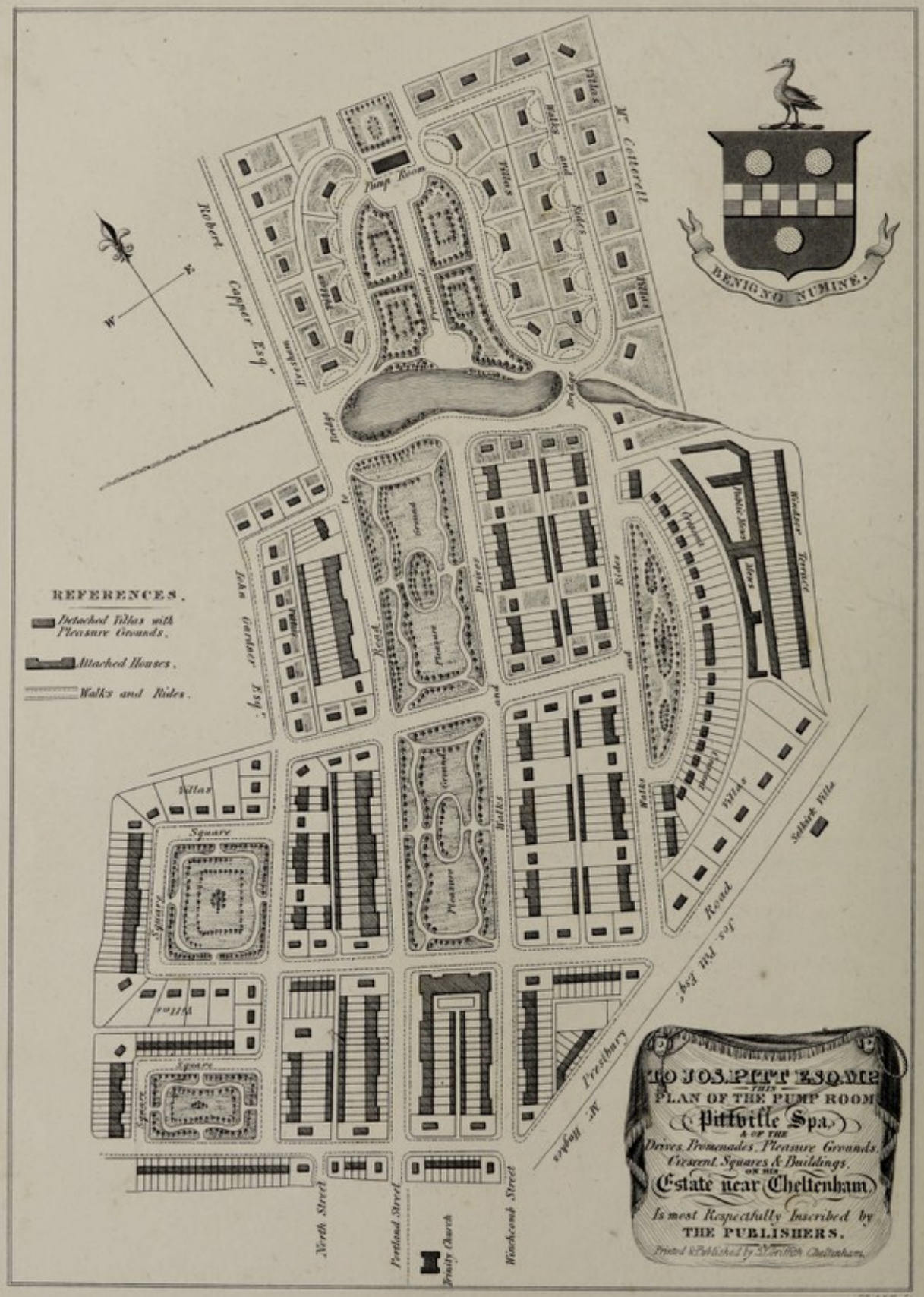
The Bourn rises at Farmington, and passing through Sherborne, empties itself into the Windrush near Barrington.

The Stroudwater Canal was first contemplated in the year 1730, when an act was obtained to render the Stroudwater navigable—but so violent was the outcry of landed proprietors of the county, and of millers who considered their interests would be affected, that the project was abandoned for many years; in 1755, the undertaking was resumed, and surveys and estimates were made; but still in vain: in 1759, it was again set on foot by four private gentlemen—but the scheme failed, and nearly ruined them; at length, in 1775, the spirit of enterprise overcame all opposition—a new act was obtained—the great work was accomplished, and the most beneficial consequences have resulted, not only to the county, but to the kingdom, from those very efforts which for so long a period had been frustrated by the most determined opposition. The canal which commenced at Badbrook, close to Stroud, passes to Cainscross by Ebley, crosses the road at Stone Cross, and enters the Severn at Framilode.

Thames and Severn Canal.—We find that in the reign of Charles II. the merchants of London and Bristol brought a bill into the House of Commons to sanction and effect a junction between the Thames and Severn, and the King's hydrographer was actually employed to survey the ground and to ascertain the practicability of the scheme. In 1775, as we have shown, the Stroudwater canal was commenced at Framilode, and carried to Walbridge, near Stroud; in 1789, in pursuance of an act passed in 1783, it was continued from Walbridge to Leachlade, and in April, 1789, the superintending engineer, Mr. Clowes, passed through the tunnel at Sapperton in a vessel of thirty tons burthen; and in the November of the same year, a vessel passed, in the presence of an immense concourse of people, from one mighty river into the other. During the visit of his late Majesty to Cheltenham, he went on the 19th of July, 1788, accompanied by his Queen, and the royal family, to visit the tunnel, and appeared astonished and delighted by the work.

The Gloucester and Berkeley Canal opens to the Severn at Berkeley Pill, or Sharpness Point, near the town of Berkeley, whence it passes, nearly in a direct course, Slimbridge, Frampton, Wheatenhurst, (where it intersects the Stroudwater canal), Hardwick, Quedgeley, and terminates on the south side of Gloucester. This stupendous undertaking will, when completed, form a line of eighteen miles in length, and is calculated to convey vessels of 400 tons burthen, with their full cargoes, from the mouth of the Severn, to the quay at Gloucester.

The Hereford, Newent, and Gloucester Canal was undertaken in 1791-2, when an act of parliament was obtained for its completion—but this event has not yet been accomplished, as it has not been carried from its commencement at Gloucester beyond Ledbury.


BENIGNO NUMINE.
REFERENCES.
Detached Villas with Pleasure Grounds.
Attached Houses.
Walks and Rides.
Pump Room
Mr. Cotterell
Robert Capper Esq.
Public Rooms
Walks
Villas
Square
Pleasure Ground
Road
North Street
Portland Street
Trinity Church
Winchcomb Street
Presbury
Mr. Hughes
Sothark Villa
Villa
Terrace
TO JOS. PITT ESQ.ME
THIS
PLAN OF THE PUMP ROOM
Pittville Spa,
&c OF THE
Drives, Promenades, Pleasure Grounds,
Crescent, Squares & Buildings,
OR HIS
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THE ANGEL HOTEL, OXFORD.

Publish'd by H. Slatter High Street Oxford.

CHAPTER X.

NORTHWARD EXCURSION.

I.

THE spirit of enterprise which has been for years so effectually and advantageously displayed in the extension of Cheltenham from west to east, and on the south of the Chelt, has at length stimulated the proprietors of land on the north side of the town to exertions which bid fair, in a few years, to equal the improvements which have raised the once humble village to a state of importance becoming the most fashionable watering-place in the kingdom. By the opening of Portland passage, henceforth to be called Pittville-street, in the manner and to the extent directed by the act passed in 1821, a thoroughfare has been formed which had long been a great desideratum; and the communication thus effected between the great northern road and the principal part of the town, will doubtless protect all the advantages enjoyed by the inhabitants of the High-street, by preserving its central position; whilst the ornamental style of the buildings erected upon the site of old and dilapidated tenements, considerably enhances the appearance of one of the principal approaches to Cheltenham.

PITTVILLE.—In the summer of 1824, upwards of one hundred acres of land, the property of Joseph Pitt, Esq. M. P.*, were laid out, and sold to various public-spirited individuals, for the purpose of building the new town of Pittville, with a magnificent pump-room, and rides and drives exceeding six miles in extent; and in a few years there can be little doubt of seeing the ground, which is admirably situated, covered with

* Mr. Pitt is the lay-impropriator of the rectory of Cheltenham, and in consequence thereof all the land which was some years since (under an inclosure of the common fields of Cheltenham) allotted to him in lieu of tithes and glebe lands, is *free from church-rate*. Of this land Pittville forms a considerable part, by which the proprietors thereof, who have engaged to build at least five hundred attached and detached villas, will be greatly benefited. The property is rendered still more desirable from having an ample supply of very fine spring water for common purposes, and such sewers, drains, &c. as are rarely found.

detached villas and ranges of ornamental houses. The hill on which the pump-room stands, abounds with springs, the waters of which contain the finest medicinal properties. The edifice is one of the most superb of the many public buildings of Cheltenham; and the following description will convey a very accurate idea of its structure:

Pittville Pump-room is of a style purely Grecian, varied and embellished by the taste and genius of the architect. The Ionic order has been selected for decoration; and the subject chosen for imitation is the temple on the Illissus, at Athens. The body of the building, which is 90 feet in length, and 43 in breadth, is surrounded by a splendid colonnade of 20 feet wide, the roof supported by fluted columns of 22 feet in length, and with capitals richly ornamented. In the middle of this roof, and over the principal entrance stands the figure of Hygeia; and the two wings ornamented with the statues of Æsculapius and Hippocrates, respectively, have a very fine effect. The main building bears an elegant superstructure of corresponding character and ornament, consisting of a room at each end, presenting externally three windows in each, the intermediate space being faced with ornaments and pilasters. Over the centre of the building appears an elegant dome, well raised to the height of 70 feet, around which and enclosed by neat iron work, is a gallery, from which is boldly presented to the eye a panoramic view of the surrounding vale, bounded by the Malvern and Cotswold hills, and extending on the south-west to the mountains of Wales. The staircase, leading to the upper room, and also to the gallery, ascends from a vestibule at the back of the building, the entrance to which is from the north-west end of the colonnade. The style and arrangement of this magnificent design differ from the exterior only as it surpasses it in variety of embellishment, and richness of decoration, so as, at least, to equal any expectation which a survey of its bold and splendid exterior may inspire. On each side of the principal entrance there are two columns and pilasters (separated by large windows of 11 feet in height) corresponding with four others on the opposite side of the room, the intercolumniations of which are open; behind these are three windows of richly stained glass, in front of which the pump appears, decorated by a marble tripod, after a model from "Rocchigiani's Monumenti Antichi." The whole produces a very striking effect, when seen from the promenades, or approaching the principal entrance. At each end of the building there is a handsome entrance, with columns and pilasters, detached in a manner similar to those in the principal front. The walls within are spacious, ornamented with columns and pilasters, well relieved by niches and recesses, breaking in pleasing outlines. The ceiling at each end of the room is arched with a fine flat sweep, and ornamented with bands and double sunk pannels, enriched with foliage, the centre of the building being a square space, opening to the dome. This space, well lighted from behind and in front, by windows beneath the dome, the interior of which springs with enriched sunk spandrills and segmental soffites, finishes with tapering pannels, and appropriate decorations; the top of the dome being completed by a richly stained skylight.





Drawn by J. Pollitt from a sketch by R. Capper Esq. Jun.

Whitwick sc.

TO ROBERT CAPPER ESQ.

THIS VIEW OF MARLHILL HOUSE, NEAR CHELTENHAM, HIS SEAT,
(ENGRAVED AT HIS EXPENCE) IS MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED BY The Publishers.

Proof

Printed & Published by S. Tyler 59 & C. Cheltenham.



TO THE REVᴰ Dᴿ TOWNSEND,

THIS VIEW OF HIS RESIDENCE,

THE RECTORY HOUSE, BISHOP'S CLEEVE, NEAR CHELTENHAM,

(ENGRAVED AT HIS EXPENCE) IS MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED BY

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Printed & Published by S.T. Griffith & C. Cheltenham.

On the left-hand side of the road, and nearly on a line with the pump-room, stands Marle Hill, the seat of Robert Capper, Esq. delightfully situated on a gentle eminence, at the base of which an extensive lake is formed. This house commands views of some of the most lovely landscapes in the vicinity; and its proximity to the town, contrasted with the immediate seclusion of its shaded walks, renders it a most agreeable residence—a perfect "*rus in urbe.*"

On passing the turnpike, the vale bursts at once upon the sight, and the diversity of the tints spread over the expanding scenery, and the variety of objects forming an instantaneous and panoramic picture, closed in by the majestic range of the Malvern hills on the west, and the lofty Cotswolds on the east, have an almost magical effect,

At a distance of three miles and a half from Cheltenham is ***Bishop's Cleeve,*** situated in the hundred to which it gives name. It was formerly the residence of a fraternity of monks established here in the reign of Offa, and subjected to the see of Worcester by Werfrithe, bishop of Wiccia.* The rectory, which is in the deanery of Winchcomb, was in 1215, (16th John), appropriated to the prior and convent of Worcester, who leased out the tythes, and presented the vicarage to a monk named Robert. In 1260, (44th Henry III.), the Pope granted the impropriation to Bishop Godfrey Giffard, for his life. In 1464, when the college of Westbury upon Trim, in this county, was re-established by Bishop Carpenter† and W. Cannings, the former gave in aid of that purpose certain of the tythes of Cleeve, with the advowson to the vicarage; but on the suppression of monasteries, the great tythes were restored, and the privileges formerly exercised by the bishops were confirmed to the rectors.—With the benefice the manor was likewise possessed by the see of Worcester, until, in 1207, Randulphus the prior, and three others, purchased it from King John, for 100 marks, which were, however, remitted for the repairs of the monastery. The manor which was settled in jointure on Queen Eleanor, (27th Henry III.) and was afterwards held by Humphry de Bohun, earl of Hereford and Essex, (3d Edward I.), was resumed by Queen Elizabeth, soon after her accession, and continued in the crown till in 1604 (2d James I.) it was granted to Peter Vanlore, and subsequently passed into the Strachan family, by one of whom (Sir William) it was sold in 1776. It has since been possessed by the family of —— Russell, Esq. of Powick, near Worcester, who is the present lord. The church, dedicated to Saint Michael, is a curious specimen of the ancient architecture of remote and various ages; and consists of a nave, transept, and two aisles. The south porch and entrance are objects of very general and very deserved admiration. A spire formerly surmounted the building, but it fell in upon the church in 1696, and caused very considerable dilapidation: in its place a tower

* In pursuance of a grant from Alfred.

† Carpenter was a native of Westbury upon Trim, and so much attached to that place, that when elevated to the see of Worcester, he desired to be called Bishop of Worcester and Westbury.

now rises from the centre of the church, which, with the other repairs, was completed in 1700. The Rectory-house, a spacious and picturesque building of very great antiquity, was originally the casual residence of the Bishops of Worcester. The present rector is the Rev. Dr. Townsend, a descendant of the Lawrence family, the members of which have for many years possessed considerable property in Shurdington: he assumed the name of Townsend, in compliance with the will of his uncle, the late Hare Townsend, Esq.

To the benefice are annexed considerable and very peculiar privileges. It is totally exempt from archidiaconal visitation, and subject only to triennial episcopal visitation. The rector likewise possesses a power, which is restricted to this parish alone, of granting administration and recording wills. The fertility of this extensive parish is very great, and on the summit of Cleeve Clouds, the parishioners possess a common right of pasturage for sheep, over several hundred acres. At the extreme verge of this bold promontory of the Cotswolds, there may still be seen several vestiges of a military station; and the remains of the deep vallations which fortified the ridge may be traced for an extent of several furlongs. In the 25th of Henry VI. a charter was obtained to exempt the town of Cleeve from the payment of taxes and fifteenths for two years, in consideration of the great loss the inhabitants had sustained from fire.

About five miles from Cleeve, detached on the left from the main road, stands the pleasantly situated and tranquil village of Beckford, which was in the monastic ages a priory of Austin Canons, founded by Robert Fitz Alan, in the reign of Henry III. as a cell to the abbey of St. Martin and St. Barbara, in Normandy. The manor of Beckford was held by this priory until its total suppression, in common with all alien monasteries in England, in 1414, 2d Henry V. The lands that once belonged to the priory were granted to Eton college by Henry VI. but afterwards granted to Fotheringhay college by Edward IV. The manor and park of Beckford, with the advowson of the vicarage, were granted to Sir Richard Lee, 1st Edward VI. In 1608, John Wakeman, Esq. became lord of the manor: he was descended from the ancient house of Wakeman, of Rippon, in Yorkshire, and of Draycot, in Worcestershire; and the manor has continued in the possession of that highly respectable family to the present period, Henry Wakeman, Esq. being now the lord of the manor. Beckford House * which has been the family seat for upwards of two centuries, is a venerable mansion, most delightfully situated. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is very ancient, and consists of a nave and chancel, and a tower built in place of the ruinous spire, which was taken down in 1622. The parish was inclosed in 1773. On the side of Bredon hill, part of which is situated in Beckford, several Roman coins have been found.

* The view of this ancient mansion is from the pencil of a self-taught artist, who was born in the vicinity, and who need not be ashamed to owe to the taste and kind-heartedness of his early patron, Mr. Wakeman, the first advancement of his genius.



Proof

TO WILLIAM WAKEMAN ESQ.

THIS VIEW OF HIS SEAT, BECKFORD HOUSE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

(ENGRAVED AT HIS EXPENCE) IS MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED BY The Publishers.

Printed & Published by J.T. Griffith & C. Chatterton.

The road leading hence to Bengeworth, passes through the fertile and beautiful vale of Evesham, and, at the distance of seven miles, the bridge of Evesham, built over the Avon, in its course from Stratford, forms one of the limits of Gloucestershire.

Evesham traditionally derives its name from circumstances connected with the foundation of the abbey, erected there in testimony of one of the many miracles which in the dark days of monkish superstition were of such frequent occurrence. In the reign of Ethelred, king of Mercia, Egwin, bishop of Wiccia, obtained from that prince the grant of a place called *Haum*, upon which he employed a herdsman named Eoves, who, as the record of Egwin seriously attests, being one day employed in looking after a sow which had strayed among the thickets to farrow, was astonished by the appearance of the Virgin Mary, accompanied by two beautiful virgins, each holding a book, and chaunting. The vision was made known to Egwin, who went himself to the spot, and whilst in the act of prayer, was favoured with a similar beatification; whereupon he determined to fulfil a vow he had formerly made to build a church, and relating all the mysterious circumstances to Kenred, the successor of Ethelred, he received a grant of sixty-seven manses on both sides of the Avon, to accomplish his devout purpose. He ultimately increased the number of manses. by particular donations, until they amounted to one hundred and twenty-three —"free," as he records, "from all service, charge, or tax, for the use of God's holy church." The charter of confirmation by Constantine I. bears the date of the year 709, and to obtain it, Egwin went, in 708, personally to Rome. accompanied by Kenred and Offa;—and on his return, a synod was held at Alcester, when the prayer of consecration was pronounced by Wilfred, bishop of Worcester, assisted by Egwin. To this Wilfred, Egwin had resigned his bishopric, to become abbot of Evesham. William de Malmsbury tells us, that there was then at Evesham, an ancient, though small church, of British structure. The abbey built by Egwin, was not of long duration, but fell down in the time of Osward, the twentieth abbot, and was rebuilt by him; and in the reign of William I. a monk of Cerasia, named Walter, who was made abbot of Evesham by the Conqueror, pulled down the church built by Osward, which was then considered one of the handsomest in England, and erected another in the architectural style of his own country.—Two other miracles connected with the founder of the abbey, are, perhaps, even more extraordinary than the first. John of Tinemouth, confidently assures us, that the people finding him, from the austere simplicity of his life, a check to their dissolute manners, complained of him to the king, and accused him before the pope of several fabricated offences; whereupon he resolved, as an atonement at once for the sins of the people, and for his own youthful follies, to perform a pilgrimage to Rome, and binding his legs in fetters, he fastened them with a lock, and throwing the key into the Avon, resolved, thus fettered, to undertake his journey, publicly declaring that "when his fetters should be loosened by divine interposition, or by the key he had thrown away, then and not till then, he should be secure that his offences were forgiven." It is reported, that on his

arrival at Rome, all the bells of that city rang of themselves! He immediately prostrated himself in humble adoration at St. Peter's church, and afterwards attended the celebration of mass. In the mean time his servant going into the market for provisions, bought a fish, and, opening it, found in its belly the identical key that had been thrown by Egwin into the Avon.* They carried the key to the bishop, who unlocked his fetters before them all.

About the year 1190, Evesham was a mitred and parliamentary abbey, and the abbot held his barony in the counties of Worcester, Gloucester, and Northampton, of the king, by the service of four knights' fees and a half. Some idea of the *privations* endured by the monks, may be formed from the extant regulations made by Richard de Bromesgrove, the fifty-eighth abbot in succession, who ordained that "on the day of Pentecost, each monk, whether present or absent, should be allowed twenty pence, one capon, and one quart of wine; the prior, three shillings and four-pence, and two quarts of wine; and the abbot—*ad libitum*." The abbey church was destroyed on the general surrender of monasteries (31st Henry VIII.) and its site purchased from the king for £891. 10s. by Sir Philip Hobby—who, at the earnest entreaty of the inhabitants, preserved the tower erected by Clement Lichfield,† which they had contributed to build, and were permitted to purchase.

This tower, in which eight bells are hung, is considered one of the most perfect and beautiful models of the Gothic style of architecture in the kingdom, and is supposed to be "the last building erected by popery in England." The view of Bengeworth, seen through the gateway under the tower, forms with the spire of its church, a most delightful vista. In the garden attached to the abbey may still be seen, in excellent preservation, the celebrated arch which has so long attracted the notice, and elicited the admiration of the antiquarian. It stands at a height of seventeen feet to the top of the curve from the ground, which has evidently been suffered to encroach upon its base so considerably as to bury more than one third of the building. The ruins all around this spot are highly interesting. Of the site of the abbey, Mr. Gough says, "No situation can be more luxurious or beautiful than that of this abbey, placed on the centre of a curve formed by the Avon, and on a regular ascent from the river." Within the last few years, considerable excavations have been effected, under the direction of the proprietor, —— Rudge, Esq. whose researches have been rewarded by the discovery of several very curious and valuable reliques.

The town of Evesham was once annexed to the possessions of the abbey, with which

* In commemoration of this miracle, *a key and a chain* formed part of the arms of the abbey. William de Malmsbury varies the tradition by stating, that "when he was crossing the narrow sea that divides England from France, a large fish leaped into the ship that carried him, which, by the assistance of the mariners on board, was secured. On opening the belly, the very key was found belonging to the lock which fastened his fetters."

† A very eminent man, and, properly speaking, the last abbot of Evesham.

its foundation was co-eval—its site, before the erection of that edifice, was but a solitary wilderness, covered with weeds and brambles. Of its early history, however, little is known, save that in 1295 it was represented in parliament. It was governed by a bailiff, until in the reign of James I. Prince Henry obtained a charter, and Bengeworth was incorporated with it as a borough town,* returning two members. It has since been governed by a mayor, a recorder, seven aldermen, twelve common councilmen, and twenty-four assistants. The county assize was formerly held in the town-hall, built by — Hobby; and capital offences, exclusive of high treason, were tried here, and convicted felons executed, so lately as the year 1740; but these unenviable privileges have been transferred to Worcester. On the 4th of August, 1265, that memorable battle was fought on the north side of the town, which terminated the baronial feuds, and released Henry III. from the thraldom of the Earl of Leicester, who, with his son and several of the nobility, was slain in the combat. In this battle Leicester caused the captive king to be dressed in his own armour, and, thus disguised, had him placed in the front of the army, where he was wounded, and the imposition was, consequently, discovered. In 1642, during the civil war of that period, Evesham was held for the king, by Colonels Washington and Legg, whose regiments were stationed here; Prince Rupert visited it with all his forces, and the unfortunate monarch took up his quarters in the town for one night—breaking down a part of the bridge to prevent the approach of his opponents. Corbet, in his Military Relation, tells us, that "Evesham was beheld as the most opportune, and of greatest concernment, in distressing Worcester, and establishing the committee, by order of parliament, for that county." Wherefore "the governor," Colonel Massie, closed his services in Gloucestershire by reducing it by storm after Colonel Legg had refused to surrender to his summons.—In Evesham there are three churches, a free grammar school, a charity school, and an alms-house.

* It was considered the second borough in Worcestershire.

CHAPTER XI.

NORTHWARD EXCURSION.

II.

In a line nearly parallel with the route which occupies the preceding chapter, the road leads from Winchcomb-street to Prestbury, distant a mile and a half N.E. from Cheltenham, but so surrounded by orchards, that, with the exception of an occasional view of the church tower, no part of the village is seen until the winding way opens directly upon its entrance. Indeed, so full of interesting objects is the country through which the well-sheltered road passes, that the mind resigns itself to the contemplation of the blended grandeur and luxuriant softness of the scene, attracted alternately by the lofty eminence of the Nottingham, Prestbury, and Cleeve Cloud hills, and the bloom and richness of the vale beneath.

Romantically seated under the brow of the hill, Hewletts, the residence of James Agg, Esq. commands a most extensive view of the lowlands.

Prestbury (or, as its name imported in the ancient days of its no more recorded pride—"the Priest's Camp or Town"), was once a considerable market town, deriving its charter* for a weekly market and annual fair, from Henry III. but a dreadful conflagration reduced the town to ashes in the reign of Henry VII. It rose, however, like a phœnix from its ruins, to its former importance; for Leland, who visited it in the reign of Henry VIII. says, "It is now made a market towne againe, a 20 yeres syns." We find that in the civil war, Massie, governor of Gloucester, placed a garrison of one hundred and fifty men, under the command of Colonel Devereux, in a strong house here, to protect the markets, and to act as a check upon the king's troops, stationed at Sudely castle. The manor formed part of the possessions of the see of Hereford, at the conquest; it was soon afterwards granted to the Earls of Gloucester, but restored by Earl Gilbert. After the disso-

* Purchased by Peter, bishop of Hereford, 25th Henry III. and confirmed 15th Edward I. and 14-19 Richard II.

lution of monasteries, a long lease of the manor was granted to Thomas Chamberlain, who had been distinguished by his success in several embassies, and who resided here. The reversion of the manor was, in the reign of Elizabeth, purchased by Reginald Nicholas, a servant of the Chamberlain family, whom he cunningly supplanted. He was lord of the manor in 1608. The present lord of the manor is the Hon. Berkeley Craven. The church, which is in the deanery of Winchcomb, is dedicated to St. Mary, and consists of two aisles, surmounted by a strong embattled tower. The impropriation belonged to the priory of Lanthony in the reigns of Edward I. and Richard I. but was granted to Thomas Gathwick and Anselme Lamb, in the reign of Mary. In the 6th James I. it was held by George Baghott, Esq. The Rev. J. Edwards is the present vicar.

On leaving Prestbury, a narrow bridle path to the right leads up to the race course on Prestbury-hill, whilst the turnpike-road on the left leads close to Southam, for many centuries the ancient and venerable residence of the De-la-Beres. This family, distinguished by the chivalrous gallantry of its progenitors, accompanied the Norman William, when he came as a conqueror to assert his claim to the sceptre and the throne of England, as successor of Edward the Confessor. When fortune had confirmed that claim, he rewarded his chief adherents by granting them allotted portions of the land their prowess had made his. To Sir Richard De-la-Bere was given the estate of Kinnersley, in Herefordshire, where he lived in splendour; and in the course of time his descendants became connected by intermarriages with many of the principal families in the kingdom. The fifth inheritor of his name and warlike spirit, Richard De-la-Bere, was distinguished by his courageous bearing in the battle of Cressy, where he rescued Edward the Black Prince from the most imminent danger of that hard day's fight. In testimony of his brilliant services, the prince created him a knight banneret on the field, and Edward III., to manifest his gratitude, presented him with the crest which has ever since proudly attached to the family arms—five ostrich feathers issuing out of a ducal coronet. He enjoyed thenceforth the well-won favour of the king, and was appointed custos or sheriff of the county of Hereford, for ten successive years, viz. from 1362 to 1372. In 1487, there was another Sir Richard De-la-Bere created a banneret in the field at the battle of Stoke, by Henry VII. Kinnaird De-la-Bere, Esq. settled here, on his marriage with the daughter of Sir John Huddlestone, who built the manor-house of Southam, and was sheriff of Gloucestershire in 1499, (14th Henry VII.) Richard De-la-Bere, Esq. of Lincoln's Inn, purchased the manor from Cecil, earl of Salisbury, in 1609; and, dying without issue, left it to Kinnaird De-la-Bere, Esq. of Kinnersley, from whom, on failure of the direct male line, it descended, in 1735, to his nephew, William Baghott, Esq. of Prestbury, who assumed the sirname and arms of De-la-Bere, and was succeeded in the lordship by his son, the late Thomas Baghott De-la-Bere, Esq. who during a long and honourable life, maintained the high character of a British gentleman:—hospitable, kind and generous; his virtues and his humane qualities won for him the admiration, the esteem, and the

love of all who knew him. His late Majesty and the royal family visited Southam, in 1788, and were much gratified by their reception.

Southam, confessedly one of the most ancient mansions in Gloucestershire, or perhaps in the kingdom, retains, unshaken by decay, the form of its original architecture. It stands, in solitary pride, a lasting memorial of "the ancient days," and still enjoying its secure station at the base of the towering hill, sheltered from the storm, and withstanding all the ravages of time—whilst before its walls a rich and fertile valley spreads out its wooded and luxuriant charms. The house consists but of two stories, of singular construction; and is in truth what Leland termed it, "a pretty mannour place." One hall is curiously paved with painted tiles, preserved from the ruins of Hayles abbey, and on which the arms and devices of the founders of that once celebrated building are wrought. The pictures, which are of great antiquity, deserve the notice of every lover of the arts. Of these, the most curious are two of King Edward VI. supposed to be painted by Holbein, on pannel, one representing him in extreme youth, and the other a whole length taken in more advanced life—upon the base of one of the pillars which form the ground work of this latter picture, are three poetical inscriptions, in Greek, Latin, and English—portraits of Jane Shore and of Sir Thomas Overbury, and several family pictures. The windows are enriched by the arms and crest of Henry VII. finely executed—and in the window of the principal room is the quartered escutcheon of the family, with the plumed crest granted by the Black Prince.—The manor of Southam is jointly vested in Miss De-la-Bere and Mrs. Webb, surviving sisters of the late Thomas Baghott De-la-Bere, Esq.; and the Rev. Charles Coxwell, in right of his wife, and Miss Rogers, of Dowdeswell. The manor-house is the residence of Miss De-la-Bere.

Ascending the steep and rugged summit of Cleeve Clouds, ("the Cloud-compelling Cliff,") the imagination becomes gradually elevated to the most sublime conceptions, by the expanding view of

> "The swelling soil set in so high a place,
> "That Malvern's mighty self he seemeth to outface,
> "With others to partake the joy that there is seen,
> "When beauteous Avon comes to join their sovereign queen.
> "Here down from Eusham's vale their greatness to attend,
> "Comes Swilliat sweeping in, which Cotswold down doth send."

The boundless beauties of the vale—the ascent of the protecting upland—the appearance of steeples and church towers, uprising like so many landmarks, and the multiplied and countless dwellings that give variety to the wooded plain, through which the Severn, joined by its tributary streams and rivers, runs its impetuous course—all the vast tract of country, extending on the one side far into Worcestershire and Herefordshire, and on the other to the bold and romantic heights of the Welch mountains—all combine to form one grand and glowing picture, all life and light, all splendour, immensity, and magnificence.

Descending the hill on the Winchcomb side, Postlip (anciently "Poteslepe") is seen midway towards the vale, which forms beneath a beautiful and extensive amphitheatre. Here there once stood a chapel, built by W. de Sollers, as a sanctuary for his tenants in the wars of King Stephen. Very great improvements have been effected, and facilities afforded, by the formation of a new line of road which considerably obviates the difficulty of the ascent and descent in the mountainous approach to

Winchcomb,* which is distant about six miles N. from Cheltenham, and was anciently the great and splendid court of the Mercian kings, and the principal city† of the Wiccii. It retains but little of that venerable aspect so characteristic of Saxon grandeur—or of its past importance. Yet it was once a distinct sheriffdom, or county within itself, till united to Gloucestershire by Edric Streon, in the reign of Canute. It once returned two members to parliament; and in Domesday Book it is styled a borough, which it still must be considered by prescriptive right. King Offa built a nunnery here in 787, which gave place to a stately monastery, founded in 798, by King Kenulph, who had a palace in Winchcomb. The abbey was mitred—and a castle stood in the town—but ages have past over the dilapidated ruins, and the site of either can now scarcely be ascertained.‡ The dedication of the monastery to the Virgin Mary was attended with regal pomp—and the solemnity, which was performed by Wilfrid, archbishop of Canterbury, was witnessed by three kings, Kenulph, monarch of Mercia; Sired, king of the West Saxons; and Cuthred, king of Kent; the latter of whom was released on this occasion, at the high altar, by Kenulph, from the captivity in which he had for some time held him:—one archbishop, twelve bishops, with all the Mercian nobility, comprising in their number ten dukes, attended the imposing and splendid ceremony. In this foundation three hundred monks were received. In the year 820 Kenulph died, and was buried in the abbey church, as was Egbert, king of the West Saxons. The Mercian king left behind him two daughters, and a son named Kenelme, who was murdered at the unnatural suggestion of his elder sister Quendred, who, to possess herself of the kingdom, prevailed upon his tutor Askebert, to lead the youth into Clenth wood, in "the white cow's valley,"§ where he cut off their victim's head, and buried him secretly. The story of the means by which this horrid deed was discovered, partakes of all the miraculous improbability that characterised the superstitions of the age. The murder was for some time unknown, and mystery hung over the fate of Kenelme, until it was disclosed at Rome, where a dove,‖

* Anciently "Wincelcube, Wichecobe, Wincelcumbe," from the Saxon "wincel," signifying a *corner*, and "combe," a valley; because it lay in a nook of the vale.

† "Wynchcombe was chief cytie of all thise shires."—*Golden Legend.*

‡ The abbey orchard is supposed to have been in Beat-street.

§ So called because it had formerly been frequented by a white cow.

‖ "Curse not the King—no, not in thy thought; for a bird of the air shall carry the voice, and that which hath wings shall tell the matter."—ECCLESIASTES.

flying over the altar of St. Peter, let fall a parchment, on which the following inscription appeared in letters of gold:

"In Clent, in Cowberche hed bewebyd lyth Kenelme." *

which, being in Anglo-Saxon characters, would have been incomprehensible to those who found it, had not an Englishman accidentally been present, by whom the scroll was interpreted to the pope, who by his apostolic letters, addressed to the princes in England, discovered that royal blood had been treasonably shed. Countless multitudes assembled to witness the disinterment of the corpse of the youthful king, and after an obstinate contention between the monks of Winchcomb and Gloucester, for the care—the profitable care—of the royal relics, it was decided that the mortal remains of the murdered prince should be deposited in the abbey founded by his father, where a shrine being erected over them, the offerings of the superstitious and pious visitants much enriched the coffers of the convent. It must further be told, on the faith of the monkish legends, that whilst the clergy and their assistants were conveying the body to Winchcomb, and singing holy hymns as they bore it along, the wicked Quendred, looking out of the palace window, sang the 109th psalm with a loud voice, endeavouring to disturb the funeral rites; but, as one bewitched, reversing every word; until in repeating the 20th verse. "Let it thus happen from the Lord unto mine enemies; and to those that speak evil against my soul" —as if by an exercise of Divine wrath, her eyes fell out of her head and besmeared the place with blood, which, it is said, was to be seen for many years afterwards. Be it as it may, the holy monks made a saint of young Kenelme, whose shrine, from the fame of these miracles, brought numerous penitents to visit it, and to the monastery a hoard of wealth. But the sacred pile bore dreadful evidence of the incursions of the Danes, by whom it was nearly destroyed; it was rebuilt and made a college of seculars by Oswald, bishop of Worcester, who dedicated it to St. Mary and St. Kenelme. At the conquest, this abbey possessed immense revenues, counting amongst its possessions, nineteen manors in this county only. In the 4th year of the reign of William II., a storm of lightning shook the abbey, and the roof and steeple of the church, and cast down the crucifix and the image of the Virgin Mary. In the wars of King Stephen, the church and all its charters were consumed, some cottages with which it was fortified around having been set on fire. In the reign of John, the castle was standing in Cole-street. In 1265, (49th Henry III.) the abbot, John de Yanworth, was summoned to parliament. The town was once so extensive as to possess eleven streets, with a boothhall and guildhall, and enjoyed considerable trade, and an extensive manufacture of cloth. It was also walled round, as Leland, who saw the remains of the walls, tells us, adding, "of old time it was a mighty large towne." Richard Anselme,† the last of its twenty-eight abbots,

* In Clenth, in the cow's valley, bereft of his head, lyeth Kenelme.

† Called Mounslow, by Sir R. Atkyns.

subscribed, in 1534, to the supremacy of King Henry VIII., to whose commissioners he surrendered the abbey* and its possessions, in 1539, soon after which the magnificent pile of its buildings was utterly destroyed.

In the reign of Henry VI. the present church, dedicated to St. Peter, was commenced by the abbot William de Winchcombe, who built the eastern part; and the goodly work was completed by the voluntary contributions of the inhabitants, aided by the munificent donations of Ralph de Boteler, Lord Sudely of Sudely, lord chamberlain of the king's household. It consists of a nave, aisles, and chancel, with an embattled tower at the west, opening into the nave. It is in the deanery to which it gives name. The Rev. J. J. Lates is rector of Winchcomb, and vicar of Sudely. The town is governed by a bailiff, with ten assistants, from whom the bailiff is annually chosen at the court leet. It now consists but of two streets, one leading from the centre of the town to Tewkesbury, the other in the southward direction to Cheltenham, and northward to Toddington, &c. Tobacco was first planted in England in the parish of Winchcomb,† and the undertaking succeeded most prosperously, until in the 1st Charles II. it was prohibited by parliament.

The manor of Winchcomb was amongst the possessions of the abbey until its dissolution. It was granted by Edward VI., with the manor of Sudely, to Sir Thomas Seymour; and, on his attainder, to the Marquis of Northampton. Lord Rivers is the present lord of the manor.

Nearly half a mile from Winchcomh stand the ruins of Sudely castle—once termed by Fuller, "of subjects' castles the most handsome habitation, and of subjects' habitations the strongest castle." The manor of Sudely was held at the time of the conquest by Harold, son of Ralph, earl of Hereford,‡ and he and his heirs, who assumed the title De Sudely, were suffered to retain possession of this lordship. His son, John de Sudely, on his marriage with Grace, daughter of Henry de Tracey, received the manor of Toddington from Harold, and left it to his second son William, who adopted the name of Tracey. In 1280, (8th Edward I.) the manor descended from Bartholomew de Sudely, to his son John de Sudely, who was as a baron summoned to parliament from the 28th Edw. I. to 13th Edw. II. inclusive. He accompanied Edw. I. in several warlike expeditions, and in the next reign was lord chamberlain to Edw. II. He died without issue, leaving Sudely to his nephew John de Sudely, who married Eleanor, daughter of Lord Scales, by whom he had issue two daughters and a son, John de Sudely, who in the 40th Edw. III. followed Edward the Black Prince in his French expedition, but died in the following year without issue; and on the division of his property between his sisters, Sudely castle and manor

* A copious and valuable history of the abbey, and of the abbots from the period of its foundation, is said to have been written by Richard de Kidderminster, the 27th abbot in succession; but it was destroyed in the fire of London in 1666.

† "Tobacco was first planted about Winchcomb, and many got great estates thereby,"—*Fuller's Worthies—Art: Gloucestershire.*

‡ Son of Walter de Maunt, by Goda, sister to King Edward the Confessor.

were allotted to Joan, who married William de Boteler, of Wem, in Shropshire, and Sudely descended from their son, Thomas de Boteler, to his second son Ralph, who built Sudely castle nearly upon the site of the castle which had been occupied by his ancestor Harold. He is described by Leland, as "a famous man of warre in King Henry V. and King Henry VI. dayes, and was an admirall, as I have heard, on sea; whereupon it was supposed and spoken, that it (the castle) was partly builded *ex spoliis gallorum;** and some speake of a tower in it called Portmare's Tower, that it should be made of a ransome of his." Ralph was, in 20th Henry VI., being then lord chamberlain, advanced, by letters patent, to the dignity of a baron, by the title of Lord Sudely de Sudely. In the next year he was appointed lord treasurer of England; and twice afterwards accompanied Richard, duke of York, as an ambassador to treat with the French for peace. Highly esteemed as Lord Sudely felt himself during the reign of his king and benefactor, Henry VI., he experienced on the accession of Edward IV. the too general fate of court favourites in those days, and was doomed to witness the alienation of that manor and of that title, the first of which he lineally inherited, and the latter was the just and honourable reward of the services he had rendered to his sovereign. He was accused of high-treason, and by order of the new king arrested in his castle, to which he had retired in the decline of life; and carried in captivity to London. Rightly conjecturing that the object of his downfall was the possession of his estate, he paused for a moment on the top of the hill that overlooked his once pleasant home, and exclaimed, in the bitterness of his soul, "Sudely castle, thou art the traitor and not I!" Leland says, "after, he made an honest declaration, and sould his castle to the king." He died without issue, 13th Edward IV. His widow Eleanor, daughter of the Earl of Shrewsbury, is said to have been precontracted to Edward IV. before he fell in love with Elizabeth Woodville, whom he married. The manor and estate remained vested in the crown till granted, for his life, by Henry VII. to his uncle the Duke of Bedford. They were granted by Edward VI. in the first year of his reign, to his uncle, Sir Thomas Seymour, lord high admiral of England, whom he created Lord Seymour, of Sudely. This ambitious nobleman aspired, but in vain, to wrest the protectorship of the young king from his brother, the Duke of Somerset.†

Lord Seymour, of Sudely, having vainly sought to obtain the hand of the young

* Leland says, "Boteler, Lord Sudely, made this castle, and when it was made, it had the price of all the buildings in those days. One thing is to be noted in this castle, that part of the windowes of it were glazed with berall," (a kind of precious stone of a deeper and brighter red, and more transparent than cornelian). "There had been a manour-place at Sudely, before the building of the castle, and the platte is yet seen in Sudely Park, where it stood." Of the castle, even at the period of his Itinerary, he says, "Now it goeth to ruine—more pittye." The boundaries of the park are marked out in the map of Gloucestershire, published by Atkyns, and bearing date 1712.

† It is singular that, notwithstanding their royal consanguinity, these ambitious brothers shared, within the short period of three years, a similar and tragic fate; the admiral being attainted for high treason, and beheaded in 1549; and the protector convicted of felony, (ostensibly for imprisoning the Duke of Northumberland), and decollated in 1552.

princess, afterwards queen, Elizabeth, privately married, early in 1548, Catherine Parr,* queen dowager, and sixth and last wife of Henry VIII. Seymour, who was her fourth husband, retired with her to Sudely, and not only repaired the castle, which was, even then, falling into decay, but added considerably to the splendour of its decorations; and built, as it is conjectured, the gothic chapel attached to the castle, which, as is evident from its remains, must have been a beautiful structure. Its celebrated possessors, however, did not long enjoy contentment or happiness; nor was Sudely destined to shelter their declining years. Catherine died in child-bed, at the castle, on September 5, 1548, and her death was not unaccompanied by deep suspicions of her having been poisoned by her husband, who had long treated her with brutal unkindness, and "wished her dead," prompted by his ambitious hopes of yet possessing Elizabeth, whom he endeavoured to prevail upon to marry him clandestinely—but the plot was discovered, and his proud project thwarted. Catherine was interred with the most costly funeral pomp, in Sudely chapel, as we learn from that curious MS. "A Boke of Buryalls of trew noble Prsons."

"A Brevyate of thentirement of the ladye Katheryn Parre, Quene Dowager, late wiefe to Kinge Henrye theight, and aftre wiefe to Sr. Thomas lord Seymer, of Sudeley, & highe Admyrall of Englond."

"Itm. on Wenysdaye the Vth of Septembre, betwene ij and iij of the clocke in the Morninge, died the aforseid Ladye, late Quene Dowager, at the Castle of Sudley, in Glocestre Shyre 1548 and lyethe buried in the Chappell of the seid Castle.

"Itm. she was cearid & chestid in leade accordinglie, and so remaynid in her pryvie Chambre untill things were in Aredynes.

"Hereaftre followethe the P'vision in the Chappell.

* The following extraordinary passage is extracted from a letter, addressed by the queen to Lord Sudely, before their marriage:—"I wold not haue you to thynke that thys myne onest good wyll towards you, to procede of any sodayne motyon or passyon. *For as truly as God ys God, my mynd was fully bent the other tyme I was at lybertye, to marye yew before any man I knewe.* Howbeyt God withstode my wyll theryn moost vehemently for a tyme, and through hys grace and goodness made that possible wyche semeth to me most impossible, that was made me to renownce utterly myne owne wyll, and to follow hys wyll most wyllyngly. Yt were to long to wryte all the process of thys matter. Yf I lyve I shall declare yt to yow my self. I can say nothyng, but as my Lady of Suffolk sayeth, God ys a marvelous man.

"By her that ys yowrs, to serue and obey,
"duryng her lyf,
"KATERYN THE QUENE, K. P."

"*The other tyme*" she "*was at lybertye*" was after the death of her second husband, Lord Latimer, at which period Seymour was a married man."

"Itm. hit was hangid wth blacke clothe garnisshid wth Schoocheons of maryagys vidz. Kinge Henrye theight & her in pale undre the Crowne, her owne in lozenge undre the Crowne. Allso tharmes of the lorde Admyrall & hers in pale wth out Crowne.

"Itm. Rayles covred wth blacke clothe ffor the Mourners to sytt in wth Stooles and Cussheons accordinglie wth owt eyther hersse matue & vallence or tapres savinge ij tapres wheron were ij schoocheons wch stode uppon the Corps duringe the Servyce.

"Thordre in proceadinge
to the Chappell.

"Ffyrst ij conductors in blacke wth blacke staves.

"Then Gentlemen and Esquiers.

"Then Knights.

"Then Offycers of howsholde wth theyre whyte staves.

"Then the Gentlemen huisshers.

"Then Somrsett heraulde in the Ks cote.

"Then the Corps borne by vj Gentlemen in blacke gownes wth theire hodes on theyre heades

"Then xi staffe Torchis borne on eche side by Yeomen rounde abowte the Corps And at eche corner a Knight for Assystunce iiij wth theyre hodes on theyre heades.

"Then the ladye Jane* (Doughter to the lorde Mrques Dorssett) chefe mourner, ledde by aestate, her trayne borne uppe by a yonge ladye.

"Then vj other ladie mourners, ij & ij.

"Then all ladies and gentlewomen, ij & ij.

"Then Yeomen iij & iij in a Ranke.

"Then all other ffollowinge.

"The Mannr. of the Seruice
in the Churche.

"Itm. when the Corps was sett wth in the Rayles and the mourners placid, the hole Quere began & songe certen Salmes in Englishe & reade iij lessons; And aftre the iijde. lesson the mourners accordinge to theyre degrees & as yt ys accustomyd offerid into the almes boxe And when they hadde don all other as Gentlemen or Gentlewomen that wolde.

"The Offeringe don Doctor Covrdall the Quenes Almner began his Sermonde wch was verie good and godlie And in one place thereof he toke A occasion to declare unto the people howe that thei shulle none there thinke Seye nor spreade abrode that the offeringe wch was there don was don anye thinge to prffytt the deade but ffor the poore onlye And also the lights wch were caried and stode abowte the Corps were ffor the honnour of the parsson and for none other entente nor purpose And so went throwghe

* The beautiful—the innocent—but most ill-fated victim of parental ambition—Lady Jane Grey.

wth hys Sermonde and made a Godlye prayer, And thole Churche aunswerid and praied the same wth hym in thende."

"The Sermonde don the Corps was buried duringe wch tyme the Quere songe Te Deum in Englisse.

"And this don aftre Dinnr. the mourners and the rest that wolde returned homewarde agayne all wch aforesaid was don in a mornynge."

The following was the inscription on the coffin:

K. P.
Here lyethe quene
Kateryn Wife to Kyng
Henry the VIII. And
last the wife of Thomas
Lord of Sudeley high
Admyrall of England
And uncle to King
Edward the VI.
dyed
V. September
m cccc
xl viii.

In 1782, Dr. Nash discovered the coffin of the unfortunate queen, and, on opening it, the body was found in perfect preservation. The grave was, a few years afterwards, opened by some persons, who most sacrilegiously and wantonly violated all the decencies of life, by mutilating and abusing the mouldering remains. Strange to say, every one of the party concerned in this shameful act has since been snatched from existence with awful, and appalling, suddenness.

On March 20, 1549, Seymour was publicly beheaded, for alleged high treason; and the castle subsequently granted to William Parr, marquis of Northampton, who was attainted with the Duke of Northumberland, (1st Mary,) but pardoned in the ensuing year. The castle and manor were granted, in 1554, by the queen to her strenuous supporter, Sir John Bruges, or Bridges, of Coberley, whom she created Baron Chandos, of Sudely, with limitation to his heirs male. He was governor of the tower of London, and accompanied to the scaffold the unfortunate Lady Jane Grey, to whom, in his painful station, he behaved most humanely. In 1592, Queen Elizabeth visited Sudely castle, and was sumptuously entertained by Giles, third lord Chandos. Grey, lord Chandos, who was the fifth descendant of Lord John, was so popular in Gloucestershire, and retained so numerous and splendid a retinue at court, that he was universally hailed King of the Cotswolds. He is said to have been distinguished as an accomplished scholar, and to have written an admirable work, entitled "Horæ Subsecivæ." He died in Italy, but his remains were

conveyed home to Sudely for interment. His son and successor, George, lord Chandos, was eminent for his loyalty and attachment to the unfortunate Charles I. throughout the rebellion. He conspicuously distinguished himself at the battle of Newbury, in which he had three horses killed under him. The king, in admiration of his gallant bearing, and his valorous exploits, desired to create him Earl of Newbury, even on the field of fight; but he, with the true modesty of a hero, and the generous feeling of an attached and faithful friend, declined the honour, until he should behold his sovereign in rightful possession of his throne, and enabled to confirm the dignity he conferred. That hope, unfortunately, was never realized; but the disinterestedness and integrity of the gallant soldier are not the less admirable. Clarendon, in his History of the Rebellion, speaks of him as "a young man of spirit and courage, who had for two years served the king very bravely, at the head of a regiment of horse." Early in January 1642, Corbet says, "Our," (the parliament's,) "forces had their designe upon Sudely castle, at that time kept by Captaine Bridges, in the behalfe of the Lord Chandos. Lieutenant-Colonell Massie was intrusted with the manage of this action, who drew from Gloucester a party of three hundred musketteers, with two sakres, assisted with foure score horse, and four companies of dragoones from Cirencester, by order of a counsell of warre held there, and consent of the deputy-lieutenants; there were, in the castle neere three score souldiers, with provision and ammunition sufficient: our men drew up before it in the evening, made severall shots, and the canon did some execution; the same night summons was given, the enemy refused to render upon quarter, but craved time till the next day, which in part was granted; guards were set upon them all night; the next morning our men were drawne out to make an assault, beds and woollpacks were fetched out of the neighbourhood, which they tumbled before, and saved themselves from shot: the horse and dragoones came up before the foot approached the wall, and possest themselves of a garden under the castle, and got hay and straw which they fired, that the smoake driven by the wind smothered up the house, in the shadow of which the ordnance were brought up undiscovered, and planted against the weakest part of the castle, which, when the enemy perceived, they sounded a parley, and immediately rendred upon agreement." The captors ruthlessly defaced the once magnificent edifice, dismantled the walls, and even unroofed the chapel, destroying all the memorials of the dead. They did not long retain possession of it; and again, with considerable strength, "Sudely castle was maintained by the Lord Chandos, a great stop to our intercourse with Warwick, which was the only way of commerce with London." It was once more assailed in 1644, by Sir William Waller and Massie, with their united forees; but this attack, like the former, must be related in Corbet's words: Waller "appointed Colonel Massie to meet him before Sudely, where he performed an acceptable service to this country. The governour forthwith faced the castle, beat in the enemy, and took twenty horses from under the castle walls, expecting the arrivall of Sir William Waller: who came up within few houres with a strong party

of horse. The enemy within discharged their ordnance, and fired their outhouses like men resolved upon extremities rather than to yield up or lose the garrison. In the evening Sir William Waller summoned the governour of the castle: and it fell out that the very name of his army and presence strooke them, to the surrender of that hold that might have expended the lives of many, and much time then pretious in that great advantage on the king's distressed army: yet they refused to render at the first summons. The battery was planted within halfe musket shot. But the great pieces did little execution—nor could the castle be taken by battery; but one shot by chance took off the head of their cannoneer, and exceedingly daunted the common souldier." They became panic-struck, and threw down their arms, refusing to fight; whereupon the governor, Sir W. Morton, was compelled to surrender.—The ruins cannot fail to impress the mind with the certainty of having once formed component parts of a very beautiful and extensive structure, and are now valuable as a memorial of the style of building of the fifteenth century. George, lord Chandos, did not long survive his royal master. He died, without issue male, in 1654, precisely a century from the first creation of the Chandos baronial title; and bequeathed the castle of Sudely to his wife Jane, daughter of John, earl of Rivers; who, some years afterwards, married George Pitt, Esq. of Strathfieldsea, in Hampshire, to whom she conveyed the estates; but the barony devolved upon William, brother to George, lord Chandos, who died in 1676, and was succeeded in the title by his cousin, Sir James Bridges, who was appointed by the Turkey Company, ambassador to Constantinople, where he remained for seven years:—to prove his qualification for the election, he let his whiskers grow in the Turkish fashion. He died in 1714, when his son James, styled "the magnificent duke," was created Earl of Carnarvon,and in 1719, Duke of Chandos. In 1814, Lord Rivers, the lineal descendant of Mr. Pitt, sold the castle, and sixty-two acres of land, to the then Marquis, but now Duke, of Buckingham and Chandos, who, by his marriage with the noble heiress of James, duke of Chandos, unites the titles.

Pursuing the north-eastern direction, through Winchcomb, for a distance of a mile and a half, a by-road leads through the fields to the last few remains of Hayles' abbey.

At the conquest the manor of Hayles was transferred from its Saxon possessor, Osgot, partly to a Norman knight, William Leuric; and partly to the abbey of St. Ebrulph, in Normandy. It reverted to the crown in the reign of Henry III., who granted it to his brother Richard, earl of Cornwall, who was likewise styled King of the Romans, for the purpose of founding a Cistertian monastery, in fulfilment of a vow he had made when in imminent peril in crossing the British channel. This monastery is said to have cost its founder 10,000 marks, equivalent, at that early time, to 6,666l. 13s. The abbey was mitred, and enjoyed great privileges. The manor formed part of its possessions. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary and to All Saints, on November 5, 1251, by the Bishop of Worcester, in the presence of King Henry III. and Queen Eleanor, attended by the prin-

cipal nobility of the kingdom, and upwards of three hundred knights. Thirteen bishops celebrated mass, each at a separate altar; the Bishop of Lincoln officiating at the high altar. A sumptuous entertainment was given to all who had witnessed the ceremony. In 1271, twenty years after its consecration, the principal part of the abbey was destroyed by fire, but again repaired by Earl Richard, at a cost of 8000 marks. He had been twice married:—his second wife was Senchia, the sister of Eleanor, his brother's queen; and it is said, that at their marriage-feast, which was not "coldly furnished forth with funeral baked meats," 30,000 dishes were served up to the table in Westminster Hall. Senchia died in 1261, and was buried at Hayles, as was the founder, who survived her eleven years, and died in 1272. After the death of Earl Richard, his son Edmund practised here the pretended and impious miracle called "***Christ's blood***," by which, during his lifetime, and for many years afterwards, the abbey was greatly enriched. This delusion consisted in the exhibition of a curious vessel, or crystal phial, which the young earl brought from Germany; and it was said that a man in mortal sin, and unabsolved, could not perceive the blood it contained; but as his absolution approached completion it was gradually made manifest to him as the evidence of divine propitiation. A monk showed "the sinner this cabinet of crystal, richly adorned," both sides of which seemed alike, yet one was thicker than the other, and impervious; and until the penitent had paid roundly for masses to purge his troubled soul, the obscure side only was shewn to him; but when his purse had been well lightened of its "superfluous dross," he was permitted, by slow degrees, to witness the seemingly miraculous coming of the blood, which the monks declared to be the "precious blood of Christ, shed for mankind upon the cross!"—and the transparent side of the crystal was turned towards him with the delusive sign of perfect absolution. This wicked fraud had not only obtained wealth and rich offerings from the credulity and superstition of innumerable visitors, but likewise procured for the abbey many papal indulgences and extensive privileges. The impudent fraud,—a mockery of Christianity—was detected at the dissolution of monasteries, and the blood proved to be that of a duck, or of some animal, which was renewed weekly! During the wars of Stephen the monks of Winchcomb objected to the consecration of the small church by Ralph de Worcester, the builder, but he starved them into compliance. Of the abbey* but few fragments remain, and on its site there is now a large orchard; a considerable portion of the ruined walls has been removed to Toddington, for the purpose of building the splendid mansion erected there by Charles Hanbury Tracey, Esq. In 1603, William Hobby, lord of the manor of Hayles, in right of his wife, died there in his 103d year.

In November, 1822, the monastic seal of this abbey was found, in perfect preservation, in a potato field, near Langrick, on the river Ouse. It was of bell metal, two inches and a half in length, of an oval shape, pointed at the ends, and pierced through the shaft,

* In the reign of Henry IV. one of the abbots of Hayles took part against the king, and was hanged.

bearing this inscription: "*Sigillum Fraternitis Monasterii Beate Maria de Hayles.*" In the centre, on a ground of flowers, was the effigy of a man* in a monkish stole, bare-headed and shorn, standing on an elevation of three steps, holding in his right hand a globe surmounted by a cross, and in his left hand a staff or sceptre, stretched into three rods or branches at the top.

The manor of Toddington was held, at the conquest, by Ralph, earl of Hereford, and the possession continued to his son Harold. It descended, in the reign of Henry II. to Harold's grandson, William, who assumed the maternal name of Tracey. In this family, which descended on the paternal side from the Saxon kings of England, Toddington has been vested up to the present period, without a single instance of its alienation, for nearly eight centuries. Sir John Tracey was created a viscount by Charles I. The manor-house, which is supposed to have been built in the seventeenth century, was partly destroyed by fire some years ago; but a mansion has been built at a short distance from it, which in the modern buildings of this country ranks second only to Fonthill. It is in the gothic style, and reflects the highest credit upon the taste and spirit of its founder, Charles Hanbury Tracey, Esq., who, by his marriage with his cousin, the Hon. Henrietta Susannah, daughter and sole heiress of the late Lord Viscount Tracey, became lord of the manors and estates of Toddington and Hayles.—On the road between Winchcomb and Toddington manor-house, and in the direct approach to the village of Toddington, twenty-two neatly uniform cottages have been built by the present lord of the manor, with a portion of land attached to each, for the habitation of poor people.

* Doubtless of the founder Richard. He died at the castle of Berkhampstead. His heart was buried in the church of the friars minors, in Oxford—and his body at Hayles.

CHAPTER XII.

EASTWARD EXCURSION.

On the right of the London road, about a mile distant from Cheltenham, stands Charlton Kings*—formerly called Kinges Cherleton, to distinguish it from Charlton Abbots. It was a royal manor in the lordship, or "terra regis," of Cheltenham, at the period of the conquest. Within the parish there is an insulated manor called Ashley, which in the reign of Henry III. belonged to William de Escheley or Ashley. Long prior to the sixteenth century, the Grevilles possessed Charlton, which, in 1697, was purchased by John Prynne, Esq.† by whose descendant, William Prynne, Esq. it was bequeathed to his daughter Eliza, who had married Dodington Hunt, Esq. Their son, William Hunt Prynne, Esq., who succeeded to the lordship of the manor, died in 1821, lamented by all who, in his life-time, appreciated the excellent qualities of his nature: and the manor was held by his lady, who did not long survive him. On her decease, the manor and estates devolved upon George Bragge Prowse, Esq. who, in November 1825, obtained the royal permission to assume the name and armorial bearings of Prynne, in compliance with the will of his cousin, the late Wm. Hunt Prynne, Esq.

Charlton Park, well stocked with deer, is one of the most beautiful objects in the neighbourhood of Cheltenham, and the fine sheet of water which is formed in front of the manor-house, by widening the surface of the Chelt, has a very fine effect. Nearly a mile beyond the park is the picturesque residence of Capt. Maunsell, R. N.

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* "Charleton," or "Cherlenton," from the Saxon, signifying, "the countryman's town;" and "Kings," "from devolving to the crown at the Norman conquest."—*Rudder.*

† Collateral relation of William Prynne, the most celebrated political writer of his day, and the author of the "Histriomastix," for which he was, in 1633, prosecuted in the Star Chamber, and sentenced to pay a fine of 5000l., to be expelled the University of Oxford, and Lincoln's Inn, to lose his ears in the pillory, and to be imprisoned for life. The latter part of his sentence only was remitted, for in 1637 he wrote another libel—was sentenced to pay another fine of 5000l., to lose the remainder of his ears, and to be perpetually imprisoned in Carnarvon castle. He was removed to Jersey, whence he returned in triumph to London, on the meeting of the Long Parliament. He subsequently opposed Cromwell, and was mainly instrumental in the restoration of Charles II. John Prynne devoted many years of his life to the composition of the valuable papers, entitled the *Prynne MSS.*



J.D. Harding del. Chas Heath sc.

TO GEORGE BRAGGE PROWSE, ESQ^R^

THIS S.W. VIEW OF HIS SEAT CHARLTON PARK,
NEAR CHELTENHAM (ENGRAVED AT HIS EXPENSE)
Is most Respectfully Inscribed by The Publishers.

Printed & Published by S.Y. Griffith & Co^r^ Cheltenham.



Drawn by J.P. Miller from a sketch by S.E. Lysons

E. Radclyffe Sc.

TO GEORGE BRAGGE PROWSE, ESQ.

THIS S.E. VIEW OF HIS SEAT, CHARLTON PARK, NEAR CHELTENHAM,

(ENGRAVED AT HIS REFERENCE) IS MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED BY The Publishers

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J.D. Harding del.

Chas. Heath sc.

TO ALEXANDER NICHOLSON ESQ.

THIS N.E. VIEW OF EAST COURT,

CHARLTON KINGS, HIS SEAT (ENGRAVED AT HIS EXPENSE)

Is most respectfully Inscribed by

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Drawn by J. Byrne. Engraved by T. & Leitch Byrne.

TO ALEXANDER NICHOLSON ESQ.

This View of EAST COURT, Charlton Kings,

(HIS SEAT) ENGRAVED AT HIS EXPENCE

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T. Bray Del. W. Radclyffe Sc.

TO EDWARD IGGULDEN, ESQ^R^

THIS VIEW OF HIS SEAT THE GLENFALL, NEAR CHELTENHAM ENGRAVED AT HIS EXPENCE,

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The church, which is in the deanery of Winchcomb, and dedicated to St. Mary, was originally a flat pile of building, consisting of two aisles and a transept, surmounted by an embattled tower rising from the centre. It was made subject to the mother church of Cheltenham, in 1190, by William, bishop of Hereford, by the indulgence of Pope Innocent II. and then given to the abbey of Cirencester, when it first obtained parochial rights. The benefice is an endowed curacy, which is now held by the Rev. R. Williams, to whose influence and exertions the parish is indebted for the many judicious improvements by which the church has not only been enlarged, but very tastefully and becomingly adorned.

Although it does not appear that Charlton Kings was regularly garrisoned during the rebellion of 1641, yet Corbet informs us, that "a party of horse and dragoones, commanded by Major Gray, fell into Charlton Kings, and had surprized the Lord Chandos in his quarters, had he not made a private escape, where the search after him caused the losse of seven or eight private souldiers; yet they slew some of the enemy, took ten prisoners, and some few horse."

At the turn of the London road, immediately beyond Cudnal, a private road leads to Hewletts* hill, on the declivity of which is a most romantic spot, called the Glenfall, distant about a mile and a half from Cheltenham. Though not on an extensive scale, this truly fascinating retreat combines, within its precincts, the local charms of hill, vale, wood, and water. Nature seems to reign here in her primeval simplicity and beauty; and the soft sound of the waters from the miniature cataract, formed by rude rocks, breaking upon the stillness of the solitude, has the most imposing and soothing effect. The views from the lawn in front of the tasteful cottage-residence, are luxuriant beyond description. Glenfall, which was formerly the property of Charles Higgs, Esq. has been lately purchased by Edward Iggulden, Esq., whose tasteful mind has been successfully employed in improving the pleasing attractions of a place which, even in its less cultured state, was extremely beautiful.

Near Charlton Kings, on the London road, is Eastcourt, the delightful seat of Colonel Nicholson.

Two miles beyond Charlton is Coxhorne, the seat of Conway Whithorne Lovesy, Esq. a descendant of the Whithorne family, who long possessed considerable property in Charlton parish. "John Whithorne, of Charlton Kings, died in 1590. Conway, his son, was a citizen of London, and served King Charles I. at Worcester; his son, Conway Whithorne, was a lieutenant under Colonel Bairsbrigg, at Aberystwith castle, in 1645. He was a captain of foot in the king's service at the surrender of Worcester, in 1646; and served under King Charles II. at the battle of Worcester, in 1651. He was

* The road passing by Hewletts was formerly the principal line of communication between Stow-on-the-Wold and Cheltenham; but the carriage road to the former now leads close by Northleach.

educated at Pembroke college, Oxford, and subsequently proceeded M. A., B. D., and became rector of Draylesford, in Worcestershire."

The road which passes by Charlton manor-house leads up the eastern brow of Leckhampton hill, to the Seven Wells, about three miles and a half from Cheltenham, close to an angle of the old London road which passed through Frogmill to Gloucester. These springs, which are more numerous than their general name implies, form the Corin, supposed to be the highest source of the Thames—the very head of that majestic river. They are in the parish of Coberley,* and so great an object of attraction that scarcely ever does a visitor depart from Cheltenham without having seen

" the rivers in their native beds—
" Deep, deep, we hear them, labouring to get free."

Four miles beyond Cheltenham is Dowdeswell (through which village the old London road passes) built very romantically on the side of a hill. The Rogers's, who have long had possessions here, and in other parts of this county, are a branch of a family of that name, formerly resident at Bryanstone-house, Dorsetshire: this manor was purchased by William Rogers, Esq. of the heir of Sir Edmund Tame, and has continued vested in his descendants to the present period, Miss Rogers being the lady of the manor. This lady resides at the ancient mansion, which is delightfully situated on an eminence, commanding a fine prospect of a beautiful valley and an extent of hills. The church, which is in the deanery of Winchcomb, (Miss Rogers being patroness,) forms a direct cross, from the centre of which rises a low spire, which was built at the joint expence of Rich. Rogers, Esq. and A. Abbingdon, Esq. in 1577. In the chancel may still be seen the brazen effigy of a man, erroneously supposed to have been that of Robert, abbot of Hayles. The figure is not represented in the dress of an ecclesiastic, but in a long robe semée, with mullets, and fleurs-de-lis, which denote him to have been of the family of Rogers. On a monument in the chancel is the following epitaph:

" To the Memory of William Rogers, of Sandiwell, in the parish of Dowdeswell, Gen. who departed this life ij. Ian. 1663, in ye 67 Yr. of his age.

" In hope to resalute his Soul here lies
" This sleeping Body, now Death's sacrifice,
" Death & the Grave graunts the Conjunction
" Of both by Christ his Resurrection,
" Noe more than Earthe can Earthe make Man inherit
" But Heaven's a Guift of Grace not gained by Meritt.
" Reader, be confident noe Good Son dies,
" But, as the Day's Sun, only sets to rise."—

* When Coberley manor-house, now quite dilapidated, was in the possession of Sir Thomas Pope, earl of Downe, the unfortunate Charles I. passed the night of November 6, 1643, within the ancient walls of the " fayre house," as Leland styled it; and revisited it on July 12, 1644. Scarcely a stone now remains to mark the site of the building, which was near the church. After the battle of Worcester, Charles II. fled thither, and was concealed for one night in the parsonage-house.



E. Ickham del. C. Pye sc.

TO MISS ROGERS,

THIS VIEW OF HER RESIDENCE, DOWDESWELL HOUSE,

(ENGRAVED AT HER EXPENCE) IS MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED BY *The Publishers*

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TO MISS ROGERS,

THIS VIEW OF HER RESIDENCE, DOWDESWELL HOUSE,
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Drawn by Chidley from a sketch by T. Lord. W. Radclyffe Sc.

TO WALTER LAWRENCE, LAWRENCE, ESQ.

THIS N.W. VIEW OF HIS SEAT, SANDYWELL PARK,

(ENGRAVED AT HIS EXPENCE) IS MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED BY The Publishers

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T.Barber del. From a Sketch by R.Lamb.

R.Lodge Sc.

TO WALTER LAWRENCE LAWRENCE, ESQ.

THIS S.W. VIEW OF HIS SEAT, SANDYWELL PARK.

(ENGRAVED AT HIS EXPENCE) IS MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED BY The Publishers

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In the church-yard stands a yew tree of great antiquity. The rectory was formerly a chapel of Withington, and is therefore exempt from archidiaconal visitation. The Rev. William Baker is the present rector. The parish of Dowdeswell has unquestionably been the scene of several military actions, as appears from the camps which still remain visible; and one of them, upon Miss Rogers's property, called the Castles, on Dowdeswell hill, is supposed to have been of Roman construction.

Part of the village, standing upon a higher spot, is called Upper Dowdeswell, where the Abbingdon family formerly resided, from whom it was purchased by Sir Edward Rich: the last possessor of that family sold it to Sir Charles Pole, Bart. with the estates belonging thereto: and the Rev. Henry Pole is the present owner.

In the autumn of 1825, the new line of road branching off at the foot of Dowdeswell hill, and obviating the danger and difficulty of its access, was opened, and passes close to the new entrance of Sandywell Park, the residence of Walter Lawrence Lawrence, Esq. who has, at a very considerable expence, enlarged and improved the mansion-house and the surrounding grounds, which are now highly ornamental. This fine estate, including within its boundaries an extent of more than three thousand acres of most fertile land, was originally in the great lordship of Gloucester, but became the property of William Rogers, Esq. from one of whose descendants it was purchased, in 1680, by Henry Brett, Esq.* In extending the foundation and drains of the house, he discovered several coffins, placed in a direction due north and south, supposed to have once contained the remains of Romans of some distinction, who had been interred here soon after the invasion. Twenty years since three stone coffins were dug up; and in Sept. 1824, some workmen, dug up, at a little depth from the surface, a very curious relic of antiquity, being evidently the head of a "bwyelt-arvan," or ancient British battle-axe, (a plate of which may be seen in "Meyrick's Ancient Armour.") It is about five inches in length, one inch and a half in breadth in the centre, but upwards of three inches in the sweep of the axe, and of nearly half an inch of thickness at the most solid part. It retains the marks of rude carving, and at the broad end gradually slopes down to a thin sharp edge.

The new direction of the London road intersects Sandywell and Sevenhampton estates, both of which belong to Walter Lawrence Lawrence, Esq.

Sevenhampton formed part of the manor of Prestbury,† and was held by Durand, the sheriff, of Robert, bishop of Hereford, in which see it remained vested 25th Henry III. and 14th Richard II. The manor of Sevenhampton descended, (11th Henry VIII.) from Elizabeth, countess of Devonshire, to her grand-daughter, the wife of Sir Arthur Plantagenet; and in the 18th Elizabeth some of the lands were granted to Sir Christopher

* *Rudder* in his account of Cowley, says, "Henry Brett, Esq. was lessee of the manor. He was passionately fond of ringing, and continually travelling about the country with a company of ringers, at a vast expence, dissipated a plentiful fortune."

† "And was therefore sometimes called *Prestbury on the Hill*."—RUDDER.

Hatton, lord chancellor of England; who, although a member of the Inner Temple, owed all his legal eminence to his graceful dancing in a masque, which so attracted the notice of the queen, that he rose in royal favour, and was made lord chancellor and knight of the garter. Yet, like almost all court favourites, he is said to have died of a broken heart, occasioned by the queen's demanding payment of a debt which he had not the means of liquidating. Sevenhampton was held in 1807, by Walter Lawrence, Esq. the descendant of Sir Robert Lawrence, of Ashton Hall, Lancashire, (who in 1191, accompanied Richard I. to Acre, and in reward of his services in the field was made a knight banneret by the king.) From him the estate descended to his grandson, Walter Lawrence Lawrence, Esq. the present lord of the manor.—The river Coln rises in two heads in Sevenhampton and Withington, unquestionably the highest of the many springs that are tributary to the Thames. Near Sevenhampton is Syreford, a hamlet in the parish of Whittington. Immediately adjoining Syreford inn, there is a tract of ground now called Wycombe or Wiccombe, but anciently known as Wacrescombe, signifying, according to Fosbroke, "the valley of the watchmen."—We find from Domesday Book, that "the church of Wirecestre held Widendune (Withington) in Wacrescumb hundred." From its situation "being surrounded on all sides by roads," and from the discovery of great quantities of Roman coins and black pottery, which are frequently found when rain falls after the earth has been newly harrowed; and from the evident variety of colour in the rising corn, by which the form of a street may be distinctly traced; and from the result of several excavations, there can be little doubt that this spot was at one period "a British and Roman-British settlement."*

At Andover's Ford, through which the London road passes, a serious encounter took place between Colonel Massie and a detachment of the royal army—the captain of the latter was slain by the governor's own hand, but the parliamentary troops deserted.—Massie with difficulty escaped; and Colonel Stephens, a lieutenant, and twenty-five soldiers, were taken prisoners to Oxford, where Stephens, who was a volunteer in the engagement, died of his wounds, or, as Corbet says, "breathed his last in that ***poisonous ayre***, where many gentlemen were observed in those days to expire."

Nearly half-way between Dowdeswell and Northleach, a private road leads to Salperton. This manor belonged soon after the conquest, to William Fitz Osborne, earl of Hereford, the first of that title, created by William the Conqueror, to whom he was allied. By Fitz Osborne's urgent advice did the Duke of Normandy undertake that expedition, to the success of which his martial prowess mainly contributed at the battle of Hastings.† Henry III. granted the manor to the Knights Templar. In the reign of Edward III.

* "In a quarry not far off, were discovered the bones of a Briton, the boss of a shield six inches in diameter, and the head of a spear seventeen inches in the blade, and nine inches in the socket."—*Information of Wm. Morris, Esq.*

† His successor, Robert, joined Ralph de Guader, earl of Norfolk, in a conspiracy to depose William Rufus; but being defeated, he lost all the lands granted to his father, and died in captivity,



TO IOHN BROWNE, ESQ.

Proof

THIS FRONT VIEW OF HIS SEAT, SALPERTON HOUSE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE,
(ENGRAVED AT HIS EXPENCE) IS MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED BY The Publishers





Drawn by J. Clayton & etchd. by E.J. Lamb. W. Radclyffe Sc.

TO JOHN BROWNE, ESQ.

THIS S.W. VIEW OF HIS SEAT, SALPERTON HOUSE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE,
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William de Clinton, earl of Huntingdon, possessed it. It was afterwards granted to the Benedictine nunnery of Stodely, in Oxfordshire, and on the dissolution was granted to the college of Winchester. The manor was once held by William de Cheltenham. The monks of Lyra, in Normandy, anciently possessed the advowson to the church, which was given to them by Robert de Chandos. W. Cossley, of Bristol, leased the manor of Salperton, (8th George II.) from the warden and scholars of Winchester college, and sold the impropriation to the Earl of Westmoreland, from whom it was purchased by Thomas Browne, Esq. John Browne, Esq. is the present lord of the manor.*

Northleach is distant fourteen miles from Cheltenham.† The manor was granted by King Ethelred to the monastery of Gloucester, and claimed by Aldred, bishop of Worcester, and afterwards archbishop of York, in consideration of the expence he incurred in building the abbey of Gloucester. He annexed it to the possessions of the archbishopric: but it was restored in the reign of William the Conqueror by Thomas, archbishop of York, and continued vested in the monastery till the dissolution. Henry III. granted the monks the privilege of fairs and a market. The manor has long been held by the Dutton family, and the Right Hon. Lord Sherborne is the present possessor. Nearly four centuries ago the town of Northleach, which is situated on a slope of the Cotswolds, near the source of the river Leche, consisting of little more than one street, was of great importance as a clothing manufactory—but its woollen market which was very considerable, was gradually abandoned from the failure of a sufficient supply of water.‡

The church, in the deanery of Cirencester, is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul; a spacious building, and a fine specimen of the florid gothic style of architecture, consisting of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with a large and lofty tower, surmounted by open-worked battlements. The porch of the south entrance is beautifully embellished. The monumental emblems and inscriptions which adorn this church are exceedingly curious. The impropriation is vested in the Bishop of Gloucester; the Rev. John Kempthorne being the present incumbent,

Hugh Westwood, Esq. fonuded the grammar-school of Northleach, for which purpose he devised lands in Chedworth, held in trust by the provost of Queen's college, Oxford, from amongst the graduates of which the master must be chosen. An excellent school-room has been recently fitted up. The scholars, who are required on their entrance to be able to read the bible, and write sufficiently to compose their exercises,

* A few years since, Mr. Cook, a tenant of J. Browne, Esq. undertook to plough a field of sixty acres in one day, with his own teams, and those of his relations, none being further removed in degree than a first cousin, and all living within five miles of his farm. This arduous task was commenced with thirty-one oxen teams, and thirty-four horse teams, at six o'clock in the morning, and finished before one o'clock in the afternoon.

† Atkyns says, "five miles east from Cheltenham."

‡ The Sherborne-Arms Hotel was formerly a cloth and woollen storehouse, and the market for all the wool-staplers of the Cotswold hills: it was the only house in the country, except one at Campden, that enjoyed the privilege of the foreign markets for wool.

must be the children of inhabitants of the town. A house adjoining the church is the residence of the master. The school possesses the advantage of an exhibition in every fourth year. A free school for the education of twelve boys and twelve girls was founded by G. Townsend, Esq. with a gift of fifteen pounds annually to apprentice one boy.—Three almshouses were established by a member of the Sherborne family, for the residence of six aged women.—Six cottages were given by the widow of the late Rev. —— Allen, formerly curate of Sherborne, for the residence of six decayed tradesmen,—having eight shillings each allowed them per week. They are voted in by the bailiff.

At Eastington, about a mile from Northleach, and near the foss-road to Stow, there was anciently a very extensive Roman encampment, called Norbury, supposed to have been one of the principal camps in the district. Its traces are very nearly all obliterated by the furrows of the plough; but the double trench formed an oblong circumvallation of nearly eighty acres of ground. In this hamlet the celebrated Dr. Woodward commenced his valuable collection of fossils, subsequently presented by him to the university of Cambridge. There was once a chapel in Eastington dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, but it has long been demolished.

The foss-way from Cirencester passes nearly in a straight line to Lemington, close by the house of correction, at a short distance from Northleach, and through Stow-on-the-Wold.

Near Stow is Eyeford, a manor held in the reign of Henry III. by Richard de Clare, earl of Gloucester. After the dissolution it was granted as part of the possessions of the abbey of Evesham, to Sir Philip Hobby, whose brother, Sir Thomas Hobby, died, seized of the manor in the 9th Elizabeth. His widow afterwards married Lord Russell, whom she survived; and after his death demised the manor of Eyeford to the Earl of Huntingdon and the Lord Treasurer Burleigh. In 1608 the Earl of Worcester was lord of the manor. It is now the property of Vernon Dolphin, Esq., who resides in the "pleasant seat," as Atkyns terms it, situated in a valley so much sequestered, that when William III. visited the Duke of Shrewsbury, during his residence there, he was so surprised and charmed by its perfect solitude, that he "thought himself out of the world." It is affirmed, that in a summer-house, built over a cascade, which has long since gone to ruin, the immortal Milton composed a considerable portion of his Paradise Lost.*

About three miles from Northleach is the entrance to Sherborne House, leading through an extensive and well wooded avenue.

The manor of Sherborne† was once held, with considerable estates, by a family styled

* Northwick, in the parish of Blockley, between Stow and Chipping Campden, was once the residence of Sir J. Rushout, the friend of Addison, who wrote several papers of the Spectator, during his visits to Gloucestershire.

† It was originally written "Scirebourn." "The name is derived," says Atkyns, "from being on the border of the shire; and bourn, which signifies a bottom with water." Rudder, in discussing the etymology of this manor, says "It was undoubtedly this Bourn that gave name to the place, which was called Sherbourn, not because it lies on the border of



Buckler del.t

Proof

Ruddiyer sc.t

TO THE RT HONBLE LORD SHERBORNE,

THIS S.W. VIEW OF SHERBORNE HOUSE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

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De Sherborne. At the conquest it belonged to the monastery of Winchcomb, and was assigned by the abbot (12th Edward III.) to the abbey of St. Ebrulph, at Utica, in Normandy; but on the suppression of alien priories, in the reign of Henry V. it reverted to Winchcomb abbey, and continued so vested till the dissolution, (31st Henry VIII.) when it was granted, with the rectory and advowson, to Sir Christopher Alleyn, and in the 6th Edward VI. was purchased from Sir Christopher and his wife Ethelreda, by Thomas Dutton, Esq. descended from the ancient family of Dutton, in Cheshire. Hugh Lupus, the nephew of the Norman Conqueror, (son of his sister Emma,) held a command in the invading army, and was created Viceroy and Earl of Chester. Nigel, or Neal, a nobleman, his constable, was accompanied by his five brothers, of whom the eldest, named Udardus, or Odart, was rewarded with the manor of Dunton, or Dutton, in Cheshire, which name he assumed. The sword of Odart is still preserved in the Dutton family as an heir-loom. Ralph Blandeville, the sixth earl of Chester in descent from Lupus, having, after various encounters in the Welch wars, been obliged to fly for shelter into the castle of Rothlain, was besieged therein, and sent for aid to his constable, Roger de Laci. On this service Hugh de Dutton was dispatched; and the summons happening to arrive in Chester on the day of Midsummer fair, he collected a large concourse of people, and, preceded by a number of musicians and fiddlers, marched to the earl's relief, and rescued him. In consequence of this extraordinary feat, and as a reward for his bravery, a charter was granted to Hugh de Dutton, and his heirs, to govern and regulate all the minstrels and fiddlers in Cheshire. Hence, yearly, on Midsummer-day, they have been wont to do homage to the representative of the family; and subsequent statutes have invariably respected this curious right.—In 1553, Sherborne manor and its appendages became the property of Thomas Dutton, Esq. His son William was high sheriff of Gloucestershire in 1590 and 1601. His grandson, John Dutton, Esq. the twentieth in lineal descent from Odart, and deputy lieutenant of the county of Gloucester, married Elizabeth,* daughter of Sir Henry Bainton, of Wiltshire, by whom he had issue two daughters—one of whom married Sir Thomas Pope, earl of Downe, who twice entertained Charles I. at Coberley. A zealous asserter of the liberty of the subject, he so strenuously opposed the arbitrary loan money that he was imprisoned at Gloucester, and during his captivity he was elected knight of the shire. He was a very distinguished scholar, and "eminent for his great hospitality:"—but was sequestered in the rebellion, and paid a composition of £5216 to recover his estates. Ralph Dutton, John's younger brother, was created a baronet, at Woodstock, in 1626, by Charles I. in whose court he was gentleman of the privy chamber; his estates also became sequestrated in the

the shire, as some have imagined (for that is not the fact) but from the clearness of the water, for the Saxon word Scireburn, in old writings, is translated by *Fons Clarus*."

* His second wife was Anne, daughter of John King, bishop of London, a prelate descended from the Saxon kings of Devonshire.

rebellion of 1641, and he was forced to leave England; but in his passage from Scotland he was driven back by contrary winds, and cast away on Burnt Island, in 1646. He was knight of the shire in 1630. His nephew William succeeded; he was high sheriff of Gloucestershire in 1667; and dying without issue, the property devolved to his brother, Sir Ralph Dutton, Bart. to whom succeeded his son, Sir John Dutton, Bart. whose sister Anne married James Napier, Esq.* of the county of Meath, Ireland; and their son, James Napier Lennox, assumed the name and arms of Dutton, in compliance with the will of his uncle, Sir John Dutton, who died without issue. He was succeeded by James, the late Lord Sherborne, who was created Baron Sherborne in 1784; from whom the title and estates descended to the Right Hon. John, Lord Sherborne, by whom they are possessed.

The church, a vicarage in the deanery of Fairford, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, was rebuilt by James Lennox Dutton, Esq. It contains several interesting monuments of the exalted family by whom Sherborne has now been held for nearly three centuries. Sherborne House, a handsome building, was partly erected by Inigo Jones, on the site of a mansion once supposed to have been a seat of the abbots of Winchcomb, who held the manor till the dissolution.

* Descended from the ancient family of Lord Napier, of Scotland.



TO I.R.-SCOTT ESQR

THIS VIEW OF THE STABLES OF THIRLESTAINE HOUSE, CHELTENHAM.
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CHAPTER XIII.

SOUTHWARD EXCURSION.

I.

THE road to Leckhampton, which is distant one mile and a half south from Cheltenham, passes through Cambray, by Oriel-place, Sandford-buildings, and Thirlstaine House, the residence of J. R. Scott, Esq., a splendid edifice, built by that gentleman on a scale of magnificence and great architectural beauty. The stables attached to this princely mansion are the most complete, perhaps, in the country.

The manor of Leckhampton,* or Lechantone, was held before the conquest by Osgot—and in the reign of William I. by William Leuric. Adam le Despenser possessed it 37th Henry III., when he obtained a grant of fairs and markets, and had the privilege of free warren, all of which were confirmed to the possessors, 15th Edward I. and 16th James I. The manor was held by grand serjeanty of Edward I. by Walter de Monmouth, on performing the office of steward at the Christmas, Easter, and Whitsuntide festivals. It afterwards passed into the Giffard family, descended from Osborn Giffard, a distinguished Norman nobleman, who defeated William, earl of Arques, in his attempt to dispossess William of the dukedom of Normandy, during his minority. He accompanied the Conqueror into England, and obtained the manor of Brimpsfield, and some others, in this county. Sir John Giffard possessed Leckhampton in 1330; and in 1486, on the death of John Giffard, Esq. and the failure of male issue, it descended to John Norwood, Esq. of Milton, in Kent, in right of his wife Eleanor, daughter and co-heiress of the last John Giffard. Col. Henry Norwood, who held the estate in the reign of Charles I., was eminently loyal to that ill-fated monarch, and distinguished in the civil war by his valiant

* "It probably takes the former part of its name from the vast rock of stone on the brow of the hill, for Lech in the British language signifies stone; and serves to distinguish this parish from several other places of the name of Hampton in Gloucestershire."—RUDDER.

spirit. He was made governor of Tangiers by Charles II. He was once, with a ship's crew, reduced to such an extremity for want of provisions, that

> " Out they spoke of lots for flesh and blood,
> " And who should die, to be his fellow's food.
> * * * * * *
> " The lots were made and marked and mixed and handed
> " In silent horror"—

and the victim was permitted to descend into the hold and prepare for death—but the very horror of his situation saved them the necessity of shedding his blood; he expired from actual fear as soon as he descended. Notwithstanding his fate, their hunger overcame all scruples, and they devoured the body. The colonel died in 1689, and by will restored the manor to the sons of Francis Norwood, from whom he had purchased it. In this family it remained nearly four hundred years; and in 1797, it was devised by Henry Norwood, Esq. to Charles Brandon Trye, Esq., descended collaterally by the female line from the Norwood family, and the lineal descendant from an ancient family who took their name from the town of Trye, in Normandy; but have been " eminent in Gloucestershire for many generations." Reginald de Trye was slain in a battle near Bruges, in 1302. Matthew de Trye, marshal of France, did homage to Edward II. for lands in Ponthieu; and Sir James de Trye was taken prisoner and brought to England in the 3d Henry IV. Reginald, or Rawlin de Trye, the first of the name resident in Gloucestershire, became possessed of the manor of Alkington, in the parish of Berkeley, on his marriage with Margaret, heiress of Thomas de Berkeley, in 1380. His third descendant, John Trye, married Elizabeth, daughter and co-heiress of Sir Almeric de Boteler a-Park; and in 1449, obtained as her dower the manor of Hardwick, which remained vested in his family for five generations.* He had two sons—the elder, William, married Isabella, daughter of James, lord Berkeley, and sister of William, marquis of Berkeley. The second, John, was twice chosen representative for Gloucester in the reign of Edward IV. and was the first mayor of that city, to which office he was appointed in 1483, by Richard III. when he granted the charter by which the civil government was altered. John, the second son of William Trye, Esq. married Elizabeth Gourney, niece and co-heiress of Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk, the favourite of Henry VIII., and distinguished not less by his chivalrous spirit, and high diplomatic talent, than by the attachment of that king's sister, Mary, queen of Louis XI.† The Rev. John Trye,

* Hardwick, pursuant to an act of parliament obtained for that purpose in 1730, by Thomas Trye, Esq., was sold it in 1733, to Sir Philip Yorke, then attorney-general, who, on his being appointed lord chancellor of England, was created Baron, and afterwards Earl, of Hardwick, in Gloucestershire.

† When the duke, upon the death of the French king, declared his passion to the queen, whose affections it is surmised he had previously engaged by the prowess he displayed in a tournament, she replied " that if he did not win her in a month, he should never win her at all." They were married soon afterwards, notwithstanding the fact that his former wife Lady Margaret Mortimer, who was not even repudiated, was still alive.—He received as the portion of the royal widow, a grant of all the lands which had belonged to De la Pole, late duke of Suffolk.



Drawn by J.B. Pyne from a sketch by J. Lamb

Engraved by W. Radclyffe, Jr.

Proof

TO HENRY NORWOOD TRYE, ESQ.

THIS VIEW OF LECKHAMPTON COURT HOUSE, HIS SEAT
(ENGRAVED AT HIS EXPENCE) IS MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED BY The Publishers.

Printed & Published by J. Pyne, Bath & J. Chatterton.

vicar of Harefield, married Mary, daughter of the Rev. Thos Norwood, lord of the manor, and patron and incumbent of the rectory, of Leckhampton; their son, Charles Brandon Trye, Esq. whose birth they did not survive many years, became possessed of the manor and advowson on the death of his cousin, Henry Norwood, Esq. As a surgeon he attained the highest eminence of his art, in which he was deeply skilled. He projected, and at his own expence constructed, the rail-road leading from the quarries on Leckhampton hill,* to the Cheltenham and Gloucester rail-road. On Monday, October 7, 1811, after an illness of four days, he closed a life of exemplary virtue, and of eminent public utility. His son, Henry Norwood Trye, Esq., succeeded to his estates, and is the present lord of the manor.

Leckhampton Court House, which was built in the reign of Henry VII. is situated on a gradual decline of the Cotswolds, and commands a fine bold prospect of Cheltenham and the adjacent country, extending from Worcestershire to Monmouthshire, and the Welsh mountains. The greater part of the northern wing was destroyed by fire upwards of a century ago, but rebuilt in the modern style, with considerable additions. The new buildings form a strong contrast to the remains of the ancient edifice, which have been preserved in the portal and the hall, and are the most remarkable vestiges of antiquity in the immediate vicinity.

The church, built about the middle of the fourteenth century, and surmounted by a tall spire, stands at a short distance from the court-house. It is in the deanery of Winchcomb; H. N. Tyre, Esq. being the patron, and the Rev. T. Commeline the present rector. The advowson once belonged to the abbey of Fescamp, in Normandy.

Ascending the steep acclivity, on the precipices of which are the rude traces of a deep entrenchment which secured this important station by an impregnable fortress in the Roman era; many curious fragments of rock present themselves to the eye, of which "the devil's chimney," standing out from the brow of the hill, is the most extraordinary. —Pursuing the road as it winds with a gentle inclination towards the deep glen, on the right, an ancient and wide spreading oak tree attracts attention. Scarcely a mile in advance, the old London and Gloucester road intersects the Birdlip road close to a small inn called the Balloon, and descending Crickley hill, forms the bold foreground of a rich and varied landscape.

At the termination of the sixth mile from Cheltenham, stands Birdlip,† through which

* He formed the plan by which the barren rock of Leckhampton was rendered profitable, by opening quarries, which he found to contain stone of durable quality, and capable of being worked with great facility. In the pump-room of the Cambray Chalybeate Spa, there may now be seen a chimney-piece and hearth stone cut out of Leckhampton hill, and admirably wrought by the manual and experimental labour of a clergyman, who was deservedly distinguished as a geologist, and who actually, in the enthusiasm he felt for the pursuit of the science, went through the entire process of hewing the stone from the rock, and reducing every part to its requisite proportions. From this experiment it is manifest that, in the hands of a professional man of skill, the stone brought from the hill would make excellent mantle-pieces.

† Near a cottage on the hill, to the right of Birdlip, there was formerly a gibbet, upon which a culprit, who had been convicted of the murder of a woman, was gibbeted alive, in the reign of Queen Anne—the only instance of such a punish-

the great Roman road—the Hermin or Irmin street, passes in a direct line to Gloucester on the right, and Cirencester on the left. This truly romantic spot is thus noticed by Leland: "Cumming from Gloucester, almost yn the myddle betwyxt where the wood fayleth and the champayne countre towards Cotswold appereth, the fayre old waye made by the Britons ys very evidently seen, and soe goeth as strayte as a line to Cirencester, and fro thens to Bathe."—The garden of the Black Horse inn, which is most appropriately termed the "Prospect," is formed on the very pinnacle, or "high spiring point" of the hill, from which the view is indescribably magnificent. Immediately beneath this eminence are thick plantations, clothing the vast sweep of the Cotswolds, declining to the blooming and tranquil valley; in the distance the towers of Gloucester, Tewkesbury, and, though still more remote, of Worcester, vary and enhance the charms of the expansive scene——

> "Whilst Malvern (king of hills!) fair Severn overlooks—
> "Attended on in state by tributary brooks."*

But this splendid picture, which the pencil of the artist would vainly attempt to copy, or the pen of the poet describe, suffers but little diminution when through the wood, about one mile in advance, a vista, formed in the approach to Witcomb House, presents a bird's eye view of "the wide valley," which abounds with all the tempered and harmonized loveliness of nature.

The Roman foss-way leads directly to Cirencester, distant sixteen miles from Cheltenham. This was, in early ages, a town of much importance, and during the possession of Britain by the Romans, was the metropolis of the Dobuni—the principal seat of the Roman authorities, when Gloucester and the surrounding country were military stations. After the conquest, Cirencester was noted as a principal villa or burgh. It is situated on the borders of Gloucestershire and Wiltshire, on the banks of the river Corin, which rises in the Cotswolds. It was termed by Antoninus, in his twelfth Iter, "Duro Cornovium," doubtless a corrupt reading, and varying from Ptolemy and Ravennas, who styled it "Corinium." In a deed bearing date 1360, it is written Cearncester; and in Smith's MS. it is stated that "Cirencester, commonly called Ciceter, standith uppon the river Churn, which is the principallest head that the Thames hath, and springeth in Coteswold, out of Cobberley poole, six myles est from Gloucester. It is eight myles directly west from Lechlade, and was, in tymes past, a goodly cittie before Glocester was builded." It is certain, that long prior to the Roman invasion, Cirencester was a very general thoroughfare, being a town of considerable extent, built by the Britons, who

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ment upon record. Not far from the cottage stands a yew tree, which, it is said, could be seen from a distance of thirty miles, before its branches, which were of immense size, were reduced by fire.

* Drayton's Polyolbion, 7th song.

called it Caer-cori,* i. e. the town cinctured with ramparts, upon the Corin; with roads branching from it in every direction; and, subsequent to the Roman invasion, when it was made the capital of the district, it formed the junction of the three great consular roads, the Fossway, the Irmin-street, and the Icknieldway. That Cirencester was a place of importance in the time of Julius Cæsar, is evident, for Orosius tells us, that "the third battle which that general had with the Bryttas, was near the river which men called the Temese, near those fords which are called Wallingford; after which, not only all the inhabitants of Cyrenceaster submitted, but the whole island." The Emperor Constantine† was crowned King of the Britons, in Cirencester, then an important place, well fortified with walls,‡ moats, and a castle. In 577,§ after the battle of Dyrham, in which three British kings, Commail, Condidan, and Fariemoil, were slain; the conquerors, Cuthwin and Ceaulin, possessed themselves of Gloucester, Bath, and Cirencester, and made the latter a frontier garrison against the Mercians. In 628, Penda, the Mercian king, strove to recover it; and meeting the forces of Cynegils and Cwichelm, the king and prince of the West Saxons, near the town, a bloody conflict took place. Both parties having abjured flight, the contest was continued with desperation till the darkness of night compelled the belligerents to separate, but with a pledge on both sides to resume hostilities in the morning—but so dreadful was the scene of carnage presented by the light of day, that the stoutest hearts among them were appalled—they paused—and peace was agreed upon—which prevented the annihilation of their armies. In 656, fortune was more propitious to Penda, the heir of Penda, who succeeded to the throne, and was the first Christian king of Mercia. He took Cirencester, and annexed it to his kingdom. In 878, after the defeat of the Danes by Alfred, at Edinton, in Wiltshire, Gothrum,‖ the defeated leader, was suffered to possess Cirencester for a year previous to his departure from the kingdom. In 1020, King Canute held a splendid court at Cirencester, on his return to England; and by the decree of the general council, or mycelgemot, of the nation, then

* See Henry of Huntingdon's Record.

† Gibbon mentions a Constantine whom the British legion discovered in the ranks, a private soldier, and raised him to the throne, A. D. 407.—*Decline and Fall*, v. 229.

‡ Leland, in his Itinerary, says, "a man may yet, walking on the bank of Churne, evidently perceyve the cumpace of foundation of towers sumtyme standing in the waul. And nere to the place wher the right goodly clothing mylle was set up a late by the abbate, was broken down the ruine of an old tower, toward making of the mylle waulles, in the which place was fownd a quadrate stone fawllen downe afore, but broken in sundry pieces, wherein was a Roman inscription, of the which one scantly lettered, that saw yt, told me that he might perceyve PONT. MAX." And Atkyns tells us, that in his day, "the ruins of the walls and streets are yet to be seen in the adjoining meadows."

§ From the Saxon Chronicle.

‖ Alexander Neckham, the sixth abbot of the monastery of Cirencester—a poet and a wit of celebrity, (however inconsistent with his religious functions such celebrity may be) of the 13th century, affirms, in one of his poems, that the town was besieged for seven years by Gurmund, who at last succeeded, by sending in a flock of sparrows, with fire attached to their tails—the birds lighting on the tops of the houses, set the town on fire, and the besiegers entered and seized it in the confusion. This detail may be safely ascribed to a poetical licence of the witty abbot.

assembled, Duke Ethelwold was declared an outlaw, and expelled the kingdom. In the reign of King Stephen, Robert, the first earl of Gloucester,* natural son of Henry I., and half brother to the Empress Maud,—one of the most eminent men of his day—garrisoned the castle and town, which, however, were surprised by the king, who burnt the castle. It was repaired soon afterwards, and became the property of the Earl of Leicester. When the barons resisted the arbitrary rule of King John, he assembled a strong garrison here. In the reign of King Henry III. it was garrisoned by the barons, who opposed the king; but it did not long withstand the royal forces, and Henry issued a warrant for its total demolition. In 1322, attended by an immense number of nobles and knights, King Edward II. celebrated Christmas here; and "did rendezvous his army," when the Earl of Lancaster headed the barons, who demanded the expulsion from the kingdom of his favourite Hugh le Despenser. In the first year of the reign of Henry IV. the Dukes of Aumerle, Surrey, and Exeter, and the Earls of Gloucester and Salisbury, formed a league to seize and assassinate the king, during a tournament at Oxford. The plot was, fortunately, committed to parchment; and a copy, signed and sealed by all, was confided to each conspirator. Whilst Aumerle was dining with his father, the Duke of York, the document, which he kept concealed, as he supposed, in his bosom, caught the attention of the duke, who seized it; and having possessed himself of its contents, prepared to apprise the king of his danger: but Aumerle, who suspected his intention, rode full speed to Windsor, confessed the share he had in the traitorous design, and obtained the royal pardon before the arrival of his father. His confederates, on finding their plans discovered, raised a large army, which was speedily opposed by Henry, at the head of 20,000 men. The barons retreated to Cirencester, and encamped without the town:†—the chiefs, however, took up their quarters within the walls,‡ the Duke of Surrey and the Earl of Salisbury at one inn; the Duke of Exeter and the Earl of Gloucester at another. The mayor finding the gates unguarded, assembled a large body of the inhabitants during the night, and attacked the noble conspirators in their lodgings. The Duke of Surrey and the Earl of Salisbury fled for safety to the abbey, but were taken and executed § and

* The first earl after the conquest.

† They brought with them one of the chaplains of the deposed Richard II. disguised in the royal armour, and declared him to be the king.

‡ The walls and gates were perfect in the reign of Henry IV,—nor is it certain at what period they were destroyed. Referring to this rebellion, Shakespeare makes Bolingbroke say, in Richard II.—

"———————— the rebels have consumed with fire
Our town of Ciceter in Gloucestershire."

§ "They brought them forth of the abbey, where they hadde them in their hands, and in the twilight of the evening stroke off their heads."—*Holinshed.* In one of the chronicles of Malmsbury abbey, the following anecdote is preserved; One of the household of Henry IV. having passed a night with a courtezan of London, was thus addressed by her in the morning, "Farewell, friend, I shall see you no more." He asked, "Why?" "Because," she replied "the Earls of Huntingdon, Kent, and Sarum, are lying in ambush in the environs of Kingston, to kill the king, the archbishop, and yourselves, at your coming from Windsor, and afterwards restore King Richard." On his asking how she knew this? she said, "One of their retinue slept with me last night, and told me these things."

their heads sent to London. The Duke of Exeter and the Earl of Gloucester escaped by the house-tops, and reached the camp, which they found deserted by their troops. They were afterwards taken and beheaded.—For this important service, the king granted the inhabitants of Cirencester all the property left by the conspirators in the town,—"excepting all gold and silver and money, and vessels of gold or silver, or guilded, and except all jewels of all kinds." He gave likewise unto the town "four does in season out of Bredon forest, and one hogshead of wine out of the port of Bristol, to the men; to the women of Cirencester he gave six bucks in season, and one hogshead of wine:" but these annual favours were revocable at pleasure. In the fourth year of his reign, he granted the town a court of staple for merchandize, erecting it into a corporate town, governed by a mayor and two constables—but this charter was cancelled, 37th Elizabeth.

In the rebellion of 1641, the inhabitants took part with the parliamentary power, and here was perpetrated the first act of opposition and open insult to the authority of Charles I.—for whilst Lord Chandos of Sudely, lord lieutenant of the county, was executing the king's commission of array, the people surrounded him with violence, and compelled him to sign a paper, declaring that he would never again attempt to enforce it. His lordship was obliged to escape privily out of the town, but his carriage was hacked and broken to pieces. Cirencester was still considered, as a military position, the very key of Gloucestershire, and being defended by strong works, it was secured for the parliament: Lieut.-Colonel Karre, the second in command, declared, on the day before Prince Rupert attacked it, that, from the strength of its natural situation, he could keep possession of it in defiance of twenty thousand men. On the 2nd of February, 1642, the prince commenced the assault,* and a desperate conflict ensued; but the garrison surrendered with a loss of 300 men killed, and 1200 taken prisoners; amongst whom were Colonel Fettiplace, the governor, Captain Warneford, and Mr. George, member for the borough. "Thus was the confident Cyrencester, in an hower and a halfe's fight, and with the losse of lesse than twenty men on our side, fully taken in on all parts; (though diverse of them be since dead of poyson'd bullets.) For governor of the towne the prince left his dear brother, Prince Maurice, with his regiment of horse."† After the capture of the town, several of the "inhabitants of the miserable distressed Cyrencester," petitioned Charles I. for relief. In the memorial the following passage deserves attention:—"We acknowledge us inexcusably faulty, but to appeale unto your mercy, and to beg your pardon. That as we have been through all your kingdomes the first example of your justly deserved rigor, and the terrour thereof working its due effect upon all others, to deterre them from provoking your like displeasure, we may remaine your most remark-

* In this engagement Sir Thomas and Sir John Byron, ancestors of the late noble bard, were distinguished in their commands. Sir John headed the forlorn hope, and afterwards pursued the flying foe, of whom his troops killed and captured nearly two hundred.

† *A particular relation, &c. By an eye-witness.*

able object of your mercy, the most glorious and resplendent gemme of your crowne. Oh, sir, the God of heaven hath given you unto us our God upon the earth."*—In 1643, the Earl of Essex retook the town, defeating the garrison under Sir Nicholas Crisp and Colonel Spencer: after the siege of Gloucester was raised, the parliamentary troops, in pursuing the king, came before Cirencester, "the forlorn hope entered the town whilst the rest surrounded it, killed the sentinell sleeping, marched up to the market-house without opposition, (the enemy supposing them Prince Maurice his forces that night expected,) till they entred the houses and surprized them in bed, took foure hundred men, and thirty cartloades of bread, cheese, and other provisions; a great reliefe in a wasted countrey, and the only support of the souldiers against the battle at Newbury."†—In the revolution of 1688, the first blood was shed at Cirencester;—Lord Lovelace marching to join the Prince of Orange, was attacked by Captain Lorange, of the county militia, who with his son was killed in the encounter; but his partisans took Lord Lovelace, and conveyed him in captivity to Gloucester prison.

In the 11th of Edward III. Cirencester sent representatives to a great council of the nation; and in the 13th Elizabeth it was created a borough town—returning two representatives.‡ It was formerly celebrated for its abbey. Rumbald,§ dean of the college of prebendaries, who held lands here before the conquest, was chancellor to Edward the Confessor, and was the subscribing witness to the charter granted by that king to Westminster abbey. Henry I. in 1117, founded the abbey church, upon the destruction of the church belonging to the college; it was completed in fourteen years, and dedicated in November 1127, to St. Mary and St. James, by Bartholomew, bishop of Exeter, in the presence of King Henry. In the 43d Henry III. the abbot was summoned to a parliament held in London; and Abbot Henry de Hamptonel, was summoned to a council held at Carlisle in 1307, but it became mitred in 1416, when the pope sent the mitre and pontificals to Best, the twenty-first abbot. The abbey church was of Saxon architecture—but it was destroyed at the dissolution by the express mandate of Henry VIII., who

* "The petition of the inhabitants of Cirencester, &c. printed by his majesty's command, February 28, 1642."—In the reply to Prince Rupert's first summons, prior to the capture, they declared, "We do heartily acknowledge and profess ourselves to be his majestie's loyall and faithfull subjects, and shall be ever as ready with our lives and fortunes to maintaine his just rights and prerogatives as they were, or the best of his majesty's subjects; and as we are so, we ought likewise to enjoy his majestie's peace, and the just rights and liberties of the subjects of England, according to the lawes of the land, in defence whereof, and the true Protestant religion only, we stand to our armes, and are resolved, with God's assistance, to defend them with our estates and lives."—*A Relation, &c.*

† "*Corbet's Relation.*"—Of this conflict the accounts are very imperfect; but there is reason to believe that the carnage was dreadful; as, in the month of August 1793, heaps of dead bodies, the bones of which were not much decayed, were found within two feet of the surface of the ground, close to the road to Cricklade.

‡ The author of the "Night Thoughts," the celebrated Dr. Young, was, in 1722, an unsuccessful candidate for the representation of this borough.

§ Rumbald or Reinbald, held in Cheltenham, under Edward the Confessor, "One hide and a half, which belonged to the abbey of Tewkesbury."—*Domesday Book.*

granted to Robert Bassinge, Esq.* the buildings of the abbey precincts, the site of which can scarcely be ascertained at present—all that now remains being the almonry gate, the spital gate, and a large barn. The site was granted 1st Edward VI. to Thomas, lord Seymour, of Sudely—and, on his attainder, reverted to the crown. Queen Elizabeth granted the reversion to her physician, Richard Master, Esq.,† from whom the estate has lineally descended to Miss Master. Sir William Master, grandson to Richard, the first possessor of the Abbey estate, was high sheriff of Gloucestershire, 3d Charles I. The king passed one night at the Abbey-house in August 1643, on his way from Bristol to Oxford, and again on his return from Bath in 1644. On the 27th of August, 1702, Queen Anne, accompanied by Prince George of Denmark, on her progress to Bath, was entertained by Thomas Master, Esq. at the Abbey-house. The present edifice, which was raised in 1776, upon the site of the mansion erected by Dr. Master, is a very fine building.

There were formerly three parish churches in the town, only one of which remains. It is dedicated to St. John the Evangelist, and is one of the finest parochial buildings in the kingdom. It was erected about the year 1400, and consists of a nave, two spacious aisles, a chancel, and five chapels. The south porch‡ of the church is a singularly magnificent structure, fifty feet in height, and forty in length. The rich tabernacle work of its external decoration, and the beautifully arched ceiling of the interior, adorned by "radiated tracery, spreading over the roof in eight circular fan-shaped compartments, rising from single pillars," are fine memorials of gothic splendour. The tower, supposed to have been built about the year 1416, at the west end of the church, is one hundred and thirty-four feet in height, surmounted by battlements and pinnacles, and containing a peal of twelve bells, the tenor of which weighed nearly thirty-seven hundred weight. The windows of the church were once filled throughout with painted glass; but the ravages of time and accident having destroyed a considerable portion of the glass, all that was valuable has been collected together, and judiciously arranged in the western window, which is deservedly an object of general admiration.

Amongst the benefactors and patrons of this church, was Thomas Rowthall, or Ruthal,§ a native of Cirencester, who raised himself to such eminence by his talents, that Henry VII., to whom he was secretary, and afterwards executor, made him Bishop of Durham, in which see he was succeeded by Cardinal Wolsey. He was considered the richest prelate

* Amongst other conditions of this grant it was ordered, that all the edifices within the abbey precincts, should be pulled down and carried away.

† Wood, in his Athenæ, mentions Thomas Master, a poet, who was born at Cote in Gloucestershire, and educated at Winchester school, whence he was removed to New college, Oxford, where he obtained a fellowship. He published some Greek and Latin poems; and assisted Lord Herbert of Cherbury, in his Life of Henry VIII.

‡ Alice Avening, or De Avening, aunt to Bishop Ruthal, gave one hundred marks towards the building of the porch, to which the bishop's mother also contributed.

§ He was elected chancellor of Cambridge university in 1503;—and consecrated bishop of Durham, and made lord privy seal in 1509.

in the kingdom.—Leland says, in his Itinerary, "There is now but one Paroch Chirch in al Cirecester; but that is very fayre. The body of the Chirch is all new worke, to which Ruthall, Bishop of Durham, borne and broughte up yn Cirecestre, promised much, but preventid with Deth, gave nothing." Ruthal, who was a great favourite of Henry VIII., by whom he was made a privy counsellor, owed his downfall to the jealousy and rising ambition of Wolsey. He was directed by the king to draw up a breviat of the royal revenues, which he did, and caused to be fairly transcribed, and bound in white vellum. He drew up, at the same time, a statement of his own private wealth, amounting to one hundred thousand pounds, and had it bound in a similar manner, and laid the documents together. Being suddenly required to send the royal inventory to the king; his secretary, deceived by the appearance of the covers, in haste gave Wolsey the estimate of Ruthal's own estate. His rival, discovering the error he had made, gladly availed himself of the mistake, and in presenting the book to Henry, told him, "he now knew where a man of money was, in case of necessity." This event, Fuller affirms, "broke Ruthal's heart."* It certainly threw him into a disorder which speedily terminated his life.

From several very curious monumental inscriptions, the following are transcribed:—In the south aisle, on a flat stone, are the brazen effigies of a man and woman, and this couplet, on labels, as if issuing from their lips:

"Merci God of my misdede,
"Lady help at my most nede."

On a brass plate beneath their feet is the following poetical prayer engraved as if it were prose—

"Reyse gracious J'hu to endles lyfe at thy grete dome where all schall Apere Hughe Norys Groc' & Johan hys wyf—nowe dede in graue & beryed here yo' p'yers desyryng There Soules for Chere the X day of July the yere our Lord God MCCCCCXXIX."

* Shakespeare, who gloried in that spirit of "even-handed justice," which "returns the ingredients of the poisoned chalice to our own lips," has availed himself of this remarkable incident; and, transferring the fact from Ruthal to Wolsey, has wrought up the climax of the haughty cardinal's fate, by the introduction of a similar mistake. In scene 2, act 3, of Henry VIII. are these passages:

Wolsey. The packet, Cromwell, gave it you the king?
Cromwell. To his own hand, in his bed-chamber.
* * * *
K. Henry. ———This morning
Papers of state he sent me to peruse,
As I required; and wot you what I found
There, on my conscience put unwittingly?—
Forsooth, an inventory, thus importing,—
The several parcels of his plate, his treasure—
Rich stuffs, and ornaments of household; which
I find at such proud rate, that it outspeaks
Possession of a subject.

On a small brass plate, in the same aisle, the following epitaph marks the burial place of Hodgkinson Paine, who was killed while carrying the colours at the battle of Cirencester, on the 3rd of February, 1642.

" The Poore's supplie his life & calling grac't
" 'till warre's made rent, & PAINE from poore displacit,
" But what made poore vnfortunate PAINE blest,
" by warre they lost their PAINE yet found noe rest,
" Hee loosing quiet by Warre yet gained ease,
" by it PAINE's life began, and paine did cease;
" And from ye troubles here, him God did sever,
" by death to life, by Warre to peace for ever."

And underneath is this " trivial fond record:"

" Here lieth the body of Elizabeth Paine deceased the 8th day of Ianuary An. Do. 1668.

ONE was our thought, ONE life wee sought
ONE rest wee both intended;
Our bodies haue To sleepe ONE graue
Our soules to GOD ascended."

On a grave stone:

" Here resteth the body of Mary Olive, a pretty little tender branch of Robert and Elizabeth Olive."

At the entrance to St. Mary's chapel, is the effigy of an old man in a gown, with a clothier's shears over his head, and a dog at his feet. Underneath is this inscription:

" In Lent by will a sermon hee deuised,
And yerely precher with a noble prised
Seuen nobles hee did geue ye poore for to defend
And 80£ to XVI men did lend
In Cicester, Burford, Abington, & Tetburie
Euer to be to them a stocke yerely.
Phillip Marner who died in the yeare 1587."

In Trinity chapel, on a monument of white marble, finely executed by Nollekens, appear the busts of Allen, earl Bathurst, and his lady, with a weeping spirit between them; and in the same chapel is a mural monument, surmounted by a bust, raised to the memory of their son Henry, earl Bathurst.

At the east end of Trinity chapel is the offertory of Thomas á Becket, or, " St. Thomas á Becket," as he became, when canonized after his murder. He is represented by a very ancient painting of a bishop, habited and mitred; beneath which the following inscription (a curious record of monastic superstition) promises spiritual rewards to all who worship the archiepiscopal saint and martyr:

" What ma othir woma worscip' this holi seint Bisschop & martr. e'iry sunday that bith in the yere wt. a patr. nr. & o aue Othir ony almus geueth to a poor ma or bring ony candill lyght lass or more he schall have v yifftis grauntid of god The firste is he schall have reysonabil gode to his lyues ende The seconde is that hys enimyes schall haue no pouir to do hym no bodely harme nor dysese The IIj is what reysonabil thynge that he will aske of god & that holy sent ht. schall be graunt' The IIIj that he schall be onbourdnd of all his tribulacion & dysese The v is that in his laste inde haue schrift & houssill & grete repentaunce & sacramete of an newntinge & the he may come to that blysse that neuer hath ende amen.

The benefice is a vicarage without glebe, but endowed with oblations and all privy tithes, excepting those of the demesne. The impropriation was vested, soon after the dissolution, in the family of Bourchier of Barnsley, but now belongs to Lord Bathurst. The Lord Bishop of the Diocese is the patron. The Rev. H. Pye, one of the prebends of Worcester cathedral, is the present incumbent. It is the chief of a rural deanery.

The frequent discovery of Roman coins and of stones inscribed with Roman characters, and the excavations of tesselated pavements in various places on the site of the old town, have induced the laborious investigation of very eminent antiquarians. The hypocaust originally discovered in 1683, was covered over again; but accidentally re-opened by some workmen, who, in searching for money supposed to be concealed under ground, dug up several bricks; and in a short time explored all that remained of the ancient fabric, in which a floor of coarse mortar lay at the depth of three feet and a half from the surface; and, nearly four feet and a half below the first, lay a second floor of terras, running all the way under it—the upper floor being supported by rows of brick pillars, thirty-nine inches high, and eight inches and a quarter square, formed of courses of entire bricks of the same superficial dimensions, and one inch and a half thick; each pillar having as its base a large brick, eleven inches square, and one of similar size for its capital. The next object of discovery was a wall of hewn stone, rising from the second floor nearly to the surface of the earth, and forming the north eastern limit of the building. Another wall was discovered in the south-eastern direction, forming a right angle with that on the north-east, which it joined. In each wall five massive stones formed the crown of an arch, and in examining the cavities a third floor was afterwards found to run at a depth of thirty-four inches, entirely beneath and up to the second—the space between them being filled with rough stones. In this third floor, supposed to have been the hearth, a great quantity of ashes, from fires of wood and coal, was found. The purpose of this hypocaust has never yet been determined; the writers of other days who have seen and examined it, vary in their notions of the uses to which it may have been applied. Sir R. Atkyns says, "it is supposed to have been a bathing-place of the Romans." Dr. Stukely imagined the vaults to be "the foundations of a temple;" and others have conjectured the hypocaust to have been used to warm the rooms above, as steam is applied in many modern buildings.

Several tesselated pavements have in various ages been excavated. Leland mentions a "flore *de tesselis versicoloribus*," discovered in a meadow in the centre of the old town, now called the Leauses; the same pavement, doubtless, as that "building under ground, inlaid very curiously with tesseraic work," mentioned by Atkyns; and "the mosaic pavement" that Stukely tells us was dug up in September 1723. In May 1777, some workmen engaged in forming a cellar under the premises of Messrs. Croome, in Dyer-street, discovered a pavement nearly six feet below the surface; but before they were aware of its curiosity, they had nearly broken it to pieces. It was about eighteen feet square, with a chequered border of blue and white tesseræ, nearly one inch square. The

pavement was divided into four equal compartments, by lines of hearts linked together. In the centre an octagon wreathed border enclosed a star with wavy rays, and with a small figure in each of the compartments. The appearance of the entire resembled a richly wrought carpet—but it has all been suffered to decay.

In the same street a considerable portion of another pavement, of still more beautiful device, was found; and preserved with so much care as to have long remained nearly as perfect as when it was opened. The tesseræ were so disposed as to form, with their varied colours, sea-monsters, sea-fish, and grotesque figures, one of which was represented on the back of a "huge leviathan of the deep."

Among the curious vestiges of Roman antiquity, a brazen figure of Apollo, eighteen inches in height, was presented by J. Master, Esq. to the Bodleian library at Oxford. A monumental stone was dug up near the old city wall, with the following inscription:

C
D M
P VICANAE
P VITALIS
CONIVX

There was also found in Kingsmead a funeral urn of green glass, which Mr. Lysons says has no mark of ever having been fastened to a blowing iron. It contained ashes and pieces of burnt bones. It had been wrapped in lead, and deposited in a stone hollowed out to receive it.—Many coins of Antoninus, Dioclesian, and Constantine, and rings have been found here; and the remains of an amphitheatre occupy the ground now called the Bull-ring. "This," says a modern writer, nearly in the words of Rudder, "is an area of an elliptical form, with a mound or wall of earth of the height of about twenty feet, very regularly sloped on the inside, with rows of seats like steps, one below the other from top to bottom. They are still visible, but overgrown with herbage. The longest diameter of the area is about sixty-three yards, the other forty-six. It has one avenue to it on the east side, and another on the west; and there is also a straight approach to it underground on the south side. It was evidently intended for public spectacles, such as tilts and tournaments."—On the east of Cirencester is Torbarrow, supposed to have been the hill described as standing in Colton's field, and the scene of an extraordinary narrative, published in 1685, and still preserved in the Bodleian library among the papers of Dr. Parsons, formerly chancellor of the diocese of Gloucester. It gravely affirms that two labourers in digging a gravel-pit discovered an entrance into the centre of the hill, and on searching further with a lantern and candle, they entered a large hall; after passing through several apartments, they saw a door strongly patched with iron, which they broke open; and to their amazement beheld the figure of a man, with a truncheon in his hand, and a light, in a glass like a lamp, burning before him. At length one of the

men ventured to approach, when the image struck at him. They retreated, but actuated by the hope of acquiring some vast hidden treasure, they repeated their visit the ensuing morning, accompanied by a celebrated antiquarian. As the latter approached without dismay, the figure, at his first step, attempted to strike—and at the third step, striking the glass lamp violently, it extinguished the light! The party escaped, and immediately afterwards the hill sunk down, and buried all the rarities. *

The free grammar school, was amongst the many benefactions conferred by Bishop Ruthal upon the place of his nativity. The right of appointing the master was formerly held by feoffees, but in consequence of some dissensions it has for many years been vested in the Lord Chancellor. At this school several persons who afterwards attained considerable literary eminence, received the first rudiments of knowledge. The Blue school was founded by general subscription in 1714, for the purpose of clothing twenty boys and twenty girls, and teaching them to read and write. Its funds were augmented in 1718, by the bounty of Thomas Powell, Esq., who endowed it with a considerable sum: and under the will of his wife, Mrs. Rebecca Powell, the Yellow hospital was established fifteen years after her decease. The hospital dedicated to St. John was founded by Henry I. St. Lawrence's hospital was founded by Edith, lady of the manor of Wiggold, but granted by Edward III. to the abbot. St. Thomas's hospital was erected and endowed in the reign of Henry IV. by Sir W. Nottingham, attorney-general.

In 1679, when the plague raged at Gloucester, the summer assize for the county was held at Cirencester by Lord Chief Justice Scroggs and Sir Robert Atkyns.

The manor of Cirencester was, like that of Cheltenham, included in the royal demesnes prior to the conquest. The queen had a right to the wool of all the sheep. Richard I. gave the manor to the abbey of Cirencester; and it remained so vested, with the exception of the town-hundred, until the dissolution. It was afterwards granted (1st Edward VI.) to Lord Seymour of Sudely, and after his attainder it was granted in the same reign (6th Edward VI.) to Sir Anthony Kingston. The manor was held 37th Elizabeth, by Sir John Danvers, who was in that year succeeded in the possession by his son, Henry Danvers, earl of Danby, who built a spacious house on the site of Earl Bathurst's present mansion, in Oakley Park. Sir Henry Poole, of Sapperton, purchased the manor and hundred, which, after his decease in 1645, were, in lieu of dower, assigned by his son, Sir William Poole, to his mother, Lady Poole. They descended to her daughter Anne, who married James, earl of Newburgh; and were purchased in the year 1695, by Sir Benjamin Bathurst, great grandfather of the noble and distinguished statesman, who is the present proprietor. The family of Bathurst ranked amongst the most ancient of Germany, and held large possessions at Batters, in the duchy of Luneburg—taking their name De Batters, from their place of residence. They first entered England with the

* In No. 379, of the Spectator, published May 15, 1712, a similar story is told of the Rosicrusian sepulchre.

Saxon forces, and settled in Sussex at a place formerly called by the m Batter's Hurst or grove, but which at this day is known as Bathurst Wood. In the reign of Henry VI. Lawrence Bathurst lost his life in the service of the king, at the battle of St. Alban's, and the estate was sequestrated by Edward IV. in consequence of the adherence of his son, Lawrence Bathurst, to the same cause, and granted to Battle abbey. Thus despoiled, Lawrence, notwithstanding, retained other estates in Kent; at one of which, Cranbrooke, he closed his life in peace. He had three sons, of whom the eldest, Edward, was the ancestor of the present earl. He resided at Staplehurst, in Kent; and his eldest son, Launcelot, was made an alderman of London. George, the youngest son of the latter, married, in 1610, Elizabeth, daughter and coheiress of Edward Villiers, of Howthorp, in Northamptonshire, a collateral relative of George Villiers, duke of Buckingham. Twelve sons and four daughters were the issue of this marriage: several of the sons were slain in the civil war, the victims of their attachment to the just and royal cause. Of the surviving sons, Ralph, a man of very extensive erudition, who took his degrees at Trinity college, Oxford, obtained a fellowship and was ordained: but justly considering the troubled state of the times unfavourable to the church, he studied physic, and practised at Oxford with very great success. After the restoration he resumed his ecclesiastical functions, and became a fellow of the royal society, of which he was one of the original founders. He was appointed one of the king's chaplains, and dean of Wells in 1670, and being offered the bishopric of Bristol, he declined it, that he might gratify his partiality for a college life. He was chosen president of Trinity college, of which he was a liberal benefactor, having expended upwards of three thousand pounds for its improvement. He built the chapel of his college, in which he was interred in 1704. The second surviving son, Villiers, was in the reigns of Charles II. William III. and Queen Anne, judge advocate of the navy. Henry, the third surviving son, held high legal appointments in Ireland, and was attorney-general of Munster, and recorder of Cork and Kinsale. The estates descended to the youngest brother, Sir Benjamin Bathurst, who, under James, duke of York, was elected governor of the Royal African Company in the reign of Charles II. and in 1688 and 1689, governor of the East India Company. On the first establishment of the household of the Princess Anne, he was appointed treasurer of the household; and on her accession to the throne he became cofferer. He married Frances, daughter of Sir Allen Apsley, of Apsley, in Sussex. He died in 1704,* and was succeeded in his estates by his eldest son, Allen, who was educated at Trinity college, Oxford, of which his uncle, Dean Bathurst, was president. He was elected member for the borough of Cirencester in 1705; and Queen Anne, as the reward at once of his own merit, and of the eminent services of his father, raised him to the peerage by letters patent, dated December 31, 1711. Lord Bathurst distinguished himself as a zealous opponent of the Walpole administration, and in 1742

* Ralph Bathurst died on the 14th June, 1704, and Sir Benjamin on the 27th August, in the same year.

was made a member of the privy council, and captain of the band of gentlemen pensioners; but the latter office he soon afterwards resigned. In 1757, he was appointed treasurer to the Prince of Wales, the late King George III., and upon the accession of that monarch he continued of the privy council; but the pressure of state affairs ill according with his advanced age (for he was then in his 76th year), he declined office. The king, as a tribute due to his high talents, and to his worth, granted him a pension of £2000 per annum; and by letters patent, bearing date August 12, 1772, he was advanced to the dignity of an earldom, by the title of Earl Bathurst, of Bathurst, in Sussex. His lordship married Catherine, daughter of Sir Peter Apsley, by whom he had issue four sons and five daughters. He attained the great age of 91 years, and died, after a few days' illness, at Oakley Park.

It is impossible to pass from the name of this venerable and exalted statesman, without recurring to some traits of his domestic character which shed a brightness even upon the eminent station to which his talents and his virtues raised him.* Allen, lord Bathurst, the Mæcenas of the age in which he lived, possessed a mind stored not only with learning, but with wit, taste, and genius: and in his retirement from the fatigues of public life, he enjoyed the friendship of Prior, Pope,† Atterbury, Bolingbroke, Addison, Swift, Gray, Sterne, Arthbutnot—in short, of all his contemporaries who stood out in the sunshine of that estimable popularity which their talents had acquired for them. Of his convivial disposition, which remained unclouded and serene to the last, the following anecdotes are most happily illustrative. He had the gratifying triumph of witnessing the brilliant success with which the pursuit of his own great example was followed by his

* Sterne thus describes this venerable nobleman—"The first of our acquaintance was as singular as polite. He came up to me one day as I was at the Princess of Wales's court, 'I want to know you Mr. Sterne, but it is fit you should know also who it is that wishes this pleasure. You have heard (continued he) of an old Lord Bathurst of whom your Popes and Swifts have sung and spoken so much. I have lived my life with geniuses of that cast, but have survived them; and despairing ever to find their equals, it is some time since I have closed my accounts and shut up my books, with thoughts of never opening them again; but you have kindled a desire in me of opening them once more before I die, which I now do, so go home and dine with me." This nobleman, I say, is a prodigy; for at eighty-four he has all the wit and promptness of a man of thirty; a disposition to be pleased, and a power to please others beyond what I ever knew, added to which, a man of learning, courtesy, and feeling!"

† Pope dedicated "to Allen, lord Bathurst," his MORAL ESSAY ON THE USE OF RICHES, in which the character of his noble friend is thus truly drawn:

"The sense to value riches, with the art
"T' enjoy them, and the virtue to impart,
"Not meanly, nor ambitiously pursued,
"Not sunk by sloth, nor rais'd by servitude;
"To balance fortune by a just expense,
"Join with economy, magnificence;
"With splendour charity, with plenty health;
"Oh teach us, Bathurst! yet unspoil'd by wealth!
"The secret rare, between the extremes to move
"Of mad good nature, and of mean self-love."

second son, Henry,* afterwards earl Bathurst; who, in early life, applied so sedulously to the study of the law that he became, successively, solicitor-general, and attorney-general, to Frederick, prince of Wales, father to George III.; in May 1754, he was made serjeant-at-law, and one of the justices of the court of common pleas. Before this period he had represented the borough of Cirencester in parliament for twenty years. In 1770, he was appointed one of the lords commissioners of the great seal; and at length, in 1771, was appointed lord high chancellor of Great Britain, and raised to the peerage by the title of Baron Apsley. Soon after this event, the lord chancellor visited his father at Oakley, and a large party assembled to meet him. The conviviality of the evening was kept up till a late hour by the whole of the company, with the exception of Lord Apsley, who retired about twelve o'clock; on which the venerable earl, then nearly ninety years of age, said, with great facetiousness, "Now, my friends, as the old gentleman is gone to bed, we can manage to take another bottle."—When Cadogan published his work on abstinence in gout, the good old lord said he should not be debarred by it from taking his bottle, because Cheyne had told him fifty years before that he would die if he did not leave off port. "You see, however," said he, "that in spite of Cheyne and Cadogan, I am here yet." His speech in defence of his friend, Bishop Atterbury, when the latter was accused of high treason, was a specimen of eloquence almost unequalled in his time. Some of his speeches are preserved in the history and proceedings of the House of Lords.

Henry, Lord Apsley, the Lord Chancellor, succeeded his father in his titles and estates. He resigned his important office in 1778, and died in 1794, in his eightieth year. He was succeeded by his son, Henry, earl of Bathurst, the present possessor of the title, and one of the chief ministers of the crown. His lordship married Georgiana, daughter of Lord George Henry Lennox, brother to the late Duke of Richmond.

Oakley Park, the seat of this noble family, has long been celebrated, and endeared to every literary mind, as the favourite retreat of the classic and enlightened nobleman whose tasteful mind employed itself in directing the earliest improvements of this delightful place; and left to his distinguished descendants the grateful task of splendidly accomplishing what had been so judiciously begun. At the end of the serpentine walk, in the home-park, is a seat to which Pope was fond of retiring when he occasionally became the guest of his noble friend; and it has ever since retained the name of "Pope's seat."† In front of it spreads out a lawn, in which eight vistas concentrate.

* Benjamin, the eldest son, married Elizabeth, second daughter of Charles, Lord Bruce. He died without issue, January 23, 1767.

† Pope, in one of his letters written from Oakley Park, in an early stage of its culture, has the following passages: "How much I long to be her guide through that enchanted forest, is not to be expressed. I look upon myself as the magician appropriated to the place, without whom no mortal can penetrate into the recesses of these sacred shades. I could pass whole days in only describing to her the future and as yet visionary beauties that are to arise in those scenes." Amongst

Within the park wall there was an ancient tumulus called Grismond's Tower, in which were found several urns containing ashes and burnt bones, remains of some eminent Romans who once possessed this station.

Oakley Woods formerly belonged to the abbey of Cirencester, and were granted 1st Edward VI. to Lord Seymour; and 6th Edward VI. to John, duke of Northumberland: upon the respective attainders of these noblemen, the woods reverted to the crown; and were granted (3d Elizabeth) to Sir Thomas Parry. They were ultimately purchased from Sir Robert Atkyns, by Allen, lord Bathurst. From the centre of the woods, on a gentle eminence, ten extensive avenues branch out like radii, the principal of which is nearly fifty feet in width, and commands in the vista a pleasing view of the tower of St. John's church. In a deep recess stands a fanciful building, bearing the appearance of great antiquity; to which is ingeniously attached a Saxon tradition, to induce a belief that it was the scene of Alfred's treaty with Gothrum the Dane. This was no doubt suggested by the similarity of Achelie, the ancient name of Oakley, to Ægglea, where Alfred halted on the night previous to the battle of Eddington or Ethandun. It is called Alfred's Hall, but it bears no resemblance to a castle of any age or country. To heighten the deception the projector of this "modern ruin" caused an inscription commemorative of the event to be placed in Saxon characters over the door opposite to the south entrance; and in another part of the building there appears a Latin translation of the record. Behind Alfred's Hall there is a similar ruin, in which there is inscribed on a stone over the fire-place—

IN MEM. ALFREDI.
REX. REZTAVR:
ANO. DO. 1085.

There is a pleasant story connected with this fictitious hall of the great Alfred:—An old woman who was in the habit of attending strangers in visiting the park, once hearing a traveller express his surprise at the great antiquity of the building, exclaimed, "O, dear sir, my lord intends to build another house shortly, two hundred years older.

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other objects, he notices "the meeting of the Thames and Severn, celebrating their marriage in the midst of an immense amphitheatre, which is to be the admiration of posterity a hundred years hence. But Mrs. D. must content herself with seeing what is at present no more than the finest wood in England." To Pope's design the wood-house may be ascribed, as Bishop Atterbury says in a letter to him: "May my lord have as much satisfaction in building the house in the wood, and in using it when built, as you had in designing it."

CHAPTER XIV.

SOUTHWARD EXCURSION.

II.

The new road leading through Painswick to Bath was opened in 1822, and passes through Shurdington, a neat village in the parish of Badgworth. John Arundel, of Arundel, held the manors of Great and Little Shurdington in the reign of Henry V.; and Fitzalan, earl of Arundel, possessed them, 13th Henry VI. In the 6th Edward VI. the former, which had once been held by the Archbishop of York, was granted to Sir Thos. Chamberlayne, in whose descendants it is now vested. The manor of Little Shurdington has long been held by the Lawrence family, who have a handsome seat called Greenway.

Not many years ago a tumulus was opened at Shurdington, in which was found, at the depth of sixteen feet from the surface, a stone coffin, seven feet in length, and four feet in breadth. It contained a perfect skeleton in such uncommon preservation, that the teeth were white and undecayed, and the bones firm. A helmet was above the head, but so much corroded that it crumbled to pieces when touched.

The manor of Badgworth* belonged, in 1022, to the monastery of Gloucester; but, to

* Near Badgworth is Churchdown, or, as in Domesday Book it was written, Circesdune. Stigand, archbishop of Canterbury, held it in 1052. Thomas, archbishop of York, possessed it, (14th Edward III.): and it was granted to Sir Thomas Chamberlayne (6th Edward VI.) E. J. Chamberlayne, Esq. is the present lord of the manor. The circumference of Churchdown hill is four miles at the base, from which it rises in a pyramidal form, to the height of nearly three thousand feet above the vale of Gloucester; and at the top, the extent of the surface is scarcely half a mile. Upon the highest acclivity of the hill, which on every side forms one of the most picturesque objects in the vale, stands a small church, dedicated to St. Bartholomew. It consists of a nave and north aisle, surmounted by a tower, evidently a more modern building than the church, as the following inscription on the inside wall indicates: "This Bel Hows was buylded in the yeere of our Lorde God 1601." The benefice is an endowed curacy in the deanery of Gloucester; but the impropriation and advowson were given at the dissolution, to the dean and chapter of Bristol. In the parish of Churchdown, now corruptly called Chosen, John Harmar, the most celebrated Greek scholar of the age in which he lived, was born in the year 1594. He was appointed regius professor of Greek at Oxford. Wood, in his Athenæ, whilst he condemned his republican principles, extolled his extraordinary learning. Atkyns termed him "a mere scholar in shabby clothes, who loved to flatter and be applauded." He died in 1670, aged 75.

redeem the Heregeld,* was sold with other estates, by Edric, the first abbot, to William de Owe, or Ewe, who retained it until, having rebelled against William II.,† he was imprisoned and had his eyes put out. It was then granted to Gilbert Marshal, who derived his surname from his office of marshal to the king; and descended in the reign of Richard I. to his grandson, William, earl of Pembroke; by whose sons, William, Richard, Gilbert, Walter, and Anselm, it was possessed successively. They all died without issue; leaving five sisters co-heiresses—of these the eldest, Maud, married Hugh Bigod or Bigot, earl of Norfolk; and after his death became the wife of John de Warren, earl of Surrey: Joan, the second daughter, married Warrine de Monchensis: Isabel, the third daughter, married Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester; and afterwards Richard, earl of Cornwall: Sybil, the fourth daughter, married William de Ferrers, earl of Derby: and Eve, the youngest, married William de Braose. By these intermarriages the early records of the manor have been rendered very complicated.—Hugh de Audley, who held the manor in the reign of Edward II., was one of the barons who took up arms to enforce the expulsion of the Despensers; and on his attainder the infatuated king granted Badgworth to Hugh le Despenser the younger: but it was restored by Edward III. to the widow of Hugh de Audley; and their son Hugh, who succeeded them in the manor, was created earl of Gloucester. John Giffard, of Brimpsfield, possessed it (9th Edward I.) in right of his wife. It was held by Hugh, Thomas, and William, earls of Stafford, (10th, 16th, and 22d Richard II.†) In the reign of Mary it belonged to John, lord Chandos. The Earl of Clarendon is the present lord of the manor.

The benefice of Badgworth is a vicarage in the deanery of Winchcomb. The principal and fellows of Jesus college, Oxford, are the impropriators of Badgworth and Shurdington; and Walter Lawrence Lawrence, Esq. is patron of both. The Rev. Thos. Hill is the present incumbent. The church, of which the founder is unknown, was built in the middle ages; and a specimen of the most finished Norman style may be seen in the structure of the door and windows: the latter were once highly ornamented with painted glass, though nothing now remains of this decoration but a small figure of the Redeemer in an upper compartment. The tower, which rises from the west of the edifice, contains six bells, and is surmounted by battlements of fret-work. The church is dedicated to the Holy Trinity; and in the northern end has a chapel dedicated to St. Margaret, who, according to tradition, was of noble birth; but being compelled by her parents to marry, she escaped from her husband on the wedding day: then assuming a male disguise, and the name of Pelagius, she entered a monastery, and so well sustained the character of the

* "HEREGELD, a tax raised for maintaining an army." *Bayle.*

† He took up arms in behalf of Robert Curthose, and committed great devastations in Gloucestershire: won by the liberal promises of the king he returned to his allegiance, but again betraying the royal cause, he was taken prisoner, and demanding the privilege of justifying himself by single combat, he was vanquished, and then accused of high treason before the constable and marshal of England, who presided over the court of chivalry; and by them he was convicted.

† Atkyns.

brotherhood, that Pelagius was chosen to preside over a nunnery: one of the sisters, however, proving *enceinte*, it was surmised that the "reverend youth" must be the offending father; whereupon the supposed culprit was immured: and, unshaken in the constancy with which she had preserved the secret of her life, Margaret endured captivity for a considerable time, and only disclosed the truth when she found herself in the last mortal agonies.

At Horse-ferry bridge, the Bath road is intersected by the great Roman fossway, leading on the right to Gloucester, through Barnwood,* and on the left to Cirencester, through Birdlip. A road branching off from the Irmin Street, leads to Witcomb-house, the seat of Sir William Hicks, Bart.

The manor of Witcomb† was held (4th Edward I.) by Edmond, earl of Cornwall, son to the founder of Hayles abbey; and it was afterwards attached to St. Oswald's priory, in Gloucester. At the dissolution it was granted to Sir Thomas Chamberlayne. In 1613, the manor and estate were purchased by the relict of Sir Michael Hicks; and have since that period been held by the lineal descendants of that ancient family, which has for some centuries possessed considerable estates in this county. During the warlike reign of Edward III., Sir Ellis Hicks so highly distinguished himself in the expedition commanded by the Black Prince, that he was created a knight banneret; and having at the battle of Cressy taken a standard from the enemy, the king gave him for his armorial bearings three *fleurs de lis*. His descendant, John Hicks, of Tortworth, died in 1486, 2d Henry VII. leaving his estates to his son, Robert Hicks, a citizen of London, who had three sons, Michael, Francis, and Baptist. The latter, Baptist, was knighted by King James I., July 1, 1620, and was created Baron Hicks, of Ilmington, in the county of Warwick, and Viscount Campden, of Campden, in Gloucestershire, 4th Charles I.‡. The eldest son, Michael, was of Trinity college, Cambridge; he devoted himself to the study of the law in Lincoln's Inn, and became secretary to the Lord Treasurer Burleigh. He was knighted in 1604, and in a few years afterwards purchased Beverstone castle. He died in 1612, and was succeeded by his eldest son William,§ who was created a baronet by King

* The grant of the manor of Barnwood, with all its appurtenances, to the abbey of Gloucester, was confirmed by the Conqueror, when Serlo was abbot. It remained so vested 'till the dissolution, when it was given by Henry VIII. to the chapter erected by him at Gloucester. It has since been held by lease of the dean and chapter. It was purchased in 1782 by John Morris, Esq. The church, which was built by Abbot Parker about the year 1500, contains a narrow aisle, and is surmounted by an embattled tower.

† Atkyns says, somewhat strangely, "the name signifies a white hill, and it lies under Burlip hill, where the roads make it look white." The "name," however, signifies "the wide valley," from the junction of the Saxon words "wiſd" and "comb."

‡ He built a splendid house at Campden, the site of which, with its offices, is said to have occupied eight acres of land. It had four fronts—a large dome issuing from the roof was regularly illuminated at night for the direction of travellers. The building of this magnificent mansion cost Sir Baptist 30,000l. Yet it was destroyed during the civil wars, that it might not form a garrison for the parliament:—the precaution was needless, for the rebel troops never approached it. Sir Baptist likewise built Hicks's hall, in London.

§ Michael, the second son, died unmarried.

James I., July 21, 1619. Sir William, in the rebellion of 1641, heroically maintained his attachment to the royal cause, and Beverstone castle was garrisoned for the king; but was casually held by the parliamentary troops. He died in 1680, leaving issue two sons, William and Michael, who were knighted in their infancy by Charles II. Sir William, who was a baronet and knight, died in 1703, leaving issue Henry and Charles. Sir Henry died in 1754, leaving two sons, Robert and Michael; the latter died unmarried in 1764, and Sir Robert died in 1768, without issue; whereupon the title descended to Sir John Baptist Hicks, the son of Charles; who dying without issue in 1791, the title descended to Sir Howe Hicks, grandson of Sir Michael Hicks. Upon the death of Sir Howe the title and estates descended to his son, Sir William Hicks, the present baronet and lord of the manor.

Witcomb-house, the family mansion, is situated at the base of Birdlip-hill, in the centre of a rich and luxuriant valley, the heights around which are thickly wooded. From a vista upon the uplands, at a short distance from the house, the prospect is indescribably fine, and comprehends a range of vale scenery at once magnificent and interesting; the view extending from Bredon-hill to the Welsh mountains. Independently of its local charms, Witcomb possesses one of the principal attractions in the neighbourhood—the celebrated tesselated pavement.

This truly curious relic of Roman antiquity is thus described in the first part of the Archæologia, by the late S. Lysons, V. P. F. R. S.:—

"In February 1818, some labourers, rooting up an old ash tree in a field called Sarendells, in the parish of Great Witcomb, in the county of Gloucester, discovered a large hewn stone about six feet in length. On its removal, it appeared to have rested upon two large upright stones. Sir W. Hicks, Bart. gave directions that the earth should be removed, to pursue the discovery; when it was ascertained that each of the stones was six feet two inches in height, and formed a door-way leading into a room 19 feet 7½ inches by 13 feet 7 inches, the walls of which remained in a perfect state, to the height of six feet.

"This room was paved with large stones, of the kind of red sand-stone, found in the forest of Dean; and nearly in the middle was a cistern, formed by four of the same sort of stones placed upright; the bottom being of clay. On the east side of the room were three buttresses, carried to the top of the wall, and resting on a plinth, four inches above the level of the floor, adjoining which was a stone raised a little above the pavement, on the outside of which was a border of brick tiles.

"A passage six feet wide was discovered, leading by a descent of steps to the room above described; the walls, which remained nearly to the same height as those of the room, were plastered and painted in pannels, formed by stripes of light blue and orange colour, on a white ground; having ornaments of ivy leaves, &c. between them. In this passage and the adjoining room were found Roman coins of the lower empire, and many

bones of animals, among which were several skulls of bullocks and goats, with fragments of stags' horns; and an iron axe similar in form to that which appears among the instruments of sacrifice on bas-reliefs and on coins. On the earth being removed, several rooms were discovered which exhibited a complete set of Roman baths, and left no doubt that these remains were part of a Roman villa, of considerable extent.

"No spot in this island could perhaps be pointed out more likely to have been fixed on by one of the superior officers of the Roman government in Britain, for the erection of such an edifice. The situation is particularly striking, being on the upper part of a sloping ground, near the foot of Cooper's hill, facing the south-east: well sheltered with fine beech woods, having a small stream of water running below it; commanding a very agreeable near view; and a very extensive distant one, of the vale of the Severn, and the mountainous district beyond it, which in the Roman times was the country of the Silures. It lies at the distance of three quarters of a mile from the great Roman road leading down Birdlip hill, between the two Roman cities of Corinium (Cirencester) and Glevum (Gloucester), one of their most important stations in the west of England; being the frontier town, next to the country of the Silures, the last retreat of the Britons. On the outside of this building, in the court, was found the figure of a lyre, cut in stone, 2 feet 3½ inches high.

"Another room exhibits, perhaps, the most complete example of the Roman baths which has been discovered in this country. They are not so large as the baths in the Roman villa at Bignor: but of those little remains above the level of the floors; whilst in the villa at Witcomb several of the walls still exist to the height of from 4 feet to 5 feet 4 inches, and most of the door-ways are preserved, formed by single upright stones.

"The next room is 13 feet 6 inches, by 12 feet 10 inches; the walls were plastered and painted in pannels; on three sides were funnels laid horizontally, at the height of two feet from the floor, communicating with others placed upright, for conveying heat from the hypocaust, the fire-place of which was an arch, 3 feet 4 inches wide, under the wall of this room in the court. The pavement was of mosaic work, enriched with a great variety of ornaments, consisting of nine octagonal compartments, five of which enclosed circles; the whole being connected by a single guilloche, and formed into a square by a double one. This square is bordered on three sides by a single fret, and on the fourth by a double one. In the centre of the pavement is the figure of an urn with ivy leaves. The outlines of all the ornaments and the frets are of tesseræ, formed of the hard argillaceous stone called blue lyas; the guilloches, &c. being red, a light yellowish brown and white, are composed of a white calcareous stone, and a fine sort of brick. This room seems to have been the *apodyterium*, or dressing-room, communicating with the cold baths, by different doors.

"Another room adjoining has a mosaic pavement ornamented with figures of fish and sea monsters, in blue on a white ground, enclosed within a border formed by a double

fret. On two sides are ***Baptisteria***, or cold baths, the one semicircular, the other oblong. The next room, somewhat lower, was probably the ***tepidarium***. Under this room was a hypocaust, several of the piers of which remained, formed of brick tiles, 8¾ in. square; the ***præfurnium*** was in the court. The sudatory has a mosaic pavement, ornamented with squares, circles, and rhombs; the doorway between this anti-room, is only 1 foot 11 inches wide; on one side of the room are what seem to be the remains of a seat, about two feet high, formed of brick tiles: a hot bath, 9 feet 4¼ inches, by 2 feet 10 inches, covered with a coat of stucco, and painted red, adjoins the sudatory; and communicates with it by an opening, 5 feet 7 inches wide, with steps. Round the hot bath and sudatory are funnels in the walls, laid close to the floors; and communicating with the hypocaust beneath.

"A room some little distance from the last mentioned, is an irregular octagon; it had a chequered pavement, of which a fragment remains, formed of squares of five inches, and triangles of white calcareous stone and blue lyas. Its cross walls appear to have been originally subterraneous, the places between them being filled with clay. Several fragments of columns have been found in other parts of the building, but none in their original positions; fragments of cornices of white marble were also found in the remains of the baths. The room next to the last-mentioned appears to have been subterraneous. In the wall between this and the next room, are several large upright stones, some of them four feet high, resting on plinths; and large pieces of pit coal, with coal ashes, were found in this part of the building. Much of this building yet remains to be explored.

"Many Roman coins of the lower empire, from the time of Constantine the Great, to that of Valentinian and Valens, have been found in every part of the building; and a variety of utensils, &c. the most remarkable of which are a small ***statera***, or steelyards, with its weight; an ivory comb; a stone mortar six inches in diameter; and a ploughshare of iron weighing seven pounds and a half, which has been presented by Sir W. Hicks to the British museum. Many ***fibulæ***, buckles, pins, and various other relics of copper and iron, have also been found, and a British hatchet of flint, five inches and a half in length, and two and a half in width.

At a short distance beyond the pavement, the road passes to Cranham, where the cottages erected by Mr. Todd, in a simply rural style, form a novel feature in the midst of the most romantic scenery, surrounded by extensive beechen woodlands. The manor was included, in Domesday Book, in the adjoining manor of Brimpsfield. It was given to the abbey of St. Peter, in Gloucester, by Elias Giffard, a monk of that abbey, when it became a manor, and so remained to the dissolution, when a considerable part of it was granted to the dean and chapter of Gloucester. In 1536,* it became the property of John, the first lord Chandos, of Sudely. Joseph Pitt, Esq. M.P., is the present lord of the manor.

* On the death of Catherine of Arragon, the repudiated queen of Henry VIII. who previously held it.

About three miles beyond Cranham is Miserden Park, the seat of Sir Edwin Bayntun Sandys, Bart. The approach to the mansion is through a highly picturesque passage of country, on each side of which sloping and thickly wooded uplands merge gradually into the fertile valley.

Miserden, anciently called Green Hampsted, derived its present appellation from its Norman possessor, Hascoit Musard, to whom it was granted with other and very considerable possessions by William the Conqueror. This Musard is noticed by Dugdale as a man eminent for his piety and virtue, who became a monk in the monastery of Ely. His descendant, Ralph Musard,* who possessed it in the reign of Henry III., built Musarden castle, the site of which may be traced in a deep valley, where the circular mound is still surrounded by its ancient moat. The manor was given by Edward II. to the younger Hugh Despenser, upon whose attainder it was granted to Edmund of Woodstock, earl of Kent, the second son of Edward I., by his second wife Margaret, sister of the King of France. This prince was beheaded March 19, 1330, at the instigation of Mortimer, earl of March, to whose son, Geoffrey Mortimer, Miserden was then granted; but the earl being beheaded soon afterwards, his sons were attainted by parliament; the manor reverted to the crown, and the descendants of Edmund of Woodstock being restored in blood, Miserden was held by his son John, from whom it passed to his sister and coheiress Joan, "the fair maid of Kent," whose husband, Sir Thomas Holland, was, in her right, created earl of Kent. His heiress, Eleanor, married Roger, earl of March; and their daughter Anne, who inherited this manor, married Richard, duke of York. To their son, afterwards King Edward IV., Miserden descended, and continued vested in the crown till the reign of Henry VIII. when it was granted to Sir Anthony Kingston. It was purchased from Wm. Kingston, Esq. by a member of the Jerningham family, of Cossey, in Norfolk, who sold it to Sir William Sandys; whose descendants have been lords of the manor from that period to the present. Several members of this family have been distinguished by their literary attainments. Edwin Sandys, born in 1519, was educated at St. John's college, Cambridge, and embraced the doctrines of the reformation. He was elected master of Catherine-hall in 1547, and vice-chancellor of the university in 1553. He was sent to the tower, and afterwards to the marshalsea, in consequence of preaching a sermon in favour of the innocent and ill-fated Lady Jane Grey; but obtained his liberty, and left the kingdom. After the death of Queen Mary he returned, and was consecrated bishop of Worcester, from which see he was translated to London in 1570, and became archbishop of York in 1576. He was one of the divines employed in the translation of the bible in 1565. His elder son, Edwin, a man of great learning, and of equal talent, was knighted by King James I., who employed him in state affairs: and he was appointed

* Ralph married Isabel, widow of John de Nevill, without the king's licence, and paid one hundred marks for his transgression. He was sheriff of Gloucestershire from 17th John to 9th Henry III.

treasurer of the western plantations. His younger son, George, was an eminent traveller, and visited, successively, Greece, Constantinople, Egypt, and the Holy Land.* He was also celebrated as a poet. His nephew, Sir Edwin Sandys, married Elizabeth, sister of William, lord Sandys, by whom he had issue three sons and six daughters; William, his son, was, for his prodigality, styled "golden Sandys."

The manor-house of Miserden is supposed to have been built with the dilapidated remains of the old castle, and stands on an eminence in the park which is seven miles in circumference. The mansion was seized by the parliamentary leaders, who garrisoned it with three hundred men.†—The church, which is dedicated to St. Andrew, consists of a nave, a chancel, and two cross aisles, surmounted by a low embattled tower. On the south side of the chancel there is a small chapel belonging to the Sandys family, and decorated with military trophies. It contains a magnificent marble monument, on which are the effigies of Sir William Sandys in complete armour, and of his lady, in the most sumptuous dress of the age in which she lived. They are sculptured in alabaster, from two paintings finely executed by Cornelius Jansen, which were sent to Italy as models for this monument, the completion of which cost upwards of one thousand pounds.

Having thus far diverged from the direct line of the present excursion, to notice some of the most beautiful scenery that imagination can conceive; we return to the Painswick road, which, by an easy elevation, winds round Cooper's hill, where a landscape scarcely surpassed in loveliness bursts upon the view.

Painswick,‡ distant eleven miles south from Cheltenham, is a large populous market town, built on the descent of Sponebed hill. It was anciently called "Michael's Wike." Pain Fitz-John, the descendant of a powerful Norman nobleman, who came to England with the conqueror, became possessed of the manor, which was thenceforth called Painswick. Joan, the wife of Audamor de Valencia, earl of Pembroke, held the manor (7th Edward II.) The earl purchased the charter for the fair and markets (17th

* He published a volume of travels in 1615.

† "About five hundred horse and foot advanced to Saperton and Musarden."—"At which very time we had lodged three hundred foote within Muserden house, sent thither the day before with orders to defend it as a garrison."—*Corbet*, pp. 26-131. Although Miserden was seized for the parliament, Colonel Sandys held a command in the royal army.

‡ In the reign of Edward VI. Sir Anthony Kingston was provost-marshal, and lord of the manor of Painswick. Insurrections being then very frequent, he built a prison in Painswick, and caused a gallows to be erected upon Shepscombe green, and bequeathed three estates in his lordship, which have ever since been called *gallows land*;—one always to maintain the gallows—a second to keep two ladders in readiness—and the third to provide halters. To complete the bequest, he ordered that the tything-man of Shepscombe, for the time being, should be hangman; and that he should possess an acre of land in that tything for his service. A piece of ground held by the tything-man, is still called hangman's acre.—His father, Sir William, rendered himself notorious by the sportive cruelties with which he fulfilled the duties of provost-marshal. He ordered the mayor of Bodmin to erect a high and durable gallows in the market-place of that town; and after banquetting sumptuously with the unsuspecting head of the corporation, he caused him to be hanged upon his own well-built gallows, to make proof of its strength. He soon afterwards went to apprehend a miller, whose man attempted to personate the absent object of his vengeance: and him too he hanged up—telling him, as he desired to represent his master, he could not do him a better service than to hang for him.

Edward II.) Joan, their youngest daughter, married John Comyn, of Badenagh, in Scotland; and to their daughter, Elizabeth, Painswick was given, and the manor passed into the Talbot family on her marriage with Richard Talbot, of Goodrich castle, in Herefordshire. John Talbot, the celebrated earl of Shrewsbury,* held it in the reign of Henry VI. He obtained a very peculiar privilege for Painswick in the year 1400, when, to form a provision for the widows of such of the natives as were killed in the foreign wars, a wife was granted a right to her free-bench during life, on payment of one penny. It was stated that, on the average, eleven married men out of sixteen had lost their lives in battle beyond sea; and the widows were allowed to "marry with whom they liste." The manor was settled on Thomas, lord Lisle, on whose death† it was granted to his widow for her life. The manor was afterwards vested in the crown, and granted to Thomas Cromwell, earl of Essex,‡ in the reign of Henry VIII. On his attainder it was granted to George, earl of Shrewsbury; and was again granted (32d Henry VIII.) to Sir William Kingston. It afterwards passed into the Jerningham family, of Norfolk, early in the reign of Elizabeth; and was long held by the descendants of that house. Thomas Croome, Esq. is the present lord of the manor of Painswick.

On the summit of Sponebed hill, above Painswick, there are the remains of the double entrenchments of a very ancient fortification, nearly square, which occupied upwards of three acres of ground. It is imagined to have been originally British; but from its commanding situation, which overlooks almost all the vale of Gloucester, it was, doubtless, alternately invested by the invaders. It is called Kimsberry Castle, signifying, "the Castle on the King's Hill;" and it also obtained the name of Castle Godwin, from the circumstance of its having been occupied by Earl Godwin, in the reign of Edward the Confessor; when he, incited by jealousy, which the partiality of his royal son-in-law for foreigners excited, took up arms to compel their expulsion from the kingdom.—But Sponebed derives an almost melancholy interest from another incident: When the siege of Gloucester was raised in 1643, the royal army retreated towards Painswick, and occupied this position; and it is said that the unhappy Charles, when sitting at the close of the day on a large stone near the camp, was asked by the young prince, "when they should go home?" to which he mournfully, and in the bitterness of his heart, replied, "Alas my son, I have no home to go to!"

* He was killed, July 20, 1453, at the battle of Chastillon, in his eightieth year. Two thousand of his soldiers fell with him.

† The details of this event will be found under the head of Berkeley castle.

‡ Cromwell was the son of a blacksmith, and born at Putney. He bore arms in Italy under the Duke of Bourbon, and was present at the sacking of Rome. On his return he was appointed secretary to Wolsey, and after the cardinal's downfall became the favourite of Henry VIII., who knighted him, and raised him to the peerage, made him earl of Essex, and appointed him to the most important offices of the state. He projected and promoted the king's marriage with Anne of Cleeves; but the event proved his ruin. The capricious monarch disliked her person, and the earl of Essex fell into disgrace. He was sent to the tower, accused of heresy and treason, and beheaded July 28, 1540.

Painswick church, dedicated to St. Mary, consists of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with a tower, surmounted by a tall spire, both together ascending to the height of one hundred and seventy-four feet. It is of different styles of architecture; the north aisles and nave appear, from the grotesque figures around the battlements, to have been built in the sixteenth century; the south aisle is modern, and supported by doric pillars with corresponding capitals. The portico of the entrance is of the Ionic order. The belfry contains twelve bells, and the Painswick youths are celebrated for their skill in ringing. Some years ago the person who managed the great bell when ringing a bob-major fell dead before they could complete the peal, and others survived but a few days the excessive fatigue of that day's ringing. The church is in the deanery of Stonehouse. The advowson and impropriation formerly belonged to the priory of Lanthony. The impropriation is now vested in the inhabitants. The Rev. Robert Strong is the present incumbent.

Stroud, distant fourteen miles due south from Cheltenham, may be considered the centre of the clothing district. It is a populous market-town, situated on a singularly beautiful hill, at the declivity of which the Stroudwater passes. Stroud has long been celebrated for the peculiarly fine dye of its cloth manufacture, which is chiefly attributable to the properties of the water. The town has lately undergone very great improvements; and in the surrounding vallies are villages and detached cottages, inhabited by the manufacturing classes. The church, dedicated to St. Lawrence,* was formerly a chapel of ease to Bisley. It consists of a nave and two aisles, with a chancel. A tower surmounted by a spire, rises from the west end, and from the canal bridge at Dudbridge, forms a very pleasing object. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, it is said that Florence, a younger daughter of the Earl of Tyrone, becoming attached to one of the domestics of her father's house, fled from her home with him to London, where they were privately married. She carried with her all her jewels, and every thing that she possessed of value. After the death of her husband she retired to the neighbourhood of Stroud, and married a cloth-worker. She concealed her high birth for many years, till on her deathbed she disclosed the secret, and bequeathed, in money and jewels, 1000l. to each of her sons, and 500l. to each of her daughters. She was buried in Stroud church-yard.

The town of Bisley is little more than three miles from Stroud; the parish to which it gives name is one of the largest in the county, and embraces an extent of nearly twenty-five miles. It is situated at the very extremity of the Cotswolds. Soon after the conquest the manor was granted to the Mortimers, descendants of Roger de Mortimer, one of the conqueror's generals. Ralph de Mortimer obtained the estates of Edric, earl of Shrewsbury, whom he subdued and made prisoner. Hugh, the son and heir of Ralph, took up arms against Henry II., and incited Roger, earl of Hereford, to fortify Gloucester

* A native of Huesca, in Arragon. He was martyred on a grid-iron by the command of Valerian, in 261.

castle against the king; but the earl returning to his allegiance, Mortimer's castles were besieged and taken. Hugh Mortimer, his grandson, proved his loyalty during the wars between King John and the barons, by accompanying the royal army to Cirencester, with all the strength that he could muster. Atkyns says, "he was well rewarded by that king." Ralph, half-brother to the last-mentioned Hugh, was distinguished as a warrior, and built several castles on the line of demarcation between Gloucestershire and Wales; and at length subdued Lewellyn, who gave him his daughter, Gladuse Duy, in marriage. His son and heir, Roger de Mortimer, was appointed governor of the castle of Hereford, in the reign of Henry III., but was dispossessed by the earl of Leicester, who, after the battle of Lewes, brought prince Edward to the castle of Hereford, where he held him some time a captive. Roger, however, who escaped from the battle, formed a project for the release of the prince, which he thus executed:—Edward, who had once been the friend of Lewellyn, who was associated with the insurgent barons, was, through his intercession, allowed to ride in a meadow outside the castle walls. Whilst he was one day enjoying this exercise, the plan devised for his escape was communicated to him by a confidential servant, by whom a fleet horse was sent as a present to the prince, which he was desired to obtain permission to ride out to Widemarsh; and when he perceived a person mounted on a white horse at the foot of Tillington hill, waving his bonnet, then to hasten to him with his utmost speed. The project proved successful—and turning to his keeper, the prince said, "I have been in your company a long time—I now bid you farewell." The fugitive was immediately pursued; but at Tillington park he was received by Roger de Mortimer, at the head of 500 men, who beat his pursuers back to the gates of Hereford, and then conducted the prince to Wigmore castle. To this event immediately succeeded the battle of Evesham, in which De Mortimer commanded the third part of the army, and attacked Leicester's forces in the rear, while the prince and the Earl of Gloucester assailed their flanks. For his eminent services in that day's fight he was granted the earldom of Oxford, and the honours before possessed by Robert de Vere. His son, Edward, married a Spanish lady nearly allied to Queen Eleanor, and obtained a grant of the manor of Bisley. He was actively engaged in the Welsh wars, and, in 1282, encountering Lewellyn in the battle of Llandweyr, near Builth, he killed that prince and routed his army. By this event Wales was subjugated, after a struggle of eight hundred years against the British. Roger Mortimer, earl of March, his successor, headed the barons in their opposition to Edward II. and the Despensers. He was imprisoned, and his lands sequestrated, and given to Despenser. He escaped to France with the queen, his paramour; but returning soon afterwards with a large force, he dethroned the king, who was subsequently murdered by their practices. The undisguised infamy of his conduct, however, brought on his ruin and disgrace. King Edward III. being made sensible of his guilty familiarity with the queen-mother, caused him to be seized in Nottingham castle. He was impeached for high treason, in having assumed

the government of the kingdom; placed spies about the king; expressly ordered and procured the death of Edward II.; contrived the legal murder of the young king's uncle the Earl of Kent; appropriated to his own use the king's money to the amount of 20,000l.; and, to complete the climax of criminality, in having carried on an adulterous intercourse with Queen Isabel. On all these charges he was condemned, and sentenced to be hanged and drawn on a common gibbet at "the Elms, near Smithfield," long known as Tyburn: which ignominous fate he underwent on November 29, 1330, and his body was suspended for two days and nights.* His grandson, Roger, obtained the reversal of the attainder, (26th Edward III.:) and with it the title of Earl of March, and all the estates which had been granted to the Earl of Salisbury, whose daughter he married. He died seized of "Byselye" and Winston, (34th Edward III.) Edmund, his son, married Phillippa, daughter of Lionel, duke of Clarence, third son of Edward III., and was appointed viceroy of Ireland, in which high station he died in 1382. He was heir, in his wife's right, to the third part of the earldom of Gloucester. His son Roger succeeded him not only in his estates, but in the viceroyalty of Ireland; and in a parliament assembled at Westminster, October 18, 1384, he was declared heir presumptive to the throne of England, in consequence of his maternal descent from Edward III., and also of his own marriage with Eleanor, daughter of Thomas, earl of Kent, and niece to King Richard II. In November 1398, a rebellion broke out in Ireland, during which he was killed in battle. The last Earl of March of the Mortimer family was his son Edmund, who was taken prisoner by Owen Glendower, and persuaded by that prince to marry his daughter Anne. He died in Ireland without issue; but his sister Anne marrying the Earl of Cambridge, became mother of Richard, duke of York, who, amongst his other estates, inherited Bisley. The duke was created by the letters patent of Henry VI. (passed in November 1460,) protector of the realm, and heir apparent to the crown; but did not long enjoy these honours: for he marched against the queen's forces with 5000 men, and was killed at the battle of Wakefield, December 31, 1460. He was succeeded in his title and possessions by his son, who was soon afterwards proclaimed King Edward IV., and Bisley became a royal manor. It had continued in the Mortimer family, with the exception of the temporary alienation by Edward II. in favour of the Despensers, for upwards of four centuries,† i. e. from the conquest in 1066, till the reign of Richard III. when it was granted to Sir William Nottingham. It reverted to the crown, and was granted 1st Edward VI., to Lord Seymour, of Sudely. It was again granted 5th James I. to the Marquis of Rockingham,‡ who assigned it to Thomas Master, D.D.

* The partner of his guilt survived for 28 years, and was doomed to close imprisonment in her own house at Castle Rising, in Norfolk.

† Atkyns says, after reciting the several dates of possession; "By this account it appears that the manor of Bisley had continued in the name of the Mortimers a hundred and eighty years," and Rudder adopts his statement.

‡ The Marquis of Buckingham, according to Atkyns.



DESIGN FOR A LODGE ENTRANCE TO A PARK, OR GENTLEMAN'S SEAT.

Drawn by F. Jenkins, Architect.

Printed & Published by S.V. Griffith, 87 Cheltenham.

By his heir it was sold to Sir Robert Atkyns, from whom it was purchased by Thomas Stephens, Esq. of Upper Lyppiat. It was inherited by John Stephens, Esq. who dying in 1778, bequeathed it to his nephew, the late Thomas Baghott De-la-Bere, Esq. of Southam.

The benefice of Bisley is a vicarage in the deanery of Stonehouse. The impropriation formerly belonged to the college of Westbury, but is now held by Sir Paul Baghott. The Rev. Edward Mansfield is the present incumbent. The church, which was built by a member of the Mortimer family, and dedicated to All Saints, contains a nave and two aisles, and is surmounted by a spire, which, from the lofty site of the church, serves for a land-mark.* Atkyns repeats the tradition, that Roger Bacon was born at Trodgmore Bottom, in this parish, and adds that "he was educated at St. Mary's chapel, now St. Bury's mill, on Stroud river, in the parish of Hampton, wherein is a room at this day called Friar Bacon's study." Wantner, in his MSS. mentions an ancient cross erected in the church-yard over a well, into which a man falling, the church-yard was excommunicated for three years, and the inhabitants were obliged to carry their dead to Bibury. Lysons supposes this cross to have been built in the thirteenth century. Wantner also mentions a vault with tesselated pavements discovered at Lillyhorne, in this parish; and Fosbroke notices some Roman remains. The common, which then consisted of 1200 acres, was given to the poor of the parish by Roger Mortimer, the restored earl of March. Sir Robt. Atkyns obtained a charter for the market of Bisley in the reign of James II.

One mile south-west of Stroud is Rodborough, which gives name to an extensive and beautiful vale, forming the principal part of the clothing district. Thomas de Rodborough was high sheriff of Gloucestershire (1st and 4th Edward II.)

Beyond Rodborough, the village of Woodchester, anciently written Udecester, is pleasantly situated on the decline of a range of hills, thickly wooded with beech. "Earl Goodwin bought Udecester of Azor, and gave it to his wife Gueta for her maintainance, whilst she lived at Berchelai; for she would not be maintained of the revenues of that nunnery which had been so fraudulently obtained by her husband." Here she retired in her widowhood, and led "a solitary religious life." The manor of Woodchester became vested, by marriage settlement, in the earls of Arundel, who held it for a considerable time. It was purchased in the reign of Elizabeth, by Sir Robert Ducie, lord mayor of London in 1631, who had the honour of being made banker to King Charles I. whereby he lost 80,000l. His sons, of whom Sir William Ducie was made knight of the bath at the coronation of King Charles II. and subsequently created Viscount Down, dying without issue, the manor was conveyed, by the marriage of his heiress, Elizabeth, to Edward Morton, of the ancient family of Morton, in Staffordshire, from whom it descended to his son, Matthew Ducie Morton, who served under King William III. during the war

* When it was repaired in 1771, a fresco painting of St. Michael subduing the fallen angels was discovered against the north wall; but it was soon defaced.

in Flanders. In the reign of Queen Anne he was twice elected to represent the county of Gloucester; and was also a member of the first parliament of George I., by whom he was appointed, in 1717, "vice treasurer and paymaster of Ireland;" and in 1720, was advanced to the peerage by the title of Lord Ducie, Baron of Morton, in Staffordshire.

Few places in this county, or in the kingdom, have so much engaged the attention of the antiquarian as Woodchester. Bishop Gibson, in his "Additions to Camden's Britannia," published in 1695, notices the tesselated pavement which had been discovered in the church-yard, which is also mentioned by Atkyns, who says, "there is a pavement in the church-yard, three or four feet under ground, curiously inlaid in tesseraick work, supposed to be the floor of the habitation of some Roman general, which gave name to a castle in this place; the pavement is of considerable length and breadth, but the true dimensions are not discovered." In 1797, Mr. Lysons published his very elaborate work, entitled, "An Account of the Roman Antiquities discovered at Woodchester."* He supposes this pavement, for its extent and richness of ornament, to be equalled by few of those discovered in other provinces of the Roman empire; and to be unquestionably superior to any thing of the same kind found in Great Britain prior to the period of his investigation. Several foundations of apartments, with tesselated pavements, and part of an hypocaust were discovered at various times in the church-yard, and near the principal pavement; and in 1796 the ground-plan of an extensive Roman edifice was traced out, of which the remains in the church-yard formed the northern extremity; and the other parts were in an orchard and field, called the Parks. The remains of two hypocausts were likewise found. Several fragments of statues, and glazed pottery, pieces of stags' horns, broken glass, and coins, were amongst the ruins. Of the coins, one of large brass was of Hadrian, and another of Lucilla; a great quantity of small brass coins of the lower empire; an iron dagger much corroded, iron spurs, a brass hatchet, &c. were discovered. Mr. Lysons imagines the building to have been a villa erected for the residence of a Roman Proprætor, or the governor of this part of the province, and occasionally of the emperor himself. "Perhaps," he adds, "so many Roman remains have scarcely been found in an equal space in any part of England, as within fifteen miles of Woodchester." In 1687, a very considerable quantity of gold coins of the reign of Edward IV. was discovered here.

The road leading on through Nailsworth to Bath passes, near Petty France, by Badminton Park, the seat of his grace the Duke of Beaufort.—In the reign of Edward the Confessor, Edric, a Saxon, was in possession of Badminton,† which was afterwards held

* This publication consisted of an imperial folio, illustrated by forty engravings, plain and coloured; price ten guineas.

† "It hath been asserted of this village (Badminton) as of Lindley in Leicestershire, that no adder, snake, nor lizard, hath ever been found in it; notwithstanding they are frequent in the neighbouring places; but as to Badminton, at least, this is a vulgar error, yet the inhabitants affirm that those animals were very rarely seen there 'till within these few years."—*Rudder.*

by Ernulfus de Hesden, or Hasding. It became the property of Ralph Boteler, a descendant of Radulphus Pincerna, who took the name of Boteler from the station he filled as butler to Robert, earl of Mellent and Leicester, in the reign of Henry I. Badminton was the residence of the Boteler family for nearly four hundred years, until, in the year 1608, the manor was sold by Nicholas Boteler to Thomas Somerset, third son of Edward, earl of Worcester. He was created Viscount Somerset, of Cashel, in Ireland. This illustrious family is descended from John of Gaunt, fourth son of Edward III., who bore the following titles: John, king of Castile and Leon, which he claimed in right of his second wife, Constance, eldest daughter and co-heiress of Peter, king of Castile and Leon;* duke of Aquitain and Lancaster;† earl of Richmond, Derby, Lincoln, and Leicester; and steward of England. John Beaufort, his eldest son,‡ by his third wife, was created earl of Somerset, and was appointed lord chamberlain of England, 1st Henry IV. (This king was the eldest son of John of Gaunt, by his first wife Blanch, the younger daughter and co-heiress of Henry, duke of Lancaster.) His daughter, Joan Beaufort, was married to James I., king of Scotland. His second son, John Beaufort, who succeeded to the earldom, was made knight of the garter; but taken prisoner in France, (9th Henry V.) and an exorbitant sum paid for his ransom. He was created duke of Somerset (21st Henry VI.), and appointed regent of France. His only daughter, Margaret, married Edmund, earl of Richmond, by whom she had only one child, who became Henry VII. on the death of Richard III. Lady Margaret was celebrated for her talents and accomplishments. She published "The Mirroure of Goulde for the sinfull Soule," and founded a divinity professorship in Cambridge, which she richly endowed. She died in 1509, the first year of the reign of her grandson, Henry VIII., and was buried in the chapel of Henry VII. at Westminster. Edmund, the third son of John, the first earl of Somerset, was created earl of Dorset, and afterwards marquis of Dorset; and succeeded, upon the death of his brother John, to the dukedom of Somerset. He was regent of France, and governor of Normandy;—but was slain at the battle of St. Alban's, when fighting for King Henry VI., in whose cause three of his sons lost their lives. Henry, his eldest son, succeeded to the dukedom, and was commander-in-chief at the battle of Towton, in 1461, in which thirty-

* He embarked, August 1, 1386, with an army of 20,000 men, to assert his claim to these titles, but concluded a pacific arrangement by the marriage of his two daughters with John, king of Portugal, and the prince of Asturia: and thus his descendants obtained the crowns of Portugal and Spain.

† He was created duke of Lancaster on the death of his first wife's father, Henry, duke of Lancaster, who perished in the great plague of 1364.

‡ The second son, Henry Beaufort, was made bishop of Lincoln in 1396-7, and chancellor of Oxford, and dean of Wells in 1399. In 1404, he became lord chancellor, and in 1405, bishop of Winchester. He was sent by his nephew, Henry ambassador to France; and went in 1417 to the Holy Land. He was one of the godfathers and guardians to Henry VI., in whose reign he was again lord chancellor. In 1426, he received a cardinal's hat, with the dignity of a papal legate. He raised a considerable force for a crusade, which he commanded against the Hussites of Bohemia, but was recalled by the pope. In 1430, he crowned Henry VI. at Paris; and died at Winchester in 1447. He was called "the rich prelate."

six thousand men were slain, and the king compelled to fly. The duke was engaged at the battle of Hexham in 1463, and being taken by the marquis of Montacute, was beheaded by command of Edward IV. His brother Edmund, who succeeded him as duke of Somerset, commanded at the battle of Tewkesbury, in 1471, and being taken prisoner, was beheaded. In the same battle, his younger brother, John Beaufort, was slain. Charles Somerset, nephew of Duke Edmund, was created a banneret, elected knight of the garter, and appointed a privy counsellor. He married Elizabeth, daughter of William Herbert, earl of Huntingdon, and baron of Gower and Chepstow. In 1487, Charles was appointed admiral of the fleet; and was sent, in 1488, as ambassador to the Emperor Maximilian I., when he invested that potentate with the order of the garter. He afterwards acquired great repute by the negociation of amicable treaties with Maximiliam (17th Henry VII.), on which occasion he was styled Sir Charles Somerset, knight of the garter, vice chamberlain and captain of the guard to the king of England. In 1508, he was appointed lord chamberlain. On the accession of Henry VIII., he was continued in all his offices, and had his honours not only confirmed, but increased; for he was summoned to parliament by the title of Charles Somerset de Herbert, a title which he held in right of his first wife. He accompanied the king in the French expedition undertaken in 1513, and commanded 6000 men. Whilst engaged in the siege of Therouenne, a ball from the enemy's ramparts entered his tent, and killed the master of the ordnance, who was so close to him that it was reported Lord Herbert was also slain. He so much distinguished himself by his valour during the campaign, especially at Tournay, which he was principally instrumental in subduing, that the king appointed him lord chamberlain for life, and created him earl of Worcester. He was deputed to attend the coronation, at St. Dennis, of Louis XII. and his queen, who was sister to Henry VIII. On the resurrender of Tournay, the earl would not suffer the marechal de Castillon to enter with colours flying, but with his banner closely furled up. He was one of the peers who sat upon the trial of Edward Stafford, duke of Buckingham. His son, Henry, the second earl, was knighted in the field of battle by the duke of Suffolk, for his eminent chivalry in the French campaign of 1520.* His eldest son, William, succeeded to the earldom, and was installed K. G. by Queen Elizabeth, and was one of the peers who sat on the trial of Mary, Queen of Scots. He accompanied the marquis of Northampton to the court of Henry II. of France, whom they invested with the order of the garter; and was afterwards deputed to carry to the French court a massy font of pure gold as a royal present at the christening of a daughter of Charles IX. His son and heir, Edward, was installed knight of the garter in 1595, and held the office of master of the horse,† and was

* Henry's fourth son, Francis Somerset, was killed at the battle of Musselburgh in 1547.

† Rudder says, "Edward, the fourth earl, was made master of the horse to Queen Elizabeth, being the best horseman and tilter of the times."

of the privy council in the reigns of Elizabeth and James. Earl Edward was the bearer of letters from Queen Elizabeth to King James VI. of Scotland, congratulating him on his marriage.* James I., at his coronation, appointed him earl marshal of England, and he afterwards was made, by Charles I., lord privy seal, with a salary of 1500l. per annum, which he held for the remainder of his life. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Francis, earl of Huntingdon. His eldest son, Henry, who following the example of his ancestors, adhered to the royal cause, had been created Lord Herbert in his father's lifetime. His loyalty during the rebellion of 1641† was so distinguished that he was created marquis of Worcester as the reward of his great services:—he fortified and defended Ragland castle, in Monmouthshire, with so much heroism, against Fairfax, that when he at length surrendered upon honourable terms, the castle was dismantled by the order of parliament, and was rendered uninhabitable.‡ The sale of the timber in the three parks near the castle amounted to 100,000l. Notwithstanding the honourable tenor of the articles of capitulation, no sooner had the castle been delivered over to its besiegers, than the venerable marquis was committed to the custody of a parliamentary officer, and died soon afterwards, in December 1646—when of all his possessions and riches, the rebels had left scarcely sufficient to defray the expences of his burial. Charles I. often visited this loyal subject and faithful friend at Ragland, and remained there for three weeks in 1645. The king's reception, and the disinterested zeal of his heroic adherent, are thus described by an historian of that eventful time. "The king was entertained with extraordinary greatness and freedom by the old marquis, who received and diverted him with a facetious pleasantness peculiar to himself. The king acknowledged to him, 'That no man would trust him with so much money as he had done,' and returned him particular thanks. To which the other replied, 'Sir, I had your word for my money; but I never thought I should be so soon repaid, for now you have given me your thanks, and—I have all I expected!' While he (the king) continued here, some informations were given of certain country gentlemen who had done ill offices to him by obstructing his levies;—these being secured and brought before his majesty, one of them with tears protested his innocence, which so affected the good-natured king, that he ordered him forthwith to be released, and the rest to be gently treated, notwithstanding many accusations against them. This being told to the marquis, he took the liberty to blame his majesty's too great lenity, and to let him know that 'he should have first heard their accusations, and then shown what mercy he pleased.' The king told him, 'he heard they were accused

* His third son, Thomas, accompanied Sir Charles Percy to the Scotch court, to announce to King James the death of Queen Elizabeth, and his majesty's succession to the English throne, on which occasion he was made knight of the bath with Prince Charles, afterwards Charles I.

† "Wales rises on the king's behalfe by the power of the lord Herbert."—*Corbet*, p. 15, 16.

‡ "Ragland castle in Montgomeryshire was surrendered by the Marquis of Worcester, being one of the last garrisons in England that held out for the king."—*British Chronologist.*

by a contrary faction, who would be apt to charge them with more than the nature of their offence had deserved.' To which the marquis made this shrewd return—' Well, sir, this forgiving temper may chance to gain you the kingdom of heaven; but if ever you gain the kingdom of England by these means, I'll be your bondman.' " His son and heir Edward, was created, in his father's lifetime, earl of Glamorgan, and baron Beaufort. Charles I. heaped his favours upon him so lavishly, that by his letters patent he appointed him generalissimo of three armies, English, Irish, and foreign; and at the same time admiral of the fleet; but the grant is so extraordinary in itself that it merits transcription:

" Charles, by the grace of God, king of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, &c., to our right trusty and well-beloved cousin, Edward Somerset, alias Plantagenet, lord Herbert, baron Beaufort of Caldecote, Grosmond, Chepstow, Ragland and Gower, earl of Glamorgan, son and heir apparent of our entirely-beloved cousin, Henry, earl and marquis of Worcester, greeting.—Having had a long and good experience of your prowess, prudence, and fidelity, do make choice, and by these nominate and appoint you, our right trusty and right well-beloved cousin, Edward Somerset, &c. to be our generalissimo, of three armies, English, Irish, and foreign; and admiral of a fleet at sea, with power to recommend your lieutenant-general for our approbation, leaving all other officers to your own election and denomination, and accordingly to receive their commissions from you. Willing and commanding them, and every of them, you to obey as their general; and you to receive immediate orders from ourself only. And lest through distance of place, we may be misinformed, we will and command you to reply unto us, if any of our orders should thwart or hinder any of your designs for our service. And there being necessary great sums of money to the carrying on so chargeable an employment, which we have not to furnish you withal, we do by these empower you to contract with any of our loving subjects of England, Ireland, and dominion of Wales, for wardships, customs, woods, or any our rights and prerogatives. We by these obliging ourselves, our heirs and successors, to confirm and make good the same accordingly. And for persons of generosity, for whom titles of honour are most desirable, we have entrusted you with several patents under our great seal of England, from a marquis to a baronet, which we give you full power and authority to date and dispose of, without knowing our farther pleasure; so great is our trust and confidence in you, as that whatsoever you contract for, or promise, we will make good the same accordingly, from the date of this our commission forwards; which for the better satisfaction, we give you leave to give them, or any of them, copies thereof, attested under your hand and seal of arms. And for your own encouragement, and in token of our gratitude, we give and allow you, henceforwards, such fees, titles, pre-eminence, and privileges, as do and may belong to your place and command above mentioned, with promise of our dear daughter, Elizabeth, to your son, Plantagenet, in marriage, with three hundred thousand pounds, in dower, or portion; most part whereof we acknowledge spent and disbursed by your father and you

in our service; and the title of duke of Somerset to you and your heirs male for ever; and from henceforward do give you the garter to your arms, and at your pleasure to put on the George and blue ribbon. And for your greater honour, and in testimony of our reality, we have, with our own hand, affixed our great seal of England unto these our commission and letters, making them patents. Witness ourself at Oxford, the first day of April, in the twentieth year of our reign, and in the year of our Lord, one thousand six hundred and forty-four." On the restoration of Charles II. this patent, being considered dangerous by a committee of the house of lords, was surrendered by the marquis. Thomas, youngest brother of the first marquis, was created viscount Somerset of Cashel, in Ireland, and purchased Badminton, which was bequeathed by his daughter Elizabeth, who died unmarried, to Henry, the only son of Edward, marquis of Worcester, and grandson of Henry, the defender of Ragland. Henry, his son and heir, was appointed in 1660, lord lieutenant of Gloucestershire; and in 1672, lord president of the council in the principality of Wales; and lord lieutenant of Anglesea, Brecon, Cardigan, Carmarthen, Glamorgan, Radnor, Carnarvon, Denbigh, Merioneth, Montgomery, Flint, and Pembroke. He was created duke of Beaufort by letters patent, dated August 22, 1682. His grace was one of the supporters of George, prince of Denmark, chief mourner at the funeral of Charles II. At the coronation of James II. in 1685, he carried the queen's crown.—He was also lord lieutenant of the county and city of Bristol, which he defended against the duke of Monmouth, and endeavoured to secure for King James at the revolution. He declined taking the oath on the accession of King William, and passed the closing years of his life in retirement at Badminton, where he built the present magnificent mansion, on the site of the manor-house formerly occupied by the Boteler family. His grandson Henry,* who succeeded him, visited the court on a change of administration, and became a member of the privy council. He was appointed lord lieutenant of Hampshire, and warder of the New Forest, and was installed knight of the garter in 1713. To him succeeded his son Henry, who died without issue, and the title and estates devolved upon his brother, Charles Noel, the fourth duke, whose mother did not survive his birth many hours. He distinguished himself by his literary attainments, and obtained the honorary degree of doctor of laws from the university of Oxford, of which he was afterwards chancellor. He was succeeded by his son, Henry, the fifth duke, from whence the title descended to his son and heir, Henry-Charles, the sixth and present duke.

In Roger North's life of Francis Lord Guilford, a curiously interesting description is given of the lord chief justice's visit of a week to Badminton, on his return from the assize

* Charles, the second son of the first Duke of Beaufort, and father of Henry the second duke, in leaping out of his coach to avoid the danger to which he was exposed by the horses running away down a steep hill, fractured his thigh, and died of the injury he sustained.

at Bristol. Henry, the first duke of Beaufort, had then "above 2000l. per annum in his hands, which he managed by stewards, bailiffs, and servants. The husbandmen were of his family, and provided for in his large expanded house. He had about two hundred persons in his family all provided for; and in his capital house nine original tables covered every day. All the provisions of the family came from foreign parts, as merchandize; soap and candle were made in the house; so, likewise, the malt was ground there; and all the drink that came to the duke's table was made of malt, dried on the leads of his house. Those are large, and the lanthorn is in the centre of an asterisk." The influence possessed by the duke amongst the neighbouring gentry is thus illustrated by the same writer: "Glades are cut through the wood of all the country round, four or five in a quarter. Divers of the gentlemen cut their trees and hedges to humour his vistas, and some planted their hills in his lines, for compliment at their own charge. At the entrance, where coaches ordinarily came in, the duke built a neat dwelling-house, but pompous stables, which would accommodate forty horses. This was called the inn, and was contrived for the use of the suitors; for instead of half-a-crown to his servants at calling horse, sixpence there, for form, served the turn; and no servant of his came near a gentleman's horse, but they were brought by their own servants, except such as lodged, whose equipages were in his own stables. As for the duke and duchess and their friends, there was no time of the day without diversion. Breakfast in her gallery, which opened into the gardens, and parks with the several sorts of deer to be visited; and mounting-horses of the duke's were brought for all the company. And in the afternoon, when the ladies were disposed to air, and the gentlemen with them, coaches and six came to hold them all. The meals were very neat, but not gross; no servants attended, but those called gentlemen. If the gentlemen chose a glass of wine, civil offers were made either to go down into the vaults, which were long and sumptuous, or the servants at a sign given, attended with salvers—and many a brisk round went about; but no sitting at table with tobacco and healths, as too common use is. This way of living continued a week while we were there, with incomparable variety; for the duke had always some new project in building, walling, or planting, which he would show and ask his friends' advice about."

Badminton house is a magnificent building, the original design of which was in the then prevalent French style; but it has since been remodelled, and the architectural alterations and improvements have almost totally altered the appearance of the mansion, which is now a truly splendid edifice. The interior embellishments are worthy of the external aspect, and the principal suite of apartments really sumptuous. The hall, of which the ceiling is beautifully stuccoed, is 52 feet in length, upwards of 27 feet in width, and of a corresponding height. It contains several paintings by Wootton, who was especially patronized by Henry, the third duke of Beaufort, who brought from Italy several of the pictures now preserved at Badminton; and, amongst many curious works

of art, was presented by Cardinal Alberoni, with the celebrated sarcophagus, composed of one solid block of marble, representing in Roman sculpture, a Bacchanalian procession, which forms the principal ornament of the hall. Of the other valuable pictures procured by him in his Italian travels, that most extraordinary production of Salvator Rosa, which caused the banishment of that great artist from Rome, must be particularly noticed. In this fine satirical painting the European sovereigns are, as if characteristically, represented by an eagle, a wolf, a sheep, a hog, a fox, a cow, and an ass. Over the latter the satirist spread the pontifical pall; and fortune, with her concomitant bandage over her eyes, is seen showering her gifts over the whole group. "The holy family," by Raphael, and other paintings by Guido and Carlo Dolci, are eminently fine. The drawing-room and library were both built by the present duke of Beaufort, and open into a conservatory, which affords an admirable view of the park scenery. The drawing-room was built from the design, and under the direction of the king's architect, Jeffrey Wyattville, Esq. It is fifty feet in length, and thirty-four in width. Amongst its various splendid ornaments there is a large and very curious cabinet, the surface of which is inlaid with various marbles, representing birds and flowers; surmounted by a clock, over which appear the ducal arms of the Beaufort family, carved and gilt. The paintings contained in this sumptuous apartment are of the first order, and worthy of the pencils of Claude Lorraine, Guido, and Salvator Rosa. In the library, which contains a rare and valuable collection of books, the portraits are preserved of the long ancestral line of the family, from John of Gaunt, to his grace Henry-Charles, the sixth and present duke. In the billiard-room there are two very rare and curious companion-portraits, by Holbein, one of Erasmus, and the other of Sir Thomas More; and a fine head of Charles I. by Vandyck. The chapel, which adjoins the mansion, is used as the parochial church of Badminton; it was rebuilt by Henry, the fifth duke of Beaufort, and consecrated on October 9, 1785. It consists of a nave with two aisles, and a pinnacled tower. It is an edifice remarkable for the simplicity and elegance of its architecture; the roof of the nave is supported by pillars of the Italian composite order, and the ceiling of the aisles is formed by four small domes exquisitely wrought with stucco work. A fine picture, by Ghezzi, of our Saviour disputing in the temple, is placed over the communion table; the approach to which displays, in Florentine mosaic, the family-arms emblazoned in the centre; and the steps are of jasper and verd antique. In the recesses are monuments; one on the north side, erected to the memory of Henry, second duke of Beaufort; Lady Rachel Noel, his second wife; and their son, Henry, the third duke: and the other on the south, to the memory of Charles-Noel, the fourth duke; the effigies of all are executed in Rysbrach's most finished style. The lower part of one of Raphael's Cartoons, representing the Transfiguration, is preserved in the tribune.

The house is admirably situated, nearly in the centre of the demesne, which is walled around to the extent of nearly ten miles in circumference. Several of the original vistas,

formed by Henry, the first duke, retain their form. The principal entrance to the park is by Worcester lodge, a handsome building, from which a bold avenue, three miles in length, and finely planted, leads to the mansion. His grace, Henry Charles Somerset, duke of Beaufort, marquis of Worcester, earl of Glamorgan, viscount Grosmont, baron Herbert of Chepstow and Ragland, baron Gower, baron Beaufort of Caldecote Castle, and baron de Bottetourt, (which barony his late majesty by letters patent, dated June 4, 1803, was pleased to grant and confirm) K. G. and D. C. L., &c., the present possessor of Badminton, and the sixth lineal inheritor of the ducal title, is lord lieutenant of the counties of Gloucester, Monmouth, and Brecknock.

CHAPTER XV.

SOUTH-WESTERN EXCURSION.

I.

At a short distance beyond the turnpike, on the south-western extremity of Cheltenham, are Alstone Villa, the residence of Major Semper; and Alstone Lawn, the residence of W. H. Prescod, Esq., beyond which the road passes through the Golden Valley, to the city of Gloucester, distant nine miles from Cheltenham, on the banks of the Severn, and possessing the first port on the river; to which proper officers are appointed in pursuance of the charter, 22d Elizabeth. The buildings are principally of brick; and are, for the greater part, in the modern style. The general improvements have of late years been considerable, and so judicious, that the city now assumes a very favourable aspect. It is governed by the mayor, (who is likewise clerk of the market, and steward of the royal household when Gloucester is honoured by the presence of royalty;) the high steward, the recorder, the twelve aldermen, the town clerk, two sheriffs, common council, treasurer, chamberlain, sword-bearer, twelve constables of the wards, &c.

Aware of the importance attached to the etymological derivation of the name of every place to which public attention is directed, we have assiduously endeavoured to trace the origin of "Gloucester:"—in every question of this sort, conjecture must be predominant; yet gladly as we would adhere to the long indulged, and pardonable, vanity of re-calling "*The bright, or splendid, Fortress;*" the stubborn evidence of circumstances more nearly allied to fact compels us to forego that flattering distinction. Prior to the Roman invasion, Gloucester, at least on its present site, was utterly unknown;—a British town, or settlement, did, beyond all dispute, exist at Kingsholm; or as it was then termed, "Caer Gloew"—i. e. "The Fortress of Gloew," a prince yet recognized in the ancient

pedigrees of Wales, as "lord of the broad region."* From the signification of "Gloew," which imports "clear, transparent—bright, splendid, shining," Camden, and many others following in his train, have called Gloucester the "bright, fair, or splendid city;"† whilst Gough terms it, "the city of the pure stream." The antiquity of Gloucester is beyond all dispute; and we may further safely assert, that it was termed "a city," when London, amongst many other towns of consequence, was called "a burgh."

The precise period at which the Romans first established themselves in this quarter, is variously stated; some authors asserting that it took place in the 43rd year of the Christian era—whilst others assign to that event the 45th, 46th, and 47th years of Christian intelligence. From all that reading can assure us of, we should say, that in the 46th‡ year of Christianity—memorable for the second invasion of Britain, under the Emperor Claudius—the Romans, commanded by the praetor, Aulus Plautius, having subdued the greater part of the island, selected "Caer-Gloew"—or rather its vicinity—as an eminent station, well qualified to controul the inhabitants of South Wales, who more annoyed and harassed the invaders than any others of the islanders. The local advantages by which this spot was recommended to the Romans as a military station, are thus pointed out by Fosbroke.

"It is secured on one side by the Severn; stands on a gentle eminence, and is no where commanded. The Romans too, from a sense of superior convenience, did not repair to hills and fortresses; except as temporary resorts. Their favourite stations were gentle knolls, commanding the adjacent plain, surrounded at a good distance by heights, by which they received communications, and the earliest intelligence. One of these exploratory posts, connected with the colony at Gloucester, against irruptions from the Dobuni, was Painswick-hill. Another more southward was Uley Burey. In advance against the Silures, they had Bury-hill in Bollatree, the real Ariconium; Lidney presumed to be Abone; and perhaps others: but these more particularly seem to be disposed for prevention of surprise, in reference to the station at Gloucester, and giving time to collect reinforcements from Cirencester and other parts in the rear and on the flanks. The form of Gloucester is decidedly Roman."§

So great was its importance to the Romans, that the emperors enlarged it from time

* "Gloew Gwlad Lydan."

† Atkyns says, "the place does well deserve the name of *the fair city*."—Heylin, in his Cosmography, published in 1670, thus notices it: "Glocester, by Antonine, called *Glevum*; by the Britains *Caer Gloew*, whence the present name; the Saxons adding *cester*, as in other places. A fine neat city, pleasantly seated on the Severn, with a large key, or wharf, on the banks thereof, very commodious to the merchandize and trade of the place: well built, consisting of four large streets, beautified with a magnificent cathedral: and situate in so rich a vale, that there is nothing wanting to the use of man, except only wine, which life or luxury may require."

‡ "In the year of the world 4047, the Romans occupied Bath and Glebon."—*Stukely*.

§ In digging the foundation of the Blue school, in 1806, a tesselated pavement was discovered, and several coins of Claudius.

to time as expediency required; and of the consuls by whom it was successively governed, Morvid was summoned to King Arthur's court to be present at his coronation. In the year of Christ 74, Arviragus, "king of Britaine," died here, where he had sacrifice performed every month.* In 189, Lucius, the first Christian king of the Britons, appointed a bishop and preachers at Gloucester; made it an archbishopric according to some authorities; and built here (as Usher says) "*Ecclesiam primæ sedis*"—i. e. "a church of the first seat." He died at Gloucester, in the 12th year of his reign, and was interred in the episcopal church† he had raised. In 489, Aurelius Ambrosius and his nobility assembled at Gloucester. After the dreadful battle of Dyrham, in which Ceaulin, king of the West Saxons, completely vanquished the Britons, and slew there Commail, Condidan, and Fariemoil, three British kings, the city, which was then called "Gleawecesore," fell into the hands of the Saxons,‡ and was nearly a century afterwards given to Osric, by Ethelred, king of Mercia, who likewise granted him permission to build a monastery here,§ in the year 675,‖ which he completed in 681. The advantages presented to contending parties by its commanding situation, often, previously, proved fatal to the town, by rendering its possession a point of violent strife; and thus exposing it to many varieties of fortune: at one time holding a vast district in awe; at another suffering from the retributive wrath of its assailants. By such repeated attacks its buildings were nearly destroyed, and the city would have fallen to total ruin had it not been repaired, decorated, and enlarged in the year 670, by Wulphere, son of King Penda. In its improved condition, Bede assures us that the commencement of the eighth century beheld it "one of the noblest cities in the kingdom." In 804, a synod was held here. In 878, the Danes ravaged Mercia, expelled the free inhabitants, and possessed themselves of Gloucester. In 896, the men of Mercia assembled here in great numbers; and Wenefrid, bishop of Worcester, recovered for them several of their laws. In 918, the Danish army was nearly destroyed in this quarter. The Princess Elfleda, who died at Tamworth, Staffordshire, was buried in the porch of Gloucester monastery, in 918. King Athelstane died in the city, October 17, 941. In 964, King Edgar held his court in "the royal city," as it was then denominated; and fought the Danes. In 979, the first year of the reign of Edgar's younger son, Ethelred,¶ the city was a third time ravaged by the Danes, and almost consumed by fire, to which fate

* He was buried in a small temple dedicated by him to Claudius.

† Said to be the church of St. Mary de Lode.

‡ As did Cirencester and Bath. It is singular to observe how widely three local authorities differ with respect to the date of the battle of Dyrham. Atkyns places it "about 570"—Rudder "about 577"—and Rudge "in 599." The latter date is sanctioned by Leland: but Fosbroke, whose inquiry is patient and elaborate, adopts the middle period.

§ Dedicated to St. Peter.

‖ "I make no doubt of Gloucester having been a corporation before the year 671, being then called *Civitas*, which takes in the whole region whose inhabitants used the same laws till the year 1072."—*Prynne MSS.*

¶ He was crowned at Kingston, April 14, 979, by the famous Dunstan, then archbishop of Canterbury; and on that occasion the coronation oath was first taken in England.

it was nearly subjected (and the more easily, as being built principally of wood) in 1087, 1093, 1101, 1122, 1150, 1205, and 1264: the flames being, in almost every instance, the concomitants and means of vengeance and of war. In 1016, Edmund Ironsides, after his defeat in Essex, came hither to recruit his forces, in which he succeeded; but being pursued by Knute, or Canute, the Dane, the chieftains on both parts wearied out with a war, which, from its alternate successes and defeats, seemed almost interminable, compelled the rival kings to bring the contest to issue by single combat;* and they accordingly met and fought in the presence of both their armies, on the small island of Alney, or Olney (Holenghege), formed at Gloucester by the division of the Severn into two channels,† which part and reunite at the distance of a mile on either side of the city. Canute demanding a parley, prevailed on Edmund to share his kingdom with him. In the fifth year of Edmund's reign, he was assassinated in Gloucester by Edric, or according to others, by Edmund the Outlaw, his eldest son. In 1048, Edward the Confessor, who frequently held his court at Gloucester, ordered all his thanes to assemble here. In 1051, Eustace, earl of Boulogne, father to Godfrey and Baldwin, "both afterwards kings of Hierusalem,"‡ came hither to visit his brother-in-law Edward, who resided here for a long time, as he did likewise in 1053,§ and 1063, having a grand assembly of his nobles in the old monastery. In 1055 and 1063, forces assembled here, under the command of Harold, to subdue the Welsh. In 1066, William the Conqueror took up his regal abode in Gloucester for a considerable period; and every year, when state affairs permitted, he passed his Christmas here; holding his parliaments in the chapter-house of the abbey, now the library of the cathedral. In these temporary sojourns he was attended by the archbishops, bishops, abbots, earls, thanes and knights, splendidly attired; the king himself wearing his crown, and maintaining a magnificent court. In this reign, William Fitzosborne, constable of England, and earl of Hereford, built the old castle at Eastbridge, to make room for which sixteen houses were taken down. In 1085, the king held his

* The onset of this conflict, as described by Ethelred, abbot of Rievesby, is so spirited, that we transcribe it, "When the strength of their spears failed, both from the valour of those who pushed them, as well as the resistance of their very strong shields, they assail each other hand to hand with drawn swords. They fought stoutly, valour assisting Edmund, fortune Cnuth; the swords rattle around their helmet-protected heads; sparks fly out from the collision of the metals; but when anger, as is usual from the very emotion of war, inflamed the most robust bosom of Edmund, he becomes more powerful by his blood warming him: he raises his right hand, brandishes his sword, and iterates his blows upon the head of his enemy, with such vehemence, that he seemed to the spectators not so much to strike as to thunder. For the fire bursting out between the sword and helmet at every blow, seemed not only to appear, but even to blaze."

† ——"where beauteous Severn plays,
Until that river gets her Gle'ster's wished sight:
Where she her stream divides, that with the more delight
She might behold the town, of which she's wondrous proud."
Drayton's Polyolbion, Song xiv.

‡ Holinshed.

§ This year, the head of Rees, brother of Griffin, king of South Wales, was brought to Gloucester, to Edward, by whose order he had been executed.

parliament here, for five days, in which he ratified the common law of England;—and gave bishoprics to three of his chaplains. The clergy held a synod at the same period: and in 1086,* the conqueror held his Christmas court in this city, for the last time. In 1092, William Rufus, having been seized with a dangerous illness at Alvestan, repaired hither in great haste, where he remained during the whole of Lent; and hither Malcolm, king of Scotland, followed him, in the hope of establishing a firm peace; but Rufus disdained to see him, because he refused to pay him unqualified homage. In 1093, (or 1095,) the city was attacked and much injured by the Welsh, under William de Owe,† or Auco, on behalf of Robert Curthose,‡ eldest brother to Rufus. The king held a splendid court here in 1100—the year in which he was killed in the New Forest,§ by an arrow shot by his bow-bearer, Tyrrel. In 1122, mention is made of an earthquake in the county.‖ In 1123, Henry I. held his court, and a grand assembly of his nobles, here. In 1134, Robert, duke of Normandy, was buried here. In 1138, King Stephen was received at the palace at Kingsholm, with great rejoicing; many citizens swearing allegiance to him. In 1139-40, the Empress Maud marched hither with her forces. In 1141, Stephen was committed, a prisoner and in chains, to the old castle. In 1172, Jorworth, lord of Caerleon upon Uske, destroyed all the country with fire and sword from Hereford up to the gates of Gloucester. In 1175, Henry II., accompanied by his son, Prince Henry, held a grand court here, attended by several petty kings of Wales. In 1189-90, William Longchamp, protector of the kingdom in the absence of Richard I., held a synod here. In 1210, the frost was so intense that the Severn and other rivers were for many days passable for men and horses, to four miles above the city. In 1216, King John held a court here, to which Gualo, the pope's legate, repaired, and excommunicated the dauphin, Lewis, who had been brought over by the barons. On the 23d of October, in the same year, Henry III., then in the ninth year of his age, was crowned with great pomp at the abbey church in Gloucester;¶ and was crowned here again May 7, 1219; and in 1233,** held a court here, at which he proscribed some refractory barons, and confiscated their

* He died in September 1087.

† Being taken prisoner, he had his eyes pulled out, and his person was otherwise dreadfully mutilated.

‡ He also had his eyes put out by order of his brother King Henry I. He died in imprisonment at Cardiff castle; where he had been confined for twenty-eight years. By an evident error of the press, Atkyns is made to date his death in 1334, (see p. 45,) nearly 250 years after the death of his father.

§ It is worthy of remark, that in the New Forest, from which district the Conqueror expelled the native proprietors, for the enlargement of the forest, three of his immediate descendants met with untimely fates; Richard, an elder brother of Rufus, Richard his nephew, (an illegitimate son of Duke Robert,) and Rufus himself.

‖ British Chronology.

¶ After "the Earl of Pembroke's short and sweet oration," Holinshed says, "the barons proclaimed the yoong gentleman King of England, whom the Bishops of Winchester and Bath did crowne and annoint with all due solemnities." Some historians say, that the crown of England having been lost in the marshes, at the close of John's reign, this first ceremony was performed with a fillet of pure gold.

** In this year, five suns are said to have been seen at once in Gloucestershire and Herefordshire.

estates. He remained here with little intermission until 1234, when a parliament was held (4 Cal. Jan.) In 1235 and 1241, Henry held courts here. Indeed, as Fuller observes, " this place was more beloved by King Henry, than London itself," because " it was strong and loyal." In 1258, the city experienced the dreadful effects of that inundation by which the Severn, " from Shrewsbury to the sea," was so flooded that innumerable lives were lost. In 1263, an internal broil took place between the partisans of Sir Matthias de Besilles and Sir William Tracy:—the former was defeated, taken prisoner, and confined in the castle, which he had obstinately defended. In 1264, the besieged city was taken by the stratagem of Sir J. Giffard, and Sir J. de Balun, who gained an entrance at the west gate, disguised as woolmongers, then throwing off their large Welsh cloaks, and appearing in complete armour, the terrified wardens delivered up the keys; whereupon they admitted their followers, and instantly destroyed the bridge. Prince Edward, after several unsuccessful attempts to subdue the barons, went privately, and unarmed, to them, acceded to their demands, and they retired. Under the Earl of Leicester, however, they soon resumed possession, but were besieged by the prince, who entered through a breach, and re-took the town;* as he did in the following year from De Voss and other knights. In 1264, there was likewise a battle here between the men of Lyme and Dartmouth. In 1278,† Edward I. held a parliament in Gloucester, the acts of which have ever since been called " the statutes of Gloucester." In 1287, the Justices Itinerant sat in Gloucester from the festival of the close of Easter to that of St. John the Baptist. In 1312, Maurice, lord Berkeley, was appointed governor of the city. In 1320, Edward II. held a parliament here; and a court in 1321. The city was subsequently occupied by the Earl of Lancaster and the barons, armed against the Despensers; but King Edward re-possessed it; and here Maurice, lord Berkeley, submitted to the king; but all of the insurgents who had been at the capture of the city were exempted from the amnesty of 1322. In 1326, the Queen Isabel came here. In 1356, Edward III. granted a yearly fair. In 1378, Richard II. held a parliament for twenty-six days, commencing October 21, during which the king and his court were lodged in the abbey. In 1403 and 1407, Henry IV. held parliaments here, and again on October 20, 1408; as did Henry V. in 1420, adjourning it in a fortnight to Westminster. In 1425, a parliament was held here by Humphrey, duke of Gloucester. In 1452, Brooke lay in wait at Gloucester for the Duke of York. In 1461, the Earl of March, afterwards Edward IV.,‡ whilst staying here, received the news of his father's decollation, after his

* Prince Edward closely pursued the barons, and was privately conveyed in a boat to the castle. The sight of his banner floating above the keep was the first signal of his having crossed the Severn.

† October 4, 6th Edward I.

‡ Holinshed says, that Edward, whilst encamped at Sodbury, before the battle of Tewkesbury, in 1471, " about three of the clocke after midnight, was advertised that his enemies had taken their waie by Berkelie towards Glocester. Hereupon taking advise of his councell, what was best to doo, he was counselled to send some of his servants, with all speed,

defeat at Wakefield. In June 1483, Richard III., who had before been duke of Gloucester, visited the city immediately after his usurpation of the throne, and is said to have planned the murder of his nephews, and dispatched the order for its execution, during this sojourn. He then changed the civil government of the city, ordaining that, instead of bailiffs, a mayor, two sheriffs, and other officers should be elected annually by the aldermen and burgesses. The Duke of Buckingham met Richard at Gloucester; and although they separated apparently on friendly terms, yet it is surmised that the duke's reluctance to participate in the murder of the young princes, betrayed the tyrant into some unguarded expressions of malignity; and Buckingham withdrew into Wales, where he raised an army, with which he soon afterwards marched through the forest of Dean, purposing to cross the Severn at Gloucester; but the river, according to Holinshed's account, rose so high that "it overflowed all the countrie adjoining, insomuch that men were drowned in their beds, and houses with the extreame violence were overturned, children were carried about the fields, swimming in cradels, beasts were drowned on hilles; which rage of water lasted continually ten daies, insomuch that in the countrie adjoining they call it to this daie the Duke of Buckingham's great water." In the same year, Richard issued a writ, which is preserved in the Harleian Papers, addressed "to the maire, shiriffs, and aldermen of the towne of Gloucester"—to the following purport and effect: "Forasmuche as we well understande, that by meane of reteynors, and receaving and wearing of lyveries of clothing, baieux, and other signes contrary to the effect of the statute of our noble progenytour, heretofore ordayned and established in that behalfe, gret and many divisions and inconveniences have risen and growen in diverse places within this our realme, to the gret troubles and noyaunce of our subjects of the same, and specialli now of late amongst you, within the said towne, by evil-disposed gentlemen, Jaymes Gyse, John Burdett, Edward Brugge, and other, as making assault upon our officer, a constable of our said towne, not only beting and grevously maymed, but also thereby in dispaire of his lyff, as it is to be shewed to our full gret displeasur: Wherefore we woll and charge you, that yf ye have committed them or any of them to prison, ye do suerely kepe them there without baill or mainprise, to suche tyme as ye shall understande of our ferther pleasur in that behalfe; and over yis that ye in no wise from hensfurth suffre any persone dwellinge among you in our saide towne or fraunchis, for to use or were lyverey of clothing, baieux, signe, or other conisaunce, of the yefte of any maner person, of what estate, degree, or condition so ever he be, but only oures, and that upon the payne of forfaitur of your liberties and fraunchises. And if ye shall knowe any presuming or at-

unto Glocester, to Richard Beauchampe, sonne and heire to the Lord Beauchampe of Powike, to whome he had committed the rule and custodie of the towne and castell of Glocester;" and "promised to come with his whole armie presently to the rescue. The messengers did their diligence, and so being ioifullie received into Glocester, the towne and castell, by the vigilant regard of the said Richard Beauchampe, was put in safe keeping."

tempting soe to doe, that ye further, without delaye, remytte hym in like wise to sure prison, and soo to remayne as above: fail ye not to accomplish this at your uttermost perill. Geven at London, the vith day of December, ao. primo." He likewise made the city a county within itself. In 1485, on Whitsun eve, Henry VII. came from Worcester to Gloucester; and Leland tells us, that "when three myles withoute the towne, the maire with his brethern and sheriffs, in scarlet gownes, and other people in rede gownes, and al on horsebaks, welcomed the king withoute the gate; betwyxte both bridges the procession of the frires, and also the procession of the town, of al the parish chirches, receyvede the king; and in that towne there was no pageant nor speeche ordeynede. Th' abbot and his monks receyved the king with procession at th' abbey chirche doore, wher the king abode Satirday and Sonday al day, whiche was the Trinitye Sonday; and th' abbot mitred song the highe masse, and in procession. The Bishop of Worcester prechede, shewing the Pope's bulls, touching as afor, and on Monday the king remeved." In 1500, the first bell foundry was established in Gloucester, by William Hanshaw, who was four times mayor of the city, which office he held two years consecutively. In 1535, Henry VIII. passed through the city, which, at the period of the royal visit, was so much dilapidated,* that an act was passed in February, 1535, to enforce the repair of the houses in the principal streets; by which it was mainly ordered, "that if any owner of any void and decaied houses or grounds within the precinct of the towne of Gloucester, within three yeares next after proclamation thereof to be made by the maior, sherifes, and bailifes, in or upon any such vacant or decaied houses or grounds, do not enter and sufficiently reedifie the said houses, grounds, &c. Then it shall be lawfull to the lord of whom such grounds, &c. shall be holden, to enter immediately after the said three yeares are expired, and to have the same to him, his heires and successors for euer, so that the said lord do sufficiently reedifie the same within three years next, and immediately following the determination of the former three yeares. And if such lord doe not enter and sufficiently reedifie the same within the said three yeares; Then it shall be lawfull to the said maiors, sherifes and bailifes, &c. and their successors, after the said three yeres expired, to enter into euerie such grounds, or houses, and the same to retaine to them and their successors for euer, discharged of all rents going out of the same so that the same maiors, &c. or their successors, do sufficiently reedifie the same grounds, &c. And in case the said maiors, &c. and their successors, do not enter and sufficiently reedifie the same decaied houses or grounds, in forme aforesaid, within the said terme of three yeares: Then it shall be lawfull to the first owners of such decayed ground, their heires or successors, immediately after the same three yeares expired, into the same, &c. to re-enter, and them to retaine to them, their heirs and successors, as in the first estate." The statute was effectual—and the city was soon "re-edified." The king by letters patent, dated September 3, 1541, erected the city of Gloucester, the

* It is recorded that in the year 1487, upwards of three hundred houses were in ruins, and fallen to decay.

county of that city, and all the county of Gloucester, into a bishopric, with a dean and chapter;—and in the same year there passed an act by which "the maior of the citie of Gloucester, and the deane of the cathedral church there, and their successors, may conuey water in pipes of lead, gutters, and trenches, from Matestones hill, otherwise called Robinhoods-hill: and from time to time repaire them, satisfying the owners of the ground there for the digging thereof." On Feb. 21, 1575, the shock of an earthquake was felt in Gloucester, and at Bristol and Hereford. In 1579-80, the first custom-house was built in Gloucester, in pursuance of the grant of Queen Elizabeth, which rendered it "a port of itself," as the merchants of Bristol complained in their petition, which inveighed bitterly against the grant, and prayed "maye it please your honnors, of your accustomed regarde in such urgent distresses, to be a meane to her majestie, that the said letters patent may be repealed, and the sayd city and port of Bristowe be restored to their auncyent estate, for yn the begynninge of these decayes we think it not our part to be silent." In 1626, upon the decline of the clothing trade, for which the city was famous, the art of pin-making, now the principal article of manufacture in Gloucester, was established by John Tilsby.

In 1636, the first decisive opposition to the ship-money bill, was manifested at Gloucester, when Robert Hoblins refusing to pay that duty, amounting to 40s. the officer seized his cattle, which Hoblins resisted, and was in consequence imprisoned by Sir Humphrey Davenport. About this period William Lenthall, Esq. was recorder of Gloucester; and he was elected speaker of the Long Parliament, as it was termed, which assembled in November 1640. On the very commencement of the civil war, the inhabitants repaired and fortified the city walls, and assuming a defensive position, they procured an accession of arms. The state of Gloucester at this era is well described by Corbet:

"Within the city of Gloucester one company of volunteers was added by the trayned band, and some peeces of ordinance obtained from London and Bristoll, which were then received with universall amazement by an inland people, though not long after they grew familiar with their terrible executions: meane while the city was open on three parts at least, and had no considerable defence, only capable thereof by advantage of situation: the citizens did mainely shew their care and affection in fortifying the towne, a worke both expensive and tedious; being of great compasse, and raised from the ground: during these things the enemy came not neere our dwellings, we heard of them afarre off, but little thought that the cloud of blood should be blowne from the north and settle over us, upon whom it afterwards brake into so many showres; that this place should become the seate of warre, and the stage of action; that then lying open to a free commerce with the world, it should be shut up sometimes in strict custody, but still under a larger confinement, and beleaguered at a distance in the midst of the king's head garrisons. * * * The inhabitants of this county had openly engaged themselves in the state service, nor as yet had they any thought of repenting, though cast into the midst

of an inraged enemy. * * * And if this country must be preserved, it must be done by the volunteers, which were yęt as a cake not turned, a kinde of souldiers not wholly drawn off from the plow or domesticke imployments, having neither resolution nor support suitable to the service: * * * The very next day after the losse of Cirencester, the city of Gloucester was demanded by Prince Rupert, the summons found the people extreamely dashed at the strange turning of things, and so much amazed that they could not credit the report of this blow, though confirmed by sundry eye-witnesses. * * * The prince received a short answer from Lieutenant Colonell Massie, and the principall officers, that they were resolved with their lives and fortunes to defend the city for the use of the king and parliament, and in no wise would surrender at the demand of a forraigne prince. Another answer was returned from the mayor of the city, (for the martiall command was not fully settled) that he was resolved, according to his oath and allegiance, to keepe the city in his majesty's behoofe, and would not deliver the same according to this summons. Whereupon a second summons was sent from the prince, which could not alter the case in their judgement who held the towne. * * * The clouds gathered round the city, the enemy lay strong at Cirencester and Tewksbury, our men were confined to the towne walls; the workes not half finished, the souldier within mutinous and desperate: no monies came from the state, and but small supplies out of the country, that the vilest mutineers were to be dealt with by intreaty, their insolencies to be suffered with patience, who tooke so great advantage by our extremity that their humours had a full vent, and ran forth into incorrigible wickednesse: the city was constrained to free quarter, and great disbursements by way of loane, and the governour to use his skill in keeping together the mal-contented souldiers."

Nearly at this period, Lord Herbert, son of the Marquis of Worcester, raised a force of about two thousand men, from Wales, and encamped at Highnam, after vainly summoning the garrison to surrender; there they remained inactive for some weeks, until Sir William Waller, by a well-managed manœuvre, surprised them. "He gave notice of his advance to Lieutenant-Colonell Massie, with directions instantly to draw forth both horse and foot before Hignham, and to keepe them in continuall action, that they might not understand his approach. He gave order likewise that those flat-bottomes which were brought from London upon carriages for service upon the river Seaverne, should be sent downe to Framilode Passage, sixe miles below Gloucester, where both horse aud foot were arrived by noone, passed over the river before night, and unawares of the enemy got between them and home, tooke them in a snare, and intercepted their flight. The governour drew forth all the horse, and five hundred foot, brought up the ordnance neere the house, and kept them in the heate of play till the evening. At sunne rising they had a fresh alarme by our ordnance, and were held to it by our musket-shot." They attempted to sally forth, but Waller came up, and although their works were too formidable to be entered by the horse, and their avenues narrow, and all planted with cannon,

fifteen hundred men surrendered to an equal force without firing a shot! and many of them were led prisoners into Gloucester. Massie was soon afterwards appointed governor of Gloucester, which station he first held as the deputy of Earl Stamford.

The following character of Massie, as drawn by Clarendon, should not be unnoticed: —"The governor of that garrison was one Colonel Massey, a soldier of fortune, who had in the late northern expedition prepared by the king against Scotland, been an officer in the king's army, under the command of Colonel W. Leg; and in the beginning of these troubles had been at York with inclination to serve the king: but finding himself not enough known there, and that there would be but little gotten but the comfort of a good conscience, he went to London, where there was more money and fewer officers, and was early made lieutenant-colonel to the Earl of Stamford, and being found to be a diligent and stout officer, and of no ill parts of conversation to render him acceptable among the common people, was, by his lordship, when he went into the west, left governor of the city of Gloucester: where he had behaved himself actively and successfully. There was no reason to despair that this man (not intoxicated with any of those fumes which made men rave and frantic in the cause) might not be wrought upon. And Will. Leg, who had the good opinion of most men, sent a messenger who was like to pass without suspicion to Glocester, with such a letter of kindness and overture to Massey as was proper in such a case from one friend to another. This messenger brought an answer from the governor, in a very high style—"taking it much unkindly that he should endeavour to corrupt him in his honesty and fidelity, and to perswade him to break a trust which to save his life he would never do, &c." But the messenger affirmed, that after the governor had given him the letter and some sharp reproaches before company, he was brought again a backway to a place where the governour was by himself; and then he told him, "that it was most necessary he should write such an answer as he had done; which was communicated to those who else would have been jealous what such a messenger should come to him about; but that he should tell William Leg that he was the same man he had ever been, his servant; and that he wished the king well; that he heard that Prince Rupert meant to bring the army before that town; if he did, he would defend it as well as he could; and his highness would find another work than he had at Bristol; but if the King himself came with his army, and summon'd it, he would not hold it against him: for it would not stand with his conscience to fight against the person of the King; besides that in such a case he should be able to perswade those of the town; which otherwise he could not do."—How well Massie obeyed the dictates of "his conscience," the sequel will make manifest.

The surrender of Bristol "brought fourth a dark gloomy day to the city of Gloucester." As the royal army* approached, "a common councell was held," and it was deter-

* "Tuesday, August 8. We understood that the King, with all the foote from Bristoll, and carriages, were come to Berkeley, and that they intended to speed their march towards us."—*Dorney's Brief and Exact Relation, &c.*

mined to refuse the offers of peace that had been sent in. "No crosse, show, or doubtfull resolutions did hinder the businesse; all suspended their private cares, and the women and children acted their parts in making up the defects of the fortification. The strength of Gloucester was no more than two regiments of foot, an hundred horse with the trained bands, and a few reformadoes; there were besides about an hundred horse and dragoons from Berkley castle, in the whole about fifteen hundred men: forty single barrels of gunpowder, with a slender artillery. The works of a large compasse, not halfe perfect; from the south-gate eastward almost to the north-port, the city was defended with an ancient wall lined with earth to a reasonable height; thence to the north-gate with a slender work upon a low ground, having the advantage of a stone barn that commanded severall wayes: upon the lower part of the city, from the north to the west-gate, (being a large tract of ground,) there was no ancient defence, but a small work newly raysed, with the advantage of marish grounds without, and a line drawn within, from the inner north-gate under the colledge wall to the priory of St. Oswald's. From the west towards the south-gate, along the river side, no more defence than the river itselfe, and the meadowes beyond levell with the town: from the castle to the south-port a firme and lofty work to command the high ground in the suburbs. The ditches narrow, but watered round. In this posture did the city stand." On the 10th of August, 1643, the king, at the head of six thousand men, appeared before Gloucester, accompanied by Prince Charles, the Duke of York, Prince Rupert, and General Ruthen; and dispatched two heralds at arms from Tredworth field, with the following summons, which was read by Somerset herald:*—

"CHARLES REX.

"Out of our tender compassion to our city of Gloucester, and that it may not receive prejudice by our army, which we cannot prevent if we be compelled to assault it: we are personally come before it, to require the same, and are graciously pleased to let all the inhabitants of, and all other persons within, that city, as well souldiers as others, know that if they shall immediately submit themselves, and deliver the city to us, we are contented freely and absolutely to pardon every one of them without exception, and we assure them in the word of a king, that they nor any of them shall receive the least

"Wednesday, August 9. We had intelligence that provision was made for the entertainment of his majesty at Prinecknedge (Prinknash) in the Lady Bridgeman's house, about three miles off the city, and that the foote and carriages would be there that night. we likewise received intelligence that the lord Chandos that day dined at Brockworth, at the Lady Guise's there, whereupon a party went out of the north gate towards Barnwood, skirmished with the enemy, and did some execution upon them, and amongst the rest, a little boy, of Captain Nelme's company, having shot away all his bullets, charged his musket with a pebble stone, and killed a commander therewith; we retreated without any losse at all."—*Dorney.*

* "On Wednesday, the tenth of August, the king ranged his whole army upon a fair hill, in the clear view of the city, and within less than two miles of it; and then being about two of the clock in the afternoon he sent a trumpeter with this summons to the town."—*Clarendon.*

dammage or prejudice by our army in their persons or estates. But that we will appoint such a governour, and a moderate garrison to reside there, as shall be both for the ease and security of that city, and that whole county. But if they shall neglect this offer of grace and favour, and compell us by the power of our army to reduce that place, (which by the helpe of God, we doubt not, we shall easily and shortly be able to doe,) they must thanke themselves for all the calamities and miseries that must befall them. To this message we expect a cleere and positive answer within two houres after the publishing hereof, and by these presents doe give leave to any persons safely to repaire to, and returne from us, whom that city shall desire to imploy unto us in that businesse. And doe require all the officers and souldiers of our army quietly to suffer them to passe accordingly."

The manner in which the answer was delivered is thus described by Clarendon:— "Within less than the time prescribed, together with the trumpeter returned two citizens* from the towne, with lean, pale, sharp and bad visages, indeed faces so strange and unusual, and in such a garb and posture, that at once made the most severe countenances merry, and the most chearful hearts sad; for it was impossible such embassadours could bring less than a defiance. The men without any circumstances of duty or good manners, in a pert, shrill, undismayed accent, said, "they had brought an answer from the godly city of Glocester to the king;" and were ready to give insolent and seditious answers to any question, as if their business were chiefly to provoke the king to violate his own safe conduct. The answer they brought was in writing, in these very words:

"August 10th, 1643. We, the inhabitants, magistrates, officers, and souldiers, within this garrison of Glocester, unto his majesty's gracious message return this humble answer: that we doe keep this city, according to our oaths and allegiance, to and for the use of his majesty and his royall posterity: and doe accordingly conceive ourselves wholly bound to obey the commands of his majesty, signified by both houses of parliament; and are resolved, by God's helpe, to keep this city accordingly."

"This paper was signed by Wise the mayor, and Massey the governour, with thirteen of the aldermen and most substantial citizens, and eleven officers of the garrison; and as soon as their messengers return'd, who were quickly dismissed without attending to see what the king resolved, all the suburbs of the city,† in which were very large and fair buildings, well inhabited, were set on fire; so that there was no doubt the king was to expect nothing there but what could not be kept from him. This indignity and affront to

* "This answer was immediately sent to his majesty, by serjeant-major Pudsey and a citizen, who accordingly presented the same, and so returned."—*Dorney.* "His majesty, with all mildnesse, seemed to receive this answer, only to wonder at our confidence, and whence wee expected succour, adding these words—'Waller is extinct, and Essex cannot come.'"—*Corbet.*

† "By burning of the suburbs, the city is a garment without skirts, which we were willing to part withall, lest our enemies should sit upon them."—*Dorney's Speeches.*

the king, prompted thoughts of revenge, and some thought the king so far engaged, that in honour he could not do less than sit down before the town and force it. Above all the confidence of the soldiers of the best experience moved his majesty; who upon riding about the town, and taking a near view of it, were clear of opinion that they should be able in less than ten days by approach to win it."*

"At Glocester," according to Clarendon, "the business proceeded very slowly: for though the army encreased wonderfully there by the access of forces from all quarters, yet the king had neither money nor materials requisite for a siege, and they in the town behaved themselves with great courage and resolution, and made many sharp and bold sallies upon the king's force, and did more hurt commonly than they received; and many officers of name, besides common soldiers, were slain in the trenches and approaches; the governour leaving nothing unperformed that became a vigilant commander. Sometimes upon the sallies the horse got between the town and them, so that many prisoners were taken, who were always drunk; and after they were recovered they confessed, 'that the governour always gave the party that made the sally as much wine and strong water† as they desired to drink:' so that it seems their metal was not purely natural: yet it is very observable, that in all the time the king lay there with a glorious army, and after the taking of a city of much greater name, there was no one officer run from the town to him, nor above three common soldiers, which is a great argument the discipline within was very good. Besides the loss of men before the town, both from the walls, and by sickness, (which was not greater than was to be reasonably expected,) a very great license broke out into the army, both among the officers and soldiers; the malignity of those parts being thought excuse for the increase of any rapine or severity among the inhabitants. Insomuch as it is hardly to be credited how many thousand sheep were in a few days destroyed, besides what were brought in by the commissaries for a regular provision; and many countrymen imprison'd by officers without warrant, or the least knowledge of the king's, till they had paid good sums of money for their delin-

* JOURNAL OF THE SIEGE. The following details, adopted by Rushworth (*a*) in his Historical Collections, from Dorney's "Briefe and Exact Diurnal," and other sources, are interesting:—

"Immediately after this answer returned to his majesty, the town set their suburbs on fire; and with their cannon from the Pen upon the Westgate discharging upon the body of the horse in Walham, did some execution, and obliged them to retire. The king's army immediately began their entrenchments, and the women and maids in the town wrought all that afternoon in the *little mead*, fetching in turf for repairing the works, in the face of the king's horse. The besieged, through want of men for guarding the city itself, were forced to quit their out-guards of the vineyard, and two sconces they had formerly made at each corner of the Isle of Alney, for securing thereof, and of the river Severn. And the king's forces having cut off the pipes that conveyed water from Robin's-wood hill to the city conduits, and diverted the water that drove their corn-mills, they were forced to be content with pump and Severn water, and to grind all their corn with horse-mills. Sir W. Vavasour lay with his Welsh forces on the west side, to join with others that came from Worcester, and had drawn

† *Anglice*, brandy. "It was observed that the soldiers who sallied out were most commonly encouraged by drink."—*Atkyns.*

(*a*) Rushworth was appointed assistant-clerk to the House of Commons in 1640, and actively engaged in the negociations during the civil wars.

quency; all which brought great clamour upon the discipline of the army, and justice of the officers, and made them likewise less prepared for the service they were to expect."

Whilst the siege was thus languidly and ineffectually carried on, " the Earl of Essex declared that he would himself undertake the relief of Glocester; and so many regiments of horse and foot as he desired were assigned to march with him; and so towards the end of August he marched out of London, and by easy journeys, towards Glocester, with an army of eight thousand foot and four thousand horse. The earl came to Brackley, and having there taken in from Leicester and Bedford the last recruits upon which he depended, he marched steadily over all that campagne, which they thought he feared, towards Glocester; and though the king's horse were often within view, and entertained him with light skirmishes, he pursued his direct way; the king's horse still retiring before him, till the foot were compelled to raise the siege, in more disorder and distraction than might have been expected: and so with less loss and easier skirmishes than can be imagined, the earl, with army and train, marched to Glocester; where he found them reduced to one single barrel of powder; and all other provisions answerable. And it must be confessed, that the governour gave a stop to the carreer of the king's good success; and from his pertinacious defence of that place, the parliament had time to recover their broken forces, and more broken spirits, and may acknowledge to this rise the greatness to which they afterwards aspired."—It is impossible to pass from this candid recital of " the lord high chancellor of England, and privy-counsellor in the reigns of King Charles the First and Second," without observing, in the progress of the siege, the same strange fatality, or fatuity, which rendered the successes of the king at all times problematical, but never enduring: and which eventually brought him to the scaffold, the martyr of his alternate waywardness and indecision; of his assumed pride, and native humility; of his apparent rigour, but of his inborn benevolence and gentleness.

We now resume a portion of Corbet's description of the siege. On the night of August 10, the royal army began to form their entrenchments, " in the shadow and shelter

themselves together on the north-west side. On the south side General Ruthen, Earl of Forth, placed his leaguer within a quarter of a mile from the town; but sheltered from their shot by a rising ground that lay between. On the east side Sir J. Ashley was quartered with a strong brigade, but in one of the first skirmishes, Sir J. himself was wounded, being shot in the arm; and at the same time six of his men were killed by cannon shot from the east gate. The king's commanders, being many of them gentlemen of great skill and experience, made their approaches, and placed their batteries with as much advantage as was possible. Nor were the besieged behind hand in courage or dexterity, as appeared not only in their defences, but frequent sallies, which kept the king's forces waking, by continued alarms, to waste and weary them.

" August 12. In the afternoon Captain Lieutenant Harcus sallied out through a door made for that purpose, in a brick house, adjoining to the town-hall, on the south-east part, and making a bridge of ladders over the moat, fell suddenly into the besiegers' trenches, in Gawdy Green—beat them out, took some prisoners, arms, tools, &c., and retreated without loss of any, and only two wounded. In the afternoon Captain Gray, with 150 musketteers, sallied over the works, upon the Worcester forces' quarters at Kingsholm, marched up to their main-guard, and burned it—killed Captain Rumney, and eight or nine soldiers—took five prisoners and some arms, and came back without losing a man. The besiegers planted two great culverins at the east side, and battered the town wall, and shot several granadoes into the town, but did no ex-

of the houses which had not catched fire, within musket-shot of the walls. They in the trenches plyed their workes, whilst the musketteers played hard on both sides; yet our men from the walls could doe little to retard their pioneers, but by several sallies with small parties, fell into their trenches, beate them out, gained some working tools, arms, and prisoners, and retreated without losse. Our ordnance, likewise, from the east-gate killed some few, and upon several approaches we beate off the enemy, killed and wounded many. By that time the Welsh forces, under Sir William Vavasour, were advanced to the bishop's house, half a mile from the west-gate, one of our out-guards, by us intended to keep off the Welsh, but now deserted for want of men, and that nothing might be lost which we purposed to defend. Generall Ruthen placed his leager behind the priory of Lanthony on the south side, very neere, but sheltred from our shot by a rising ground. Sir Jacob Ashley, with a strong party, quartered in some part of the suburbs on the east-side. The east and south ports were dammed up and rammed with a thicknesse of earth cannon proofe, and the walls on that side from port to port were lined to the battlements, since there wee thought to receive the maine shock.

"Three days after, one hundred and fifty musketteers, commanded by Captain Gray, sallied over the workes upon the Worcester forces, marched up to their maine guard, killed a captaine with eight or nine common souldiers, &c. and retreated without the losse of any." After detailing some other skirmishes, Corbet says, "The enemy was indefatigable and swift in the entrenchments. The workes from the south and east-gates hasted to meete each other; their preparations seemed more tedious, yet effectuall and certain, and tended withall to save the lives of their men. Wherefore they chused not a sudden storme on the lower and weaker parts of the city, but rather to prepare the assault on the strongest side, yet most easy to their intention. There only could they make battery within pistoll shot of the walls that wanted flankers; and when they had once entred a breach there, they were instantly possest of the highest part of the town. On this side, therefore, were their ordnance brought up, and first two culverin of sixteen pound bullet

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ecution. On Sunday the besiegers planted three pieces of ordnance on Gawdy Green, and thence made many shots then, and on the day following. But as fast as any breaches were made, they were made up again with woolsacks and cannon baskets. On Tuesday, 15th, Harcus was slain in the Fryer's orchard, as he was looking what execution the granade had done that he threw into the besieger's trenches.

"Wednesday, August 16, Captain Crispe, with 150 musketteers, sallied at the north-port, and maintained an exceeding hot skirmish for above half an hour, the cannon and muskets on both sides playing very furiously. On Thursday divers grenadoes were shot into the town, and some fell upon houses, and one in the open street, near to the gate, but a woman coming by with a pail of water, threw the water thereon, and so extinguished the phuse, that it did not break.

"August 18, 1643. On Friday 18th, the besiegers having planted four ordnance against the Awnegate, and sconces adjoining, a party of about 400, commanded by Major Pudsey and Captain Gray, assisted by Captain Faulkner and Captain Massie, sallied forth of the north gate, being led on by one Weaver, a stout fellow, of Captain Pury, the younger's company, as their guide, and having sent Lieutenant Pincocke, with about 50 musketteers, over the works, to give a divertive alarm, by advancing up towards the cannon; they, in the meantime, got behind their cannon and breast-works, fell upon their main-guard, killed several officers and soldiers, and two cannoneers, took a lieutenant prisoner, nailed their cannon, and so retreated, having two men killed, and four taken prisoners.

upon their battery in a square redoubt on the south side, and began to batter the corner point of the wall, and a brick-house adjoyning, where one of our men was killed, without more harme. Then they played upon our ordnance mounted against their battery point blanck, and made some slight breach, which was quickly stopped up with wooll-packs and cannon baskets. By this time they had drawne the trench neer the moate, where they made a kind of mine to drain it, and sunk much of the water: and attempted to cast faggots into the moate, but were beaten off by our musketiers. * * * * The enemy continued the storme by sending granadoes, which were guided by the hand of Providence into by-places, and sometimes falling upon the houses did rend and teare the buildings, when the people within were preserved. After ten dayes' siege two severall parties were designed for the nayling of the enemies' cannon. These were commanded to fall into the trenches and march on till they met each other. The one party of about two hundred musketiers, commanded by Captaine Stevenson and Captaine Moore, sallied forth at the north gate, to have fallen into their trenches at the east port, but by the mistake of their guide, over a marish ground and full of ditches, were brought round about to Sir Jacob Ashley's quarter, where most of them came not up; only forty musketiers encountred with five colours of the enemy, slew divers of them, took two lieutenants prisoners, forced back the rest, and marching a little farther, faced and fired at eight colours more, and so retreated; in the retreat, two troopes of the enemies' horse came on the reare, whom our men facing about and charging forced to fall back and made good their own retreat: in this distracted skirmish, two of ours were killed, three hurt, and a serjent taken prisoner. The other party of the Lord Stanford's regiment, commanded by Captaine Blunt and Captaine White, sallied by boat down the river on the south part of the town towards the maine leagre, marched up to a square redoubt, (our cannon in the meanwhile playing upon the houses in the suburbs,) beat them thence, killed a major with some common souldiers, and advanced to meet the other party. But the design failing through the misguidance of the other party, they were called off, and by the help of our ordnance

"Saturday, August 19. The besiegers, besides their three pieces of ordnance at Gawdy Green, having now planted three more on the east side of the Fryar's Orchard, near Rignall-stile, within less than pistol-shot of the town wall; and two more in another battery near the east gate, began a most furious battery upon both sides of the corner of the wall next Rignall-stile, making above 150 great shot thereupon; and also shot several granadoes into the town. On Sunday the 20th, one Hatton, (a) a cannoneer of the town, deserted them, and went off to the royal party. And on Monday two parties sallied forth, but were beaten back with loss. On Tuesday and Wednesday they made sallies only to amuse the enemy, but presently retreated without any engagement. On Thursday, 24th, upon a letter sent into the town that Mr. Bell, of Sanct Hurst, and Mr. Hill, of Tewxbury, both lawyers, had something of importance to communicate, they were admitted within the draw-bridge at the north gate. Their business was to represent to the town the great strength that was against them, the impossibility of relief, the miseries of the country endured by reason of their obstinacy, and therefore to persuade them to yield, whilst good terms might be had; but all their rhetoric prevailed nothing. The besiegers made several shots this day, with two pieces of ordnance, newly planted at Lanthony. One bullet of 20lb. weight came through a chamber of the Crown Inn, carried a bolster before it into the window, and there slept in it. Now there happened some rain, which

(a) "that rogue Hatton."--*sic Dorney.*

made a faire retreat without losse of any, only two wounded. * * * Certainly the care of a higher Providence preserved and brought off those many severall parties, when the vanquishing of any one of them must needs run the city upon extream hazard; for our whole strength remained upon the works day and night, except the reserve of a hundred and twenty men at the maine guard. * * The enemy were kept waking by continuall alarums to waste and weary them: and it was the care of the governour to cause a perpetuall noise, that whensoever their cannon had been silent for a while, one or two of our guns gave fire to disturbe the calm, and signifie to the country that we were yet alive; for the besiegers ever and anon scattered reports of the taking of the town, with a purpose to prevent our reliefe. All things within did presage a deliverance. The sadnesse of the times did not cloud the countenance of the people, they beheld their fortunes with a clear brow, and were deliberate and chearfull in the endeavours of safety. No great complainings were heard in our streets, no discontent seized on the souldiers, at other times prone to mutiny; men of suspected fidelity did not faile in action; every valuable person was active in his own place; the usuall outcryes of women were not then heard, the weaknesse of whose sexe was not overcome by the terrible engines of war. * * * The enemy still prepared for a generall storm, meanwhile seeking to waste our magazine, which they knew must needs suddenly fayl, expending their own store, and dayly acted to the terrour of the inhabitants; shooting granadoes, fire-bals, and great stones, out of their morter-peeces, and had now planted a battery on the south side westward, unto which the lower part of the town was open. Thence in one night they shot above twenty fiery melting hot iron bullets, some eighteen pound weight, others two and twenty pound weight, which were seen to fly through the ayre like the shooting of a starre. They passed through stables, and ricks of hay, where the fire by the swiftness of the motion did not catch, and falling on the tops of the houses presently melted the leads, and sunk through; but all the skill and industry of the enemy, could not set one house on fire. * * *

"Nothing did more offend the enemy in their entrenchments than an old barne at a

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much annoyed the besiegers in their trenches. Also the besieged discovered a fire on Wain-lode's-hill, which gave them encouragement, because they had appointed a person whom they had formerly sent out, if he heard of any relief coming to signify it by making a fire there.

"Friday, August 25. The besiegers, besides many granadoes, and great stones, from their mortar pieces, shot above 20 fiery red-hot iron bullets, some 18lb., some 22lb. weight, which, in the night, appeared flying in the air like a starre shooting. On Saturday and Sunday the besiegers wrought hard in filling up the moat with earth and faggots. And on Monday and Tuesday the townsmen, conceiving a mine sunk under the east gate, were busy in countermining; and had notice by two intelligencers from Warwick of relief coming. Wednesday and Thursday, the besieged turned out their cattle, to graze in the little mead, guarded by some musketteirs, and taking them in at night: the besiegers offered to come to take them away, but were repulsed.

"August 26. Upon intelligence of the advance of Essex, Prince Rupert, with the greatest part of the king's horse, drew off from before Gloucester, to oppose their march, but the king, with the gross army continued the siege.

"Friday, September 1. A serjeant, and one John Barnewood, and four musketteers, crept forth of an hole made in the dungeon at the east gate, and came very softly to the mouth of the besiegers' mine there, and Barnewood taking aside the board that covered it, looked in on them a pretty while, and then fired, and cast in a granadoe amongst them; the four mus-



PICTURESQUE DESIGN FOR A GENTLEMANS SEAT.

Drawn by E.Jenkins Architect.

Printed & Published by T.TEGG & C.º Cheapside.

corner point, near the north port, in which was mounted a peece that commanded three severall wayes, and obliquely looked into their trenches, and oft times did good execution upon the pioners. This was the chiefe strength of that side, conceived the weakest part of the town. Upon the key head an halfe moon was raysed with a breast-work upon Seavern side under the castle, to defend an assault from those high grounds beyond the river, which was ever feared by those within.

" His majesty constantly residing at a mile's distance, would not solemnly invite by publique summons, lest hee should detract from the honour of his enterprize: neverthelesse, those about him dealt underhand by sundry advertisements of the king's displeasure, threatnings, perswasions, and many intimations of possible grace and favour.—The governour made answer, that we were sufficiently conscious of our own strength, and the ground of our resolution, and that we did not think ourselves obliged to the enemy for the hopes and offers of favour. These manifold perswasions made the besieged more obstinate, and enabled them to understand themselves as a people worthy of entreaty, a prize worth the purchase, and in no wise lost or desperate, the enemies themselves being judges.

" As the souldiers within were heated with their own performance, so the enemy without being wasted in a lingering design before the houre of service came, grew feeble in their own thoughts, and to us contemptible. The slownesse of their design in that form of a leaguer, proceeded from the desire of saving their foot, with this presumption, that there was no power to raise the siege; which confidence deceived them till too late: for their foot after those many knocks, and the first fury spent, were not so capable of the service, without the help of many tedious preparations. * * * Our reliefe seemed slow, and the straitnesse of the siege debarred all intelligence. Only two spies which we sent out, returned from Warwick, and brought newes of the advance of the lord generall. The report of his excellency, who then lay under a cloud, did give no great assurance. The truth is, the sense of the depth of our distresse did not reach us; Sir

ketteers playing upon them as they ran out of it, and so they retreated without any harm.—Saturday 2d. On Saturday both sides were very active, the besiegers playing hard upon the wall and south gate:—the town sending abundance of musket shot and granadoes into their trenches; and finding, that for all the springs, the mine went on at the east gate, renewed their counter-mine there. Sunday, 3d. The people being at church in the town, were informed that the besiegers had planted store of cannon-baskets at the east gate, within less than half a musket-shot, and 'twas believed intended a battery there upon the springing of their mine; whereupon the minister dismissed the congregation without any sermon; and they fell to lining their houses over the east gate, and making a strong breast-work across the east-gate street. The king's forces, by the directions of Dr. Chillingworth, had provided certain engines, after the manner of the *Testudines cum Pluteis*, wherewith they intended to assault the city, between the south and west gates. They ran upon cart-wheels, with a blind of planks musket-proof, and holes for four musketteers to play out of, placed upon the axeltree, to defend the musketteers and those who thrust it forwards, and carrying a bridge before it: the wheels were to fall into the ditch, and the end of the bridge to rest upon the town's breast-works, so making several complete bridges to enter the city. To prevent which, the besieged intended to have made another ditch out of their works, so that the wheels falling thereon, the bridge would have fallen too short of the breast-works, into the wet moat, and so frustrated that design. On Monday night, the besieged discerned two fires on Wayn-loade's-hill, which were answered by lights from the college tower; and

William Waller, upon whom the citizens of London cast their favour, had not the reliques of an army. The general's army crumbled away: the malignants of London fomented tumults in the city, and insurrections in Kent distracted the businesse. The House of Lords voted a treaty with the king, the House of Commons debated the matter. The resolution of Gloucester turned the stream, whose succour was resolved upon as the kingdom's safety. The recruit of the army was too slow for the service. The London trained bands, or none, must relieve us; but could not agree who should undertake the businesse. Essex was not favoured, but the more prudent saw that he must be the man. That none might decline the service upon whom the lot fell, the shop windows were commanded to be shut up, and trading for a time suspended. The expedition was hasted in every pulpit, carried on with continuall fasting and prayer: an army was framed in an instant, and marched with incredible swiftnesse.

"Prince Rupert, with the greatest part of the King's horse, drew from Gloucester to retard their march, but still appearing in the van, did no more than drill them along. The enemy stayed before us till the last houre, judging every particle of time a great advantage, not knowing what a moment might bring forth. They within not satisfied with the former intelligence sent out two other spies with a double signall, first one fire on the side of a hill to signifie their escapes, and two fires on the same place if they heard good newes; which latter was accordingly performed, and beheld by us.

"The fifth of September was appointed for a publike fast to be kept by such as might be spared from labour. This day we discovered their carriages marching from the leaguer, and their horse and foot marching after; yet we were not confident of the raising of the siege till the men were drawn out of the trenches, and the reer-guard fired their huts. We then perceived that God had sent a deliverance, and that in the close of a solemn fast, as a gracious returne of prayer.

"His majesty was forced to leave the town behinde him, and constrained to a tedious march in that tempestuous rainy night; their carriages were not got up the hills till the next morning, which distraction was not known to us: and the general's army was tired with long and continuall marches. The admirable care of providence was beheld in the season of our reliefe, when all things were prepared by the enemy for a generall storme;

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on Tuesday, the 5th of September, which was appointed by the besieged for a public fast, to be kept by such as might be spared from labour, they perceived the king's forces removing their carriages from Lanthony up Tredworth field, and their horse and foot marching after: and after the rear guard firing their huts; and the siege to be raised, which now lasted 26 days; and being so remarkable, I have ventured to set down the most considerable passages thereof, by way of a journal.

"On the 4th of September, near Stoe the Old, a smart skirmish happened with Prince Rupert, who attacked Essex with about 4000 horse, and still appeared before the parliament's army, as they marched on, for many miles together. On the 5th of September, Essex advanced to Prestbury hills, drew up his whole army in view of the city of Glocester, and soon after discovered the hutts of the King's camp on fire, they having deserted the siege. The general himself marched to Cheltenham; but the King's forces often skirmished with him, and beat up his quarters. On the 9th of September he marched with his whole army into Gloucester, and was joyfully received.

our ammunition consumed, but three single barrels of powder* left in our magazine, and not so much more elsewhere: in the little harm done by their cannon and morter pieces, that sent amongst us so many terrible messengers. Our lost men taken or slain did not amount to the number of fifty; and of these but two officers slain, Captain Harcus and the governour's ensign; yet we killed of the enemy (who never ventured an assault) above a thousand men, by the lowest confession. The king expended much in ammunition, engines, and keeping together the discontented souldiers, besides the loss of his pretious time in that full tyde of victory. Here was a bound set to the swelling of those proud waves, and the rock that split that army: when the queen was said to be transported with passion because her counsell was not followed, who advised the king to wave Gloucester and advance for London, whilst the parliament had no army in the field."

After this memorable siege, various but ineffectual attempts were made to recover Gloucester for the royal party. In November, 1643, a correspondence was carried on between Capt. Backhouse and Edward Stanford, a former friend of his, who offered him five thousand pounds to deliver up Gloucester. Backhouse instantly communicated the proposal to Massie, and it was agreed that he should affect to connive at its treacherous surrender, merely to work the ruin of the enemy. He, therefore, wrote to Stanford, commencing his letter thus: "I perceive your desire, and I would have you know that I shall be ready to doe his majesty (whom I protest *I honour with my soule)* all the reall service I may, &c." This "reall service" was the performance of a scheme by which the king's army was to be admitted into the city by Over Bridge, under which four men were to be placed in a boat on the Severn, to destroy the drawbridge as soon as the troops had entered, who were immediately to have been put to the sword by the garrison. This double treachery was defeated by the delay of the forces destined for the attack: but Backhouse had previously received two hundred pounds as an earnest of his promised reward. Strange as it may appear, the last stratagem to possess the city for the royal party was contemplated by Massie,† its once resolute and vigilant parliamentary defender.

* "When the lord-general sent himself into Gloucester, the governor had not above 2 or 3 barrels of powder of all his store left to supply that garrison, and his excellency was necessitated to stay some time at Gloucester, to supply the garrison with provisions, whereof he had great want, but at the time of writing this letter, was, with his army, 4 or 5 miles off the king, &c. Upon consultation of these letters by the Commons, publick thanks were ordered in the Churches, and thanks of both houses to the Earl of Essex, the governor, and garrison. The governor was presented with 1000l.; additional forces and arms ordered for the garrison; and 4000l. more in money to be sent; and every man to have a month's pay *gratis*, over and above his arrears."—*Perfect Diurnal*, Sept. 1643.

† We have already shewn, upon the authority of Clarendon, that Massie commenced his military career in the service of the King; and that he espoused the parliamentary cause for the sake of promotion, and of his own personal advantage. Actuated by the same motives, he became, during the commonwealth, so active a partizan of the royal cause, that he was, with some other members, expelled parliament. He was taken into custody on attempting to resume his seat; but effecting his escape, he fled to Holland, where he joined Prince Charles, afterwards king. In 1659, he returned into Gloucestershire, having formed a design to surprise the city; but the place of his concealment in a house near Simon's hall, having been

Such were the ruinous consequences of the siege to the city, that during the existence of "the commonwealth," the inhabitants addressed to the parliament the following petition for relief:

"To the Supreme Authority, the Parliament of the Commonwealth of England.

"The humble Petition of the Mayor, Burgesses, and divers Hundreds of Inhabitants of the city of Glocester—sheweth;

"That the city of Glocester being a garrison for the parliament's service, in 1643, and of vast importance to the commonwealth, upon the approach of the late king's army to besiege the said city, it was resolved by the governour and council of war there: That the said garrison could not be preserved against the enemy, unless the whole suburbs of the said city (which was a full third part thereof) were pulled down and demolished.

"That in pursuance of the said resolve, two hundred forty and one houses (besides barns, stables, out-houses, gardens, orchards and goods,) of the suburbs of the said city, wherein so many families lived, were burned, pulled down, and utterly destroyed, the night before the leaguer was laid to the said city, by the late king's forces; whereby most of your petitioners were reduced to most miserable poverty, and the estates of most of them much impaired, and the said city in general very much impoverished.

"That it was proved upon oath to the grand inquest at an assize held for the county of the said city, that your petitioners' losses, by the burning and destroying their said houses, amounted to the sum of twenty-six thousand pounds, and upwards*; as by the certificate of the grand inquest to the lord chief baron, a copy whereof is hereunto annexed, may appear.

"That your petitioners willingly suffered the loss of their houses and goods, for their affections to the parliament service; and it was a great means, under God, to preserve the whole city and garrison, and by consequence the whole country, from the power of the enemy: And your petitioners have ever since continued constantly faithful to the commonwealth, and the present government thereof, in the times of greatest danger and tryal, unto this day; and have always hoped that according to the parliament's declara-

discovered, he was taken prisoner by a troop of horse, and mounted in front of one of the dragoons: whilst passing down Nymphsfield hill, in a dark and tempestuous night, the horse fell, and Massie, springing from the ground, scrambled unobserved into the wood, and effected his escape.

* Thus, in the petition preserved by Atkyns: but Fosbroke, in his copy of the presentation of the grand jury, makes the general loss appear to be twenty eight thousand, seven hundred and forty pounds. "Amongst the buildings destroyed was the beautiful Alvin gate, and St. Thomas's hospital."

tions, their losses and ruins for the commonwealth's service, should be repaired out of the estates of the commonwealth's enemies, who occasioned the same.

"Your petitioners, therefore, humbly pray, that their losses and ruins may be repaired, out of the estates of such delinquents as shall be appointed to be sold; or in such other way as shall seem best to your wisdom, justice, and charity.—And they shall be bound to pray, &c."

In May, 1660, the mayor gave notice that Charles II. would be proclaimed king in Gloucester on the 15th of that month; and the performance of the ceremony merits transcription:—"Upon Mr. Mayor's summons the Common Council appeared in scarlet at eight of the clock in the morning at the Tolsey, as also masters of companies with the streamers, and all officers belonging to the city; from whence they went to the Colledge, where Mr. Bartholomew, of Campden, preached before them; thence they went to dinner, and after dinner to the Tolsey again in their gowns; from whence the mayor, common council, and the two sheriffs, with white staves, accompanied with several gentlemen of quality, went to a stage erected at the north end of the wheat market. Upon the stage was a chair placed for Mr. Mayor, with the king's arms over his head; and six fair gentlewomen, each of them holding a garland in their hands. Some pause being made, a regiment of foot, three troops of horse, and the army foot, came as neer to the place as the crowd of the people would permit them. The younger sheriff read, and the other sheriff proclaimed his Majesty; after which followed the acclamation of the people, in sounding of trumpets, beating of drums, firing of guns, &c.* All the three conduits ran with wine for many hours. At night there was a line from the Tolsey to the South-end of the wheat-market, upon which were variety of fireworks.*"—In January, 1661-2, an act passed the house of commons for dividing the hundreds of Dudston and King's Barton from the city of Gloucester.—The once celebrated high cross of Gloucester may be appropriately described in this place, as recording "the compunctious visitings," which came upon the inhabitants; when, after the restoration of Charles II., the rebellious walls of the city were razed and totally destroyed: this cross was erected about the time of Richard III. in the centre of the junction formed by the four principal streets; and it is conjectured that its base was used as a conduit, by which the water brought from Robin'swood-hill was received in the city.—"The cross was 34½ feet high, of an octangular shape, divided into two compartments, with embattled top, having on the summit a globe and cross." In the niches on the second compartment stood the royal statues of King John, Henry III. and Queen Eleanor, Edward III. Richard II. and III. Elizabeth, and Charles I. According to one writer those statues were placed on this cross from the following causes;—that of King John, as combining with

* Mercurius Pub.:—May 10 to 17, 1660.

his sovereignty the earldom of Gloucester, and having made it a borough and market town;—that of King Henry III. because he had been twice crowned here, and made it a corporation by his charter:—that of Queen Eleanor because she founded St. Bartholomew's hospital:—that of Edward III. because he was an eminent warrior, and, we should add, a benefactor of the monastery and of the town:—that of Richard II. because he resided here for some time, and held his parliament here:—that of King Richard III. because he was Duke of Gloucester, and annexed the hundreds of Dudston and King's Barton to the city jurisdiction:—that of Queen Elizabeth, because she established the protestant religion;—and that of Charles I. to shew *detestation of former disloyalty*.—Indeed, but one feeling* seems to have pervaded the kingdom on the return of the house of Stuart to the throne: and in that feeling Gloucester, which had, in point of fact, caused their previous ruin, participated as warmly and as zealously as any other town.—The cross was taken down in 1749, pursuant to an act for the improvement of the city.

In 1685, King James II. came to Gloucester: "about two miles from which the bishop, Frampton, attended by many of the clergy, waited for him, and upon his approach drew near, in his own and clergy's name, to gratulate his coming into that his city; but before he could do more than pay his respects, the king, without hearing him, says, "my lord, it will be better for you to withdraw to your clergy;" and so rode on for Gloucester, where indeed he shewed him more respect by giving him free admission to his presence, but mortified him at the same time, by appointing Father Warner, as he was called, to say grace, which the good bishop would not hear, and so withdrew." The chamber over the sheriff's court was made into a chapel, where the king attended divine service according to the Romish church, sitting upon a throne erected for him at the expence of the city. The king lodged at the deanery, where it is believed he was touched by many afflicted with the evil.

During the visit of the late King George III. and the royal family, to Cheltenham in 1788, his majesty, accompanied by Queen Charlotte, and the princesses, on Thursday, July 24, "visited the city of Gloucester. Their majesties and their royal highnesses alighted at the bishop's palace, who, attended by the dean and chapter of that cathedral, and the clergy of the diocese, addressed the king on the occasion, who was pleased to receive them very graciously, and they had also the honour of being presented to the queen. The mayor and corporation of Gloucester then attended, and the town-clerk addressed his majesty in their name. They were likewise presented to the queen. Their majesties afterwards visited the cathedral, the pin manufactory of Mr. Alderman Weaver, the county infirmary, and the gaol now building agreeably to a plan of Sir George Paul

* The joy for the restoration of the royal family still appeared in all parts: the nation, fond of change and of novelty, tasted the pleasure of a natural government, and seemed to breathe again, after a long oppression. In short, the same people who, by a solemn abjuration, had excluded even the posterity of their lawful sovereign, exhausted themselves in festivals and rejoicings for his return."—MEMOIRS OF COUNT GRAMMONT.



Engraved by R.J.Wright.

TO THE RIGHT REVD THE LORD BISHOP
AND THE VERY REVD THE DEAN AND CHAPTER OF GLOUCESTER
THIS VIEW OF THE CATHEDRAL OF GLOUCESTER
IS MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED BY THEIR MOST OBEDIENT HUMBLE SERVANTS
The Publishers

Printed & Published by J.T. Griffith, 9 St. Thomas's.

and Mr. Howard. Their majesties then returned to the bishop's palace, and as soon as their equipages were ready, set out with the princesses on their return to Cheltenham. The concourse of people in the streets of Gloucester was immense; but from the order that was observed through the attention of the magistrates, their majesties were not in the least incommoded."* Of those who presented the addresses, Rudge says, "Every one was presented individually to the king, and afterwards to the queen; and it was remarkable that his majesty had some observations to make to each, applicable to his situation or connections."

Our present illustrious sovereign, then Prince of Wales, accepted the freedom of the city, which was presented to him on the 5th of October, 1807, upon which occasion he honoured the corporation by his royal company to dinner. And on the 6th of August, 1816, Field-marshal his Grace the Duke of Wellington accepted the freedom of the city, which was presented to him in a superb oak box, lined with gold; and on that day, having previously laid the foundation-stone of the national school, his grace likewise dined with the corporation.

THE CATHEDRAL.

However obscure the early ecclesiastical history of Gloucester may be, yet we find sufficient grounds in general tradition to warrant the belief that it was one of the first bishoprics in England. In the preceding pages we have noticed the promulgation of the Christian faith by King Lucius, who here chose for that purpose a bishop and preachers, in the year 189; and it is said that Eldad was bishop of Gloucester in 490. It is probable, however, that the bishopric was suppressed by the Saxons in 570, prior to their conversion. After the subjugation of the kingdom of Mercia by Edwy, king of Northumberland, he erected Lichfield into a bishopric, in which Gloucester was included; but in 679, it was annexed to the diocese of Worcester. In 671, a nunnery was founded here by Wulphere, the first Christian king of Mercia; and completed during the reign of his brother Ethelred, by their nephew, Osric, the viceroy, who obtained for its endowment the vill of Gloucester, with lands of considerable extent, and a large sum of money. Over this nunnery, according to William de Malmesbury, Kyneburgh, the sister of Wulphere, and the first abbess, presided for twenty-nine years. She died in 710, and was buried in St. Petronelle's chapel; in which place Osric, who had become king of Northumberland, on the death of his father Alfrid, was interred in 729.† Eadburg, the second abbess, presided for twenty-three years, during which period she considerably increased the revenues of the nunnery, and obtained a confirmation of all former donations. She died in 768, and was buried in the same chapel with her predecessor. After

* From the London Gazette of July 27, 1788.

† His remains were removed into Our Lady's chapel, by Abbot Parker, who raised a handsome monument above them.

the death of Eva, the last abbess, the convent went to decay, and the nuns were dispersed, in consequence of the dissentions amongst the Saxon princes:

"And the nuns then ravished from hence were driven."

In 821, Bernulph, king of Mercia, rebuilt the abbey and changed its form, and substituted for the nuns a number of secular priests,* many of whom were married, and "differed little from laymen in their dress and habit." They were endowed with part of the revenues that originally were held by the nuns; and in 862, Burged, king of Mercia, added to the grant of Bernulph, the remainder of the possessions of the first endowment, and confirmed their rights, which they retained for upwards of two hundred years; until in 1022, Canute, instigated by Wolstan, bishop of Worcester, ejected the secular preachers, and introduced the more favoured monks of the Benedictine order, of whom Edric was the first abbot. But the measure proved so highly offensive to the inhabitants of Gloucester, and especially to Wulphin Le Rue, the governor, that he put seven of the new fraternity to death, on the road between Churcham and Gloucester. This affair was so displeasing to the Pope, that Le Rue, as an atonement for it, granted the manors of Churcham and Highnam to the monastery, for the maintenance for ever of seven monks; and the Benedictines became perfectly established: but the abbey was entirely destroyed by fire. In consequence of this disaster, which was ascribed to the malice of incendiaries, Aldred, bishop of Worcester, commenced building a new church near the site of the old one, and in 1053, completed the edifice, which he dedicated to St. Peter. To reimburse himself for the cost of this undertaking, he appropriated to his own use several of the abbatial estates; and it is even imputed to him, that under the same plea he fraudulently possessed himself of several of the manors belonging to his see of Worcester. In 1072, the monastery was so much neglected, that Abbot Serlo, on his accession, found therein but two monks, and eight scholars. In 1087 or 8, the abbey was burnt down; and in June 1089, it was rebuilt by Abbot Serlo, the first stone being laid by Robert, bishop of Hereford; and on its completion in 1090, it was consecrated and dedicated to St. Peter, by the Bishops of Rochester, and Bangor. So zealous was Serlo in the care of the monastery, that he recovered all the lands that had been seized by Aldred, bishop of Worcester, afterwards archbishop of York: Serlo likewise increased the number of monks to one hundred, and added considerably to the importance and wealth of their pos-

* On the discovery of the body of young Saint Kenelme, who had been murdered near Winchcomb, these seculars contended sharply for the possession of the remains; and the Golden Legend records, that "when the bodye was above the erthe, there fylle a stryfe bytwene theym of Worcettershyre and Glocetreshyre, who sholde have this body. And thenne a full good man was there amonge them gave conseylle yt all the peple sholde lye downe and slepe and rest theyem; for the weder was thenne ryght hote. And wyche of the two shyres that God wolde shold fiyrst awake, they to take this body and goo theyre waye. And all the people aggreed thereto, and layd them downe to slepe. And it happed yt the abbot of Wynchecombe and all his men awoke fyrst, and they toke up the holy body and bare it forthe toward Wynchecombe."

sessions. In 1102, the abbey suffered from the conflagration of the city, but was repaired by Serlo, who died in 1104, and was succeeded by Peter, prior of the abbey, who added to its possessions a valuable collection of books; obtained from King Stephen a confirmation of its rights; and encompassed the building with a stone wall. In 1113, Peter died, and was succeeded by William Godemon, or Godemor, or Goadman, and during his abbacy, it is recorded in the Saxon chronicle, that in the year 1122, (8 id. March,) during the celebration of mass, while the monks were singing, and the deacon had begun the gospel, "Jesus passing," the tower or wooden spire was struck by lightning, and the monastery was entirely consumed, with the exception of a few books and three vestments. Walter de Lacy, who had been chaplain to Godemon, succeeded him, when in consequence of his illness he resigned. De Lacy, who was of royal descent, entered this monastery at seven years of age. In his abbacy, Robert, duke of Normandy, was interred in the church. Gilbert Foliot, or Folieth, or Folioth, a monk of Burgundy, whom Bale and Godwin represent as a very learned man, succeeded Walter de Lacy. He was afterwards consecrated bishop of Hereford, and ultimately bishop of London; being "the first prelate who was translated from one bishopric to another in this kingdom."* During his abbacy, two very eminent monks flourished in this monastery—Osbern Claudianus, or of Gloucester,† whom Leland pronounced to be the most elegant Latinist and commentator of the age in which he lived; and Reginald, who after he became abbot of Evesham, went on foot to Rome to prosecute a cause against Simon, bishop of Worcester, when he obtained many privileges for his abbey.—In 1148, Hammeline, who had been sub-prior, was chosen abbot. He journeyed to Rome to defend the privileges and possessions of the monastery against the claim of the Archbishop of York, who unjustly demanded restitution of some of the manors which had been restored to Gloucester through the influence of Serlo. Whilst he was abbot, it happened that just as Roger, bishop of Worcester, was concluding mass before the high altar, the tower of the church fell down with so violent a crash, that the monks flew from the choir, and all expected the destruction of the fabric: but the bishop, intent upon his devotion, remained unmoved. Not one of the assembled people sustained any injury.—In the time of Hammeline's abbacy, some fishermen found in the river Severn, the body of a boy named Harold, who, as the tradition goes, was murdered by the Jews under the following circumstances:—The Jews contrived to steal him on the 20th of March, and kept his body concealed until the 16th of April following; when a number of them congregated at Gloucester, under pretence of circumcising a boy of their own persuasion; but in fact, to crucify him, in derision of the death of the Redeemer. They assembled, with

* Foliot, although he was indebted to Thomas á Becket, for his advancement, is said to have become the enemy of his patron, and even to have instigated the murder of the archbishop.

† "He was a good linguist, philosopher, and divine; giving clearness to what was obscure, facility to what was difficult, politeness to what was barbarous; and was occasionally facetious in his dialogues."—*Fuller.*

their victim, in a large room on the south side of Eastgate-street, then used by them as a synagogue, but which has since, from the gradual elevation of the surface of the street, become a cellar running under several houses—and there they fixed him on a cross, and savagely murdered him. The body when found, bore marks of the most cruel treatment; the brow had indentations as if a crown of thorns had been fixed round his head—his sides, nose, hands, knees and feet bore marks of extraordinary violence:—boiling fat had been poured on his limbs, and melted wax into his eyes and ears. When dead, his corpse was thrown into the Severn, and found as we have before stated. Hammeline, when apprised of the circumstance, went, with all the members of his convent, to receive the body, which was carried in procession to the abbey, and interred before the altar of Edward the Confessor.* In 1204, the abbey was burned by lightning.—In 1205, Henry Blont, prior of the abbey, became abbot. In 1214 and 1223, the abbey was again damaged by lightning; and in 1222, Abbot Blont commenced rebuilding the tower. In his time, i. e. "on the morrow of St. Mark, 1217, two suns were seen at supper time by John, a monk, and his fellows."—In 1228, Henry Foliot, Foleth, or Folet, prior of Bromfield cell, succeeded Thomas de Bredone. He caused an aqueduct to be formed for supplying the convent with water, and partly vaulted the nave. He commenced building a tower at the west end of the church, which was completed by John de Felda, or De la Felde, the precentor, who in 1243, became abbot, as the successor of Prior William,† who died on the very day appointed for his installation. In De Felda's time, it should be remarked, that the convent became indebted upwards of 3,000 marks; and Abbot Henry Foliot had previously impropriated 20 marks yearly out of the church of Newport, in Glamorganshire, to supply the convent with French wine and wastel bread. The Bishop of Worcester, to whom John de Felda applied for relief, forbade the reception of strangers, and the indulgence of their former hospitality.—In 1263, Reginald de Homme, or Hamme, succeeded, and procured the interference of Edward I. in decreasing the debt which he found to be 1500 marks. The king rebuilt the southgate of the abbey, which was anciently called Lichgate, but has since been called King Edward's gate. In 1274, Reginald, being proctor for the diocese of Worcester, in consequence of the infirmity of the bishop of that see, was present, by the special order of the pope, at the council of Lyons. In 1283, John Gifford, lord of the manor of Brimsfield, founded Gloucester-hall, in Oxford, for thirteen monks, to be chosen out of the monastery of Gloucester; and directed that Reginald de Homme should, in his presence, be admitted into it. This abbot was (49th Henry III.) summoned to parliament from Gloucester abbey.—John de Gamages,‡ prior of St. Cuthlack's, near Hereford, was elected abbot in 1284. In 1300,

* Fosbroke, who treats this narrative but as one of many "stratagems to load the Jews with obloquy," says, the body was found behind some altars."

† Or Walter de St. John, according to *Wharton*.

‡ Atkyns calls him "John Gag;" Rudder calls him "De Gamages, or Gag."

several parts of the building were burned down by accident. In 1303, John caused the ancient dormitory to be pulled down, and began a new one. He was so prudent in his government, that he cleared the convent from debt, and increased the stock of sheep to ten thousand. In his abbacy, William de Brok, or Beor, a monk of Gloucester, obtained the degree of doctor in divinity at Oxford, in 1298, and was the first of the Benedictine order in England, who acquired such an honour. The ceremony is said to have been performed with great pomp and solemnity.* In 1301, Laurence, another monk of Gloucester, took a similar degree. In 1304-5, Gamages gave a splendid feast in the great hall in the court of the abbey, to the king's justices assembled at Gloucester, upon the inquisition of Traylbaston; and to the high clergy and provincial laity. He died in 1307, and was buried in the church of St. Peter: after his death, it was observed that his "face appeared so joyful and red as if no infirmity had touched him."—John Thokey, or Toky, a native of Gloucester, succeeded. When Edward II. was murdered in Berkeley castle, Thokey, attended by his brethren solemnly robed, and accompanied by a procession from the city, went to Berkeley, and with the observance of all possible respect, conveyed the body in his own chariot drawn by stags, to the abbey of Gloucester, where it was interred with becoming solemnity; but without pomp. This act of Christian charity was promptly undertaken by Abbot Thokey, although the abbots of Kingswood, Bristol, and Malmesbury dared not attempt it. Soon after the corpse of the royal victim was laid in the grave, the people from all parts of the kingdom, thronged to pay homage to the remains of that king, against whom, in his life time, they had revolted; in so much that at one period the town could not contain the number of visitants who came to heap their offerings upon the shrine with such pious prodigality, that they sufficed to rebuild the south aisle and a principal part of the church.—In the abbacy of Wigmore, who succeeded Thokey, on his resigning from old age in 1329, the offerings were much increased by the influence of superstition, and the fabricated account of miracles. This abbot built the great grange at Highnam; and was skilled in mechanics. He finished the dormitory which had been commenced by John de Gamages, in 1303: he likewise completed St. Andrew's aisle; commenced building the choir; and imparked eighty acres of land in Churcham and Copledon.† Edward III. in 1334, erected the alabaster monument that marks out the burial place of his murdered father. "It ranks among the very

* At his vespers, Laurence Honsum, a monk of St. Peter's, was his respondent; and at his inception, Abbot De Gamages was present "with his monks, priors, obedientiaries, clerks, esquires, and several noblemen, upwards of one hundred in all:—the abbots of Westminster, Redynge, Abendon, Evesham, Malmesbury, many priors, and monks, with divers rewards and exercises. All other prelates, almost of the whole province of Canterbury of this order who were absent, sent exercises; and so this inception was finished to the honour of this abbey, and of the whole order."

† On new paving the nave of the church, in 1787, the workmen uncovered near the surface, a coffin, the cavity of which was composed of one stone, in which there appeared a body in a robe of serge; and with boots which retained some of the firmness and elasticity of the leather; the robe crumbled to dust, but the bones, which are supposed to have been those of Wigmore, were uninjured. In one hand, there was a wooden crosier, decorated with silver.

first of our sepulchral monuments, and the delicacy of its execution is fully equal to the elegance of its form." It bears the effigy of the dead king in his robes of state, crowned, holding in the right hand the sceptre, and in the left the ball. "In the front view of the face we may fancy that indications of pain about the forehead are discernible. It was probably copied from a cast of the deceased after the countenance had been composed, yet not so effectually as to do away all trace of the horrid torments he had endured. The view of the profile of the head is beautiful."—Adam de Staunton, who succeeded Wigmore, completed the choir, and the stalls on the prior's side of it; and built the Vineyard-house. When Edward III., accompanied by Queen Phillippa, the Black Prince, and several of his nobility, visited the shrine, the offerings of the king and queen were ships of gold, and the prince offered a golden cross, in which was contained a fragment of the great cross, and a valuable ruby. After the church had been thoroughly repaired, and other expences had been defrayed by the treasurer, there remained in the coffers of the monastery a surplus of one thousand marks. In 1343, the abbey was appointed the receiving house for the king's money: and in 1345, lent Edward III. two hundred marks.—Horton,* the sacrist, who succeeded Staunton, rebuilt the high altar, the presbytery, St. Paul's aisle, and the great hall in the court in which the parliament was held in 1378: when the king (Richard II.) and his court, lodged in the abbey—the common hall being devoted to the lords, the chapter-house to the commons, and the guest chambers to the privy council.—Walter Froucester, who had been chamberlain to the monastery, was elected abbot in 1381, and was a very distinguished scholar, wrote a chronicle of the abbey from its foundation to the twentieth year of the reign of Edward III. Pope Urban conferred the mitre upon him, with all its privileges. He completed the cloisters which Horton had commenced, and which are at this day universally admired as surpassing any in England in their elegance and beauty. The idea of the curious ceiling is taken, as Stukely observes, "from a walk of trees, whose branching heads are curiously imitated by the roof."—John Morewent, or Marewent, who was elected abbot in 1420, built the west front of the abbey, and erected the south porch, and two pillars in the body of the church, which he intended to have adorned throughout in the same manner. During his abbacy, Henry VI. who was then in his ninth year, visited the abbey, where he made an offering.—To Morewent succeeded, in 1437, Reginald, or Reynold Boulers, or Butler, who, in 1449, went ambassador to Rome. In 1450, he was taken into custody, with some others, by Richard, duke of York, and committed to Ludlow castle; but he was soon afterwards released and created bishop of Hereford. He was succeeded in his abbacy by Thomas Seabroke, who pulled down the old tower, and projected the present stately one, which is justly admired for the beauty of its archi-

* "He received the benediction at Cheltenham from the Bishop of Hereford, by leave of the Bishop of Worcester."—*Rudder.*

tecture; the completion of which he consigned to Robert Tully, a monk of Gloucester.* Seabroke paved the choir, in which his name and arms were inwrought in the bricks. He died in 1457, and was buried in a chapel at the south-west end of the choir. During his abbacy, the New-inn, in Northgate-street, was built for the reception of pilgrims, by John Twynning, a monk, who had a subterraneous passage made to communicate between the abbey and the inn.—Richard Hanley, or Hauley, the next abbot, began to rebuild the lady's chapel; but left its completion to his successor, William Farley, or Ferley.—John Newton, alias Browne, D. D., (chaplain to King Henry VIII.) who in 1478, took upon him the order of St. Benedict, in Gloucester monastery, and became prior of St. Cuthlack's, near Hereford, was elected abbot of St. Peter's, in July 1510, and was installed, notwithstanding the violent opposition of the monks, in December following. In 1512 and 1513, the dissentions became so great between the city and the abbey, arising from the disputed right of common said to be usurped and withheld by the monks, that the privy council directed the mayor to suppress the disturbances and preserve the tranquillity of the abbey and the city, on pain of being summoned to the star-chamber, of being fined one hundred pounds, and of forfeiting the liberties of the city.—William Malvern, alias Parker, B. D., was elected abbot in May 1514. At the request of the university of Oxford, he took the degree of doctor in divinity. Ten years afterwards he compiled a compendious history of the monastery. He adorned the south, or King Edward's, gate of the abbey; rebuilt the principal part of the abbot's house; built the vestry in the north transept; built the tower at Barnwood; and on the north side of the choir, a chapel, in which he was interred, and wherein his effigy, mitred, in ***pontificalibus***, surmounts an altar monument. Abbot Parker likewise rebuilt or considerably repaired Prinknash,† the finest remain of abbatial residences, and which is still in excellent preservation. He submitted to the king's supremacy, and continued abbot till the dissolution; but died soon afterwards. During his abbacy, the cellarer, Osborne,

* "The tower was completed under the direction of Robert Tully, (afterwards Bishop of St. David's,) to whom that charge had been devised by Abbot Seabroke. The ornamental members and perforated pinnacles are of the most delicate tabernacle work, very full, but preserving an air of chasteness and simplicity. Its peculiar perfection which immediately strikes the eye, is an exact symmetry of component parts, and the judicious disposition of ornaments. The shaft of the tower is equally divided into two stories, correctly repeated in every particular; and the open parapet and pinnacles, are examples of the gothic in its most improved state."—*Dallaway.*

"Over the dividing arches of the nave and choir is written in the gothic character:—

"Hoc quod digestum specularis opusque politum,
Tullij hæc ex onere Seabroke Abbate jubente.

i. e. This work which you see digested and polished, was made by Tully, under the order of Abbot Seabroke.—Thomas Seabroke was elected abbot in 1453; died in 1457, and it is a fair conjecture that Tully was appointed by him to superintend the execution of a plan he had given for the choir."—*Wood.*

† Henry VIII. and Queen Jane Seymour slept at Prinknash, during Parker's abbacy, and their arms were placed amongst the stained glass in the windows of the great chamber.

built a square tower north west of the church-yard, part of which is the gate leading to the church of St. Mary de Lode; and repaired the Old Ram, in the Upper Northgate-street.

John Wakeman, B. D., the king's chaplain, and the last abbot of Tewkesbury,* was consecrated the first Bishop of Gloucester on the 25th of September, 1541, by the Archbishop of Canterbury, assisted by the Bishops of London and Westminster. Bishop Wakeman was the second son of William Wakeman, of Drayton, in Worcestershire, from whom descended the family of Wakeman, of Beckford, in this county. He was appointed to inspect part of the translation of the New Testament. After his death in 1549, the celebrated John Hooper was nominated bishop in July 1550, and consecrated March 22, 1551, when he was installed, by proxy, by Archbishop Cranmer, assisted by the Bishops of London and Rochester.—There is something so extraordinary in his life; so exemplary in his character; and so enduring in his martyrdom; that we must devote some space to a concise memoir of this pious, zealous, and learned man:—John Hooper was born, in 1495, in Somersetshire; and educated in Oxford, where he made divinity his chief study, and is said to have become a Cistercian monk of the monastery of Cleeve, in his native county; but discovering the errors that then prevailed in the church of Rome, he became a convert to protestantism, and was obliged to leave the university by the statute of the Six Articles. He then became chaplain and house steward to Sir Thomas Arundel, who discarded him on the conscientious promulgation of his principles; and to avoid the malice and rage of his persecutors, he was obliged to fly to France. He soon afterwards returned to England; but being again persecuted, he escaped to Ireland in the disguise of a sailor; and went to Germany, whence he passed into Switzerland, and settled for some time at Zurich, where he studied Hebrew; there meeting with Bullinger, a steadfast friendship sprung up betwixt them. During his residence in Switzerland, he married a Burgundian lady, and remained abroad till the death of Henry VIII. It is worthy of remark, that at parting with his friend Bullinger, he emphatically, and, as it proved, prophetically, said to him, "Where I shall take the most pains, *there* you shall hear I am burned to ashes." On his return, he preached the reformed doctrines frequently in London; and with so much earnestness and zeal, that the young king (Edward VI.) promoted him to the see of Gloucester, through the interest of the Earl of Warwick. He was very active in the visitations of his diocese, to which, on the deprivation of Dr. Heath, the see of Worcester was annexed. He strenuously opposed Gardiner and Bonnor, especially the latter; but they, on the death of King Edward, and the accession of Queen Mary, obtained the ascendancy; and Hooper was summoned to London, on the appeal of Dr. Heath, and of Bonnor, of whose nonconformity he had complained to the late king. Hooper was marked out as the first sa-

* He raised the high altar in the abbey church of Tewkesbury, behind which an effigy was placed to his memory.

crifice* "in the reign of blood." He was warned by his friends to avoid the danger which they saw impending; but he calmly said, "Once did I fly, but now I am called to this place, I am resolved to live and die with my sheep." He was cited before Gardiner, bishop of Winchester, and others, who questioned him on his religious doctrines, especially respecting the corporeal presence in the eucharist; and the supremacy of the pope. When asked if he were married, he replied, that "he was married, and would not be unmarried till death unmarried him." At the close of three examinations, having adhered with unshaken firmness to the principles and doctrines of the reformation, he was condemned as a heretic, and ordered to be degraded, and delivered over to the secular power. He was confined for several months in Newgate, where he was severely treated; and in February 1555, was degraded in that prison by his enemy, Bishop Bonnor. His persecutors resolved that he should be executed at Gloucester. He was conveyed thither by a party of the queen's guards, and on his arrival, after a journey of three days, although the sheriffs, Bond and Jenkins, would have confined him in the Northgate prison, yet he was lodged at the house† of one Robert Ingram, opposite the church of St. Nicholas. Here, having one day's interval allowed him, he devoted himself to meditation and prayer. One of his former friends, Sir Anthony Kingston, being appointed of the commission to see him executed, went to visit him, and burst into tears when he first beheld the humbled prelate. Hooper did not recognise him till he said, "My lord, do you not know your old friend, Anthony Kingston?" Hooper then expressed pleasure at seeing him; but in reply to all persuasions to save himself by recantation, he said, "He was resolved by the grace of God never to recede from the great truths of the gospel, which he had delivered amongst those of that diocese, and elsewhere; that he regarded neither death nor life when put in competition with his adherence to the truth of God's word, which he would maintain; nor should the combined powers of earth and hell warp him from his allegiance to the cause of his only master, Christ Jesus." When visited the same night by the mayor and corporation, who expressed much sorrow for his fate, he told them that he was come thither to seal those doctrines, which he formerly preached to them, with his blood. He then addressed them, "Gentlemen, I hope you have not altogether forgotten what I have so repeatedly taught you, I mean the great doctrines of the reformation;—it is my earnest request that there may be an ardent fire to dispatch me; and that you would not be grieved above measure at my fate, though cruel, but rather rejoice that I am enabled to suffer in so good and so glorious a cause!"

* This bloody scene began with the martyrdom of Hooper, bishop of Gloucester, and Rogers, prebendary of St. Paul's. They were examined by commissioners appointed by the queen, with the chancellor at the head of them. It was expected that by their recantation they would bring those opinions into disrepute which they had so long inculcated; but their persecutors were deceived. They both continued steadfast in their belief, and they were accordingly ordered to be burned."—*Goldsmith.*

† Probably the "Old Bear inn."

He then retired to bed, desiring to remain private to the very hour of his summons. On Saturday, February 9, being market day, the commissioners sent him word to make preparation for the awful scene, and an hour afterwards he was led by the sheriffs, attended by the mayor, Lord Chandos, Sir Edward Bridges, and Sir Anthony Kingston, to a spot near the church of St. Mary-de-Lode, in St. Mary's-square, in view of the church where he had so often maintained the doctrines for which he was there to suffer. He was dressed in a gown belonging to Ingram; had a hat upon his head; and supported himself by a staff, for he was afflicted with sciatic pains, occasioned by his long and severe imprisonment. It is said, that upwards of seven thousand people assembled to witness his fate, "and tears fell from almost every eye." He tranquilly exclaimed, "Why are these people assembled?—perhaps they think to hear something from me as they have in times past, but I am not permitted to speak, notwithstanding the cause of my death is well known unto them. Formerly, when I was appointed their pastor, I preached unto them doctrines founded on the pure and uncorrupted word of God: and now because I will not recede from the same, and openly declare them false and heretical, I am sentenced to this kind of death. He then knelt and prayed; and during his devotion a box was brought, in which his pardon was contained, upon condition of his recantation; but when he saw it, he cried out, "If you love my soul away with it!" Lord Chandos then gave orders for his execution. Hooper merely desired permission to finish his prayer; and that duty done, he rose meekly, and stripped off his outward dress: and desiring the people to join with him in the Lord's prayer, he addressed himself to death, beseeching divine succour in this hour of fiery trial. When the executioner asked him his forgiveness, he said, "Thou needest not forgiveness of me, against whom thou hast never offended." The man replied, "Oh, sir, I am appointed to make the fire." "Therein," said Hooper, "thou dost not offend me: God forgive thee thy sins!—now do thine office I pray thee." He was chained to a stake; but from the greenness of the faggots* it was long before they kindled, so as to set fire to the reeds and combustibles about him; and thus his pain was considerably protracted—but throughout his suffering he was heard to exclaim, "Oh, Jesus, the son of David, have mercy upon me, and receive my soul!" The wind being high, the lower extremity of his body was first consumed; and they were obliged to kindle a second fire, and a third, and all were of green wood. In his torture he wiped his eyes with his hands and cried aloud, "For God's sake, good people, let me have more fire!" The flames at length reached the upper part of his body, and then he was heard to ejaculate fervent prayers. "Lord Jesus receive my spirit!" were the last words he uttered: though when his tongue was so swoln that he could not speak, still his lips were seen to move as in speech, even while they shrunk to

* "The fire, either from malice or neglect, had not been sufficiently kindled, so that his legs and thighs were first burned; and one of his hands dropped off. He was three quarters of an hour in torture."—*Goldsmith.*

the gums; he beat upon his breast with both his hands till one arm fell off; then with the other he continued so to beat; till at length, after enduring his agony for three quarters of an hour with unsubdued constancy, he bowed his head, and his spirit returned to God that gave it. Thus perished Bishop Hooper, in the 60th year of his age.

James Brookes, D. D., some time fellow of Corpus Christi college, and afterwards master of Baliol college, Oxford, was, upon Hooper's deprivation in March, 1554, appointed bishop; and was consecrated on the 1st of April, 1555. He was appointed by Cardinal Pole, as delegate from the pope, to examine into the charges preferred against Archbishop Cranmer, Ridley, and Latimer; when it is said, "the archbishop, making low obeisance to them that sat in the queen's name, shewed no token of reverence to the bishop who was the pope's commissioner, who nevertheless proceeded against him as judge, and convicted him of heresie." Brookes was very zealous in the cause; but Fuller observes, that he "spent his fury mostly out of his diocese." After his death, in 1558, the see remained vacant till the election of Richard Cheiney, B. D. He had been deprived of the archdeaconry of Hereford, in the reign of Queen Mary, for opposing the doctrine of transubstantiation in a convocation held in 1555; but in 1561, he was consecrated bishop of Gloucester, in the archbishop's chapel at Lambeth. He died in April, 1579, and the see again remained vacant till September, 1581;* when J. Bullingham was consecrated bishop by the Archbishop of Canterbury, assisted by the Bishops of London and Rochester. Godfrey Goldsborough, who succeeded in 1598, was consecrated by the Archbishop of Canterbury, assisted by the Bishops of London, Lichfield and Coventry, and of Chichester. Thomas Ravis, his successor, repaired the palace and the Vineyard-house, at a very considerable expence. On his translation to the see of London, Henry Parry succeeded, and by him the pulpit in the body of the cathedral was erected at his own cost. He was translated to Worcester, and Giles Thompson was elected bishop in 1611. He was one of the divines appointed by James I. to translate the new testament. He died in 1612, before he had entered the diocese. Miles Smith, D. D., a native of Hereford, was elected his successor in July 1612. He was in 1610, appointed by King James, one of the first fellows of Chelsea college. Bishop Smith, who used to declare that "he was covetous of nothing but books," was so eminent for his learning that he was called "a walking library." He was the author of the preface still extant in the church bible. Godwin says, "he was attached to the dogmas of Calvin," and "favoured beyond measure the Presbyterian party: of which he gave a very culpable proof in the year 1616. By order of his superiors, the altar-table was removed from the middle of the church to the eastern end within the rails. This regulation, than which nothing could be more proper in the view of piety or decency, this warm partisan of

* The reason of this vacancy was that the queen might satisfy her debt of 500l., owing to her for the tenths of the clergy out of the revenue of the see.—*Strype.*

Calvinistic discipline took so ill, that for the remainder of his days he never again set foot in his cathedral church." Upon his death, Dr. John Preston was offered the see, but declined it on account of his lecture, which he preferred to it. Godfrey Goodman, D. D., was consecrated bishop in 1624. In 1640, the see was sequestrated, in consequence of his favouring some of the doctrines of the church of Rome, and he was himself confined. William Nicholson, D. D., was the first bishop appointed after the restoration, when he was consecrated in 1660, in Henry VII.'s chapel, Westminster, by the Archbishop of York, assisted by the Bishops of Durham, Chichester, Lincoln, and Peterborough. He was a man of great erudition, episcopal gravity, charity and moderation.

Robert Frampton, dean of Gloucester, who succeeded John Pritchard in the bishopric, in the year 1680, was the son of a farmer who lived at Pimpern, in Dorsetshire. After he had been admitted into holy orders, he was, on account of his political opinions, compelled to seek protection in the family of the Earl of Elgin, but soon afterwards was appointed chaplain to the factory at Aleppo. Upon the voyage thither, a curious phenomenon occurred: "The ship on a sudden gave a mighty surge, as if her back was broke; and the greatest distress prevailed, from the general opinion that she had struck upon a rock and would sink. No leak or other damage could be discovered, nor was the vessel in soundings. It proved to be the result of an earthquake."* During a journey to Constantinople, Frampton encountered a quaker, who had taken into his head to travel all that way in order to convert the Grand Seignior; for which purpose he had written a letter beginning thus—"To thee, Mahometan, by men of earth commonly called Emperor of the Turks." Frampton, aware that such an attempt might cost the poor fellow either the renunciation of his religion, or loss of life, acquainted the English ambassador with the circumstance, who sent for, and remonstrated with, the devotee. All was in vain, till the ambassador, to save the man, ordered the application of the bastinado to the soles of his feet. The experiment succeeded, and the humbled zealot returned to England, and set up a shop at Deal, and many years afterwards returned thanks to the bishop

* Extracts from Bishop Frampton's Life.—See *Fosbroke*.—The interview between Bishop Frampton and the infamous Judge Jefferys, during the ignominous confinement of the latter in the tower, deserves particular notice:—Jefferys, after his downfall and disgrace, attempted to escape out of the kingdom, disguised as a seaman, but he was apprehended, and committed with much insult to the tower," where he lay sick of the gout, and utterly disconsolate, not one of the many whom he had preferred and befriended when in power, giving him a visit: but the Bishop of Gloucester, who was scarcely acquainted with him, and never obliged by him, gave him a friendly visit, and found him sitting in a low chair, with a long beard on, and a small cup of water by him, and weeping with himself. His tears were, as the bishop observed, very great ones. He accosts him in a christian style, and says, "My lord, I see you are disconsolate; I find you weeping; if, my lord, either of them be on the score of the hardships you labour under at present, e'en cast away the one, and dry up the other, as unworthy either a man or a christian; but if they are from the reflection you make upon your past life, in which something must needs be done amiss, for no man liveth and sinneth not, weep on and spare not, these tears of yours are more precious than diamonds." To this his lordship replied, "My lord, all the disgrace I have hitherto suffered, I can bear, and, by God's grace, will submit to whatever more shall befall me, since I see so much of the goodness of God in sending you to me; you, that I never in the least deserved any thing from, for you to visit me, when others, who had their all from me, desert me; it can be no other than the motion of God's spirit in you."

for saving his life. Frampton travelled all over the Holy Land and Egypt, where, in confutation of the assertion that it never rained in that country, he saw a shower fall, but in great drops, very distant from one another. In 1666, he returned to England, and preached before King Charles II. He went back next year to Aleppo; but in three years afterwards resigned the chaplainship and came home. Bishop Frampton strenuously opposed all the efforts of King James to revive and introduce Popery; nevertheless he was steadfast in his allegiance to him, and when the Prince of Orange possessed himself of the king's houses, he became a supplicator for him "whom no man appeared for beside," and besought the prince to take care of his lawful and injured sovereign—and had this sour answer, "I will take care of the church." Little daunted, however, by this discouragement, when he preached before the prince in Hampton-court, he made the treatment of James the subject of a sermon,* founded upon 2 Kings iv. 13. The prince, when the discourse was over, observed, "I perceive the Bishop of Gloucester don't expect a translation." In 1690, he was deprived of his bishopric, in consequence of his refusal to take the oaths then appointed; whereupon he retired to his living at Standish, in which he passed the rest of his life in acts of charity—although in very straightened circumstances. He endured many persecutions before his death, which took place in 1708.—Edward Fowler was elected bishop in 1691. He was a native of Westerleigh, in Gloucestershire, and distinguished through life as a theological writer; "he was well endowed with the spirit, and gifted with extempore prayer."† He had been appointed a prebend of Gloucester cathedral in 1675, and had a dispute with the corporation respecting a sermon which he preached and printed. His successor in the see was Richard Willes, elected in 1714, who was king's chaplain and chaplain-general to the army, to which he was appointed as being able to preach extempore. He was afterwards sub-preceptor to the Duke of Gloucester. Joseph Wilcocks, D. D., elected in 1721, had in early life been chaplain to the English factory at Lisbon, where "he attended many patients under the small-pox, although he had never had it." On his return he was appointed chaplain to George I. and preceptor to the daughters of the Prince of Wales. During his bishopric he repaired the episcopal palace, which had for some time before been uninhabited.—Martin Benson, D. D., succeeded Elias Sydal in 1734.‡ He was chaplain in ordinary to King George II. Of him it has been justly said, "a rational piety raised the views of this excellent man above the world, and framed his whole temper into a truly Christian spirit of resignation."

The most celebrated diocesan, however, since the reformation, was Bishop Warburton, who was consecrated in 1760. Although in his youthful years he gave no promise of

* King William afterwards said, "I always took the Bishop of Gloucester for an honest man; he preached before me at Hampton-court, when I came over first, and I shall never forget the sermon." Queen Mary valued him so highly, that she said she knew "he affected martyrdom, and could doubtless bear it, but she would disappoint him."

† *Wood.* ‡ Rudder places Sydal's death in 1737.

talent, yet in mature life he ranked with the most eminent and accomplished scholars of his age. His first pursuit was the law, of which his father was a member, and having served a clerkship to that profession, he commenced its practice in the place of his nativity; but experiencing some disappointment, he applied himself to the study of divinity, and in 1723, he received deacon's orders; in 1726, he was preferred by the interest of his patron, Sir Robert Sutton, to the vicarage of Griesley, or Gryesley, in Nottinghamshire; and in 1728, he received the degree of M. A. at Cambridge, previous to his presentation to the rectory of Brand Broughton, in Lincolnshire. Prior to this period he had published, "Miscellaneous Translations, in Prose and Verse," "An Enquiry into the Causes of Prodigies and Miracles," and "A Treatise on the Legal Judicature in Chancery;" and given Theobald many contributions to his edition of Shakespeare. About the year 1737, soon after his publication of the first volume of "The Divine Legation of Moses," * he was appointed chaplain to the Prince of Wales, and soon afterwards formed that friendship with Pope which more than all conduced to the establishment of his literary reputation. His defence of the bard of Twickenham's "Essay on Man," from the charge of atheism alleged against it by Crousaz, was so gratifying to the poet, that he introduced him to Ralph Allen, Esq., of Prior Park, near Bath; to whose niece, Miss Tucker, he was afterwards married. Pope, to manifest the esteem he entertained for Warburton to the close of his life, bequeathed to him the copyright of his works. In 1747, he published his edition of Shakespeare; in 1754, he was appointed chaplain to the king—was next year promoted to a prebendary in Durham cathedral; in 1757, he was made dean of Bristol; and in 1759-60, bishop of Gloucester. In 1769, he founded a lecture on prophecy in the chapel of Lincoln's inn, the first course of which was preached by Dr. Hurd. He survived the most melancholy of all afflictions—the alienation of his mental faculties, and expired in his 81st year, if not like Swift, "a driveller and a show," at least, as an aged ruin, from which the light of reason was withdrawn. He died in the episcopal palace, and was buried in the cathedral.—The Hon. James York, who succeeded him in the diocese, was removed to Ely in 1781; when Samuel Hallifax. D.D., succeeded. He was a very excellent scholar; and in 1768, had been elected professor of Arabic in Trinity hall, Cambridge; and afterwards regius professor of civil law; master of the faculties of Doctors' Commons; and chaplain in ordinary to George III. He had the honour to receive the late king on the royal visit to Gloucester, in 1788; and in 1789, was removed to St. Asaph, being the first English prelate who was translated to that see.—Richard Beadon, D.D., succeeded in 1789, and was translated to Bath and Wells, in 1802; when George Isaac Huntingford, D.D., was elected. In 1782, when fellow of New college, Oxford, he published his first collection of Monostrophics, or Greek Odes. He was ad-

* "One of the few theological, and still fewer controversial works, which scholars perfectly indifferent to such subjects will ever read with delight."

vanced to the see of Gloucester, without solicitation, by Lord Sidmouth, who had been educated under him. His elder brother died in 1772, and left a widow with a young family, for whom the bishop most liberally provided. His publications were very numerous.—On his translation to Hereford, in 1815, he was succeeded by the Hon. Henry Ryder, brother of the Earl of Harrowby, and dean of Wells, who was, in 1824, translated to the see of Lichfield and Coventry; and Christopher Bethell, D.D., the present enlightened and excellent diocesan, was elected bishop of Gloucester.

Although so considerable a space has been devoted to the memorial by which so many eminent names are associated with the annals of the city of Gloucester; yet it is impossible to pass from its ecclesiastical history without noticing some other distinguished characters who were at various periods connected with, and exalted officers of, the diocese.

The archdeaconry formed part of the diocese of Worcester, before the establishment of the see of Gloucester, by King Henry VIII.; for we are told, that in 1475, J. Carpenter, bishop of Worcester, appropriated the rectory of Dursley to the archdeaconry of Gloucester. Amongst the archdeacons we find the following celebrated individuals:—John Kingscote, LL.D., a native of Gloucestershire, who was the king's confessor, and on the presentation of the pope, was consecrated bishop of Carlisle, in 1462.—Robert Morton, LL.D., nephew of Archbishop Morton, and afterwards bishop of Worcester.—John Giglas, a native of Lucca, the pope's collector in England, also promoted to the see of Worcester.—Geoffrey Blyth, who was sent by King Henry VII. ambassador to Hungary. He was, in 1503, made bishop of Lichfield and Coventry.—Thomas Rowthall, a native of Cirencester, afterwards bishop of Durham, and the predecessor of Wolsey in that diocese, [see Cirencester.]—John Bell, a native of Worcestershire, one of the king's chaplains and a privy counsellor. Henry VIII. sent him on several embassies, and as a reward for his defence of the king's divorce from Queen Catherine, he was appointed bishop of Worcester, which he afterwards resigned.—Nicholas Wotton, LL.D., the last archdeacon under the see of Worcester, was one of the king's chaplains, and an eminent diplomatist. He became, successively, Bishop Tunstall's official; rector of Joy-church, in Kent; archdeacon of Gloucester; dean of Canterbury; and in three years afterwards dean of York; being the only person who ever possessed at the same time the deaneries of the two metropolitan churches. He subsequently refused a bishopric. During the reign of Henry VIII.* he was employed on many important embassies, and in the succeeding reign of Edward VI. he was made secretary of state. He went, in 1551, on a mission to the Emperor of Germany, and afterwards became resident at the court of France.—Hugh Robinson, a native of Anglesea, educated at Winchester, of which he

* Henry VIII. when Wotton was setting out on an embassy, said to him, "Sir, I have sent a *head* by Cromwell, a *purse* by Wolsey, a *sword* by Brandon (duke of Suffolk); I must now send the *tail* by you."

became head master, and afterwards a fellow of New college, Oxford. He was an eminent linguist.—Thomas Hyde, who had attained such proficiency in the oriental languages, that before he completed his 17th year he was called upon to assist Dr. Walton in the Polyglot Bible; and about the same time engaged to translate the Persian Pentateuch out of the Hebrew characters, which Archbishop Usher, who knew the difficulty of the undertaking, pronounced to be an impossible task to a native Persian. But Hyde succeeded. The very catalogue of his learned writings, in Wood's Athenæ, is in itself a curiosity.* He was interpreter and secretary of the foreign languages in the reigns of Charles II., James II., and William III. There never was an Englishman, in his sphere of life, who made so great a progress in the Chinese language. His mind was so much engrossed by his favourite studies, that he was but ill qualified to appear to advantage in common conversation. He removed from Cambridge to Oxford, where he became Hebrew reader, and was speedily appointed head keeper of the Bodleian library. He published, amongst many others, a very extraordinary and excellent work on the ancient religion of the Persians; his "literary labours were enormous."—Richard Hurd, the son of a farmer at Congreve, in the parish of Penkrich, in Staffordshire. He was elected to a fellowship in Emanuel college, Cambridge, in his 22d year. In his commentary on Horace's Art of Poetry, he paid a compliment to Warburton, which was the occasion of a very sincere friendship between them, which endured through their lives; and Warburton obtained for him very considerable preferment, and at length collated him archdeacon of Gloucester. In 1775, he was made bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, and appointed preceptor to the Prince of Wales and Prince Frederick (his present majesty, and the duke of York.) In 1781, King George III. offered him the bishopric of Worcester, with the clerkship of the closet, which he accepted; but when, two years afterwards, the king offered him the archbishopric of Canterbury, he modestly declined the gracious mark of his sovereign's favour, observing that "several greater men than himself had been content to die bishops of Worcester, and he wished for no higher preferment." In 1788, the king presented him with a gold medal, and honored him with a visit at Hartlebury Castle, accompanied by the queen and the princesses. This venerable, excellent, and distinguished scholar, who had attained his 88th year, died in his sleep at Hartlebury, in 1808.—Thomas Rudge, of Worcester college, Oxford. He published "A History of Gloucestershire," compressed and brought down to 1803; and "A Survey of the Agriculture of the County of Gloucester," in 1807. He died in 1824.—After his death, John Timbrill, D. D., was appointed to the archdeaconry.

Nor are the records of the deanery unenlightened by some literary luminaries, amongst whom we trace the following:—William Jennings, B. D., the last prior of St. Oswald's, and one of the king's chaplains, was the first dean appointed by the charter of foundation,

* "See Wilson's *Memorabilia Cantabrigæ*."

which was coeval with the bishopric established by Henry VIII. Jennings, by his moderation, retained the deanery through all the revolutions of the church, until his death, in 1565.—John Man, who had been keeper of St. Bartholomew's hospital, in Gloucester, was presented to the deanery by Queen Elizabeth, who afterwards sent him ambassador to the court of Spain, "but behaving himself imprudently," as Atkyns tells us, "occasioned a jest of Queen Elizabeth's, 'that whereas the King of Spain had sent *Gooseman* (Guzman) dean of Toledo, hither, she had sent *Man*, dean of Gloucester, who was a *goose*, thither.'"—To him succeeded Thomas Cooper, fellow of Magdalen, who had, during the reign of Queen Mary, abandoned the study of divinity for the study and practice of physic; but upon her death resumed his sacred profession, took his doctor's degree, and was made dean of Christ Church—from which he was removed to Gloucester in 1569; and in 1570 was made bishop of Lincoln, and afterwards of Winchester. He was the author of "An Epitome of Chronicles;" and "Thesaurus Linguæ Romanæ et Britannicæ, et Dictionarium Historicum et Poeticum."—The next dean was Lawrence Humfry or Humphrey, fellow of Magdalen college, Oxford, and Greek reader. In 1555, he obtained leave from his college to travel, on the express condition that he should return within a year, and refrain from all heretical company. He betook himself to Zurich, the chosen retreat of the English reformers. Upon the death of Queen Mary he returned to England, was restored to his fellowship, appointed Queen Elizabeth's professor of divinity, and president of Magdalen. He was removed from Gloucester to the deanery of Winchester, but his puritanical principles withheld the mitre from his brow—although he was, whilst dean of Gloucester, one of the ecclesiastical commissioners for the queen. Humfry was a very distinguished scholar; and was, with the exception of the dean of Christ Church, the only divine then capable of preaching the public sermons before the university.—Thomas Morton, a descendant of Cardinal Morton, was made dean in 1607. Whilst he was a fellow of St. John's college, Cambridge,† he read lectures on logic. He was chaplain to the Earl of Huntingdon, lord president of the north. In 1602, he accompanied the English embassy to Germany and Denmark. He became successively dean of Winchester, bishop of Chester, of Lichfield and Coventry,* and of Durham. Being deprived of his preferment by the Cromwell party, he endured many privations in the rebellion of 1641: but he lived to the venerable age of 95 years, and died in the retirement afforded him by Sir Henry Yelverton, at Easton Mauduit, in Northamptonshire, Sept. 22, 1659.—Richard Field, who had been chaplain to Queen Elizabeth and King James, before the latter of whom he held a disputation at

* He was elected fellow by pure merit, against eight competitors.

† It is related of Morton, that whilst he was bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, he educated, ordained, and presented to a living, a young gentleman of the name of Canner, who was born blind. His pupil became an excellent preacher, repeated the whole Common Prayer Book by heart, and committed the lessons perfectly to memory upon his uncle's twice reading them over to him.

Oxford. He also assisted at the Hampton Court conference. When James gave him the deanery of Gloucester, in 1609-10, he said of him, in his facetious manner, " this is a *field* for God to dwell in." The king soon afterwards appointed him fellow of Chelsea college. He died in 1616, just as he was about to be made a bishop. Wood says, he " was a principal maintenance of protestancy, a powerful preacher, a profound schoolman, and an exact disputant."—To Field succeeded the celebrated but ill-fated Laud, afterwards archbishop of Canterbury. He was the son of a clothier at Reading, where he was born in 1573, and from the free school of that town he went to St. John's college, Oxford, where he obtained a fellowship, and in a few years afterwards (1611) was elected president of his college. By his avowal of the Arminian tenets, he gave great offence to the Calvinists. The vicarage of Stamford, in Northamptonshire, was the first preferment he obtained; but he was speedily presented to the living of North Kilworth, in Leicestershire, which he exchanged for West Tilbury, in Essex. After taking the degree of doctor in divinity, he became chaplain to Bishop Neile, from whom he obtained the rectory of Cuckstone, which he resigned for Norton. In 1614, he was made prebend of Lincoln, to which was added the archdeaconry of Huntingdon. In 1616, he was made dean of Gloucester, and soon afterwards accompanied the king to Scotland. In 1621, he was installed prebendary of Westminster, and in the same year consecrated bishop of St. David's. Although entitled by the statutes to retain the presidency of St. John's, he resigned it. In 1622, he held a conference with Fisher, the Jesuit, in the presence of the Marquis of Buckingham and his mother. The arguments adduced by Laud, in this disputation, the particulars of which were published, constituted an unanswerable defence of the Protestant religion. He was translated in 1626, to the diocese of Bath and Wells; and in 1628, became bishop of London. In 1630, he was chosen chancellor of Oxford, a station which no man ever held to " more advantage to the university, or to the general interests of learning;" of which his buildings and endowments are lasting memorials. He was raised to the archbishopric of Canterbury, in 1633; and in the same year was elected chancellor of Trinity college, Dublin. He provoked the hostility of many powerful men by the zeal he uniformly and conscientiously manifested for conformity to the church; and the rancour of his persecutors was aggravated by the attempts he made to introduce the liturgy into the church service of Scotland. The troubled state of the times afforded a speedy opportunity for the destruction of his power; and one of the first acts of the Long Parliament, assembled in 1640, was the impeachment of the archbishop, who was taken into custody and committed to the tower, where he was detained for upwards of three years, and then brought to trial before the lords, who acquitted him. But his enemies formed so powerful a faction in the commons, that an ordinance was enacted, by which they declared him guilty of high treason; and this monstrous proceeding, subversive of all law or justice, they compelled the lords to sanction; and the unfortunate prelate was beheaded, in the 71st year of his age, on

Tower-hill, January 10, 1644-5.—Richard Senhouse, who succeeded Laud in the deanery, was fellow of St. John's college, Cambridge, and chaplain to Prince Charles. In 1624, he was made bishop of Carlisle, but died in two years afterwards in consequence of a fall from his horse.—T. Winniffe, chaplain to the king and to Prince Charles, who succeeded, was a man of great learning, piety, and integrity—and being deprived of his deanery in the civil wars, he retired to his estate, where he died.—Accepted Frewen, chaplain to the king, and president of Magdalen college, Oxford, succeeded George Warburton in 1631, and was consecrated bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, in 1644, but only enjoyed the title. At the restoration he was translated to the archbishopric of York.—Thomas Marshall, who became dean in 1681, a very distinguished scholar, was a member of Lincoln college, Oxford, and was by that society chosen a fellow, without his knowledge, in 1688. He was chaplain in ordinary to Charles I., and bore arms for the king, as part of the garrison of Oxford, at his own cost; in consequence of which he was admitted, in 1645, B. A. without fees. When the parliamentary commissioners approached Oxford, Marshall went to Rotterdam, where he became preacher to the company of English merchants.—Knightly Chetwood, who succeeded to the deanery in 1707, was fellow of King's college, Cambridge, and archdeacon of York; chaplain to King James II., the Princess of Denmark, and Lord Dartmouth. He was nominated to the see of Bristol by King James, but the revolution prevented his consecration. He was appointed in 1689, chaplain to the English forces in Holland, under Marlborough. Chetwood enjoyed the friendship of Dryden; and wrote the life of Virgil, and the pre face to the pastorals prefixed to Dryden's translation of the Mantuan bard. He likewise wrote a memoir of the life of his friend Wentworth, earl of Roscommon; and the life of Lycurgus, in the edition of Plutarch, of 1683.—John Waugh, fellow of Queen's college, Oxford, and prebendary of Lincoln cathedral, succeeded in 1720. He caused the common seal of the dean and chapter, which had been used from the foundation, to be altered. "On the old seal," according to Rudder, "was represented an old man, sitting under an arch, with a long beard, and a great beam of light over his head, intended for God the Father; he had between his knees a cross, with our Saviour on it, held by his hands at each of the cross ends, designed for God the son; and a dove at the upper end of the cross, intended for God the Holy Ghost." Waugh was made bishop of Carlisle in 1723.—Cotemporary with Bishop Warburton, was the celebrated Josiah Tucker, D. D., who was installed dean of Gloucester in 1758. He was the son of a farmer, and born at Laugharne, in Carmarthenshire, in 1712. From Ruthin school, in Denbighshire, where he was educated, he obtained an exhibition at St. John's college, Oxford. The journey from Laugharne, which he for some time travelled on foot, was long and tedious, from the bad condition of the roads; his father, feeling for his reputation and credit, gave him his own horse that he might visit the university more respectably—but on his return, Josiah told him he considered it better that he should perform

his journey as at first, than that his father should go on foot to the neighbouring markets and fairs; and for the remainder of the time that he pursued his college studies, he trudged backwards and forwards with his baggage at his back. At the age of 23, he entered into holy orders, and served a curacy in Gloucestershire. In 1737, he became curate of St. Stephen's church, Bristol, and a minor canon of the cathedral. He soon attracted the notice of Bishop Butler, who appointed him his domestic chaplain, and obtained for him a prebend's stall in the cathedral, and subsequently the rectory of St. Stephen's. The bishop entertained such a regard for him, and valued his opinions so highly, that they frequently walked in the palace gardens in the dark, conversing on metaphysical and theological subjects. When the bill for the naturalization of the Jews was brought into parliament, Tucker became its ablest and most strenuous advocate; which brought upon him such a storm of ultra-Christian wrath, that the people of Bristol burnt his effigy, dressed in canonicals, with his letters in favour of the cause he had espoused. In 1755, he published a clever pamphlet on the "Turkey Trade," in which he ably demonstrated the evils resulting from chartered companies. About that period, he was principally instrumental in securing the election of Lord Clare, afterwards Earl Nugent, as member of parliament for Bristol; and his lordship proved his sense of the service thus rendered him, by procuring for Tucker the deanery of Gloucester—and he then took his degree of D. D. He enjoyed so eminent a reputation for commercial knowledge, that Dr. Hayter, (afterwards bishop of London,) who was then tutor to Prince George, (King George III.) applied to him to draw up a dissertation on the subject, for the perusal and instruction of his royal pupil. This work he ably accomplished, and it was printed in quarto, under the title of "The Elements of Commerce." Warburton, when bishop of Gloucester, said bitterly, that "his dean's trade was religion, and religion his trade"—a reproach which he little merited, as his various works on moral and religious subjects prove him to have been not only well versed in theology, but a man of genuine philanthropy. In 1771, when an attempt was made to procure the abolition of the subscription to the thirty-nine articles, Dr. Tucker appeared the zealous advocate and defender of the church of England—but he admitted that some reformation of the liturgy was required, particularly as concerned the Athanasian Creed. From the commencement of the American war, the dean was an attentive and anxious observer of that momentous dispute; and, impartially regarding every occurrence, he fearlessly declared his conviction that both sides would be profited by an absolute separation. He published "Thoughts on the Dispute between the Mother Country and America, &c." in which he asserted that the latter never could be conquered; or, even if it could, that the purchase would be dear. He strongly deprecated a war with the colonies, and advised that they should be left to themselves, a course which would be productive of great good to England. This publication startled all parties. He was considered not merely a political quack, but a madman; and his warnings were treated with contempt by Dr. John-

son and Edmund Burke, the latter of whom, in his famous speech on American taxation, (April 13, 1774,) called Tucker "the advocate of the court faction," and said, "I suppose his earnest labours in this vineyard will raise him to a bishopric." The dean, roused to resentment, published a letter to Burke, vindicating the purity of his principles, and retorting on his adversary in forcible and manly terms. Burke's enmity arose from Tucker's decided opposition to his election for Bristol. He still maintained his opinions, and as the war proceeded, many became converts to sentiments which time has sanctioned as the only truth. In 1779, when the country was menaced with the terrors of invasion, Tucker exposed the impracticability, folly, and hopelessness of such an attempt, in some of the most sensible observations ever promulgated on the subject. In 1781, he published "A Treatise on Civil Government," designed to counteract Locke's doctrines. In 1782, he published his last political work, entitled "Cui Bono?" in which he balanced the profit and loss of each of the belligerent powers; and recapitulated his former opinions on war and colonial possessions. In 1778, one of his parishioners, Miss Pelloquin, a lady of considerable fortune, bequeathed him her dwelling-house in Queen-square, Bristol, and a large legacy in testimony of her great esteem for his worth and talents. The dean was a liberal benefactor to public institutions, and a distinguished patron of merit. The celebrated John Henderson was sent to Pembroke college, Oxford, and supported there solely at Dr. Tucker's expence. In 1790, although he himself possessed no patrimony, he was desirous of resigning his living at Bristol to his curate, who had a numerous family, and was a very deserving man:—but the chancellor objected to his nomination; whereupon he called a meeting of his parishioners, who by his advice drew up a petition to the chancellor, in favour of the curate. This was signed by all, dissenters and others, and he effected his generous purpose! He thenceforth resided for the remainder of his life chiefly in Gloucester, where he died in 1799.—John Plumptre, D D., descended from an ancient family at Mansfield, in Nottinghamshire, succeeded to the deanery in 1808. He was educated at Eton, and became fellow of King's college, Cambridge, in 1775, and afterwards canon of Worcester cathedral. He distinguished himself as a scholar of the first eminence, and published the following works: "Ecloga Sacra Alexandri Pope vulgo *Messia* dicta Græce reddita. Accedit etiam Græce Inscriptio Sepulchralis ex celeberrima Elegia Thomæ Gray." 4to. 1796. "The Elegies of R. Pedo Albinovanus, with an English version." 12mo. 1807. (Anonymous.)—Dr. Plumptre held the deanery till his death in 1825; when the Hon. E. Rice, D. D., succeeded.

The cathedral of Gloucester, in the magnificence of its structure, the symmetry of its component parts, and the exquisite taste of its ornamental workmanship, may justly be pronounced one of the most perfect specimens of gothic architecture, not only in this country, but in the world. Of the antiquity of this splendid edifice, the following summary, which is but a minute recapitulation of the parts assigned to the respective abbots in the previous detail, will afford the amplest proof, presenting at one view the date of the

original building, and the periods at which the various improvements were effected. In 1058, the crypt and aisles round the choir were built by Aldred, bishop of Worcester, who pulled down the decayed church, originally founded by Wulphere, and built by Osric. Abbot Serlo, who died in 1104, built the nave, with the exception of the vaulting and some portion of the transepts. In 1329, Abbot Thokey rebuilt the south aisle and vaulting of the nave. The west end of the church was added by Abbot Horton. The choir was rebuilt during the abbacy of John Boyfield; and to Abbot Froucester must be ascribed the completion of the celebrated cloisters, commenced by Horton. The magnificent tower* rising from the centre of the church, was designed by Seabroke, and finished by Tully, a monk of St. Peter's, afterwards bishop of St. David's. The lady's chapel was built by Hanley or Hauley, and Farleigh or Ferley, during their successive abbacies. When monasteries were dissolved by Henry VIII. and the bishopric founded by that monarch, the abbey church was in such excellent preservation,† that it was at once converted into a cathedral. "Few churches in England exhibit so complete a school of gothic, in all its gradations from the conquest, as the cathedral of Gloucester."‡ The length of the church, from east to west, is 420 feet, and its breadth, 144 feet. The length of the nave is 171 feet, and its breadth 84 feet. The length of the choir is 140 feet—of the transepts, or cross aisles, 66 feet. The length of our lady's chapel is 90 feet—its breadth 30 feet. The cloisters occupy 141 feet in length, and 130 feet in breadth; and Seabroke's tower, including its pinnacles, is 225 feet in height.§

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* "On the first floor of the tower, directly over the centre of the choir-vault is the Great Bell, certainly put up before the vaulting of the choir. On the outside is this inscription, "*Me fecit fieri muncutus nomine Petri,*" with the arms of the abbey and a coronet of fleurs de lis over them.—The words "*nomine Petri,*" refer to the baptism and nomination of the bell, a process then as usual as christening children. *Peter*, from the dedication of the church, was very properly the name of the Great Bell. The fifth and sixth bells were baptised *John* and *Mary*. The second and fourth bells are also old; the second has "*Sancte Petre ora pro nobis,*" (Saint Peter pray for us); the fourth, "*Sit nomen Domini benedictum,*" (Blessed be the name of the Lord); the fifth, "*In multis annis resonet Campana Johannis,*" (May the Bell of John resound for many years); the sixth, "*Sum Rosa pulsata mundi, Maria vocata,*" (I am the beaten Rose of the world, called Mary.)"—*Fosbroke.*

† "No conventual church in the kingdom, except that of Westminster, escaped so well."—*Rudder.*

‡ Dallaway.

§ The following table may give a more direct detail of its dimensions:

Total length and breadth of the cathedral	420 feet by	144 feet.
——— of the nave	171	84
——— of the choir	140	34
——— of the transepts each	66	43
——— of our Lady's chapel	90	30
Height of the tower to the leads	176 feet }	225
——— from the leads to the tops of the spires	49 }	
Total height of the choir	86	
—— of the nave	67	
—— of the side aisles	40	
—— of the Lady's chapel	47	
—— of the great window	87	
Length and breadth of the great cloisters	141	130

"The church of Gloucester is extremely interesting, as being one of the very few conventual edifices of the highest class which escaped the havoc of the dissolution. Its rulers appear to have been perpetually attentive to the repair or decoration of their church, and to have employed artists of skill and abilities at every period. Hence it happens not only that specimens of almost every variety of style are to be found in this church, but that these specimens are very perfect in their kind; and that the assemblage of the whole, though successively erected during a period of four hundred years, is grand and harmonious.—The disposition of the conventual edifice of Gloucester differs in a very essential point from almost every other in this kingdom, The cloisters and claustral buildings were generally placed on the south side of the church, for the obvious advantage both of shelter and sunshine. At Gloucester, the whole of them are now, and appear always to have been, on the north of the church." *

The choir, which, according to Dallaway, was finished by Abbot Boyfield, is thus described by the committee of antiquarians:—"The great elevation of the vault, the richness of its design, the elaborate tracery which covers the walls, and the vast expanse of the eastern window, render the choir an almost unrivalled specimen of the florid style of architecture. The design of the eastern window† is perhaps quite singular, and was probably owing to the necessity, or convenience, of founding the new work on the solid basis of the old Saxon substructions. Of this the architect has, however, made a most ingenious use. The fan-like expansion of the two eastern compartments of the side walls, and the bowed form of the east window itself, are extremely beautiful, and give a peculiar air of lightness and space to the termination of the church. Abbot Seabroke's magnificent tower is next in point of date, and similar in style to the choir. Great skill is manifested in the construction of the walls and the great exterior arches which bear the weight of the tower." Dallaway has justly observed, that "it is hardly possible to enter the choir, which includes every perfection to which the gothic had attained during the fifteenth century, without feeling the influence of veneration. In the nave

"The arched and ponderous roof,
"By its own weight made steadfast and immovable
"Looking tranquillity"—

renders the highly wrought ornaments of the choir more conspicuous and admirable. At the termination of the nave, under the tower, is the approach to the choir; and above the great arch is a window, between two vacant niches, richly sculptured. Over the high

* Report of the Committee appointed by the Society of Antiquaries.

† "This window was put up in the reign of Edward III, and cost 139l. 18s. at 1s. the square foot. It is said to be of the largest dimensions in England—The glass occupies a space of 78 feet 10 inches, by 35 feet 6 inches.—The arch has three chief divisions, terminating elliptically, the middle of which includes seven tiers of stained glass, now so extremely decayed and mutilated as to appear like the tissue of a carpet."

altar are angels in full choir, with every instrument of music practised in the fifteenth century. It is probable that the old vaulted ceiling was first painted of a deep azure colour, with stars of gold, which were condemned at the reformation, and concealed by a thick wash of lime." In the choir there are "thirty-one stalls of rich tabernacle work, carved in oak on either side, little inferior in point of execution to the episcopal throne at Exeter, and those at Windsor, erected in the reign of Edward IV. and allowed to be some of the finest pieces of gothic carving in wood now extant in England. Our Lady's Chapel beyond is more modern, but a continuation of the same plan. The interior is uncommonly elegant. Such a specimen of exuberant foliage, anterior to the reign of Henry VII., as the roofs display, is unique; particularly in contrast with the other parts of the church. It is evident that Bishop Aldred's fabric consisted of dimensions as extensive as the present, of which the vast substructions, still retaining many members of Saxon ornament, afford a sufficient proof. In the pavement before the high altar, we may notice a singular curiosity, being entirely composed of painted bricks, which were prepared for the kiln by the more ingenious monks, who have discovered accuracy in the pencilling of the armorial bearings, and fancy in the scrolls and rebuses which are the usual subjects. Most of these repeat the devices of Edward II., of the Clares, the Despensers, of the Earls of Gloucester, and of Abbot Seabroke."*

"The aisle surrounding the choir has nothing uncommon in its form or disposition below, but above this aisle the great peculiarity of the church occurs. The side aisles and eastern chapels are, in fact, including the crypts, three stories high, and all vaulted: and the upper range of chapels surrounding the choir, is perhaps not to be met with in any other church in Europe. The architectural effect of this upper tier of well-lighted chapels from the choir, into which they opened by noble semi-circular arches, must have been so rich, the light and shade so varied, and the perspective so full without confusion, that splendid and elaborate as the tracery is, which now, to use Mr. Warton's expressive words, 'is thrown over them like a web of embroidery,' we may still be allowed to regret the majestic simplicity of the original Saxon design; and that the expanse of the magnificent double arcades of the original structure is shut up, and reduced to the choir-like form the chapel now wears. In the nave the uniform and lofty range of columns is remarkable, and is scarcely to be found in any other church in this country, except the conventual one of Tewkesbury. The side aisles are by this unusual elevation of the columns much higher than is common in Saxon or Norman churches; and the space between the arches turned over the columns and the windows of the nave is much less than usual. Of the southern aisle the external elevation cannot be surpassed in lightness or richness of decoration. The buttresses, with the canopies and pedestals for statues, are peculiarly beautiful; and the form of the windows, and design of their tracery and enrich-

* Dallaway.

ments, render this part of the building a model of the purest style of the pointed architecture."*

"The Lady Chapel, built by Abbot Farleigh, about the year 1490, is the latest part of the church in date. Extreme ingenuity is displayed in the union of the chapel with the church. The light of the great eastern window is scarcely at all obscured by the building, though so close to it; and the line of junction, which is in one of its transverse mullions, is almost imperceptible from within the choir. A gallery of communication is also most artfully managed above, which connects the upper side aisles of the choir, passing between the great east window and the western window of the chapel, without touching either. This passage, which is a narrow stone gallery, 75 feet long, about three feet broad, and eight feet high within, is commonly known by the name of the *Whispering Gallery*, and has the property of transmitting sound along its walls to a very extraordinary degree. The lowest whisper, if the mouth be applied close to the wall, the lightest scratch with a pin on the stone, is distinctly heard from one end of the gallery to the other." Lord Bacon noticed this gallery as being very remarkable.† It forms five sides of an octagon. On the left side are the remains of an altar of rough stone, at which the abbot and others are supposed to have stood to witness the celebration of service within our lady's chapel. On the centre of the wall of the passage, the following lines are inscribed:

"Doubt not but GOD, who sits on high,
"Thy secret prayers can hear;
"When a dead wall thus cunningly
"Conveys soft whispers to the ear."

In the gallery of the south transept there is a very ancient and curious painting of "The Last Judgment," which was discovered some years ago behind the wainscoting of the nave. "Some of the angels are there represented singing from a score, and others playing on different instruments, particularly viols and lutes. At the entrance, which is through a circular arch, is stationed St. Peter with a couple of keys in his hand; in the upper part of the picture our Saviour is represented in a scarlet mantle, embroidered with gold, sitting on a rainbow, with his feet resting on the globe of the earth, and having an olive branch in his right hand, and a two-edged sword in his left. Underneath him are two angels blowing trumpets, to which is attached a label with the following inscription in text letters,

"Aryse, ye deade, and come to judgement."‡

* Report of the Antiquarian Committee.

† "I suppose there is some vault or hollow, or isle behind the wall, and some passage to it towards the farther end of that wall against which you speak, so as the voice of him that speaketh slideth along the wall, and then entereth at some passage, and communicateth with the air of the hollow; for it is preserved somewhat by the plain wall; but that it is too weak to give a sound audible, till it has communicated with the back air."—*Bacon.*

‡ Account of G. W. Counsell, Esq.—*Fosbroke.*

Of the numerous monuments which the cathedral contains, the tomb of King Edward II. is deservedly the most celebrated; and is probably the most finished piece of sculpture in England. "The delicacy of its execution is fully equal to the elegance of its form. The effigy of the unfortunate monarch is, for the period, of uncommon merit." "The design consists of three principal stories. First, the basement or tomb part, whereon the statue is laid. Second, the open screen supporting the canopy over the statue. Third, an upper open screen terminating with pinnacled canopies. In its length the screen has three arches, separated by clusters of pillars and buttresses of most elegant contrivance, which support the vault or canopy; and the design of the ends of the monument is an exact repetition of one of the lateral compartments in every particular. There is some difference in the work of the niches on each side of the basement; on the south side there are three niches, while on the north side there are but two, the centre division being filled up by an octangular bracket, on the top of which is an excavation, probably to receive the offerings made at this sacred memorial.—The sculpture of the statue is excellent, and probably equal to any thing of that period. The attitude is full of repose and dignity. In the right hand the sceptre, in the left the ball. On the head the crown supported by angels, at the feet a lion. The dress is a plain tunic reaching to the feet, with an open mantle over it. The statue has suffered little; the bottom of the sceptre is broken; the cross on the ball destroyed; the rays of the crown mutilated; and by the small cavities in the circlet, jewels must once have been there. The view of the profile of the head is beautiful; in the lines benign and placid."* Rysbrack visited this monument, and was struck with professional veneration for the talents of the sculptor.

Near King Edward's monument is the tomb of Abbot Parker, in a small chapel built by him for his burial place, on the north side of the choir. The abbot's effigy, mitred and in pontificals, surmounts the tomb, in the formation of which was discovered the body of Lady Strongbow, countess of Pembroke; and near the same place was found a cross wrapped in a bull's hide.

Between the north aisle and the choir is the monument raised by Abbot Parker to the memory of Osric, as the following inscription on the wall above it indicates:

"Osricus Rex, primus fundator hujus Monasterii, 681."

In a chapel nearly opposite is the effigy of Robert Curthose, duke of Normandy. He died in Cardiff castle, where he had been imprisoned twenty-six years; and his remains were at first interred in the centre of the choir, opposite the high altar, with a stone over them, on which a cross was marked; and this effigy was placed above it. It is formed of Irish oak, and, according to Gough, is the second oldest instance of the kind carved in wood. The effigy is in armour; the legs crossed. The coronet is composed of pearls,

* Carter.

fleurs-de-lis, and strawberry leaves, alternately, which is a mixture of those of French princes of the blood and ancient dukes. There is no crest, shield, or helmet. The surtout is Norman, as is the chain-mail and wheel spur. During the civil war, the figure was broken to pieces; but at the restoration, Sir Humphrey Tracey, of Stanway, who purchased the fragments, repaired the tomb.

On the right hand of the great west door stands the monument of Mr. John Jones, who was three times mayor of Gloucester, and burgess of parliament for the city at the time of the gunpowder plot. He was also registrar to eight succeeding bishops. It is said that when the effigy on this monument was nearly completed, (for it was raised in his life-time,) he came to see it, and finding fault with some feature of the face, he desired the workmen to alter it, whilst he took a turn or two in the body of the church. The alteration being accomplished, he was asked to look at it again, which he did; and on being informed that the monument was then finished, he said, "And so have I also;" then giving the workmen some money to drink, he requested the master to go home with him and receive payment for the work, which he did on that evening (Saturday); and, strange to say, Mr. Jones died on the Monday following.

In the body of the cathedral Mrs. Morley's monument engages universal admiration, and excites the deepest sympathy. It is beautifully wrought, and the effigy of the unfortunate lady, as she appears borne on the waves of the sea, with an infant in her arms while three angels are taking charge of her, and seeming almost to waft her with her child to heaven, is finely executed. The following inscription records her melancholy fate:—

"Sacred to the Memory of
Sarah Morley, Wife of James Morley, Esq.
of Bombay, in the East Indies, and Daughter of James Richardson, Esq.
of Newent, in this County.
Impelled by a tender and conscientious solicitude to discharge her parental duties in person, she embarked with her young family, when their health and education required their removal to England; and having sustained the pains of child-birth at sea, she died a few days after the event, on the 26th of May, 1784, in the 29th year of her age."

On the upper part of the monument is this passage from Revelations xx. 13.

"And the sea gave up the dead which were in it."

On the north side of the nave, close to the transept, "is the tomb of Alderman Blackleach and his wife, in white marble, upon a slab of touch-stone, the figures of which are portraits scrupulously copied from Vandyck, and very finely finished"—supposed to have been sculptured by Le Sueur.

Near Blackleach's monument is the curious monument of Alderman Machen, who had been three times mayor of the city. On it appear the effigies of Machen and his wife; and underneath, on his side the effigies of their seven sons, and on hers the effigies of their six daughters—all kneeling.

Governor White's monument is rendered remarkable by an acrostic, in which his services are detailed. He was appointed governor of Berkeley castle, in the rebellion; and killed at Ragland castle, in 1646:

" W hat man more valiant was than he that lies
I ntombed here after his victories:
L et such as his undaunted courage knew,
L ive to report, and witness what is true:
I n famous Berkeley Castle he was known
A s Governour, though aged but twenty-one:
M aintaining still the cause with much renown
W hich he at first, for right and just did own.
H is name and house since conquering William's days
I s registred, his life's deserving praise,
T ill death at Ragland Castle by a wound,
E nded his days, that so he might be crown'd."

In the south aisle there is a monument, supported by columns, with the effigies of a man kneeling, in the habit of a lawyer, with a child behind him, and a woman with three children behind her, with this inscription:

" Richardus Pates, Arm. huic nuper civitati a memoriâ, qui vixit annos 73, et obijt 29 Octob. 1588: sibi et conjugi et natis suis posuit."

This is the memorial of Richard Pates, Esq. the founder of the free grammar school of Cheltenham.

In the north transept is the following curious inscription:

" Memento Mori.

" Vayne Vanity, witness Solomon, all is but vayne. Richard, Guy, Giles, Thomas, Thomas, Kingston, Peter, John, John, Anna, Margaret, Dorothy, Eliz, Nanfan, Katherine, Joane. John Boyer had nyne sons and seven daughters by his wife Ann Boyer. John Boyer departed this life the 28 day of January, A.D. 1615. Ann Boyer departed this life upon the first day of December, A.D. 1613."

On one side of the steps going round the choir is the monument of Gower, who, with his son, completed the gothic work of the church. The figure of the old man has a budget of tools before him, and his effigy supports the monument, at the summit of which " is the figure of the son hanging to groin work," as having decorated the top of the church.

A handsome monument has been erected near the western door by the numerous friends of the late Charles Brandon Trye, Esq., (see Leckhampton,) a surgeon of the highest eminence, " as a public and lasting mark of their regret for his loss, and veneration for his memory."

In November 1825, a marble statue was erected at the west end of the nave, to the memory of Dr. Jenner. It is placed immediately before the first pier on the south side. The philanthropist is represented in the gown of his Oxford degree, which admirably displays the drapery so arranged as to render unobtrusive the ungraceful forms of modern costume, and at the same time to impart to the figure a degree of height and dignity.

In the right hand, which crosses the body and supports a fold of the gown, the artist has placed a scroll; and the left, which drops carelessly by the side, holds the appropriate academical cap. The figure is beautifully sculptured, and distinguished by classical elegance and simplicity; and so skilfully wrought as to convey to the mind of the spectator no faint idea of that spirit of philanthropy which ever actuated the illustrious discoverer of vaccination. The statue is seven feet in height, placed upon a pedestal and base of eight feet. Upon the die of the pedestal is simply inscribed

"EDWARD JENNER,"

with the time and place of his birth and death—eulogium being an unnecessary accompaniment to a name which is never breathed but with blessings, and which has won its way to the remotest corners of the habitable globe.

Nearly at the same time a splendid monument was erected on the south side of the aisle, to the memory of the highly-respected Sir George Onesiphorous Paul, Bart. It is immediately opposite to Flaxman's beautiful specimen of statuary raised to the memory of Mrs. Morley; and is composed of a sarcophagus, seven feet in length, resting on claws and supported by pilasters, which bound the inscription-table on either side. The sarcophagus is surmounted by a fine marble bust of the deceased. The table contains the following inscription:

"To the memory of Sir GEORGE ONESIPHORUS PAUL, Baronet, who died January 16th, 1820, aged 74 years. A man endeared to his friends by many virtues, both public and private; but who claims this mark of local respect by having first reduced to practice the principles which have immortalized the name of Howard: for to the object of this memorial, it is to be ascribed that this County has become the example and model of the best system of Criminal Discipline, in which provident regulation has banished the use of fetters, and health been substituted for contagion; thus happily reconciling humanity with punishment, and the prevention of crime with individual reform."

Against the south wall of the lady's chapel, a magnificent white marble monument displays the effigy, in his judge's robes, of Sir John Powell—a native of the city of Gloucester, which he represented in parliament in 1685. In 1687, he was made one of the justices of the Common Pleas, and knighted; and in the following year he was removed to the Court of King's Bench, in which he sat at the memorable trial of the seven bishops, when he distinguished himself so much by deciding against the king's dispensing power, that he was deprived of his office by James II. in 1688. But William III. restored him to the bench in the Common Pleas, having previously made him a baron of the Exchequer. Queen Anne advanced him to the Queen's Bench, in 1702, and there he sat until his death, which took place in 1713, at Gloucester, on his return from Bath. Swift, who met him at Lord Oxford's, entertained a high respect for him, and mentioned him as an "old fellow with grey hairs, who was the merriest old gentleman I ever saw, spoke pleasing things, and chuckled till he cried again." He was a sound lawyer, and much befriended the citizens of Gloucester; and was to the close of his life a man of pleasant humour. Although the laws against witchcraft were not repealed in his day, he once

very ingeniously evaded them. Jane Wenman, an old woman, was brought before him to be tried as a witch, possessing the power of flying through the air—an accusation which her persecutors had the hardihood to strengthen with an oath. Powell said to her, "Prisoner, is it true that you can fly?" She replied, "Yes, my lord." "Then," said he, "fly you may, for there is no law against flying;" and he directed the jury to acquit her.

The following beautiful epitaph is in the same chapel:

"Within this urn an infant nine months old
Is laid in dust. God takes his purest gold
First to himself, we all are but as flowers,
That spring and grow, and fade in a few hours."

There is something extraordinary in the continued rhyme of the first of the following epitaphs; and in the quaint turn of the second:

"Elizabeth, sole daughter of Thomas Harvey, Gent. first wife to James Powell, and second wife to Edward Harvey, Esq. lies here deposited Feb. 1612.

Twice married, once buried, here lies
Her body, whose sweet soul above the skies
Immortalized doth rest, with longing eyes
Expecting when the body shall arise;
That re-united they may sympathise
In endless joy, to all eternities."

"Here lies the body of Samuel Bridger, Gent. who departed this life upon the 21st day of July, 1650.

Receiver of this College rents, he paid
His Debt to Nature, and beneath he's laid
To rest until his summons to remove
At the last Audit, to the Choir above."

The monuments of Bishops Nicholson, Goldsborough, and Smith, are also in the lady's chapel.

In the cloisters, a flat stone records that, in a vault beneath, enclosed in a coffin, is deposited the heart of Major Davy, who died at sea as he was returning from the East Indies; having directed with his last breath, that this relic should be conveyed in a silver urn, by the hand of a faithful friend, to his beloved wife:—It is said that her affliction was not quite inconsolable; for after mourning for some time over the last pledge of his love, she consigned the cold and pulseless heart to the grave, and became the wife of her late husband's friend.

Of the other religious foundations in Gloucester, the most memorable were—St. Oswald's, said to have been built by King Merval and his Queen Domneva, about the year 660, in honour of the glorious king and martyr: the church* was destroyed by the ar-

* From the superabundance of the original ornaments, it was commonly called the Golden Church.

tillery of the royal army during the siege of Gloucester.*—The priory of Lanthony, of which some portion of the ruins may still be seen, (and it is evident that they are the vestiges of a beautiful piece of architecture,) was founded in 1136, as a place of refuge for a fraternity of Austin canons, originally established at Lanthony, in Wales,† by William, a knight of Hugh de Lacy, and Ernesi, a chaplain of Maud, wife of the conqueror. The canons were so pleased with their new habitation, that they refused to return to Wales, and removed every thing that was ornamental or valuable, from their old church, even the bells, notwithstanding their weight. Amongst the priors of Lanthony were some very eminent men.‡ Although this edifice on the banks of the Severn at first was intended merely as a cell to the monastery in Monmouthshire, and was so confirmed by King John, who was one of its most munificent benefactors, and conferred upon it several extensive grants of land; yet in the reign of Edward IV. both houses were united by charter; and Lanthony, near Gloucester, became the principal, whilst the monks in Wales were obliged to maintain only a residentiary prior and four canons to say masses in the old priory, which became a cell to the new house. "One of the priors," says Fosbroke, "from fear of the usual inundations of the Severn, built a house not far from the priory, and called it New Ark, from allusion to the deluge." Upon the site of this monastic edifice a modern house has been erected, which suffered considerably during the siege of Gloucester.—In digging the Berkeley and Gloucester Canal, the foundations of the old church of Lanthony were discovered, and some bodies disturbed, but no stones appeared which could ascertain by inscription the names or dates of any of them. Several coins also of the lower empire were found.§

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* In the church-yard of St. Oswald's there was the following—

"Here lyeth old Mr. Richard Tully,
Who lived C and 3 years fully;
He did the sword of the City beare
Before the Mayor thirty-one yeare:
Fower wives he had, and here they lye,
All waiting heaven's eternitie."

† "At Ewias, in the north part of Monmouthshire, is a solitary place, among woods, rocks, and vallies, where St. David, bishop of Menevia, in Pembrokeshire, built a small chapel and cell in the sixth century, and lived many years retired from the world, by the side of the brook Hothesi; and in process of time the name was corrupted to Lanthony. After the death of St. David the place was desolate and uninhabited. But in the year 1103, Hugh de Laci, an Englishman, going hunting that way, with many knights, gentlemen, and attendants, was led into that valley, and one of those knights of the name of William, admiring the solitude, and seeing a chapel already built, took a resolution to forsake the world, and devote himself to an hermetical life there. And having lived some years in that manner he became so famous for his austerity and holiness, that Ernesi, who was chaplain to Queen Maud, and a person of considerable account in the court of Henry I. took a journey to visit him; and being highly pleased with his holy conversation, and place of retirement, became his associate."—*Rudder.*

‡ Henry Deen, or Deane, born in the vicinity of Gloucester, was made prior in the reign of Edward IV., and chancellor of Ireland, 2d Henry VII. He became successively bishop of Bangor and of Salisbury, and archbishop of Canterbury. He died in 1502.

§ Rudge.

The Black Friers, founded in 1239, by Henry III. and Sir Stephen de Harnhuall; but soon after the dissolution, the site of the friery was granted by Henry VIII. to Sir Thomas Bell, who converted it into a manufactory, in which the business of cap-making was carried on so extensively that at one time no less than three hundred persons were employed there.

The Grey Friers, according to Leland, was eastward of the church of St. Mary de Crypt. The priory of Lanthony conveyed to Thomas, lord Berkeley, and William de Cheltenham, (his steward,) some tenements in the Southgate-street, upon which the friery was founded by his lordship. After the dissolution, the site was granted to John Jennings—and during the siege, when some part thereof was inhabited by Governor Massie, the buildings sustained considerable injury.

The White Friers, or college of Carmelites, was founded in the reign of Henry III. by Queen Eleanor, Sir Thomas Gifford, and Sir Thomas Berkeley.* The total ruin of the friery and of its walls, which were near the meadow called the Frier's ground, was effected in the civil war.

St. Aldate's was a low-spired church, covered with shingles, and supposed to have been the original chapel and palace of Eldad, bishop of Gloucester. It was pulled down during the commonwealth, and with the materials St. Michael's church was repaired.

St. Mary de Grace church, stood in Westgate-street, on the place now called the Knapp, and appropriated to the vegetable and fish markets. In 1648, the church was converted into a magazine for ammunition, and was taken down in 1652-3, that the materials might be used in the repairs of St. Michael's.

The Church of the Holy Trinity stood between St. Mary de Grace and the High Cross, in the Westgate-street;—it was used as a prison for the prisoners taken from Lord Herbert, during the siege of Gloucester; but after the restoration, the church was in so ruinous a condition that it was taken down, with the exception of the "beautiful tower at the west end," which, as Furney says, remained "an ornament to the city, and was employed for the ringing of the public bell, and beneath a fair conduit was erected in 1701-2." But in a few years afterwards, the tower and the high cross were taken down, in pursuance of an act 23d George II. for the improvement of the city; and the materials purchased for the purpose of rebuilding the church at Upton-upon-Severn. A house in Gore-lane, given by Richard Pates, Esq. to Corpus Christi college, Oxford, as part of the endowment of the free grammar school and hospital at Cheltenham, was anciently called Trinity college, wherein all the priests of Trinity church used to reside.

All-Saints, or Allhallows, another ancient but small church, consisting of one aisle, was converted into the Tolsey.

St. Owen's church stood outside the South-gate, and was founded by Walter, earl of

* Stowe ascribes the foundation exclusively to Sir Thomas Berkeley.

Gloucester. It was burned down when the citizens set fire to the suburbs, at the commencement of the siege in August 1643.

There were formerly eleven parish churches in Gloucester, of which there now remain:—

St. John Baptist, with its handsome spire, standing at the lower end of the Upper Northgate-street. It was built in 1732-4, on the site of an old church said to have been founded by King Ethelstan—the steeple of which, however, was preserved. In this church were the brazen effigies of John Semys, with his two wives and several children; and bearing this inscription:

"Here under buried John Semys lyeth,
Which had two wives, the first Elizabeth,
And by her vi. soonnes and daughters five;
Then after by Agnes his second wive,
Eight soonnes, seven daughters, godde's plente,
The full numbre in all of six and twentie.
He passed to GOD in the moneth of August,
The thousand five hundred and fortie yere just."

St. Mary de Crypt,* also called Christ Church, and St. Mary in the South—was built by Robert Chichester, bishop of Exeter, upon the site of some tenements held by his predecessor Osborne; and it was conveyed to the priory of Lanthony. In St. Mary's chapel, against the south wall, there is a raised tomb, upon the verge of which is inscribed:

"Dame Joane Bell, the wydowe of Syr Thomas Bell, Knyght, hath caused this Tombe to be made, and fynished the same the xiiij. day of Iune, in the yere of ower LORD GOD, 1567.

On the tomb is the following inscription:

"Berefte this lyfe here lyeth under stone
Syr Thomas Bell, whylom a Knyght of fame;
Who lyuinge here gaue foode to many a one,
And eke behynde prouision for the same
Hathe lefte in store, for euer to be hadd,
Amonge the pore that here in towne shall dwell.
Off lyme and stone an Almes-howse hath he made
For sixe pore folks and buylt the same full well,
Here in this streat faste by the Southerne yate,
And hath the same with lyuelyhoode endewede,
That aye shall last, and neuer shall abate,
Thriese wt. free noice eke hath this towne allowde
This worthy man a Mayor's rome to wealde,
And thriese him cald in Parlement to sytt,
Forre wealthe of them in rest at home that dwelde.
And nowe hathe deathe his worthy trayuayle quyte
When he had runne of fowerscore yeres the race,

* "It seems to have received the name of Crypt, which signifies a vault or charnel-house from the vaults under it, of which there are two."—*Rudder.*

Whose spryte in Maye, as pleasyd God prefyxe,
The syxe and twentie daye, and yere of grace
A thowsand fyue hundred threscore and syxe,
This ayer fled into the heauenly skye,
Where he, God graunt, an euerlasting tyme
In joye may lyue, and never more to dye."

St. Mary de Lode, called also St. Mary before the Gate of St. Peter, St. Mary Broadgate, and St. Mary de Port—is a very ancient and handsome edifice. With the sanction of Popes Urban VI. and Boniface IX. the revenues of this church, which were 40 marks, were appropriated to the service of the abbey of St. Peter; and the vicar and his successors were allowed corrody* of five marks yearly, hay† for one horse, and entertainment for himself, a chaplain, a deacon, and two clerks, at the abbey table, on certain festivals. In the north wall of the chancel, there is "an ancient mural monument," on which appears the effigy of a religious person, habited like a monk, with the arms crossed upon the breast. This, according to an absurd tradition, was said to have been erected to the memory of King Lucius. Rudder observes, that the effigy is attired like that of Bishop Aldred in the cathedral, and was probably intended for some benefactor to the church. During the civil war of 1641, several sacrilegious persons broke open the tomb in hopes of finding some valuable treasure—but they were disappointed. The low square tower was in former days surmounted by a lofty spire, which "was demolished by a storm." In the square between the church and St. Peter's gate, was the scene of Hooper's martyrdom.

St. Michael's church, situated at the central division of the city, where it forms the corner building of the Eastgate and Southgate streets, is truly ornamental to Gloucester. It belonged, of old, to the see of Exeter; as Furney states that Peter, bishop of Exeter, sold it, in 1285, together with the chapel of St. Martin depending upon it, to St. Peter's abbey. There was in this church (which now consists of two aisles of equal dimensions and a square tower), a chantry dedicated to St. Anne, another chantry dedicated to St. Mary, and a hall in the Eastgate-street, inhabited by a society of brethren and sisters, dedicated to St. John Baptist.

St. Nicholas' church, situated on the north side of the Westgate-street, was supposed to have been built by King John, when he was earl of Gloucester, before he ascended the throne. This conjecture was founded upon the circumstance of a mural coronet appearing on the spire which surmounts the square tower. Queen Eleanor, with the concurrence of Henry III. gave the church to St. Bartholomew's hospital—and the grant was confirmed by the bull of Pope Gregory.

In 1823, the new church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, was built near the Spa.

St. Bartholomew's alms-house, a neat building between St. Nicholas' church and

* "Money or provision due to the king, from an abbey or religious house, as he is founder, for the maintenance of one that he appoints"—*Bayle*.

† "*Pay* for one horse," according to Rudder.

Westgate-bridge, was founded by Henry III. "When the Westgate-bridge was building, Nicholas Walred, the architect, formed the workmen into a college of hermits, who were afterwards incorporated into a regular form; Nicholas Myparty, a burgess, building them a house, and King Henry III. endowing it."* It was refounded by Queen Elizabeth, through the influence of R. Pates, Esq. recorder of Gloucester.

St. Kyneburgh's hospital, in St. Owen's parish, was founded prior to the conquest. Sir Thomas Bell, who purchased the chapel, built five tenements on its site, for the maintenance of six poor people.

St. Margaret's hospital was anciently called the hospital of the lepers of St. Sepulchre. Its founder is unknown. The old hall of the prior's lodging, which had been converted into a barn in 1588, was very much damaged during the siege; some of the king's troops having taken up their quarters in the hospital.

St. Mary Magdalen's, or King James's hospital, on the north of St. Margaret's, was founded by one of the priors of Lanthony.

The house of industry was originally founded by Timothy Nourse, Esq. in the year 1702-3, and subsequently placed by act of parliament under the management and direction of a governor,† deputy governor, treasurer, and six assistants, chosen annually. The principal employment of the poor is pin-making.

The infirmary, a noble institution, founded and supported by voluntary contributions,‡ was built under the auspices of the late Lord Boutetort, and the Hon. and Rev. Dr. Talbot, and is situated at the lower end of Southgate-street.

The lunatic asylum, a fine building of modern erection, stands on the left of the London road, on the approach to Gloucester.

The first Sunday school in this country was established in Gloucester, by the late Robert Raikes, Esq. with whom the plan originated. These schools now exist in every parish of the city.

At the poor school, in the Lower Northgate-street, under the direction of the corporation and guardians of the poor, 200 boys are instructed in reading, writing and accounts.

The national school was founded by voluntary subscription, in 1816, when the foundation-stone was laid by the Duke of Wellington. The Duke of Beaufort is the patron, and the Bishop of the Diocese vice-president.

The Blue-coat hospital was founded by Sir Thomas Rich, Bart. a native of Gloucester, who gave to the mayor and burgesses his house in the Eastgate-street, for the yearly maintenance of the school. The hospital becoming much decayed, it was handsomely rebuilt in the year 1807—and is now very ornamental to the street.

* One of the priors of this house was Thomas Sterubold, translator of the psalms.

† Sir John Powell, Justice of the King's Bench, was the first governor.

‡ The crown granted a considerable quantity of timber from the Forest of Dean for this charitable purpose.

The free grammar school of St. Mary de Crypt, was founded in pursuance of the will of Alderman John Cook, and built by his widow. In 1683, George Townsend, Esq. founded two perpetual exhibitions, for two exhibitioners in eight years to Pembroke college, Oxford; and one exhibitioner is now elected every four years. Many eminent men have been masters, tutors, and pupils of this school.

THE EARLDOM OF GLOUCESTER.—Rudder affirms that "there is no earldom in the kingdom so ancient as this of Gloucester. Eldol, or Edel, the Briton, by some called earl, by others, duke and consul, was earl of this place in the year 461; and attended King Vortigern at the treaty of peace at Ambresbury, in Wiltshire, to which they were invited by Hengist the Saxon; when it was agreed that neither party should go armed; but the Saxons concealing long knives under their clothes, murdered great numbers of the Britons." On this occasion, Eldol snatched up a large stake and laid about him with such courage that he slew not less than seventy of their dastardly assailants; broke the heads, arms and limbs of many more, and reached his city of Gloucester in safety.—In 489, when the desperate battle was fought between Ambrosius, the British king, and Hengist; Eldol charged through the midst of the Saxon army, captured Hengist, and as the reward of his previous treachery, beheaded him.—In the reign of Edward the Confessor, Swaine, or Suane, eldest son of Godwin, earl of Kent, was earl of Gloucester, and undertook a barefoot pilgrimage to Jerusalem, to expiate the murder of his kinsman Beorne, but taking cold on his return, he died at Licia in 1053.—The first earl after the conquest was Robert Milhent, or Fitz Roy, sometimes called Robert Rufus, the natural son of Henry I. by Nesta, the beautiful daughter of Rhees ap Tudor. He was created earl and consul of Gloucester, in 1109, on his marriage with Mabel, eldest daughter of Robert Fitz Hamon. We are told of this distinguished character, that he possessed "no inconsiderable tincture of learning, and was the patron of all who excelled in it;" that "he was unquestionably the wisest man of those times; and his virtue was such that even those times could not corrupt it. If when the nation was grown equally tired of Matilda and of Stephen, he had aspired to obtain the crown for himself, he might very possibly have gained it from both; but he thought it less glorious to be a king, than to preserve his fidelity and honour inviolate."* Robert distinguished himself by his heroic and chivalrous exploits in the cause of his sister Matilda. When King Stephen was defeated in 1140, he refused to surrender to any one but Earl Robert; and when the latter was taken prisoner in the succeeding year, though an offer was made to exchange him for the king, he would not accept his liberty without the concurrence of the empress. He died at Gloucester of a fever, in the year 1147, and was succeeded in the earldom by his eldest son William, who was appointed governor of Warham castle in his father's lifetime. He for some time carried on a furious contest with Ivor, surnamed Bach, "a little

* Lyttleton's Life of Henry II.

man of stature but exceedingly courageous, who kept himself chiefly in the woods and mountains, of which Earl William sought to dispossess him. Whilst the latter was in fancied security in the castle of Cardiff, garrisoned by " one hundred and twenty soldiers, besides a large number of archers," Ivor came by night and scaling the high walls, carried off the earl with his countess and their infant son, whom he took in captivity to the woods, refusing to release them till ample restitution was made of all that had been wrested from him. Rapin says, that this earl, for some unknown reason, was unwilling that his inheritance should be divided amongst females, and " being at Windleshore, or Windsor, on the 4th or 6th of the kalends of October, in 1176, he constituted for his heir John, commonly called Sans Terre, or Lackland, fourth son of King Henry II., whose favourite child he was. John married Isabel, one of the daughters of Earl William, and afterwards becoming king of England, he obtained a divorce, and sold his wife with a part of her inheritance, for 20,000 marks, to Geoffrey de Mandeville, earl of Essex, whom he created earl of Gloucester ; Geoffrey soon afterwards joined the barons when they took up arms against the king, upon which he was excommunicated by the pope. He was killed by a Frenchman at a tournament held in London. Isabel survived him, and became the wife of Hugh de Burgh, justice of England; but dying without issue, the earldom descended, in her right, to her nephew Almeric, who did not long enjoy the title ; which at his death became vested in Gilbert de Clare, who had married Amice, another of Earl William's daughters ; and he was the first who held jointly the earldoms of Gloucester and Hertford. Gilbert was likewise associated with the barons in opposition to King John, and was one of the twenty-five noblemen who seized the city of London, and assumed the direction of affairs. He was with others excommunicated by the pope. Adhering to the cause of Lewis, he was taken prisoner at the battle of Lincoln, and conveyed to Gloucester. Earl Gilbert was also (according to Camden) one of the leaders who first invaded Ireland; and dying on his return from that expedition, was buried in Tewkesbury abbey, to which he had been a considerable benefactor. His eldest son Richard, who succeeded him, took up arms with other barons to compel Henry III. to restore the charters claimed by the Duke of Cornwall. In 1240, he went to the Holy Land, in defiance of the pope's prohibition. He was afterwards knighted by Henry III. By him the Augustine friars were first brought into England.*—He attended the pope at Lyons ; and was afterwards sent by the king into Scotland, " together with John Mansel the king's secretary, on the behalf of the king of Scotland and the queen, sister to King Henry, then kept in restraint within the castle of Edenborough, where he behaved with great subtilty ; for leaving his attendants at a distance, he got into the castle without any opposition, and surprising the guard, gave entrance to his followers, so that the king and queen were soon relieved and rescued. In 40th Henry III. he was one of the chief per-

* *Rudder.*

sons present in Westminster-hall with the king, when Boniface, archbishop of Canterbury, with divers other bishops, pronounced that solemn curse, with candles lighted, against all those who should henceforth violate the great charter, and charter of the forests." When the Welsh insurrection took place, 41st Henry III., Earl Richard was appointed commander in chief of all the army in Glamorganshire, Pembrokeshire, &c. In the following year, poison was treacherously administered to him, and to his brother William who died in consequence; but the earl escaped with his life, although his hair, nails and skin came off. In 1258, he was chosen one of the twelve barons to reform the kingdom; and was subsequently appointed, with other lords, to attend the general convention of the states of France to tender King Henry's resignation of the kingdom of Normandy, and to treat for peace. His son, Gilbert de Clare, who succeeded him, was called Gilbert the Red, from the colour of his hair. He associated with the Earl of Leicester and the barons opposed to the king, and was one of the framers of the unreasonable ordinances entitled "Provisiones Oxonij," purporting to divest the king of all power. He held a command at the battle of Lewes, when Henry III. and Prince Edward were made prisoners. In 1264, he sent the King of the Romans, whom he had taken prisoner, in custody to the priory of Lewes; and extorted a commission from King Henry, by which he was authorised, with the Bishop of Chichester, to nominate nine persons for the administration of affairs: but being dissatisfied with the conduct of Leicester, who refused to allow him half the ransom of their prisoners, and besides aspired to the crown, De Clare endeavoured to rescue the king, and was mainly instrumental in obtaining the prince's liberty. He commanded the second brigade at the battle of Evesham; but again falling off from his allegiance, he joined some discontented lords, seized the city of London, besieged the pope's legate, and took the tower. By the mediation of the King of the Romans, he became reconciled to the king, who received him into full favour, "whereupon he was signed with the sign of the cross at Northampton, for the expedition to the Holy Land." He afterwards obtained from Prince Edward recompense for all the costs and expences he sustained at Evesham; and became so great a favourite at court, that during the absence of the prince, who was then engaged in a crusade, the king on his death-bed appointed him regent of the kingdom. The earl, at the head of the nobility, proclaimed King Edward at the New Temple; and at the funeral of Henry, he went with the clergy and the nobles, and the people, up to the altar at Westminster, and swore allegiance to the king, whom he entertained sumptuously on his return to England. He signally defeated the Welsh insurgents at Lantilawir, and was afterwards visited by the king, in 1285, at his castle in Glamorgan. He married first, in extreme youth, Alice de March, niece of Henry III., from whom he was divorced; and secondly, Joan of Acres, second daughter of King Edward. His widow Joan, soon after his death, clandestinely married Ralph de Monthermer, or Mortimer, who is said to have been one of Gilbert's servants. The king, her father, was at first much incensed by the debase-

ment of such a marriage; but he became reconciled to De Monthermer, and gave him livery of all lands belonging to the earldom, and he was summoned to parliament by the title of earl of Gloucester and Hertford; but afterwards, when Gilbert, the son of Gilbert the Red, attained his majority, as a baron only. Gilbert, earl of Gloucester. was summoned to parliament as "the knight, nephew Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester and Hertford." In 1307, he commanded the army that marched against Bruce, king of Scotland, by whom he was compelled to retreat, and besieged in the castle of Ayr. In 1311, the nobles assembled at Bedford appointed Gilbert "keeper of England," and 4th Edward II., guardian of the realm, whilst the king was absent in his Scottish wars. In the disputes between Edward and the barons, he observed a strict neutrality, and often acted as mediator. In 1313, when the king went to France, the earl was appointed regent, and was afterwards ambassador to the French court.—Commanding the king's vanguard at the battle of Bannockburn, Gilbert rushed impetuously upon the enemy, and was killed in the twenty-third year of his age. The Scotch king sent his body without any price or ransom to King Edward, and his remains were interred in Tewkesbury abbey. —The earldom of Gloucester, "which was called the second pillar of the kingdom of England," was, upon his death, divided into three baronies, and settled upon his three sisters, the eldest of whom married Hugh le Despenser, who endeavoured to wrest the other portions of the earldom from the coheiresses. He possessed fifty nine lordships, and was lord chamberlain, and the principal favourite of Edward II.; but for his mal-practices, he was, in 1326, by the queen's orders, drawn on a hurdle through the streets of Hereford, hanged on a gallows fifty feet high, beheaded and quartered, and his four quarters sent to several places in the kingdom, and his head fixed upon London bridge.—Hugh de Audley, who married Margaret, the sister of Gilbert de Clare, was created earl of Gloucester, and accompanied Edward III. in the French wars, (13 Edward III.) when he was appointed a marshal of the English army. In the following year he was actively engaged in the memorable sea fight before Sluyce. When Loughmaban castle was besieged, he was one of the leaders sent with the earl of Lancaster to raise the siege. By the marriage of his daughter with Ralph, lord Stafford, the earldom passed into that family; and Rudder observes, "'Tis remarkable that the first mention made in a charter of creation of an earl of some revenue given to him out of the profits of the county, for the better support of his dignity, is that expressly mentioned in the creation charter of this earl."—Thomas of Woodstock, sixth son of Edward III., was advanced by his nephew Richard II., to the dignity of duke of Gloucester, with a grant of 1000l. per annum. "The ceremony of his creation was performed at Hoslelow Lodge, in Tividale, by girding with a sword, and putting a cap with a circle of gold upon his head."—He was appointed constable of England; and in the reign of Richard II., knight of the garter. In 1394, he assembled a parliament at Westminster in the king's name. He was appointed by parliament and the king, with fourteen others, to inspect the affairs of

the kingdom from the period of his father's death. When the Archbishop of Canterbury was made lord chancellor, he granted the government of the realm with royal power to the Duke of Gloucester, who was afterwards delegated with others to depose the king. But the violence of his temper and his ambition rendering him dangerous as a partisan, he was, at Calais, smothered between two feather beds, by the procurement of the king, who mortally hated him. One of his murderers, Thomas Mowbray, earl of Nottingham, was banished for life by King Richard, on the very day twelvemonth after the murder.—Thomas le Despenser, great grandson of Hugh Despenser, was created earl of Gloucester, 21st Richard II. He persecuted the late duke, and afterwards assisted at the deposition of King Richard; notwithstanding which, he was attainted of high treason, 1st Henry IV. and beheaded at Bristol. Humphrey, of Lancaster, the youngest son of Henry IV., was created duke of Gloucester, and used to style himself "son, brother, and uncle of kings, duke of Gloucester, earl of Pembroke, and lord high chamberlain of England;" and was distinguished by his personal prowess and bravery. He was lieutenant of the kingdom, 5th and 10th of Henry V., and protector of his nephew Henry VI.; but he was ruined by court intrigues, and being summoned to parliament in 1447, he was arrested by the high constable of England, the duke of Buckingham, and others, and closely confined. He was found dead in his bed on the following night, without any external marks of violence on the body; although it is surmised that he was u ffocated in the same manner as Thomas of Woodstock, Humphrey was so excellent, so good, and so exemplary a man that he was called "the Great Duke of Gloucester." Soon after the coronation of Edward IV., his brother Richard Plantagenet was created duke of Gloucester, and soon after his appointment to the protectorship of his nephews, whom he caused to be murdered, he usurped the throne, and became Richard III.—"Out of respect to the city, after he was king, he erected a herald king at arms, by the name of Gloucester, and submitted all Wales to his jurisdiction."—Henry of Oatlands, youngest son of King Charles I., was declared duke of Gloucester by his father; but he was not so created until the year 1659. He died in September 1660, and was buried in the chapel of Henry VII. at Westminster.—William Henry, only son of George, prince of Denmark, and the Princess Anne, (afterwards queen of England,) was immediately after his christening declared duke of Gloucester, by his uncle King William III. but he died in the twelfth year of his age. His royal highness Prince William Henry, third son of his royal highness Frederick Lewis, prince of Wales, was created by patent dated Nov. 10, 1764, duke of Gloucester and Edinburgh, earl of Connaught, G.C., field-marshal of his majesty's forces, colonel of the first regiment of foot guards, chancellor of the university of Dublin, ranger and keeper of Cranborne Chace, ranger of Hampton-court park, lord warden and keeper of the New Forest, Hampshire. His royal highness died August 25, 1805, and was succeeded by his eldest son, his royal highness William Frederick, duke of Gloucester and Edinburgh, earl of Connaught, K.G., G.C.B., F.R.S., and D.C.L.; chancellor of the uni-

versity of Cambridge, field-marshal in the army, colonel of the third regiment of foot guards, and ranger of Bagshot Park and Walk. His royal highness was born at Rome, January 15, 1776, and married July 22, 1816, at the queen's palace, Buckingham house, to his cousin, her royal highness Princess Mary, fourth daughter of the late king, George III., and sister of his present majesty.

The foundation of the county hall, a magnificent structure, and the principal feature in the modern public buildings of Gloucester, was commenced in the year 1814, under the superintendence of Mr. Smirke, by whom the elevation was designed, and to whose taste the elegance and graceful simplicity of the edifice are most creditable. The front in Westgate-street is decorated by four elegant Ionic columns, and in the Bare-land, at the extent of three hundred feet from the main entrance, there is another approach. The grand central entrance for the public is 100 feet in length, and 15 feet wide. The entrance appropriated to the judges, magistrates, jurors, counsel and attornies, is a spacious passage on the west side of the portico; the record-room, and the offices of the clerk of the peace, being on the east. At the end of the centre corridor, flights of stone steps lead up to an extensive room, 87 feet in length, 54 feet wide, and 34 feet in height, in which the music meetings of the three choirs of Worcester, Hereford and Gloucester are held. At the upper end of the hall the royal arms are displayed, and opposite to them, over the doors, is a finely sculptured bas-relief, 40 feet in length, representing King John in the act of signing Magna Charta.

The new county gaol occupies the site of the old castle,* which is said to have been originally erected in the reign of the conqueror, by Walter, constable of England, on so extensive a scale that sixteen houses were taken down to make room for its foundation. The remains of the castle having for some time been deemed insufficient for the safe keeping, (and, from the want of accommodation, injurious to the health,) of the prisoners, an investigation was instituted, and in 1785, an act of parliament was obtained, by virtue of which "this great national model for prison reform," and the first practical result of the philanthropic Howard's plan, was built, from the design, and under the direction, of the late Sir G. O. Paul, Bart. The gaol is divided into three compartments—the penitentiary, the bridewell, and the sheriff's prison—which are all distinctly and justly regulated, under the superintendence of the chaplain, the governor, and the surgeon; who are themselves subject to the control of the magistrates of the county. "The great end of this prison," says Rudge, "is to produce the *reformation* of the offender, and the regulations that have been adopted for that purpose, are founded on the principles of prudence, lenity, and benevolence; and the accuracy with which they have been pursued, can challenge the most jealous investigation." The building was completed and opened

* Camden mentions the castle, and says it was constructed of hewn stone, but in his time "it was for the most part decayed." It was attached to the earldom of Gloucester, and held by the earls—but became vested in the crown.

for the purposes of justice, in 1791 ; and the entire cost of the gaol, penitentiary, and house of correction included within its walls, together with the expense of building four other houses of correction, at the same time, but in different parts of the county, amounted to 34,873l. 14s. 4d., and this sum, large as it may appear in the aggregate, was raised with so much judgment and probity as to be an addition to the county rate of only one halfpenny in the pound.

The city gaol, which is, comparatively, on a small scale, is situated at the bottom of Southgate-street.

The spa of Gloucester was accidentally discovered in the year 1814, by some persons employed in sinking a well on the south-east side of the city, at a short distance from the cross. The grounds about the pump-room have been laid out with great taste, and a boarding-house and several handsome dwelling-houses, have been built in front of the principal promenade. Hot and cold baths have also been added.

The theatre is situated in the Westgate-street.

The principal pin manufactories are in the lower end of Westgate-street, between the Booth-hall and Westgate-bridge.



TO COLONEL BERKELEY,
THIS VIEW OF BERKELEY CASTLE,
(ENGRAVED AT HIS EXPENCE) IS MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED BY The Publishers.

Proof

CHAPTER XVI.

BERKELEY CASTLE.

" There stands the castle, by yon tuft of trees."

SHAKESPEARE, *Richard II.*

" Berkeley, whose fair seat hath been famous long."

M. DRAYTON.

ON the road from Gloucester to Bristol, at the distance of sixteen miles from the former city, stands the Bell inn, on Berkeley heath, from which a road branches off on the right, and leads to the town of Berkeley, which gives name to the hundred and to the parish within which it is situated, on a pleasant eminence, amid the fertile vale. In Domesday, " Berchelai," as it was then written, was a royal domain annexed to the court at Thornbury. In the reign of Edward the Confessor, the town of Berkeley was rendered remarkable by two incidents, which are preserved by the ancient historians, William of Malmsbury, and Walter de Mapes. The first is Malmsbury's legend of the ***Witch of Berkeley.**** The authenticity of the second narrative is supported by some facts; and it

* It is thus related:—" A woman used to reside in Berkeley, accustomed to crimes, not ignorant of the ancient auguries, putting no restraint upon her sins, because she was as yet on this side of old age, although *beating on the door of it with a near foot.* When she was one day holding a feast, a raven, which she kept as a pet, croaked louder than usual; upon hearing which the knife fell from her hand, her countenance became pale, and she exclaimed, " To-day, my plough has come to its last furrow; to-day, I shall hear and receive a great misfortune." While she was yet speaking, the messenger of sorrow entered. " I bring you news," he said, " of the death of your son, and the destruction of the family by sudden ruin." At these words the woman swooned away, and feeling the disease creep to the vitals, she sent for her surviving children, a monk and a nun, to whom she spoke thus—" I, my children, by my miserable fate have ever used demoniac arts—I have been the source of all vices—I had, however, amongst these evils, a hope of your religion to soothe my miserable soul. Despairing of myself, I reclined upon you; I proposed you to be my defenders against demons, my protectors against the most cruel enemies. But having reached the end of my life, when those who were my advisers in

is preserved in Camden's Britannia ; but its substance is as follows:—Earl Godwin, whose daughter Editha became the queen of Edward the Confessor, was " a man fit and prepared for any design," and possessed himself of several large estates. Amongst others he saw at Berkeley " a nunnery that was governed by an abbess that was both noble and beautiful"—and Godwin, " a notable, subtle man, not desiring her, but hers," sacrilegiously endeavoured to procure the manor for himself. He therefore contrived that his nephew, " a young, proper and handsome spark," should feign sickness; and under that pretence he sought and obtained the hospitable shelter of the nunnery, wherein the deep concerted fraud was perpetrated; and the seduction of the nuns, and even, it is said, of the abbess herself, was no sooner effected, than Godwin hastened to Edward the Confessor, and reported to him the dissoluteness and profligacy which he had himself so villainously contrived. A legal inquiry was instituted—the truth of his averment was confirmed; and the erring sisters were expelled from their once sacred seclusion, and dispossessed of the manor, which was begged of the king by the crafty earl, who thus obtained, though he did not long enjoy, the reward of his infamous treachery.—After the conquest, the manor was granted by the Norman William to his kinsman Roger,* who then assumed the title of " Roger de Berkeley." Roger became, in 1091, a shorn monk in the priory of Stanley St. Leonard, of which he was a great benefactor. He was succeeded in the manor of Berkeley by his nephew, William de Berkeley, who founded the monastery of Kingswood.† His son and heir, Roger de Berkeley, baron of Dursley, adhered to King Stephen, in his wars, in consequence of which he was violently dispos-

sin will be the exactors of my punishment, I ask you, by the maternal bosom you have sucked, if you have any faith or piety, that you at least attempt to alleviate my sufferings ; and although you may not recall the sentence issued against my soul, yet you may preserve my body, by sewing it in a stag's hide, and placing it in a sarcophagus of stone, the cover of which you must fasten down with lead and iron, and then surround it with three heavy iron chains : let there be psalm-singing for fifty nights, and masses in fifty days, that thus you may mitigate the ferocious assaults of my persecutors. If I should lie securely for three nights, then on the fourth day bury your mother in the ground—although I fear that the earth I have so often burthened with my vices will not receive me in her bosom." Her desires were complied with in the most scrupulous form—but in vain—for on the first two nights, when choirs of clerks were singing psalms around the body, certain demons broke open the church, although fastened with a huge bolt, and then as easily burst asunder the two chains at the extremities—but the middle, or third chain, remained entire. About cock-crowing on the third night, the whole monastery seemed to be upturned from its foundation, by the approach of the fiends; and one taller and more terrible than the rest, dashed the massy doors to fragments. The clerks stood aghast with terror—their hair on end, and deprived of the power of speech. The terrific demon approached with a defying step to the coffin, and calling the woman by her name, ordered her to arise. Upon her answering, that she could not on account of the chain, he said, " You shall be loosed, and to your sorrow ;" and with as much ease as though it had been thread, he snapped that chain which had resisted the attempts of all the rest. He then with his foot dashed off the lid of the coffin, and seizing his prey by the hand, he led her forth out of the church, in the sight of them all. At the door stood a proud black horse neighing, and iron hooks projected over his whole back. Upon this horse the woman was placed, and instantly disappeared with the whole company of demons. Her cries, supplicating for help, were heard for nearly five miles."

* " Roger de Berkeley, lord of Dursley, was nearly allied in blood to King Edward the Confessor."—*Berkeley MS.*

† " The Berkeleys of Dursley were founders of the abbey of Kingswood, which was of the Cistercian order."—*Camden's Britannia.* The following extraordinary rebus was carved over the kitchen chimney of the abbey—a Tiger, a Hart, an Ostrich, a Mermaid, an Ass, and a Swan—the first letters of which form the word " THOMAS," the christian name of Thomas, lord Berkeley, who was a considerable benefactor to that foundation.

sessed of the manor of Berkeley, and the barony of Dursley, by Walter, brother of Milo, earl of Hereford, by order of Prince Henry. Walter, who was the relative and seeming friend of Roger, betrayed him, and he was taken prisoner, stripped naked, openly exposed in chains, and thrice drawn up by a rope about his neck, on a gallows erected at his own castle gate, with threats that if he did not deliver up that castle (Dursley) to the earl, he should suffer a miserable death. When he was by this barbarous usage almost dead, he was carried to prison, and made to suffer more tortures. Robert Fitz Hardinge's services to Henry, and their reward, are thus recorded :—" Unto whom in his first entre and warres, Sir Robert Fitzherding gave and lende grete substance of goodis to the supportacion and maintenance of his warres, and when this Harry had obtained his right, he remembered the grete kyndnes and benefites of the said Robert Fitzharding, and gave unto him and his eires for ever the barony of Berkeley."—Robert Fitz Hardinge was the son of Harding, son of Sueno, king of Denmark, who in his thirtieth year came over with the conqueror, with whom he was at the battle of Hastings. Harding settled in Bristol, and purchased of Robert, earl of Gloucester, the manor of Byleswick (now College Green and its vicinity), the manors of Bedminster and Bray, in Devon ; the manors of Portbury and Were, in Somersetshire ; and several other estates. He was prepositor or chief magistrate of Bristol, where he died in November 1115. Robert Fitz Hardinge commenced building St. Augustine's abbey, of which the present cathedral forms a part. In the same year, (1140) he obtained the lordship of Berkeley—and in 1142, Prince Henry, son of the Empress Maud, by her second husband, Geoffrey Plantagenet, earl of Anjou, was brought to Bristol by his uncle Robert, earl of Gloucester. Robert Fitz Hardinge, lord of Berkeley, took his seat in the house of peers, 1st Henry II. Soon afterwards, Roger, who had been dispossessed of Berkeley, although the barony of Dursley had at the intercession of several lords been restored to him, became so troublesome to Fitz Hardinge, that he besought the prince to resume the gift of Berkeley; but Henry not only reconciled their enmity, but induced them to ratify their new friendship by the intermarriage of the families ; and, about the Christmas following, Maurice, the son of Lord Berkeley, became the husband of Alice, daughter of Lord Dursley ; and the heir of Lord Dursley married the daughter of Robert Fitz Hardinge, lord Berkeley.* Upon this union, Roger released all right in the barony of Berkeley. In 1164, when Dermot Macmurchad, king of Leinster,† carried off the wife of O'Ruark, prince of

* In case Maurice should die before the fulfilment of the contract, it was agreed that it should hold good for the next son of Robert; and if Alice died, for her next sister. The marriage covenants, and peace of Robert Fitz Hardinge's son were made in Robert's house at Bristol.

† " The King of Leinster had long conceived a violent affection for Dearbhorgil, daughter to the King of Meath, and though she had been for some time married to O'Ruark, prince of Breffni, yet it could not restrain his passion. They carried on a private correspondence, and she informed him that O'Ruark intended soon to go on a pilgrimage (an act of piety frequent in those days), and conjured him to embrace that opportunity of conveying her from a husband she detested, to a lover she adored. Macmurchad too punctually obeyed the summons, and had the lady conveyed to his capital of Ferns." —*O'Halloran.* When the monarch Roderic espoused the cause of O'Ruark, Macmurchad fled to England, and obtained

Breffni, he came with her to Bristol, accompanied by a suite of sixty persons, and they were hospitably entertained by Robert Fitz Hardinge, in the great stone house in Baldwin-street, as it is conjectured. The King of Leinster proceeded to Normandy, whence having obtained King Henry's letters patent, empowering his subjects to assist him, he returned again to Bristol, and thence sailed for Ireland.

Berkeley castle stands at the south-east of the town, and in the early part of the building, which was commenced by Henry, duke of Normandy, amongst the materials were the ruins of the nunnery upon the site of which it was built. The building and fortification of the castle were covenanted for by the duke during the life-time of King Stephen; and shortly before his accession to the throne he came to Berkeley to see his contract fulfilled. The first building consisted of the innermost of the three gates, and the buildings within it; the two outer gates, and the buildings belonging to them, with the exception of the keep, were added by Robert, son of Lord Maurice, and afterwards by successive lords in the reigns of Edward II. and Edward III. The castle, which has for upwards of seven centuries defied the ravages of time, is a splendid memorial of feudal grandeur—the most perfect specimen of Norman military architecture in the kingdom—and one of the very few buildings of the sort preserved from total ruin. It is, indeed, "venerable from its antiquity, and awful as the scene of the most atrocious murder recorded in our history." It is situated at the southern extremity of an extensive park, on a gentle elevation, commanding a view not only of the delightful and luxuriant scenery in its immediate vicinity, but a fine range of prospect over the fertile vale of Berkeley—the banks of the Severn—and terminating with the bold and romantic hills of Cambria. Well has it been observed, and truly, "that in surveying this proud monument of feudal splendour and magnificence, the very genius of chivalry seems to present himself amidst the venerable remains, with a sternness and majesty of air and feature which shew what he once has been. Amidst such a scene, the manly exercises of knighthood recur to the imagination in their full pomp and solemnity, while every patriot feeling beats at the remembrance of the generous virtues which were nursed in those scenes of fortitude, honour, courtesy and wit—the mansions of the ancient nobility." The form of the castle is circular—the ground plan consists of an irregular court, surrounded on the south and east by an extensive range of buildings. The Donjon-keep, which is built on a mount, and flanked by three semicircular and embattled towers, with a square one of later date, rises above the rest of the building. On the top of the keep there is the warder's walk, fifty-eight feet in length.

Robert Fitz Hardinge married Eva, daughter of Godiva, sister to William the con-

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the assistance of Henry II.; see the note to Moore's beautiful melody, "The valley lay smiling before me;"—founded, as Mr. M. observes, "on an event of most melancholy importance to Ireland; if, as we are told by our Irish historians, it gave England the first opportunity of profiting by our divisions and subduing us."

queror. She survived him—saw him buried in February 1170, in the choir of St. Augustine's abbey, Bristol; and then became the prioress of the Magdalen's, near Bristol, a religious house which she had founded. Maurice de Berkeley, the second son* of Robert Fitz Hardinge, was educated at Bristol by Mathew, a schoolmaster, to whom the instruction of Prince Henry had likewise been confided; he succeeded to the estates, and paid a fine of 1000 marks to the king, for the confirmation of his title to Berkeley and Berkeley Hernesse; and fortified the castle, which he considerably enlarged, and of which he was the first resident lord. He founded two hospitals, one at Lorwing, between Berkeley and Dursley, and that of Longbridge. His two youngest sons, Henry and Richard, accompanied William I. king of Scotland, on his return from captivity in England to his own kingdom, where they had lands given them, and became the founders of the eminent familes of the Berkeleys of Scotland, Ireland and France. Robert, the eldest son of Maurice, was brought up in the court of Henry II. On his succession, he paid the king (Richard I.) 1000l. for livery of inheritance, and again (1st John) he paid 60 marks for a confirmation thereof, and for a charter of fairs in his manor of Berkeley. He accompanied King John in his French wars, with a large retinue; but afterwards joined the barons in resisting the aggressions of the king, for which he was punished by the loss of a considerable part of his possessions; but of what remained he bestowed much upon the canons of St. Augustine's at Bristol, and of Hereford, the monks of Kingswood, the priory of Stanley St. Leonard's, the church of Berkeley, and the churches of Christ Church and Twineham, in Hants, and of Portbury, in Somerset. He made his peace 15th John†—but in 1215, he joined his former associates in arms against the king, whom they constrained to confirm Magna Charta. Berkeley castle was one of the chosen places of rendezvous of the barons. In 1216, Lord Robert was one of those who invited Lewis, the dauphin of France, to come to England, when they swore allegiance to him—for which this lord was excommunicated by the pope, and Berkeley castle and all his lands were seized. He afterwards obtained letters of safe conduct to visit the king, who was then at Berkeley castle; and obtained a grant of his manor of Cam, valued at 30l. per annum, for the support of his wife Juliana,‡ daughter of Robert de Pontelarch, and "niece to the Earl of Pembroke, afterwards guardian of King Henry III. at whose accession Robert was restored to all his lands, except the castle and town of Berkeley."§ Although twice married, he died without issue in 1219, and was buried in the north aisle of St. Augustine's abbey, in a monk's cowl. To him succeeded his brother Thomas, who married Joan, daughter of Ralph de Somery, lord of Campden. His life was spent in

* Henry, the first-born, died young.

† "This lord paid a fine of 100 marks to have a fair trial for his life by his peers. 13th John."

‡ "This lady had the royal honour of buying, selling, and giving lands in her own name."

§ So Atkyns and Rudder. It is said, however, that the niece of the earl marshal was married to Lord Thomas, who succeeded his brother Robert.

acts of piety; and he was often employed in the king's commission of oyer and terminer, in the gaol delivery at Gloucester. His fifth son, William de Berkeley, having offended Henry III. made his submission to the king, who was then at the tower; when he promised to become a knight templar, and to go towards Jerusalem, or to any other place out of the kingdom, to which the brethren of that order should direct him; and never to return to England. To the performance of this pledge he bound himself by his oath, and by fourteen sureties; and "so," says Atkyns, "was honourably banished." Maurice, the second lord of that name, succeeded his father in 1243. He was at that time with the king in the wars of Gascony, where he had then served for two years. "The king gave him 20 marks to buy a horse, and paid him five marks in hand, and warrant for the rest out of the first money that should come from England." He accompanied Prince Edward in his Welsh expedition; and afterwards sumptuously entertained the king (Henry III.) at Berkeley castle, and attended* that monarch in the wars by which the power of Lewellyn ap Gryffyth was subdued. He was twice married—first to Isabel,† daughter of Richard, earl of Cornwall, king of the Romans, who was brother to Henry III.; and afterwards to Isabel de Credonia, or Creoun, daughter of Maurice de Credonia, a powerful baron in Lincolnshire, by Isabel his wife, sister of William de Valence, earl of Pembroke, and daughter of Hugh de Brun, earl of March, lord of Lusignan and Valence, in Poiteu, and of the Lady Isabel his wife, daughter and heiress of Aymer, earl of Angouleme, grandchild of Lewis, king of France, widow of King John, and mother of Henry III. Notwithstanding these ties of royal consanguinity, he who had fought for the king bravely in sixteen campaigns, adhered to the rebellious barons,‡ and his manor of Berkeley and his lands were seized for the king, who assigned other manors for the maintenance of "his beloved niece Isabel." He obtained his pardon 55th Henry III. It is recorded of him and of his mother that they were engaged in not less than 50 law suits. His household consisted of 200 persons.

In 1279, two years before the death of this Lord Maurice, his eldest son Maurice was killed at the the tournament held at Kenilworth by Roger de Mortimer;§ upon which Thomas, the second son, became his heir, and succeeded to the title and estates in 1281, as the second Lord Thomas. When in his 19th year, he fought at the battle of Evesham; attended King Henry to Kenilworth—and opposed the Welsh insurgents at Worcester, Montgomery, Shrewsbury, and Gloucester; for which services he obtained a special grant for hunting with his own dogs in the king's forests of Mendip and Kingswood Chase, where he had several stags. Besides this privilege he had an acquittal of 100

* He was "ordered to attend to the safety of the royal person."

† Atkyns.

‡ He was fined 20l. for joining Roger de Clifford in rebellion.

§ "He set out from London with one hundred knights well armed, and as many ladies singing joyful songs as they journied along."

marks, the relief of his barony. He was appointed general of an expedition into France, in which, as in all his principal engagements, he was accompanied by his sons. He was afterwards constituted (24th Edward I.) one of the commissioners to treat of peace between England and France, and next year was made constable of England. In 35th Edward I. he was sent ambassador to Rome. He fought in twenty-eight engagements; and at the memorable battle of Bannockburn he was taken prisoner and paid a heavy ransom. When the burgesses of Bristol refused to do suit to his court at Redcliffe, he and his son Maurice, with a large retinue of horse and foot, happening to meet with a bailiff of Bristol at Frampton-on-Severn, they attacked and mortally wounded him; and then proceeded to Tetbury fair, where they assaulted all that were burgesses of Bristol. Lord Thomas married Joan, daughter of William de Ferrers, earl of Ferrers and Derby. "His piety was as conspicuous by religious bequests, as his courage had been by repeated acts of bravery." He died in 1321, and was succeeded by his eldest son Maurice, who had been summoned to parliament 23d Edward I. as Lord Berkeley, of Berkeley castle. He was contracted in marriage at eight years of age, and was a father at fourteen years old. From his youth he delighted in martial exercises, and attended every year at the tournaments and public jousts held at Worcester, Dunstable, Stamford, &c. He joined the fourth battalion of the army with the Prince of Wales; and accompanied his father in the Scotch, Welsh, and French wars. He emulated his father's bravery and martial spirit, and from the 23d Edward I. to the death of that monarch, he was every year engaged in military exploits. He was summoned to parliament from 1309 to 1321. In 6th Edward II. he was appointed governor of Gloucester; and governor of Berwick-upon-Tweed two years afterwards. He was made justice of South Wales in the next year, when he had the custody of all the castles there committed to his charge. In the following year he raised 1400 foot in Wales and the forest of Dean, for the royal army in Scotland. The king gave him 600l. as a reward of his services, and 465l. for horses lost in the king's cause. In 1319, he was appointed high steward of the duchy of Aquitain, with an allowance of 2000l. Tournois; on his return from which station he joined with the Earl of Lancaster and other lords, against the Despensers, and marching into Wales with 10,000 foot and 500 light horse, displaying on their banners the royal arms and their own, they laid waste all the castles and estates seized upon and claimed by Hugh Despenser. They took away his armour and provisions to the value of 2000l., burned his evidences, which destroyed for him 2000l. more; and carried away sixty brood mares and one thousand beasts, with their young; one thousand sheep, and four hundred hogs. They also burned his granges and farm-houses. They devastated twenty-three manors, took away forty tuns of wine, six hundred bacons, eighty carcases of beef, six hundred muttons in the larder, and from his coffers at Stanley abbey they took 1000l. in money, and 1000l. in plate—from Marlborough castle they took away wool, cloth, crosses of gold, ivory, &c. worth 6000l. From the elder Despenser they took twenty-eight thousand sheep, two

thousand two hundred beasts, and two thousand swine. The Despensers were banished by parliament, but soon afterwards recalled by the same authority, and their opponents were declared traitors. This Lord Maurice neglecting, upon special summons, to submit to the king, his castle, lands, &c. were seized, and, although passing under supposed safe conduct, he was seized and sent prisoner to Wallingford castle, where he died in captivity, in 1326. To revenge this breach of faith, his sons entered several manors held by the king; and broke the gates, windows and chests—took away five hundred horses and other beasts, three thousand sheep, four hundred swine, and one hundred swans; and destroyed the deer in the parks. Lord Maurice was twice married—first to Eve, daughter of Eudo la Zouch, lord Zouch; and secondly to Isabel de Clare, daughter of Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester and Hertford.—His son Thomas, the third lord of that name, succeeded. For his co-operation with his father in opposing the Despensers, he was committed to the tower, from which he effected his escape; but being retaken, he was sent to Berkhampstead, and afterwards to Penvensey, in Sussex. Upon the return to England of the queen, Prince Edward, and Mortimer, he was set at liberty; and in 1326, Hugh Despenser was dispossessed of Berkeley castle, which he had seized upon.

The period now fast approached in which that wretched wreck of royalty, Edward II. was to be hurled from the "painful pre-eminence" of a kingly station—to be led captive through the kingdom he was unfit to govern—and to close his life in a dungeon, by the most horrid means to which murderers ever had recourse. As Berkeley castle was chosen for the last scene of his dismal tragedy, some particulars of the events immediately preceding may prove interesting. King Edward was seized, together with the younger Despenser,* in their retreat and fancied concealment at Caerfilly, in Wales, and carried to Kenilworth castle, where he was first imprisoned. Despenser was soon afterwards hanged and quartered, and this act of violence was but the prelude to his master's sufferings—aggravated too by the certainty that these sufferings were inflicted, if not by his wife and queen—at least, by her instigation and revengeful and adulterous will, and the savage hatred of her paramour. The queen and prince convened a parliament in the king's name! where six articles were preferred against the king himself for mal-administration—and these articles were sent to the miserable captive by the nobility, whose deputies renounced all homage and fealty to him; and a formal resignation of his throne, crown, sceptre, and all kingly prerogatives, was extorted from the royal prisoner. The insatiable and malignant spirit of the guilty queen and Mortimer, deeming the treatment he experienced at Kenilworth too mild and courteous, ordered him to be placed by Sir John Maltravers and Sir Thomas Gurney, men of approved brutality of temper, and well

* "He had with him only Despenser, Chancellor Baldock, Simon de Reading, and a few domestics; every one else having deserted him, in his misfortune.—The Bishop of Hereford was sent to demand the great seal, which the king delivered without any seeming reluctance."



TO COLONEL BERKELEY,

THIS VIEW OF THE INNER COURT OF BERKELEY CASTLE,

(ENGRAVED AT HIS EXPENCE) IS MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED BY *The Publishers.*

fitted for their inhuman office, in strict and close durance. They were commanded to allow no access to him, and to remove him whenever it was known where he was. He was first carried to Corfe Castle, and afterwards to Bristol—but the burgesses discovering that he was confined in the castle of that city, he was taken on the 5th of April, 1327, to Berkeley castle. They led him forth upon his last pilgrimage, at night; and practised upon him all the indecencies, cruelties, and indignities of the most savage natures.* As the poor victim passed through the granges of Bristol castle, Gurney placed a crown of straw upon his else bare head, and the soldiers mocking him called out, "Fare forth, sir king." His persecutors caused him to walk on foot, during a cold night, in miserable thin clothing, whilst the heartless ruffians rode:—neither would they suffer him to halt upon the way and refresh himself by sleep, nor would they give him food—but rudely and coarsely contradicted every word he uttered, and told him he was mad—a condition to which they would fain have driven him—although even in that state the forgetfulness of his miseries and his wrongs would have been a blessing. Lest he should be recognized by any of his friends—if friends he yet had—they determined upon disguising his face and person by cutting off his hair and beard—for this purpose before they approached Berkeley, they carried him into a field by the road side, and placing him on a hillock, they caused him to be shaved with cold water taken from a stagnant ditch—but

* The following passage is from Drayton's "Barons' Wars," book v.

"With shameful scoffs and barbarous disgrace
Him on a lean ill-favour'd jade they set,
In a vile garment, beggarly and base,
Which (it should seem) they purposely did get;
So carrying him, in a most wretched case,
Benumb'd and beaten with the cold and wet,
Depriv'd of all repose and natural rest,
With thirst and hunger grievously oppress'd.

Yet still suspicious that he should be known,
From beard and head they shav'd away the hair,
Which was the last that he could call his own:—
* * * * *
And on a mole hill (for a state in court)
With puddle-water him they lewdly drest,
Then with his woful miseries made sport.
And for his bason, fitting with the rest,
A rusty iron skull:—O, wretched sight!
Was ever man so miserably dight?

His tears increas'd the water with their fall,
Like a pool rising with a sudden rain,
Which wrestled with the puddle, and withal
A troubled circle made it to retain;
His endless grief which to his mind did call
His sighs made billows like a little main;
Water and tears contending whether should
The mast'ry have, the hot ones or the cold."

the unfortunate prince, bursting into tears, told them that "he would thus be shaved with warm water in spite of them." When they arrived at Berkeley castle, the poor deposed monarch was courteously received by Thomas, lord Berkeley, who had an allowance of five pounds per diem for his maintenance. But the kindness and civility of his noble entertainer were speedily checked by an order that he should use no further familiarity with the prisoner, but deliver up the custody and the castle to Maltravers and Gurney—a command with which he cheerfully complied, and thereupon retired to his manor-house at Bradley. From this period the treatment of Edward was inhuman—nothing but the strength of his constitution could have borne up against the persecutions he endured: and it is even asserted that many attempts were made to poison him. One expedient for the infliction of agony is too singular not to be noticed. His assassins filled a deep well under his dungeon with putrid carcases, the effluvia from which, it was hoped, might prove fatal to him. Of this mode of annoyance the unhappy king complained bitterly to some carpenters who were at work near the place of his confinement. Yet his lamentations for his inhuman wife were incessant; and the only solace of his wretched existence was to sing love songs, which he did in a low and plaintive tone—and then he would burst into vehement lamentations at his fate, sorrowing that she would neither see him, nor suffer his son or his relatives to come to him. At length the miscreants employed by the queen to add murder to the guilt of her adultery, beginning to grow weary of their ineffectual efforts to induce him to commit self-destruction, or to make him die an apparently natural death, sent for fresh instructions; and received from Adam de Orleton, bishop of Hereford—a vicious creature of the more vicious queen—the following enigmatical instruction:

"Edvardum occidere nolite timere bonum est."*

The want of punctuation renders this line so equivocal, that whatever the consequences might be, the subtle bishop could acquit himself of all participation in the deed—since, as it now stands, it may be construed in the following contrary senses:

"To kill Edward be unwilling, to fear it is good"—

or,

"To kill Edward be unwilling to fear, it is good."

They adopted the construction most congenial to their brutal dispositions, and "feared

* "—To that end a letter fashioning
Which in the words a double sense did bear.
Which seemed to bid them not to kill the king,
Showing withal how vile a thing it were;
But by the pointing was another thing,
And to dispatch him bids them not to fear."

Drayton.

not to kill Edward"—self-satisfied and assured that "it was good." On the night of September 21, 1327, while Edward was lying in his bed,

"The doors forth a fearful howling cast,
"To let those in by whom he was to die;
"At whose approach, whilst there he lay aghast,
"Those ruthless villains did upon him fly."*

They surprised him, and throwing over him several heavy feather beds, "more than fifteen men could carry," they poured hot lead into his intestines; or, as Drayton expresses it,

"without human pity or remorse,
"With a hot spit they thrust him to the heart."

"His crie did move many within the castell and town of Birckelei to compassion, plainly hearing him utter a waileful noyse, as the tormenters were about to murder him; so that dyvers being awakened thereby, (as they themselves confessed), prayed heartilie to God to receyve his soule, when they understode by his crie what the matter ment."† When the murder was made known to the "she-wolf of France," and Mortimer; Thomas, lord Berkeley, was committed to the custody of Ralph de Neville, steward of the royal household, as accessary to the fact; but was admitted to bail, on the deposition of twelve knights who asserted that he was then confined at Bradley by so severe an illness that his life was despaired of. He was tried and honourably "acquitted of every fault except negligence;" and was soon afterwards restored to the possession of his castle and estates. He was in all the campaigns of Edward III. against the Scots, and also in his wars in France; and in 1342, was appointed warden of the marshes in Scotland, and of the king's forests south of the Trent. He distinguished himself by his bravery at the battle of Cressey; and at the siege of Calais, in the same year, his own retinue consisted of six knights, thirty-two esquires, thirty archers on horseback, and two hundred foot. In 1356, he held a principal command at the battle of Poictiers, and took so many prisoners that with their ransoms he rebuilt Beverstone castle, the lordship of which he had purchased, 5th Edward III. In his domestic retinue he had twelve knights, who had each two servants and a page; and twenty-four esquires, who had each a man and a page; he had "about three hundred in family, besides bailiffs, hinds, &c." He sheared 5775 sheep at Beverstone.—Maurice, the third lord of that name, was the son and successor of Lord Thomas, and accompanied his father to Scotland in the seventh year of his age, when he was knighted, and the next year married—such was the custom of that day—to Elizabeth, daughter of Hugh le Despenser. In his fourteenth year he went to Granada, where he remained for a considerable time. He was with his father at Poictiers, where his conduct is thus recorded by Froissart:—"The same season there was in

* Drayton. † Holinshed.

the field the Lord Berkeley, of England, a young lusty knight, who the same day had reared his banner; and he all alone pursued John de Helenes, a squyer of Picardy, who fled from the battle; and when he had followed him for the space of a league, the said John turned again, and laid his sword in the rest instead of the spear, and so came runnyng towards the Lord Berkeley, who lift up his sword to have stricken the squyer, but when he saw the stroke come he turned from it, so that the Englishman lost his stroke, and John stroke him as he passed on the arm, so that the Lord Berkeley's sword fell into the field. When he saw his sword down, he suddenly lighted from his horse, and came to the place where his sword lay, and as he stooped down to take up his sword the French squyer did pick his sword at him, and by happen stroke him through both thighs, so that the knight fell to the earth and could not helpe himself; and John alighted from his horse, and came to him and demanded if he would yield him or not? The knight then demanded his name. "Sir," said he, "I hight John of Helenes; but what is your name?" "Certainly," said the knight, "I am the Lord of Berkeley, a fine castle on the river Severne, in the marches of Wales." "Well, sir," quoth the squyer, "then ye shall be my prisoner, and I shall bring you in safeguard, and I shall see that you be healed of your hurt." "Well," said the knight, "I am content to be your prisoner, for ye have by law of arms won me." Then he sware to be his prisoner, rescue or no rescue. Then the squyer drew forth the sword, and the wound was open. Then he wrapped and bound the wound, and set him on his horse, and so brought him fayr and easy to Chateleraut, and there tarried more than fifteen days for his sake, and did give him remedy for his hurt, and when he was somewhat amendyd then he got him a lytter, and so brought him at his ease to his house at Picardy. There he was more than a year till he was perfectly whole, and when he departed he paid for his ransom six thousand nobles; and so the squyer was made a knight by reason of the profit he had of Lord Berkeley; for payment of which sum, Henry, duke of Lancaster, and Sir Frank de Hale, were his sureties." It is said that his wounds were never cured—but they did not cause his death, as that event did not take place till the year 1367; when he was succeeded by his son Thomas, the fourth Lord Berkeley of that name; the ceremony of whose marriage with Margaret, daughter of Gerard Warren, lord Lisle, is thus mentioned in Smith's MSS:—"The sickness of Lord Maurice, this lord's father, increasing, they were married at Lord Lisle's house, in Wengrave, Bucks, in November next following; and Lord Maurice being himself unable to travel, sent with his son, to attend him, three or four of his household knights, Sir Richard de Acton, Sir Thomas de Tracey, and Sir Nicholas de Berkeley; and twenty-three of his household squires; the knights suited in their liveries of fine cloth of ray, furred with minever; and the esquires in their liveries of a coarser ray and less costly fur; and the yonge bridegroom himself was in scarlet and sattin, and a silver girdle; and the Lord Maurice himself, though he kept home in honour of the marriage, made himself a suit of cloth of gold; and at the ceremony Sir Richard de Acton gave the

minstrels forty shillings." Lord Thomas entertained King Richard II. at Berkeley castle, in the tenth year of his reign. He was conspicuous in the wars with France and Spain, in which he served by land and sea. When the king was deposed, or permitted to resign in favour of Bolingbroke, (Henry IV.) he testified the fact in the tower of London; and was the baron chosen, with others of the nobility, to pronounce the deposition in parliament. He was appointed, 5th Henry IV., "admiral of the king's fleets from the mouth of the Thames to the west and south; and sworn of the king's privy councill." He burnt fifteen sail of French ships in Milford Haven, and captured fourteen others, on board of which were the seneschal of France, and eight officers of note, whom he made prisoners. He held the chief command in the Welsh wars, and was engineer at the siege of Lampeder Vaur, in Pembrokeshire. He was likewise distinguished by his love of literature; and at his request, John Trevisa, a celebrated scholar, and then vicar of Berkeley, translated the old and new testaments. The only issue of his marriage being a daughter, Elizabeth, who married Richard Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, Lord Thomas was succeeded by his nephew, James, who by special entail held the castle and lordship of Berkeley. But his possession was much disquieted by the Earl of Warwick, who instituted law proceedings for the recovery of that right which he conceived to belong to his wife; and the suit lasted for one hundred and ninety-two years! during which time Berkeley castle was repeatedly besieged and defended with great force on both sides. It is said, that in the 18th Henry V. David Woodburne, with some of his fellow servants, employed by John Talbot, viscount Lisle, went to Wotton, and served Lord James with a subpœna to appear in chancery; whereupon he not only beat the parties who so served him, but forced Woodburne to eat the subpœna, wax and parchment. So powerful were his enemies, that he at length deemed it prudent to give a thousand marks to Humphrey, duke of Gloucester, to secure his patronage. He was thrice married—first to a daughter of Sir Humphrey Stafford—secondly, to Isabel, daughter of Thomas Mowbray, first duke of Norfolk—and thirdly, to Joan, sister of John, second earl of Shrewsbury. By the first and last he had no issue. Of the second, Isabel, it is said that whilst Lord James was engaged in the defence of his castle, she managed his law affairs in London, and was in such straightened circumstances on one occasion, that in a letter written to her "right worshipful and reverend lord and husband," there is this passage:—"For the reverence of God send money, or else I must lay my horse to pledge, and come home on my fete." This courageous woman was afterwards imprisoned in Gloucester castle, through the artifice of the Countess of Shrewsbury—and so ill-treated, that she died in her captivity. Their eldest daughter, Elizabeth, married Thomas Burdett, Esq.* of

* Thomas Burdett incurred the displeasure of Edward IV. by his attachment to the Duke of Clarence. Being told that the king, whilst hunting in his park at Arrow, had killed a white buck which he valued, he passionately exclaimed, that "he wished the deer, horns and all, in the belly of the person who advised his majesty to that action;" for which he was convicted of high treason, and suffered death, 17th Edward IV. though that upright judge, Sir John Markham, opposed the judgment.

Arrow, in Warwickshire; and Isabel, her sister, married William Trye, Esq. of Hardwicke. Lord James died in 1463, and was buried in the chapel built by him on the south side of the high altar of Berkeley church. His eldest son and successor, Lord William, was a member of the privy council in the reign of Edward IV. He had been knighted at Calais. He defended himself against the suits of Lord Lisle with so much determination, that a rencontre took place between them, in which "the Lord Lisle was shot with an arrow as his beaver was up." The following are copies of the challenge and the answer, which are in a high tone of chivalry.

Lord Lisle's challenge to William, sixth Lord Berkeley:

"William, called Lord Berkeley, I marveill ye come not forth with all your Carts of Gunnes, Bowes, with oder Ordinance, that ye set forward to come to my Mannor of Wotton, to bete it down upon my Head. I let you witt, ye shall not nede to come so nye, for I trust to God to mete you nere home with Englishmen of my own Nation and Neighbours. Whereas ye by subtle Craft, have blowin about in divers Places of England, That I should entend to bring in Welshmen for to destroy and hurt my own Nation and Cuntry. I lete the wit, I never was so disposed, nere never will be. And to the Proof hereof, I requyre thee of Knighthood and of Manhood, to appoint a Day to mete me half way, there to try between God and our two Hands, all our Quarrel and Title of Right, for to eschew the sheddinge of Christian Mannis Bloud, or else at the same Day bring the uttermost of thy Power, and I shall mete thee. An Answer of this by Writing, as ye will abide by, according to the Honor and Ordre of Knighthood.

"THOMAS TALBOT, THE VISCOUNT LISLE."

To this challenge Lord Berkeley returned the following answer:

"Thomas Talbot, otherwise called Lord Viscount Lisle, not long contenued in that Name, but a new found thing brought out of strang Countrys; I marveil greatly of thy strange and lewd Wrytinge, made I suppose by thy false untrue Counsel that thou hast with thee, Hugh Mull and Holt; as for Hugh Mull it is not unknown to all the worshipful learned men of this Realm how he is attaynt of falsenes, and raisinge of the King's Records; and as for the false mischievous Holt, what his Rull hath be to the Distruction of the King's lege Pepull in my Lordship of Berkeley, as well to the hurt of their Bodies as the loss of their Goods, against God's Law, Conscience and all Reason; it is openly known, so that every worshipful man should refuse to have them in his Fellowship. And also of his own free Will, undesired of me, before worshipful and sufficient Witness, was sworne on a Masse-booke, that he should never be against me in no matter that I had adoe, and especially in that untrue Title that ye clayme, which ye hold my lyvelode with wrong. And where thou requirest me of Knighthood, that I should appoint a Day, and mete thee in the myd way between my Mannor of Wooton and my Castle of Berkeley; there to try betwixt God and our two Hands all our Quarrel and Title of Right, for to eschew the shedings of Christen Mens Blood, or els the same Day to bring the

utermost of my Powere, and thou would mete mee. As for the determining betwixt our two Hands of thy untrue Claime and my Title and Right of my Land and true Inheritance, thou wottest right well there is no such Determination of Land in this Relme used. And I ascertayne thee, that my Lyvelode, as well my Mannor of Wotton as my Castle of Berkeley, be entayled to me by Fyne of Record in the King's Courts, by the Advise of all the Judges of this Lond in that Days beinge. And if it were so, that this matter might be determined by thy hands and myne, the King our Soveraigne Lord and his laws not offended, thou shouldest not soe soone desire, but I would as soon answere thee in every Point that belongeth to a Knight: For thou art, God I take to record, in a false Quarrel, and I in a true Deffence and Title. And where thou desirest and requirest me of Knighthood and of Manhood to appoint a Day, and that I should be there with all the Power I could make, and that thou would mete me half way. I will thou understand: I will not bring the tenth part that I can make, and I will appoint a short Day to ease thy malicious Heart, and thy false Counsel that is with thee. Fail not to morrow to be at Nibley Green at eight or nyne of the clock, and I will not fail, with God's Might and Grace, to meet thee at the same place, the which standeth in the Borders of the Lyvelods that thou keepest untruly, redy to answere thee in all things, that I trust to God it shall be shewed on thee and thine to great Shame and Disworship. And remember thy self and thy false Counsel have refused to abide the Rule of the grete Lords of this Lond, which by my Will should have determined this Matter, by thy Evidences and myne. And therefore I vouch God to record, and all the Company of Heaven, that this Fact, and the shedding of Christen Mens Bloud, which shall be betwixt us two and our Fellowships, if any hap to be, doth grow of thy Quarrel and not of me; but in my Defence and in escheweing of Reproache, and only through thy malicious and mischievous Purpose, and of thy false Counsel and of thy own simple Discretion: and keep thy Day, and the Truth shall be shewed by the Mercy of God.

"WILLIAM, LORD OF BERKELEY."

On the ensuing morning, March 20, 1470, the issue of the challenge was decided. The lords, accompanied by their followers, amounting altogether to one thousand men, met at Nibley Green, when a desperate encounter ensued, in which nearly two hundred men were slain; and amongst the dead was the challenger, the Lord Viscount Lisle, who, as his beaver was up, was shot in the mouth by an arrow from the bow of one James Hiatte, of the forest of Dean. This victory was no sooner achieved than Lord Berkeley hastened to Wotton, where the then widowed Lady Lisle resided. She was at that time far advanced in her first pregnancy; but from the terror of that frightful hour she miscarried. The triumphant lord rifled the house, and carried off a considerable portion of the furniture, and many deeds and evidences of importance. He was "advanced to the honour of Viscount Berkeley," and afterwards created Earl of Nottingham, a dignity enjoyed by his maternal ancestors of the Mowbray family. During the struggle be-

tween Richard III. and the Earl of Richmond, he is said to have propitiated the favour of both parties, by aiding one with men, and the other with money—but attaching himself personally to neither: yet upon the accession of Henry VII. he was appointed earl marshal of England, and advanced to the dignity of Marquis of Berkeley. His children dying in infancy; and having taken offence at the conduct of his brother Maurice, he "settled the castle of Berkeley, to which the barony is appendant, with those lands and lordships, which were the body of that ancient barony, upon King Henry VII. and his heirs male, in failure of which to revert to the right heirs of the marquis."* Maurice, by his prudence, was enabled to regain that portion of the estates which devolved to him in right of his mother. "This lord, with a milk white head in this irksome old age of seventy years, in winter termes, and frosty seasons, with a buckram bagge, stuffed with lawe cases, in early mornings and late evenings, walked with his eldest sonne, between the fower Inns of Court and Westminster-hall, following his lawe suites in his owne old person, not for himselfe but for his posterity."† He died in 1506, and was succeeded by his son Maurice, who was made a knight of the bath at the coronation of King Henry VIII. In the sixth year of the same reign, he was sworn a knight of the king's body; and in that, and the succeeding year, was high sheriff of Gloucestershire, during which time he procured many of the quarter-sessions to be held at his own manor of Tetbury. He was appointed lieutenant of the castle of Calais; with a command of fifty men at arms: and was summoned to parliament as a baron (14th Henry VIII.) and in the next year accompanied the army under Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk, into France. Dying at Calais without issue, in 1523, he was succeeded by his brother Thomas, the fifth lord of that name; who had a high command in the battle of Flodden Field, in 1519, and for his gallant services in that day's fight was knighted on the field by the general, Thomas Howard, earl of Surrey, afterwards duke of Norfolk. He was appointed constable of Berkeley castle, which still remained vested in the crown, 24th Henry VIII.; and died in the same year; when his son Thomas, the sixth of that name, succeeded. He married—first, Mary, daughter of George Hastings, first earl of Huntingdon;—and secondly, Anne, daughter of Sir John Savage—a match supposed to have been made by King Henry VIII. and Anne Boleyn. It is said that Maurice, the brother of this Lord Thomas, bore so much hatred to his sister-in-law, the Lady Anne,‡ that, accompanied by Nicholas Poyntz, and a riotous company of his, servants and others, he entered the park at Yate, which belonged to her, determined to destroy her deer; in which they succeeded, and then swore that the hay-rick should be set on fire, in the hope of burning the house and "the lady with her werish boy in the midst of it." It so happened, that at the same time a party of deer stealers had entered the park, designing to steal the deer, and the latter seeing a

* Rudder. † MS. Veel. Fosbroke.

‡ "This Lady Anne, preparatory to the visit and ten days' sojourn of Henry VII. at Berkeley Castle, took down the Hall at Wotton House, and made therewith the roof of the great kitchen at Berkeley."—*Smith's Lives.*

party so much stronger than their own assembled, concealed themselves beneath the rick; until, on hearing the oaths and threats, they became alarmed lest they too should be consumed in the conflagration, and sought their safety in flight; but on their outset so panic-struck Maurice and his party, who mistook them for the servants of the Lady Anne, that they fled—" and thus was a great danger prevented." Lady Anne, after this attempted outrage, sought the protection of King Henry VIII., who granted her a special commission, under the great seal, " to enquire, hear and determine these riots and other misdemeanors, *and made her one of the commissioners, and of the quorum;* whereupon she came to Gloucester, and there sat on the bench in the public Sessions-hall, impannelled a jury, received evidence, found Sir Nicholas Poyntz and Maurice Berkeley, and their fellows, guilty of divers riots and disorders, and fined them; and hence it is that the common people in those parts of Yate and Mangotsfield will, with some stifnes of opinion, to this day, to the honour of this lady, as they suppose, maintaine that she was a justice of the peace."*—Henry, son and heir of Lord Thomas and Lady Anne, succeeded; and on the death of Edward VI., (the last male descendant of Henry VII.) Berkeley castle and all the lordships settled on that king by the marquis, reverted to Lord Henry; and were confirmed by the special warrant of Queen Mary. " The Earl of Leicester pretended at first a great friendship to Lord Berkeley, and acknowledged the honour to be descended from his family, and desired that he might send a herald to examine the pedigree, and take a survey of his records and ancient writings; but this herald was bribed by the Earl of Leicester to steal away the most material evidences that concerned the Lord Berkeley's estate."† Lord Henry married the Lady Catherine Howard, (then in her sixteenth year,) daughter of Henry Howard, earl of Surrey; and the ceremony is said to have been performed " by the bedside of her grandfather, the Duke of Norfolk, then grown weak with age and sickness." Lord Henry and Lady Catherine joined the court at Greenwich, where Queen Mary and King Philip held their first Christmas. Queen Elizabeth was godmother, by proxy, to their eldest son Thomas, who died before his father; and Queen Mary was godmother to their eldest daughter Mary. In the 15th year of her reign, Queen Elizabeth, in her progress, was entertained at Berkeley castle. During her sojourn such slaughter was made among the stately game of red deer in the park called the Worthy, that twenty-seven stags were slain in one day. Lord Henry, who was then at Callowdon, suddenly disparked the ground; but soon after had an intimation made to him, " that the queen was informed how the same was so displeasing to him;" and he was advised " to carry a wary watch over his words and actions, lest that

* MS. Veel. Fosbroke.

† *Atkyns.*—" The Earl of Leicester, when endeavouring to inveigle Lord Berkeley into a consent to see certain of his evidences, invited that lord to his castle in Kenilworth, lodging him as a brother and fellow huntsman, in his own bedchamber."

Earl Leicester that had drawn her to his castle and purposely had caused that slaughter of his deer, might have a further plot against his head and that castle, whereto he had taken no small liking, and affirmed to have good title thereto, and was not far from his manor of Wotton, lately recovered against him." In suing for pardon for a law-suit, Lady Berkeley delivered a petition to the queen upon her knees. Her majesty replied, " No, no, my Lady Berkeley, you know you will never love me for the death of your brother"—the Duke of Norfolk, who was beheaded two years before, on a charge of high treason, in having privately compassed a treaty of marriage with Mary, queen of Scots. The queen having offered one hundred marks for a lute of mother of pearl, Lord Henry out-bid her, and purchased it for his lady, but after her death he gave it to the Dowager Countess of Derby; and it came subsequently into the possession of the late Mrs. Jordan, who purchased it at a sale.—King James, in the first year of his reign, appointed Lord Henry lord lieutenant of the county of Gloucester; and the extraordinary powers granted to him by the commission, manifest the unbounded confidence of the king. His second wife was Jane, daughter of Sir Michael Stanhope, and widow of Sir Roger Townsend. He married her in her sixty-fourth year, but never cohabited with her.—George, the grandson of Lord Henry, succeeded to the title and estates. He was married, (or rather contracted in marriage,) when in his thirteenth year, to Elizabeth, second daughter of Sir Michael Stanhope. He was made a knight of the bath at the creation of Charles, prince of Wales, November 4th, 1616, being then in his fifteenth year. Lady Berkeley, his mother, purchased the Cranford estate two years afterwards, for 7,000l., and lived there, " amongst her thousands of books, reading." From his incessant love of travelling and of learning, this lord was called " George the traveller," and " George the linguist." " Besides the nobility of his birth, and the experience he acquired in foreign travels, he was very eminent for the great candour and ingenuity of his disposition, his singular bounty and affability towards his inferiors, and his readiness (had it been in his power) to have obliged all mankind." To him that " storehouse of learning," the Anatomy of Melancholy, was dedicated by the facetious but hypochondriac Burton. During his lifetime his eldest son Charles was drowned, in attempting to cross over to France; and his only surviving son, George, who succeeded to the title and estates in 1658, was, (as was his father,) eminently distinguished by his attachment to Charles I., and by his steadfast adherence to the cause of that unfortunate prince throughout the rebellion.*

During the civil war, the castle and town were first occupied by the parliament; but being evacuated on account of reinforcing the garrison at Gloucester, preparatory to the

* His kinsman, Sir Robert Berkeley, born at Spetchley, in Worcestershire, was one of the Justices of the King's Bench, and gave his judgment in favor of ship money—the ostensible cause of the civil war:—for which the parliamentary powers impeached him for high treason, and he was taken into custody by the Black Rod, whilst sitting on the bench, in Westminster Hall. He was fined 20,000l., and imprisoned in the tower, where he continued seven months; and was then released upon paying 10,000l. half the original fine. He also suffered severely in other respects during the rebellion.

siege, Berkeley continued in the royal possession till it was captured in 1645. Corbet says, " Berkeley castle was held for the king by a Scottish captain, and subdued the richest part of the county."

" May 23, 1643, on a motion made by the Lord Berkeley, to have his castle of Berkeley restored unto him, possessed now by a Scottish captain, it had been ordered by the lords, that it should be delivered to him : which order being made known unto the captain, and a demand made in his lordship's name for the re-delivery of the same, he returned this answer—*that by the sword he had gotten it, and by the sword he would keep it:*— which answer being certified in the lords' house, one of them presently observed in what case we were, if by their means the Scots should be invited into the kingdome (as had been desired by the commons), and what we might in reason look for, if that plot went forward." Upon the capture of Cirencester, " the soldiers, which had been garrisoned in Berkeley castle, the seat and barony of Lord Berkeley, situate on the Severne broke, and consequently of great importance for stopping the trade of ships to Gloucester, had yeelded up the same."* The castle, after the siege of Gloucester, was occupied by a royal garrison. The king, on his way to Gloucester, came to Berkeley on August 8, 1643. " Colonel Poore, governor of Berkeley castle, was drowned at the action by Lancaut."† " Nov. 18, the rebels of Gloucester came in an insolent manner to his majesties garrison in Berkeley castle, and summond it to be delivered for the use of king and parliament; where being denyed, they gave on upon it, but received such excellent welcome from the garrison, that full an hundred rebels lay dead upon the place, their fellowes hasting home, lest by staying too long they would have no home to go to."‡ " From Gloucester there came likewise intelligence that Barkeley castle, a garrison of the king's, on the edge of Gloucestershire, (which was formerly besieged and raised by Rupert, before Bristol was besieged,) is again besieged by a party from Sir Thomas Fairfax, and some of the country forces together. Master Stephens, a member of the house, is (at present) not well in Gloucester, but hopes to recover to be in the leaguer (siege) of Bristol."§ " Sir Thomas Fairfax ordered 1000 men for the taking in of Berkeley, to join with Colonel Morgan and the Gloucestershire forces. It was to assist in taking the castle."‖ " Colonel Morgan hath taken one of the works in Berkeley castle."¶—" From Gloucester by letters we are informed, that the siege of Berkeley castle goes on well; that they have taken the town and church by storm, and are now playing hard against the castle, and have received battering pieces from Gloucester. This day, Sept. 26, Barkeley is surrendered, the soldiers to march out without arms; the governor, Sir Charles Lucas; with three horses and arms, 50l. in money, no more; every field officer with two

* Mercur. Aulicus. † Corbet. ‡ Mercur. Aulicus.
§ Perfect Passages, August 27 to Sept. 1645. ‖ Diary, Sept. 11—18, 1645.
¶ Perfect Occurrences, Sept. 19—26, 1645.

horses; foot captains one; lieutenants, ensigns, sword and no horse; the field-officers and captains not to exceed 5l., the soldiers not 5s."*

To reward the active measures taken by Lord George to secure the restoration of Charles II., he was by "the merry monarch" created Viscount Dursley, and Earl of Berkeley, in 1679. His lordship presented to Sion college, a valuable library, collected by Sir Robert Coke. When King James II. withdrew from London, he was one of the peers who met at Guildhall, and signed the declaration that they would assist the Prince of Orange in obtaining a free parliament; and on the accession of William III. and Queen Mary, he was sworn a member of the privy council; and, in 1689, constituted custos rotulorum of Surrey.—His son Charles, second earl of Berkeley, was made a knight of the bath at the coronation of King Charles II.; and in 1679-81, he represented the city of Gloucester. On the accession of William and Mary, he was summoned by writ to the House of Peers, and took his seat, during the life-time of his father, as Baron Berkeley, of Berkeley, July 11, 1689—in which year he succeeded the Earl of Pembroke as envoy extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the states of Holland. In 1694, he was appointed lord lieutenant of the county of Gloucester; and in 1699, lord lieutenant of Ireland.—In 1702, he was constituted constable of the castle of St. Briavel's, in the forest of Dean, and lord lieutenant and custos rotulorum of the counties of Gloucester and Surrey. His lordship married Elizabeth, daughter of Baptist Noel, viscount Camden. Of his sons, Charles, lord viscount Dursley, died of the small pox at an early age; James succeeded to the earldom; and Henry in his youth was page of honour to Queen Anne, and in 1717 was appointed first commissioner for executing the office of master of the horse, and colonel of the 4th foot, and subsequently colonel of the grenadier guards. James early manifested an inclination for a naval life, and was, in 1701, appointed captain of the Sorlings. Soon after the accession of Queen Anne, he was promoted to the Lichfield, 50 guns; and being detached from the main fleet under Sir George Rooke, to cruise in soundings, he fell in with and captured, after a smart action, a French ship of war, of 36 guns, and a large vessel, carrying 20 guns, homeward bound from Martinique, and valued at 40,000l. He brought both vessels into Spithead. In 1704, he was appointed to the command of the Boyne, of 80 guns, and in the battle of Malaga was stationed in the line as one of the seconds to Sir John Leake, and behaved with the greatest gallantry; the Boyne having suffered more than any ship except that of the admiral. Lideard thus notices the affair: "Among the actions of other brave commanders, we must not forget those of the gallant Lord Dursley, who though then but twenty-three years old, gave many memorable instances of his undaunted courage, steady resolution, and prudent conduct." In 1706, he commanded the St. George, a second rate, one of the fleet sent to the Mediterranean under Sir Cloudsley Shovel. Lord Dursley riding at anchor before one of the Isles

* Perfect Diurnal, Sept. 22—29, 1645.

of Hieres, on which there were three forts, surprised the strongest and summoned the two others, which surrendered at discretion. On his return to England with Admiral Shovel, in the October following, he, almost miraculously, escaped being involved in the same unhappy fate with him.* His ship actually struck on the same ridge of rocks with the Association, but the same wave which beat over and destroyed that noble ship, providentially set the St. George afloat. In 1707-8, he was promoted, although at that time not more than twenty-seven years old, to be vice-admiral of the blue, and in the same year vice-admiral of the white. As it was resolved to give him an extraordinary mark of her majesty's favour as a reward for his diligence, by promoting him to the above rank, his lordship received orders to see the outward-bound Lisbon fleet safe to a certain latitude. He had scarcely fulfilled his instructions and parted from his charge, when on the 9th of April, he fell in with the Achilles, 70 guns, commanded by M. du Guai Trouin himself, (a famous admiral,) and the Glorieux, of 44 guns, which vessels had only the day before taken the Bristol, an English ship of war, mounting 50 guns. The signal for a general chace was immediately made by Lord Dursley, and with so much success that the Bristol was very soon recovered; but having received a shot in her bread-room, she foundered soon afterwards: all her people, however, were saved, twenty men only excepted. The pursuit being continued with much alacrity, the Glorieux was taken, and the Achilles alone had the good fortune to effect her escape. Lord Berkeley's well-known zeal for the interest of the house of Hanover had so highly recommended him to the notice of King George I., that immediately on the accession of that monarch he was appointed one of the lords of the bed-chamber. This brave nobleman died at the castle of Aubigny, a seat of Charles, duke of Richmond, (whose daughter, Lady Louisa Lennox, he had married,) near Rochelle, in France, whither he went for the benefit of his health, in 1736. The personal influence and political consequence of this noble personage were extremely great, and deservedly so. His only son, Augustus, who became fourth earl of Berkeley, was, in 1734, appointed an ensign of the guards. In 1737, lord lieutenant and custos rotulorum of the county of Gloucester, and captain of a company in the guards. In 1739, he was made a knight of the thistle; and in 1745, colonel of one of the regiments then raised. His lordship died in 1755, and was succeeded by Frederick Augustus,† fifth earl of Berkeley, and twenty-fifth in paternal

* "Admiral Shovel, with the confederate fleet from the Mediterranean, as he was coming home, apprehended himself near the rocks of Scilly, about noon; and the weather being hazy, he lay by till evening, when he made a signal for sailing; what induced him to be more cautious in the day than in the night, is not known; but the fleet had not been long under sail, before his own ship, the Association, with the Eagle and Romney, dashed to pieces on the rocks called *The Bishop and his Clerks*, and all their men were lost: the Firebrand was also cast away, and but 24 of her men saved. Admiral Byng perceiving the misfortune, altered his course, whereby he preserved himself and the rest of the fleet, which steered after him."—*British Chronology.*

† "The public attention was lately called to a very singular occurrence respecting his lordship, who was attacked by a very strong American deer, in his park, as he was walking with his son, a little boy. His lordship seized the enraged

descent from Harding, the royal Dane. At the age of seventeen his lordship, then viscount Dursley, repaired to the continent. His lordship was appointed lord lieutenant and custos rotulorum of the county of Gloucester, keeper of St. Briavel's castle, in the forest of Dean, colonel of the royal South Gloucester militia, and high steward of the city of Gloucester.

No writ has been issued to an Earl of Berkeley since the death, in 1810, of Frederick Augustus, fifth earl; the House of Peers having decided, July 1, 1811, that William Fitzhardinge Berkeley, the claimant, had not THEN made out his claim; but in consequence of that decision the title did not devolve on Thomas Moreton Fitzhardinge Berkeley, the claim being open to a revival by the elder branches, should they ever be advised to renew it. This has actually been the case, and the only obstacle to a hearing of the claim, is an undecided point as to the admissibility of the evidence of his present majesty, which by some oversight was not tendered to a consideration of the House of Lords in 1811, when his majesty was prince regent. His majesty's evidence has been taken down, and signed with the sign manual.

The chapel within Berkeley castle is the oldest private chapel known. In the apartments of the castle an extensive series of family portraits is preserved. There are also the following: A portrait of the Queen of Bohemia, by Cornelius Jansen; fine originals of King James I.* and his queen, Anne of Denmark; Queen Mary I.; Queen Elizabeth; the Princesss Anne, afterwards Queen Anne, by Sir Peter Lely, in his best style; a curious portrait of Henry, prince of Wales; a fine portrait of James, duke of York, in armour, and another of him when King James II.; of Charles II., and of William III. and Queen Mary; of Mary, queen of Scots, playing on a guitar; of Cromwell, of Cardinal Ragbine, of Thomas Hobbes, &c. There are likewise some fine pictures by Claude Lorraine, Wouvermans, Salvator Rosa, Ostade, Leonardo da Vinci, Holbein, Swanevelt, Bassano, Peter Keefs, Both; and some modern paintings by Corbould, Chalon, Allan, &c. Amongst the latter there is a fine painting of a scene from Julius Cæsar, in which there are portraits in character of Colonel Berkeley and Captain Augustus Berkeley.

The church, which is a handsome edifice, dedicated to St. Mary, stands at a short distance without the castle walls, and seems from the architecture to have been originally

animal by the horns, but in the struggle was thrown down and trampled upon, but still kept hold of the horns; and, with great presence of mind, desired his son not to be alarmed, but to pull out a knife from his side pocket, and try to cut the deer's throat, which the young boy attempted, but wanted force. He, however, stabbed the animal repeatedly in the side, till weakened with the loss of blood, it ran off; and his lordship, who was nearly exhausted, was released from his perilous situation. The affection, courage, and intrepidity of this admirable boy, deserve to be for ever remembered."—*Playfair's British Family Antiquities*, 1809.

* James I. frequently visited Berkeley castle, and the massive oak bedstead, made for his accommodation, is still in excellent preservation; as are likewise the oldest cabinet in England, formed of oak, and an ancient cabinet of tortoise-shell. There are also preserved a sofa and chairs, and, in the adjoining room, a bedstead, which were part of the cabin furniture of Sir Francis Drake, in his voyage round the world.

built in the reign of Henry II. and consequently of as great antiquity as the castle itself; but it has at various periods undergone considerable alteration. The tower, which was constructed about seventy years ago, stands apart from the church, in the extremity of the church-yard. Within the church, on a beautiful gothic screen which divides the choir or chancel from the nave, are the following arms emblazoned, denoting the different alliances of the noble house of Berkeley:

1. Or, three lions passant guardant, Azure; semée of hearts. *Fitz Hardinge.*
2. *Berkeley.*
3. Gules, a lion rampant, Argent. *Mowbray.*
4. Sable, a lion rampant, Argent, ducally crowned, Or. *Segrave.*
5. Azure, Crusile and a lion rampant, Or. *Bruce.*
6. Gules, three lions passant guardant, Or. *Brotherton.*
7. Azure, three garbs, Or. *Blundeville.*
8. Chequy, Or and Azure. *Warren.*
9. Gules, a lion rampant, between three cross crosslets fitchy, Or. *Capel.*
10. Barry of .... Or and Azure.
11. Gules, an inescutcheon of *France*, with an Orle of lions of *England.*
12. Argent, a chevron, Gules, between three bulls' heads couped, Sable. *Boleyn.*
13. Argent, a cross moline, Gules. *Uvedale.*
14. Azure, three quatrefoils, in chief, a boar passant, Or. *Massingbeard.*
15. Quarterly, Or and Gules, a bend of the last. *Beauchamp*, Baron of *Bedford.*
16. Chequy, Or and Azure, within a bordure, Gules, billetté, Argent.
17. Azure, a chief indented ermine. *Butler.*
18. Argent, on a bend Sable, three roses of the first. *Carey*, Lord *Hunsdon.*
19. *Beaufort.*
20. Azure, three covered cups, Or. *Butler.*
21. Ermine, on a chief, Sable, three crosses patée, Argent. *Wickingham.*
22. Quarterly, *France, England, Scotland, Ireland*, within a bordure composé, Argent and Azure, the Argent chargèd with roses proper. *Lenox.*
23. Chequy, Or and Azure, on a chief, Gules, a plume, Argent. *Drax.*

To the south wall of the chancel is joined the sacellum erected by James, lord Berkeley, about 1450; it is externally embellished in the highest gothic style; the arms and cognizances of the family are fitted with the ornaments of the frize, which is peculiarly elegant and simple, consisting only of ducal leaves, alternately large and small. The figure of St. George subduing the dragon is affixed to one of the pinnacles. The communication with the chancel is made by a low fretted arch, under which is an altar tomb of alabaster, whereon recline two figures of an old and young man in armour, the arms of Berkeley on their coats of mail, and collars of a military order round their necks—the mitre, their cognizance, under their heads; and a lion couchant under their feet.

Between the nave and the south aisle, on an altar tomb, are the effigies of Thomas, lord Berkeley, who died in 1360, and Catherine, his second lady. His lordship is represented in the armour of the fourteenth century, charged with family bearings. The font is square, and its form is of the highest antiquity.

The benefice is a vicarage in the presentation of the Berkeley family—but the impropriation is retained by the chapter of Bristol.

Close to the church-yard stands Chantry cottage,* but a few years since the home of the illustrious philanthropist, EDWARD JENNER; and now the residence of his son, Capt. Robert Fitz Hardinge Jenner. The following memoir of Dr. Jenner cannot but be acceptable to every friend of the human race:

Dr. Edward Jenner was born at Berkeley, on the 17th of May, 1749. It is conjectured by one of his biographers that the suffering he underwent in youth from the mal-administration of the small pox, originated in his mind the desire of exterminating the disease, or at least of alleviating its concomitant miseries. In early life his favourite study was natural history, and his mind was, as if intuitively, attached to philosophical pursuits. In his thirteenth year he was placed under the care of Messrs. Ludlow, who were then eminent practitioners at Sodbury; and after the customary introduction into the elementary parts of the profession, he became house pupil to the celebrated John Hunter. On his return to Berkeley he determined to commence practice in the place of his nativity; and there he continued his anatomical and physiological researches, and formed a museum of natural history and comparative anatomy.

"To record on his tomb that he was the inventor of vaccine inoculation, is enough permanently to designate him to future ages as the greatest contributor to the physical interests of mankind, who ever existed in this or any other nation. No antecedent improvement in medicine can rank in direct utility with this single one. In every quarter of the globe where it has been actively disseminated, it has effected an immense saving of human life, and averted much of human suffering and deformity. In our eastern and western colonies, and all over the continent of America, the small pox has been universally checked and diminished. In the European nations of Russia, France, Prussia, Austria, Sweden, and Holland, the small pox is in some, viz. Prussia and Sweden, absolutely extinct; and in others its occurrence is, comparatively, unfrequent. The most rapidly extending and epidemic small pox has been at once disarmed by the powers of vaccination. In Great Britain and Ireland, the bills of mortality, the reports of different hospitals, dispensaries, and those of individuals, all attest a great diminution of the occurrence of small pox.

"If ever man existed who possessed an original, and we might almost add, an intuitive claim to the pretensions of a natural historian and physiologist, Dr. Jenner was that claimant. Nature had given him great genius, vast sagacity, much inclination, and great ardour in the prosecution of the subjects of natural history, physiology, and pathology; his researches were consistent and connected—at an early age he was destined to the study of one department of the medical profession, surgery. In the commencement of his studies, he was associated and connected with some late eminent characters, Dr. Parry, of Bath; Dr. Hickes, of Gloucester; and Dr. Ludlow, of Corsham, near Bath;

* Chantry Cottage is supposed to have been anciently a monastic edifice.



Drawn by S. Owen Esqr.

W. Radclyffe Sc.

TO ROBERT FITZHARDING JENNER, ESQR

THIS VIEW OF HIS RESIDENCE.

CHANTRY COTTAGE, BERKELEY,

(ENGRAVED AT HIS EXPENCE) IS MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED BY

T. Goldwyn

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but above these, he was honoured with the peculiar friendship and patronage of the late Mr. J. Hunter, whose name stands highest in the rolls of surgical and philosophic reputation. Mr. Hunter, well aware of the extraordinary talents of Dr. Jenner, then a pupil, offered to him patronage, connexion, and employment in his professional and physiological pursuits. Dr. Jenner, however, preferred a residence at his native place, Berkeley; here he acquired not merely high local reputation, but from the public observations and discoveries which he promulgated, great estimation in the superior ranks of philosophers and medical professors. After some less important communications to the royal society of London, (of which he was early made a member,) he imparted to them a complete natural history of the cuckoo, of which bird the laws and habits were previously unknown, and were involved in obscurity; the singular ingenuity of this paper, and the acute powers of observation which it developed in the observer, enhanced Dr. Jenner's reputation in the philosophic world. Dr. Jenner also communicated to his youthful friend and colleague, the late highly-gifted Dr. Parry, of Bath, his discovery of the internal diseased structure of the heart, which produces the disease called Angina Pectoris, and which was before unknown, and conjectural. Dr. Parry, in a treatise on the subject, not only most honourably recorded Dr. Jenner's original detection of the cause of the disease, but confirmed its accuracy by subsequent and ingenious investigation. After a long and arduous enquiry into the disease termed cow pox, which is a common complaint in cows in Gloucestershire, and some other counties, and which to those who receive it from the cows in milking, appears from long existing tradition to confer complete security from small pox, either natural or inoculated, Dr. Jenner determined to put the fact to the test of experiment, and accordingly inoculated some young persons with matter taken from the disease in the cows, in the year 1797. From the irrefragable proofs which these experiments afforded of the power of the cow-pox inoculation to protect the human body from small-pox contagion, Dr. Jenner was induced to bring this inestimable fact before the public in the year 1798. That this was promulgated with all the simplicity of a philosopher, and with all the disinterestedness of the philanthropist, every candid contemporary and observer will admit, and will unite in admiring his just pretensions to both characters. The first medical professors in the metropolis allowed that had Dr. Jenner kept his discovery in the disguise of empirical secresy, he would have realized immense emoluments; but the pure and liberal feelings which Dr. Jenner possessed, spurned and rejected such considerations, and his general remunerations, even including the sums voted by parliament, were moderate in the extreme, when liable to the deductions for labour and expence in correspondence with the four quarters of the world, as well as with the whole of this empire; besides the necessity of continued residence in London, to protect and regulate the practice of vaccination.

"The solid basis which vaccination now rests upon, leaves not a doubt of its ultimate efficiency in liberating mankind from a physical evil of the greatest and most horrible

extent, and produces a conviction that the *acme* of Dr. Jenner's reputation is now but incipient, and that at its highest it will stand elevated and unrivalled amongst ancient or modern medical contributions to the good of humanity.

"A singular originality of thought was his leading characteristic. He appeared to have naturally inherited what in others is the result of protracted study. He seemed to think from originality of perception alone, and not from induction. He arrived, by a glance, at inferences, which would have occupied the laborious conclusions of most men. In human and animal pathology, in comparative anatomy, and in geology, he perceived facts and formed theories instantaneously, and with a spirit of inventive penetration, which distanced the slower approaches of more learned men. But if his powers of mind were singularly great; the qualities which accompanied them were still more felicitous. He possessed the most singular amenity of disposition, with the highest feeling—the rarest simplicity united to the highest genius. In the great distinction and the superior society to which his discovery introduced him, the native cast of his character was unchanged. Amongst the great monarchs of Europe who when in Great Britain solicited his acquaintance, he was the unaltered Edward Jenner of his birth place. In the other moral parts of his character, affection, friendship, beneficence, and liberality, were pre-eminent —but no apathy mixed with these feelings; as he felt and expressed himself acutely only when immorality or injustice were the subjects. In religion, his belief was equally remote from laxity and fanaticism; and he observed to an intimate friend not long before his death, that he wondered not that the people were ungrateful to him for his discovery, but he was surprised that they were ungrateful to God for the benefits of which he was the humble means."

He died on the morning of Sunday the 26th of January, 1823, after a very short attack of illness; and his remains were deposited in the chancel of the parish church of Berkeley.

CHAPTER XVII.

NORTH-WESTWARD EXCURSION.

TEWKESBURY.

Ampla foro, et partis spoliis præclara Theoci
Curia, Sabrinæ qua se committit Avona
Fulget; nobilium sacrisq; recondit in antris
Multorum cineres, quondam inclyta corpora bello.

LELAND.

"Where Avon's friendly streams with Severn join,
Great Tewkesbury's walls, renowned for trophies, shine;
And keep the sad remains, with pious care,
Of noble souls, the honor of the war."

At the western extremity of the High-street of Cheltenham, the turnpike-road to Tewkesbury commences; and cutting through a tract of land called Bedlam*—leaving the hamlet of Arle, in which Arle Court, the picturesque seat of J. G. Welch, Esq. is situated, on the left, and the secluded village of Swindon, on the right—passes by Uckington, (immediately beyond which the celebrated Piff's Elm stands close by the road,) to Bodington—anciently Botenton—of which parish some notice must be taken:—Amongst the early possessors of the manor were the Barons de Ferrers, of Chartley; and the Earls of Warwick and of Craven. "At Bodington," says Leland, "there is a fayr maner place and a parke: it came to one Rede, servant to the Lorde Beauchampe, that married hys lorde's daughter, the eldest of three; and the Redes have yt stille." In 1652, the manor was surveyed by commissioners as having been forfeited to the commonwealth by Lord Craven; and was sold to the then secretary of war, Mr. Locke, in whose family it was held in 1779, till by intermarriages it was devised to —— Blagden, Esq. and is now held in trust by the Rev. John Neale.

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* So called as having been devised in will for the benefit of the lunatic asylum at Gloucester.

In a field adjoining the moat which surrounds the mansion stood the famous Bodington Oak, the circumference of the bole of which was nearly twenty yards. The lower part of the trunk, which became quite hollow, formed a void in itself of sixteen feet in diameter. This venerable tree was destroyed by fire in the year 1790.

One instance of longevity, and of the retention of bodily activity for nearly a century, is worthy of being recorded: In April, 1818, William Lake, a native of Bodington, died there in the close of his ninety-ninth year. He was in the constant and daily habit of walking to Cheltenham and back again—a distance, both ways, of nine miles—until a few days previous to his death; and to the last he perfectly possessed his mental faculties. —Within the parish of Bodington, there is a small sugar-loaf hill, in the hamlet of Barrow, situated in the midst of a large extent of vale country, from which it is said that on a clear day a distinct view may be had of thirty-six parish churches.

At Combe-hill, which is distant five miles from Cheltenham, the road branches off on the right, and 1½ mile further on is the new road leading by the Haw-bridge into Herefordshire and South Wales. Before reaching Tewkesbury, another road on the left leads to Deerhurst, anciently written Deortyrste, or "the Wood by the Water." This village, which is situated on the banks of the Severn, is celebrated as the site of a priory said to have been founded about the year 715, by Duke Dodo, out of respect and affection to his brother Almaric, whose palace it had been, and afterwards became the place of his interment. In the wall over the door was this inscription; "Hanc aulam Dodo dux consecrari fecit in ecclesiam, ad honorem beatæ Mariæ Virginis, ob amorem fratris sui Almarici."* About the year 960, St. Alphege, afterwards archbishop of Canterbury, was a monk in this monastery. The original priory was destroyed by the Danes in their incursions; and a new edifice was erected in the year 980, but it continued in a low and poor condition till the year 1056, when King Edward the Confessor caused it to be rebuilt and made it an alien priory by giving it to the abbey of St. Dennis, at Paris, to which it became a Benedictine cell. This gift was confirmed by William the Conqueror, in the year 1069. But it must again have fallen to decay, for William de Malmsbury mentions it as "only an empty monument of antiquity." In 1250, it was purchased by Richard, earl of Cornwall, "king of the Romans;" but the abbots of St. Dennis retained their jurisdiction till 1422, when Henry VI. made it by his charter a priory denizen, and gave the patronage to the monastery of Tewkesbury—but in the 19th year of the same reign, when Eton college was founded, the priory of Deerhurst was dissolved, and its possessions given to Eton—but were afterwards given by Edward IV. to Fotheringhay college, in Northamptonshire. They were subsequently regranted to Eton, and finally to Tewkes-

* "Duke Dodo, from the affection he bore to his brother Almaric, caused this palace to be consecrated into a church to the honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary."—The "venerable Bede" mentions the building as being a famous monastery in his time.

bury abbey, to which they were attached at the dissolution. In the seventeenth century, the site of the priory was purchased by the Earl of Coventry, and in that noble family Deerhurst continues vested, and gives to the eldest son the title of Viscount Deerhurst. The greater part of the church was rebuilt in the year 1470, by William Whitchurch, abbot of Hayles. There is an extraordinary legend attached to Deerhurst, which is in some degree confirmed by the descendants of the individual who was the hero of the tale. It is said that an enormous serpent was a great grievance to all the country around Deerhurst, by poisoning the inhabitants and destroying the cattle. So serious was the annoyance caused by this monster, that at length the people petitioned the king for relief, and a proclamation was issued, offering, as a reward, that any person who should kill this serpent should enjoy an estate at Walton-hill, (in the parish,) which then belonged to the crown. A labouring man, named Smith, undertook the perilous task, and succeeded; for having put a large quantity of milk in a place to which the serpent resorted, the animal gorged it up, and then stretched itself out to sleep in the sun, with its scales ruffled up. Seeing the common enemy thus in his power, Smith advanced cautiously, and striking between the scales with his axe, cut off the serpent's head. The truth of this narrative is borne out by the fact that the estate is to this day in the possession of a descendant of Smith, and the axe with which the feat was achieved is in good preservation.

The town of Tewkesbury, in the hundred to which it gives name, is situate in a rich and fertile vale, "watered by four rivers, like the garden of Eden." It is near the confines of Worcestershire, on the eastern banks of Shakespeare's "soft flowing Avon," near its confluence with the Severn, and the Carrant and the Swilgate. The etymology of Tewkesbury is deduced by tradition from an eminent hermit named Theocus, who had a chapel on the banks of the Severn, about the year 700. Leland erroneously calls the town Theoci Curia; but in the Saxon inscription discovered in Leominster church, it is called Deotisbyrg, or Theot-is-byrg—"the Town belonging to Theot." Its derivation was supposed by William de Malmsbury, to be from the Greek word ***Theotocos***, signifying the mother of God, because the first monastery built there was dedicated to the Virgin Mary—but it is thought a town existed here prior to that foundation. Tewkesbury is conjectured by Baxter to have been the Etocessa of the Romans, latinized by them from the British Etoc-isceu, ***faux aquarum***, and afterwards changed by the Saxons into Theoes-byrig—the Town of Etocessa. But the inference drawn by Rudder differs from all these: He says, "the earliest account we have of this place is in the reign of Cenred, king of Mercia, when two brothers, Odo and Dodo, great noblemen of that kingdom, were lords of this manor. And from this Dodo or Thodo, (for in Saxon names the ***D*** and ***Th*** are often substituted for one another,) comes Theodocus, the same name, only written after the Latin manner; and hence probably "Teodechesberie," as it is in Domesday. The termination indicates that here was a camp or place of defence, now

perhaps levelled and destroyed, but there is no doubt of its once existing; and it was most probably in Oldbury field, for Oldbury signifies the Old Camp; and upon this supposition *Teodechesberie* signifies the *Camp of Theocus*."—In 715, Dodo founded a monastery here: and he and his brother dying in 725, were buried at Pershore. In the year 800, Hugh, a Mercian nobleman, was patron of the abbey, and by his influence Brictric, king of the West Saxons, was buried there. In the year 980, the abbey was subjected to Cranborne abbey, in Dorsetshire: this was done by a noble knight called Haylward, surnamed the Fair, or Snow-like, so called from his complexion. Prior to the conquest, Brictric, the grandson of Haylward, who possessed many of the principal estates in Gloucestershire, and was "lord of the vast seigneury of Gloucester," finished and enlarged the church, of which he became the patron. This Brictric fell the victim of female revenge, excited by slighted passion. He had been employed on an embassy to the court of Baldwin, earl of Flanders, whose daughter Matilda formed a deep attachment for him, but finding no return of affection—for Brictric refused to marry her—she meditated a bitter expiation of his offence, which she had soon an opportunity of exacting. She became the wife of William the Norman, whom she accompanied to England at the conquest; and one of her first acts was to cause the person of Brictric to be seized and imprisoned, and all his estates to be confiscated by the conqueror, whose successor, William Rufus, gave the honour of Gloucester, and all Brictric's possessions, with the patronage of Tewkesbury monastery, to Robert Fitz Hamon, who, at the request of his wife Sybil, rebuilt and enlarged the church and monastery of Tewkesbury in such a manner that William de Malmsbury says, "it cannot be easily reported how highly he exalted this monastery, where the beauty of the buildings ravished the eies, and the charity of the monks allured the hearts of such folks as used to come thither." On the death of Fitz Hamon, King Henry III. brought about a marriage between his natural son Robert Fitz Roy, whom on that occasion he created earl and consul of Gloucester, and Mabil, Fitz Hamon's eldest daughter. The manner of the king's courting her by proxy, is thus quaintly described by Robert of Gloucester:

"Sir, shee saide, ich wote your herte upon mee is,
More for myne heritage than for myselfe I wis:
And such heritage as ich have, bit weer to mee greet shame
To take a lorde, but he hadde any surname.
Damoseill, quoth the kyng, thou seest well in this case,
Sir Robert Fitz Hayme thi fader's name was:
As fayre a name he shall have, as you may see,
Sir Robert le Fitz Roy, shall his name be.
Damoseill, be sayd, thi lorde shall have a name,
For him and for his heires fayre without blame;
For Robert, erle of Gloucester, his name shall be, and is;
He shall be erle of Gloucester, and his heires I wis."

Earl Robert constantly invited the abbot and twelve monks of Tewkesbury to his table every Sunday. His grand-daughter Isabel married John, fourth son of King Henry II.

(afterwards king of England,) who became, in her right, earl of Gloucester. On his accession to the throne he divorced Isabel; and, it is said, sold her afterwards, with all her lands and fees, except the castle of Bristol, to Geoffrey de Mandeville, earl of Essex. This nobleman was killed at a tournament; and the discarded queen became the wife of Hugh de Burgh, chief justice of England. Prince John resided for some time in a small castle situated near the Tuit, which is even yet inhabited. He built the Long-bridge leading to Worcester, and gave the profits of the fairs and markets to keep it in repair. Isabel's nephew, Almaric de Montfort, succeeded to the manor, but dying without issue, it descended to Gilbert de Clare, earl of Hertford, in right of his wife, Isabel's second sister. This Gilbert lived at Holmes castle, which was the supposed manorial residence, at the south-west end of Tewkesbury, but of which no vestige now remains. Even Leland could only trace its site "by sum ruines of the bottoms of waulles," From the De Clares Tewkesbury passed by marriage into the family of the Despensers. One of these, Thomas le Despenser, was created earl of Gloucester; and married Constance, daughter of Edward de Langley, duke of York; but being one of the nobles who conspired to dethrone King Henry IV., he was beheaded at Bristol. His daughter and heiress, Isabel, married Richard Beauchamp, lord Abergavenny, afterwards earl of Worcester; but he was slain at the siege of Meaux, in 1421; and his widow, by a dispensation from the pope, married his cousin Richard de Beauchamp, earl of Warwick. This earl was distinguished not less by his extensive possessions and wealth, than by his wisdom and courage. He was governor of Calais, and had visited the courts of the most powerful princes in Europe. He died before his wife, who did not long survive him. The Lady Isabel* was a great benefactress to the abbey of Tewkesbury; as was her son Thomas, who was crowned king of the Isle of Wight by King Henry VI. in person; and in his nineteenth year was created duke of Warwick, and declared premier earl of England. He did not live long to enjoy his princely state—but died in the twenty-second year of his age; when his sister Ann succeeded to his splendid inheritance. She married Richard Nevil, earl of Salisbury, afterwards created earl of Warwick, and distinguished for his prowess by the appellation of the stout Earl of Warwick; and, for his influence over the fortunes of King Henry VI. and Edward IV. whose successes alternately depended upon his interference, he was called ***The King Maker.*** He was slain at the battle of Barnet, in April, 1471, and his countess was compelled to seek safety in flight. Their daughter Isabel married the ill-fated George, duke of Clarence, who, by the contrivance of Richard, duke of Gloucester, was attainted of high treason, and drowned in the tower in a butt of Malmsey. Their children were alike unfortunate:—for Edward Plantagenet, earl of Warwick, their son, was imprisoned by Henry VII. for a pretended

* "She gave three hundred marks a year to the abbey, that six monks might be added to pray for her soul, and the souls of her ancestors and successors. She also gave the ornaments which she wore when alive, valued at three hundred marks."

conspiracy with Perkin Warbeck, but in fact through the jealousy of the king, who looked upon the only surviving heir male of the house of York with suspicion. He was in consequence beheaded in the 25th year of his age. His sister Margaret, countess of Salisbury, who married Sir Richard Pole, was attainted 33d Henry VIII. for high treason, *in corresponding with her son*, Cardinal Reginald Pole, and beheaded. Before the decollation of Edward Plantagenet, his large possessions were seized by Henry VII. under a forced conveyance from his grandmother Anne, countess of Warwick and Salisbury—and his estates, among which was the manor of Tewkesbury, remained vested in the crown, till they were granted, 1st Edward VI. to Sir Thomas Seymour. Upon his attainder they reverted to the crown, and so continued, till in March, 1609, the manor and borough were sold to the corporation by King James I. for 2,455l. 7s. 4½d.

Having thus traced the possession of the manor, we have now to record that event which has given to Tewkesbury its most important station in the page of history. We must first premise that little more of a martial nature is known of the early annals of the town than that the Danes committed some depredations; and when it was held by Robert, earl of Gloucester, the town was ransacked by Walleran de Beaumont, who seized immense riches, but spared the possessions of the abbey.—As the scene of that tremendous fight which terminated the civil war between the houses of York and Lancaster, it must always be distinguished.

The following detail is given from Holinshed's Chronicle, as the most faithful account extant:—" Queene Margaret and hir sonne prince Edward, with the other that landed at Weimouth, went from thence to an abbeie neere by called Céerne. Thither came vnto them Edmund, duke of Summerset, and Thomas Courtneie, earle of Deuonshire, with others, and welcommed them into England, comforting the queene in the best maner they could, and willed hir not to despaire of good successe; for albeit they had lost one field (whereof the queene had knowledge; the same day being Mondai in Easter weeke, the fifteenth of Aprill, and was therefore right sorrowfull) yet they doubted not but to assemble such a puissance (and that verie shortlie) foorth of diuerse parts of the realme, as being faithfull, and wholie bent to spend their liues, and shed the best bloud in their bodies for hir sake, and hir sonnes, it should be hard for king Edward to resist them with all the power he had or could make.

" The presence of these noble men greatly comforted hir, and relieued hir of the sorrowes that in maner ouer whelmed hir pensiue heart: for she doubted sore the end of all these proceedings, the which they concluded to follow vpon the aduancement of hir and hirs. Speciallie it misgaue hir, that some euill should chance to hir sonne prince Edward, for shee greatlie weid not of hir owne perill (as she hir selfe confessed) and therefore she would gladlie haue had them either to haue deferred the battell till a more conuenient time: or else that hir sonne might haue been conueied ouer into France againe,

there to haue remained in safetie, till the chance of the next battell were tried: but they being of a contrarie mind, and namelie the duke of Summerset, she at length consented vnto that which they were resolued vpon.

" Thus euerie man being bent to battell, gathered his power by himselfe, first in Summersetshire, Dorsetshire, and part of Wiltshire, and after in Deuonshire and Cornewall. For the better encouraging of which countries to ioine with them in their quarrell, they repaired to Excester. Here they sent for sir John Arundell and sir Hugh Courtenie, and manie other in whom they had anie confidence. To be short, they wrought so, that they raised the whole powers of Cornewall and Deuonshire, and with a great armie departing foorth of Excester, they tooke the right waie to Glastenburie, and from thence to Bath, raising the people in all parts where they came: for those countries had bene so laboured, first by the earle of Warwike, and after by the duke of Summerset, and the earle of Deuonshire (which two noble men were reckoned as old inheritors of the same countries) that the people seemed then greatlie inclined to the fauor of king Henrie.

" King Edward, being at London, was dailie aduertised by faithfull espials of all the dooings of his aduersaries, and was in no small agonie, bicause he could not learne what waie his enimies ment to take, for he purposed to incounter them in one place or other, before they should approch neere to London. And vpon such resolution, with such an armie as he had got about London, furnished with all artillerie and other prouisions necessarie, he set forward the nineteenth of Aprill, and came to Windsore, where he staied a season, as well to celebrate the feast of Saint George, as to abide the comming of such bands as he had appointed to repaire thither vnto him, making there his generall assemblie.

" The enimies to masker him the more, sent foorth their foreriders vnto sundrie townes, both as well to raise people in the countries about, as to make the king beleeue that their purpose was to passe those waies, where they ment not once to come. And herevpon when they departed from Excester, they sent first their foreriders streight to Shaftesburie, and after to Salisburie, and then they tooke the streight waie to Taunton, Glastenburie, and after to Wels, where houering about in the countrie, they sent another time their foreriders to a towne called Yuell, and to Bruton, as if their meaning hade beene to draw towards Reading, and so through Barkeshire, and Oxfordshire, to haue marched streight to London, or else to haue set vpon the king at some aduantage, if it were offered.

" But king Edward, considering aduisedlie of the matter, perceiued well that they being in an angle of the realme, if they ment to go to London, they must either hold the streight waie foorth by Salisburie, or else drawing vp to the sea side, passe alongst through Hampshire, Sussex and Kent; or happilie if they mistrusted their owne strengths, as not able to match with his puissance, they would then slip on the left hand, and draw towards Chesshire and Lancashire, there to increase their forces, and peraduenture by the waie to ioine with a power of Welshmen, vnder the leading of Jasper, earle of Penbroke,

who had beene sent into Wales long afore, to frame and put in readines the people there to assist king Henries friends at their comming thitherwards. And such was there purpose in deed, for they had great confidence in such aid, as they trusted to haue of the Chesshire and Lancashire men.

" King Edward, meaning to approch neerer vnto them, that he might the sooner make waie to stop them of their passage, on which hand soeuer they drew, departed from Windesore the morrow after Saint George's day, being the foure and twentith day of Aprill, keeping foorth his journie, till on Saturdaie the twentie & seuenth of Aprill he came to Abington, where he laie Sundaie all daie. On Mondaie he marched forward to Chichester, where he had sure aduertisement, that they intended to be at Bath the next daie being Tuesdaie, and on Wednesdaie to come forward to give him battell. Wherevpon king Edward, desirous to see his people in order of battell, drew them foorth of the towne, and incamped in the field three miles distant from thence, still busieng himselfe about his necessarie affaires, affoording no time to idlenesse or loitering: for he knew that there was no waie more expedite and readie to tire him in trauell, than to be giuen to negligence and slouth, the two weariers of well dooing, as the old saieng is:

" Desidia pressus erit in studio cito fessus."

" On the morrow, hearing no certeintie of their comming forward, he marched to Malmesburie, still seeking to incounter them: but heere he had knowledge, that they hauing changed their purpose, ment not to giue him battell; and therefore were turned aside and gone to Bristow, where they were receiued, releeued, and well refreshed by such as fauoured their cause, as well with vittels, men, and monie, as good store of artillerie. Where vpon they were so incouraged, that the Thursdaie after they tooke the field againe, purposing to giue king Edward battell indeed; and for the same intent had sent their foreriders to a towne, distant from Bristow nine miles, called Sudburie, appointing a ground for their field, a mile from the same towne, toward the kings campe, called Sudburie hill.

" The king heereof aduertised, the same Thursdaie, being the first of Maie, with his armie fair ranged in order of battell, came towards the place by them appointed for their field: but they came not there. For hearing that king Edward did thus approch, vpon a new change of resolution, they left that waie: albeit some of their herbingers were come as farre as Sudburie towne, and there surprised fiue or six of the kings partie, which were rashlie entred that towne, attending onelie to prouide lodgings for their masters. The lords thus hauing eftsoones changed their purpose, not meaning as yet to fight with the king, directed their waie streight towards Berkelie, trauelling all that night. From Berkelei they marched forward towards Glocester.

" The king in the meane time, on the Thursdaie in the after noone, came to the same ground called Sudburie hill, and there staied a certeine space, sending foorth scowriers,

to hearken what they might vnderstand of the enimies, whome he tooke to be some where at hand. But when he could not heare anie certeintie of them, he aduanced forward, lodging his vant-gard in a vallie beyond the hill, towards the towne of Sudburie, and laie himselfe (with the residue of his people) at the same place, called Sudburie hill. About three of the clocke after midnight, he was aduertised, that his enimies had taken their waie by Berkeleie, towards Glocester. Heerevpon, taking aduise of his councell what was best to doo, he was counselled to send some of his seruants with all speed vnto Glocester, to Richard Beauchampe, sonne and heire to the lord Beauchampe, of Powike, to whome he had (before this present) committed the rule and custodie of the towne and castell of Glocester.

" The king sent therefore with all speed vnto him, commanding him to doo his best to defend the towne and castell against his enimies, if they came to assaile the same, as it was supposed they intended: and if they so did, he promised to come with his whole armie presentlie to the rescue. The messengers did their diligence, and so being ioiefullie receiued into Glocester, the towne and castell, by the vigilant regard of the said Richard Beauchampe, was put in safe keeping. And this message was doone in good time, for true it is, there were diuerse in the towne, that could have beene well contented that the queene, and the lords with hir, should haue beene receiued there, and would haue aduentured to haue brought it to passe, if they had not beene thus preuented.

" Againe, the queene and the lords with hir had good intelligence, with diuerse in the towne, so as they were put in great hope to haue entred the same: wherevpon they trauelled their people right sore all that night and morning, comming before the towne of Glocester vpon the Fridaie about ten of the clocke. And when they perceiued that they were disappointed of their purpose, and their entrie flatlie denied, they were highly therewith displeased; for they knew verie well, that diuerse within the towne bare their good willes towards them; but after they had vsed certeine menacing braueries, and made a shew as if they had meant to assalt the gates and walles, and so to haue entred by force, they departed their waies, marching with all speed possible towards Teukesburie.

" It might be maruelled at, whie they attempted not the winning of Glocester indeed, considering the freends which they knew they had within it. But the cause which mooued them cheeflie to forbeare, was, for that as well they without, as the other within the towne, knew that king Edward approached at hand, and was readie to set vpon them on the backes, if they had once begun to haue assaulted the towne; and so, neither they within the towne, that were the kings freends doubted the enimies forces, nor the enimie indeed durst attempt anie such enterprise against them. About foure of the clocke in the afternoone, they came to Teukesburie, hauing travelled that night last past, and that daie, six and thirtie long miles, in a foule countrie, all in lanes and stonie waies, betwixt woods, without anie good refreshing, so that as well the men as the horsses were right wearie.

" And where the more part of their armie consisted of footmen, the capteins could not haue gone anie further, except they would haue left their footmen behind them, and so of necessitie they were driuen to staie there, determining to abide the aduenture that God would send them. For well they knew that the king followed them verie neere at hand, so as if they should haue gone further, and left the most part of their companie behind, as it could not otherwise haue chanced, he would haue beene readie to haue taken the aduantage wholie, so to distresse them.* Heerevpon they pight their field in a close, euen hard at the townes end, hauing the towne and abbeie at their backes; and directlie before them, and vpon each side of them, they were defended with cumbersome lanes, deepe ditches, and manie hedges, beside hils and dales, so as the place seemed as noisome as might be to approach vnto.

" The king on this Fridaie, verie erlie in the morning, aduanced his standards, and in good order of battle hauing diuided his armie into three wards, marched through the plaines of Cotteswould. The daie was verie hot, and hauing in his armie above three thousand footmen, he trauelled with them and the residue thirtie miles and more. By all which waie they could find neither horssemeat, nor mans meat, no not so much as water for their horsses, except one little brooke, of the which they receiued no great releefe; for what with the horsses and carriages that passed thorough it, the water became so troubled, that it serued them to no vse: and still all that daie king Edward with his armie was within fiue or six miles of his enimies, he in the plaine countrie and they among the woods.

" King Edward had ever good espials, to aduertise him still what his enemies did, and which waie they tooke. At length he came with all his armie vnto a village called Chiltenham, like a fiue miles distant from Teukesburie, where he had certeine knowledge that his enimies were alreadie come to Teukesburie, and were incamped there, purposing to abide him in that place, and to deliver him battell. King Edward therevpon made no long delaie but tooke a little refection himselfe, and caused his people to doo the like,

* " Edward so closely pursued them, that upon their arrival at Tewkesbury, they consulted whether they should venture to pass the river, at the peril of seeing their rear put to rout, or intrench themselves in a park adjoining to the town, till the earl of Pembroke arrived. The queen, who thought only of saving the prince, was for passing. Some others, more out of complaisance to her than for any good reason, seconded her opinion. But the duke of Somerset strenuously opposed it. He represented the enemy was so near, that before the army had all passed, he would certainly have it in his power to attack them and cut in pieces those who should have the misfortune to be left behind: That such an accident, which seemed unavoidable, could not but prove very fatal, and discourage such as were still friends to the house of Lancaster: In fine, tho' their army was inferior in number to that of the enemy, that disadvantage might be repaired by intrenching in the park, and drawing lines which would balance the superiority of his troops. After mature deliberation, this opinion was thought most adviseable, considering the circumstances of time and place. Historians, of whom few understand the art of war, have taxed the duke of Somerset with imprudence and rashness, solely because they considered not the difficulty of passing a river like the Severn, with the enemy in the rear. But if that general had been guilty of no other fault, perhaps the queen's affairs would have taken another turn. At least she might have waited the earl of Pembroke's arrival, and by fighting upon equal terms, caused her enemy to run his share of the peril. This the sequel will demonstrate."—*Rapin.*

with such prouision of vittels as he had appointed to be conueied foorth with him for the releefe of himselfe and his armie. This doone he set forward towards his enimies and lodged that night in a field not past three miles distant from them.

" On the morrow being Saturdaie, and fourth of Maie, he drew towards his enimies, and marshalled his armie, diuided into three battels in this sort. He put his brother the duke of Glocester in the fore-ward, and himselfe in the midle-ward. The lord marques, and the lord Hastings led the rere-ward. Heerewith he approached the enimies campe which was right hard to be assailed, by reason of the deepe ditches hedges, trees, bushes, and cumbersome lanes, wherewith the same was fensed, both a front, and on the sides, so as the king could not well approach them, to anie aduantage: and to be the better in a readinesse to beat backe the kings power, when he should come to assault them, they were imbattelled in this order.

" The duke of Summerset, and his brother the lord John of Summerset led the fore-ward. The midle-ward was gouerned by the prince, vnder the conduct of the lord of saint John, and the lord Wenlocke (whome king Edward had aduanced to the degree of a baron.) The rere-ward was appointed to the rule of the earl of Deuonshire. Thus may yee perceiue, that king Edward was put to his shifts, how (to anie aduantage) to assault his enimies. Neuertheless, he being well furnished with great artillerie, the same was aptlie lodged to annoie the enimies, that they receiued great damage thereby; and the duke of Glocester, who lacked no policie, galled them greeuouslie with the shot of arrowes: and they rewarded their aduersaries home againe with like paiment, both with shot of arrowes, and great artillerie, although they had not the like plentie of guns as the king had. The passages were so cumbersome, that it was not possible to come vpon anie euen hand, to ioine at hand-blows.

" The duke of Glocester, vpon a politike purpose* (as some haue written) reculed backe with all his companie, which when the duke of Summerset perceiued, either moued therewith; or else bicause he was too sore annoied with the shot in that place were he and his fore-ward stood, like a knight more couragious than circumspect, came out of his strength with his whole battell, and aduanced himselfe somewhat aside, slips the kings voward, and by certeine passages aforehand, and for that purpose prouided (to the king's part, although vnknowne) he passed a lane, and came into a faire open close, right before the king, where he was imbattled, not doubting but the prince and the lord Wenlocke, with the midle-ward, had followed iust at his backe. But whether the lord Wenlocke dissembled the matter for king Edwards sake, or whether his hart serued him not, still he stood, and gaue the looking on.

* A similar stratagem decided the conquest of England, by William, duke of Normandy. When the Normans at the battle of Hastings found that no charge could break the English line under Harold, William by a signal ordered them to feign a flight—the English flushed with hope and courage broke the ranks; the Normans fell upon them and utterly defeated them.

" The king, or (as other haue) the duke of Glocester, taking the aduantage that he aduentured for, turned againe face to face vnto the duke of Summerset his battell, and winning the hedge and ditch of him, entred the close, and with great violence put him and his people vp towards the hill from whence they were descended. Heere is to be noted, that when the king was come before his enimies, yer he gaue the onset, he perceiued that vpon the right hand of their campe there was a parke, and much store of wood growing therein; and doubting least his aduersaries had laid an ambush within that wood, he chose foorth of his companies two hundred speares, commanding them to keep a stale, like a quarter of a mile from the field, to attend vpon that corner of the wood out of the which the ambush, if anie were, was to issue, and to incounter with them as occasion serued: but if they perceiued that there was no ambush at all, then to imploie their seruice as they should see it expedient and behouefull for the time.

" This politike prouission for danger that might have ensued (although there was none that waie foorth) serued yet before the end of the battell, to great good purpose. For when those speares perfectlie vnderstood that there was no ambush within the wood, and withall saw conuenient time to imploie themselues, they came and break with full randon vpon the duke of Summerset and his voward a flanke, in so violent wise vpon the sudden, that where they had before enough to doo with those with whom they were first matched, now with this new charge giuen on them by these two hundred speares, they were not a little dismaied; and to conclude so discouraged, that streightwaie they tooke them to flight. Some fled into the parke, other into the meadow there at hand, some into the lanes, and some hid them in ditches, each one making what shift he could, by the which he hoped best to escape: but manie neuerthelesse were beaten downe, slaine and taken prisoners.

" The duke of Summerset seeing this vnfortunate chance, as some write, turned to the midle-ward, and there finding the lord Wenlocke standing still, after he had reuiled him, and called him traitor, with his ax he stroke the brains out of his head. The duke of Glocester pursuing after them that fled with the duke of Summerset to their campe, where the rest of their armie stood, entred the trench, and after him the king, where he bare himselfe so knightlie, that therevpon the queenes part went to wracke, and was put to flight; the king and other falling in chase after them, so that manie were slaine, but especiallie at a mill in the meadow fast by the towne a great sort were drowned. Manie ran towards the towne, some to the church, and diuerse to the abbeie, and other to other places, where they thought best to saue themselves. [This was the last fought field or pight battell tried between the potentats of this land in king Edward the fourths daies (which chanced on the fourth of Maie, being Saturdaie, in the eleauenth year of his reigne, and in the yeare of our Lord 1471) as *Anglorum prælia* affirmeth, saieng:

' Vltima postremæ locus est Teuxburia pugnæ.']

" In the winning of the campe, such as stood to it were slaine out of hand, prince Ed-

ward was taken as he fled towards the towne, by Sir Richard Crofts, and kept close. In the field and chase were slaine, the lord John of Summerset, called marquesse Dorset, Thomas Courtenie earle of Deuonshire, sir John Delues, sir Edw. Hampden, sir Robert Whittingham, and sir John Leukener, with three thousand others. After the field was ended proclamation was made, that whosoeuer could bring foorth prince Edward aliue or dead, should haue an annuitie of a hundred pounds during his life, and the princes life to be saued, if he were brought foorth aliue. Sir Richard Crofts, nothing mistrusting the kings promise, brought foorth his prisoner prince Edward, being a faire and well proportioned yoong gentleman; whom when king Edward had well aduised, he demanded of him, how he durst so presumptuouslie enter into his realme with banner displaied.

"Wherevnto the prince boldlie answered, saieng; To recouer my father's kingdome and heritage, from his father and grandfather to him, and from him after him to me lineallie descended. At which words king Edward said nothing, but with his hand thrust him from him, or (as some saie) stroke him with his gantlet; whom incontinentlie, George, duke of Clarence, Richard, duke of Glocester, Thomas Greie, marquesse Dorcet, and William lord Hastings that stood by, suddenlie murthered:* for the which cruell act, the more part of the dooers in their later daies dranke of the like cup, by the righteous iustice and due punishment of God. His bodie was homelie interred with the other simple corpses, in the church of the monasterie of blacke monks in Teukesburie.

"After the victorie was thus atchieued, the king repaired to the abbeie church there, to give God thanks for that good successe, which it had pleased him to blesse him with: and there finding a great number of his enimies, that were fled thither to saue themselues, he gaue them all his free pardon: albeit there was no franchise there for rebels, but that he might haue commanded them to haue been drawen foorth without breach of anie liberties of that church. He granted also that the dead bodies, as well of the lords as other, slaine in that battell, might be buried in the same church, or else where it pleased their freends or seruants, without any quartering and heading, or setting vp the heads or quarters in any publike places. [O the patience and clemencie of this good king, who (besides the putting vp of wrongs doone to him by violence of foes without vengeance) freelie forgaue the offendors, and did so honorablie temper his affections!]

"There were found in the abbeie and other places of the towne, Edmund, duke of Summerset, John Lonstrother lord prior of S. John, sir Thomas Tressham, sir Gerueis

* "I do not know whether the historians are to be credited, who affirm, these lords killed him with their own hands. This might be an effect of the prejudice of those that wrote the history, after the restoration of the house of Lancaster, since it is certain they have forgot nothing to render the house of York odious. It is likely however, the murder was committed in the presence of the fore-mentioned lords."—*Rapin.*——It is worthy of observation, that every one of these murderers died violent deaths; Clarence was, by the contrivance of Gloucester, drowned in Malmsey, as a traitor: Hastings and Grey were beheaded, by order of the same Gloucester; and Gloucester himself, the chief assassin, was killed in the fight of Bosworth field.

Clifton, and diuerse other knights and esquiers, which were apprehended, and all of them being brought before the duke of Glocester, sitting as Constable of England, and the duke of Norffolke, as Marshall in the middest of the towne, they were arreigned, condemned, and iudged to die; and so vpon the Tuesdaie, being the seuenth of Maie, the said duke and the lord prior, with the two forenamed knights and twelve other knights, were on a scaffold, set vp in the middle of the towne for that purpose, beheaded, and permitted to be buried, without anie other dismembring, or setting vp of their heads in anie one place or other.

"The same Tuesdaie, the king departed from Teukesburie towards Worcester, and by the waie had knowledge that queene Margaret was found in a poore house of religion, not far from thence, into the which she was withdrawen for safe gard of hir selfe, on Saturdaie in the morning, being the daie of the battell. She was after brought to London as prisoner, and so kept, till hir father* ransomed hir with great summes of monie,† which he borrowed of Lewes, the eleuenth king of France. And bicause he was not able to make repaiment thereof, he sold vnto the said Lewes (as the French writers affirme) the kingdomes of Naples, and both the Sicils, with the countie of Prouance."

From this momentous era until the rebellion of 1641, Tewkesbury was not the scene of any action worthy of record. Prior to the siege of Gloucester, in 1643, the town was held for the king; but on the surrender of the Welsh forces assembled at Highnam under Lord Herbert, Tewkesbury was evacuated, and fell into the hands of the parliamentary troops, under Captain Fiennes. The following narrative is from Corbet:

After the surrender of Cirencester, "the garrison of Tewkesbury, (which was defended only with such slender forces as Gloucester could spare out of its penury,) was already surprized with feare," in not receiving aid from Gloucester. "There came an invitation from Worcester, by a letter from Sir William Russell, with intimation of conditions of peace; all which disposed that towne to complyance with the enemy." "The towne thus deserted was willing to provide for its owne safety, and chused rather to obtaine some reasonable termes of peace, than suffer it selfe to be quite ruined; wherefore they drew up some propositions to be sent to Sir William Russell.—In the evening the messenger returned from Worcester with the propositions granted."

After the defeat of the Welsh troops under Lord Herbert, at Highnam, "Sir Matthew Carew forthwith quitted the towne of Tewkesbury, which within twelve houres was repossest by our forces, Captaine John Fienes was commanded thither with a slender strength of horse and dragoones, with whom the well-affected of the town that abode in Gloucester began to returne. Our party had no sooner saluted the towne but received an alarme that the former forces were returned with a greater power. It was a gallant

* Regnier, duke of Anjou and Lorraine. He was titular king of Sicily, Naples and Jerusalem; and descended from the count of Anjou, brother to Charles V.

† Fifty thousand Crowns.

brigade of horse, commanded by the Lord Grandeston, which immediately came from Cheltenham, whereof our men had not the least intelligence: it seemed by the event that the enemy expected none from Gloucester; however there was quicke dispatch on both sides, yet CaptaineFienes with his whole party had bin surprized had not those horse been kept off at a mile's distance by a ridiculous accident. It so fell out that they met a man comming alone from the towne, whom they fell to question whether any forces were there, of what strength, and by whom commanded; the man intending nothing lesse than the escape of our party, but supposing them a part of the parliament forces, and willing to curry favour, begins to talke of a maine strength and vast numbers, with so many guns and all kind of preparations, and withall defies the cavalliers with much affected indignation; which words so farre prevailed that they presently held a counsell of war, and once were about to fall back. This delay gave an houre's respit to those within to prepare for a flight, who had no sooner recovered the end of the towne, but the enemy had entred, amazed to see themselves so miserably deluded. * * * *

"Whilst these things are acted, Prince Maurice enters Tewksbury with a power of horse and foot added to those former under the command of the Lord Grandeston, resolving to make after Sir William Waller, and to intercept his return out of Wales. Wherefore a bridge of boates was made over Seaverne at Tewkesbury, that they might passe to and fro nearer the retreat of our army. Here the prince marched over with a body of two thousand horse and foot, confident of this designe and therefore too remisse and slow in his advance." Meanwhile Waller crossed the Severn at Chepstow, and marching through the forest of Dean met a party sent out by Governour Massie for his relief, and "the governour made knowne to Sir William Waller his purpose to set upon Tewksbury, and taking the opportunity of the prince's absence, and the enemies' jollity at our supposed totall defeate, instantly advanced upon them, and by break of day brought up his men before the towne, one part whereof fell into the Ham, seased upon the guard left with the bridge of boats, and cut off that bridge, the horse with the rest of the foot came up Gloucester way, the forlorne hope surprized and slew the sentinell, climbed over the workes and cut down the draw-bridge; whereupon both horse and foot rushed in, and the party on the other side of Avon ready to enter: there were left in the towne neere three hundred men, commanded by Sir Matthew Carew, whom the triumph of yesterdaie's conceived victory laid asleepe, and the sudden alarme roused up first into a shuffling fighting posture, and after halfe an houre to a nimble escape. Sir Matthew Carew fled, and many escaped the hands of our men, who wanted numbers to surround the towne, but most of the common souldiers, and some valuable officers, were taken. Oxford was as miserably gulled in these passages, and in a few houres extreamely affected with contrary reports; for the jocund newes of the vanquishing of Sir William Waller arrived early in the morning, but before noone an expresse came of the losse of Tewksbury, which was cast upon the heat of the first report like cold water into a boyling pot."

After a smart skirmish between Prince Maurice and Waller, who met in Ripple Field, the latter retreated towards Tewkesbury, " and the close of this action was like to be miserable, but at the entrance of a straight passage neere the Myth-hill, a supply of foot from the town opportunely met them, gauled the enemy, and put them to a stand once more, whilst the governour charged the leader of the forlorne hope hand to hand, and was rescued by the gallantry of some officers, when of ours only a small party of horse remained in the field, the rest being got off in great confusion. Prince Maurice did not attempt the regaining of Tewkesbury, the government whereof was entrusted to Sir Robert Cooke."

After Newbury fight, Sir William Vavasour was sent with a command from his majesty to distress Gloucester on the Welsh side, and to garrison Tewkesbury with seven hundred horse and foot. " Sir William made show of setling the garrison, styled himselfe governour of Tewksbury—yet these Welsh forces had scarce taken up their quarters, but received an alarum from Gloucester, by a party that went up in a friggot: and the common souldiers, partly discontented with their officers, who had often deceived that innocent people, and betrayed them to the sword; and partly repining for want of pay, fell into a desperate mutiny, forced their commanders, chose rather to be kill'd than to fight, and constrained their flight out of the town, hasted over Upton-bridge, and did scarce look back till safe in their own countrey. * * * * After few daies, the governour having breathed himselfe and his men, resolved to attempt the taking of Tewkesbury, a bad neighbour to our head garrison, and where he had suffered the repulse twice before. He was able to draw forth an hundred and twenty horse, and about thirty dragoones with three hundred foot. The horse and dragoones, commanded by Major Hammond, advanced some few houres before the foot and artillery, and were to alarm the enemy till the foot came up. They made a hault a mile from the town, and drew out a pretty strong forlorne-hope, conceiving they might possibly surprize them, if they had not as yet tooke the alarm, and first three men were sent before to espy if the draw-bridge were down, and six more behind went undiscovered; next unto these marched the forlorne hope, and the maine body in the reare. In this posture they advanced up to the town, where they found the bridge down, the guards slender, the enemy without intelligence, and supinely negligent. On went the first party, killed the sentinels, a pikeman and a musketier without match, and made good the bridge: the forlorne hope rushed in, and after them a full body of horse and dragoones fell upon the guards, came up to the maine guard before the alarm was taken, overturned their ordnance, and charged through the streets as farre as the bridge Worcester way, where they tooke Major Myn, the govenour of the towne. The enemy threw down their armes, many escaped by flight, and many were taken prisoners. Colonell Godfrey was slain in the first charge, as also Colonel Vavasour's quarter-master-general, and a lieutenant, besides a sergeant with about six common souldiers. Our officers and souldiers supposing themselves wholly victorious,

dismounted and went into the houses, some in the vanity of their humour, others for plunder, whilst all sleighted their owne guards, and the making good of the bridge by which they entered, and neglected the taking and disarming of the maine-guard, which lay in the heart of the towne, and cleared every street. Whereupon those at the main-guard observing the horse not seconded with foot, took courage to charge some of our horse now in confusion, and many of the enemy out of the houses ran to the guard and so strengthened it that they issued out upon our men, put them to a retreat, beat them out of the towne, and took some few prisoners. But before they were beaten out they had cut down two draw-bridges, and secured the governour Major Myn, who was passed over Severne, with a small party that tooke him beyond the town. By this time Colonell Massie was come up with a few horse halfe a mile in the van of the foot, which hasted after to make an assault in this instant of time. But the bridge towards Gloucester was againe drawn up, and the workes manned on that side; here the governour placed his company of dragoones, and gave order to fire upon them, whilst he drew his men round the towne, it being now darke night; but before he could reach the farther end, where he entered about midnight, the enemy were fled towards Worcester, being daunted at the first assault made by the horse, observing withall our foot now brought up, their owne governour lost, their officers slaine, and most of the common souldiers already runne away.—Upon our entrance we found eighteen barrels of powder, left by their haste, an hundred and twenty skeyns of match, two hundred new pikes, foure and thirty large hand-granadoes, good store of musket-shot, and two brasse drakes. Most of their muskets were thrown about in the fields, ditches, and rivers, many of which were afterwards found, but the place itself was of greatest consequence, and worthy of the service, being now a strong frontier-town, securing that side of the county, and commanding a good part of Worcestershire; and in this nicke of time extreamly crosse to the intentions of the king's army. The enemy confest themselves to be neer seven hundred strong, when our whole body could not reach that number."—Charles I. afterwards advanced with the main body of his army towards Tewkesbury, in the hope of regaining it; but finding that Massie had strengthened the garrison, he withdrew towards Evesham, and the town was held to the close of the civil war "for the king and parliament."

Having already noticed the foundation of the abbey by the Mercian dukes, Odo and Dodo; its history may be appropriately resumed, by stating, that in the reign of King John, it had attained so much importance as to possess one of the seven copies of Magna Charta, granted by the king in 1215. The abbot also entertained that monarch and his royal retinue, who afterwards kept a Christmas in the monastery. It had been previously, i. e. about the year 1147, burnt down, but was afterwards rebuilt. The abbots of Tewkesbury were occasionally summoned to parliament. At the dissolution in 1539, when it was the last abbey in Gloucestershire that surrendered to the crown, its revenues were estimated at the sum of 1,595l. 17s. 6d., "over and besides 136l. 8s. 1d. in fees, an-

nuities, and corrodies," granted by the convent.—Although it is said that John Wakeman,* the last abbot, was, for his ready compliance in yielding up the monastery, rewarded with the bishopric of Gloucester; yet the monks were so refractory, and offered such opposition to the visitors appointed by the king, that the latter, in revenge, burnt down the lady-chapel, the cloisters,† chapter-house, and other appendages. It is stated in an ancient deed, that the body of the abbey church was used by the parishioners for divine service prior to the dissolution; when, to render it parochial, "the chancel, steeple and bells, with the clock and chimes, were purchased by the inhabitants for 483l."

The church,‡ a fine example of early Norman architecture, is built in the cathedral form, and consists of a nave, choir, and transept, with several chapels erected at different periods. The nave and choir are separated from the aisles by eighteen massive columns, which support the roof. The large window at the west end of the church can never be viewed without feelings of the liveliest admiration. The choir and chancel, seen from this extremity, have a grand and beautiful effect. The ceiling is decorated with a profusion of tracery, having at each intersection a carved flower, or knot of foliage. On the north and south of the choir there are chapels, containing the tombs of those by whom they were founded. Of these the chapel on the north was built by Abbot Parker, in 1397, over the tomb of Robert Fitz Hamon, by whom the church was rebuilt, and who was slain at Falaize, in Normandy. Near this is the chapel of St. Mary Magdalen, founded by Isabel, countess of Warwick, over the remains of her first husband, Richard Beauchamp, earl of Worcester, who was killed at the siege of Meaux, in 1421. The countess was also interred here. On the north of the altar is a monument of very delicate sculpture, on which are wrought the effigies of a knight and his lady. These effigies have been assigned by tradition to George, duke of Clarence, and Isabel, his duchess: but they have been ascertained to be those of Hugh le Despenser, the younger, and his wife Elizabeth, daughter of William, earl of Salisbury. In the south aisle there "is an altar tomb, ornamented on both sides with quatrefoils and shields, having over it a very flat arch, the vault of which is decorated with rich gothic tracery." The initials on the shields (R. C.) clearly denote that it was designed for Richard de Cheltenham, an abbot, who died in 1509. Opposite to this tomb, at the back of the stone stalls in the choir,

* At the entrance of Edward the Martyr's chapel, on the cenotaph of Wakeman, is represented the emaciated body of a priest.

† The cloisters of the monastery were on the south side of the nave of the abbey church, where a few fragments yet remain, like faithful but shattered memorials of their highly ornamental style of architecture.

‡ The following are the dimensions of the church.—

Length from east to west	300 feet.
——— of the transept	120 feet.
Breadth of the choir and side aisles	70 feet.
——— of the west front	100 feet.
Height from the æra to the roof	120 feet.
——— of the tower	132 feet.

is a tomb consisting of a stone coffin placed under a low flat arch, ornamented with a scroll of vine leaves and grapes, over which are two rows of niches, with canopies. On the lid of the coffin is the following inscription :—

"Johannes Abbas. Hujus Loci."

In the same aisle, in the south wall, is the tomb of Abbot Alanus, or Alan of Tewkesbury, the friend and biographer of Thomas à Becket. The body was deposited in a coffin of Purbeck marble, which was opened about the year 1795: "when the lid was taken off the body appeared astonishingly perfect; the folds of the drapery were distinct, but the whole soon crumbled away when exposed to the air; the boots, which hung in large folds about the legs, retained their form and elasticity. On the right hand lay a wooden crosier, neatly turned and gilt at the top; on the left side were the remains of a chalice." Between the tomb of Richard de Cheltenham and Alanus, another stone coffin of an abbot was also opened nearly at the same time, and the body was as perfect. In the south aisle of the nave there is an ancient monument said to be that of the Duke of Somerset; but this fact is strongly questioned by Lysons, who supposes it to have been erected for one of the De Clares, earl of Gloucester.

The church is in the deanery of Winchcomb. The Rev. Charles White is the present incumbent.—Of the organ, the following account is given: "The organ, though placed in the church long since the reformation, is entitled to particular notice. Mr. Warton, in his observations on Spencer's Faerie Queen, informs us, that Oliver Cromwell, who was fond of music, and particularly of that of an organ, was greatly delighted with the one which then belonged to Magdalen college, Oxford; when it was taken down, according to the puritanical humour of the times, as an abominable agent of superstition, he had it conveyed to Hampton Court, where it was placed in the great gallery, for his amusement; it continued there till the reformation, when it was sent back to Oxford, but another organ having been presented to the college, it was removed to Tewkesbury church."

In the church-yard, a small neat tombstone is raised to the memory of William Shakespeare Hart, the sixth descendant of the family of the immortal Shakespeare. The "gentle Willie" had a sister Joan, to whom he bequeathed the house in which he was born at Stratford-upon-Avon; and she married Hart, the ancestor of this family. That house was occupied by the grandfather of William Shakespeare Hart, who occasionally visited his relatives at Tewkesbury.

The town of Tewkesbury, which is built in the form of the letter Y, consists of three principal streets, and several lanes. It formerly possessed a considerable share of the clothing business; and was so celebrated for the manufacture of mustard-balls, that it became a proverbial expression, when speaking of a keen and acute person, to say, "He looks as if he lived upon Tewkesbury mustard;" and Shakespeare describes a sad severe countenance to be "as thick as Tewkesbury mustard." But both these sources of

wealth have long been lost to the town; the principal employment of the working inhabitants, now being stocking-frame-knitting; and the manufacture of lace which has lately been established.—The ancient borough of Tewkesbury, which was first incorporated by charter 17th of Elizabeth, is governed by a town clerk, two bailiffs, four justices, recorder, and deputy-recorder, twenty-four principal burgesses with twenty-four assistants, who have a jurisdiction within the town exclusive of the county magistracy; and from these the two bailiffs and four justices are annually elected. Tewkesbury returns two members to parliament, in pursuance of the charter granted 7th James I. —The town formerly gave titles to eminent persons, for in the reign of Henry I. there was William, earl of Tewkesbury: and William III. created Sir Henry Capel, baron of Tewkesbury. The electoral prince of Hanover, afterwards King George I., was, in the year 1706, created baron of Tewkesbury. The town-hall, in which the quarter sessions are held, was built in the High-street, by Sir William Coddrington.—The free grammar school was founded by William Ferrers.—The national school, situated near the abbey church, was established in 1813.—The house of industry, is a large brick building, situate on Holme Hill.—The dispensary was opened in 1815.—There are markets on Wednesday and Saturday; and seven fairs held in the town, viz. on the second Monday in March; the first Wednesday in April, O. S.; May 14, June 22, September 4, October 10, and the first Wednesday in December, O. S.

The following remarkable circumstances have occurred at Tewkesbury. In the year 1260, a Jew having fallen into a common vault, on a Saturday, refused to permit any person to help him out on that day lest he should profane *his* Sabbath; which being communicated to Richard de Clare, lord of the manor, he forbade any one to assist him on Sunday, that he might observe the Christian Sabbath with the same solemnity as he had done his own: but before Monday the ceremonious Israelite expired in filth and stench. In 1470, the Bishop of Down and Connor had a commission to consecrate the abbey church anew, because it had been polluted with blood. On a fair-day, being July 24, 1571, one century after the great battle, bats were floated down the river Avon in such quantities that they covered the surface of the water for more than a land's length, in heaps upwards of a foot thick, and so completely dammed up the mills that they were stopped for three days, until the people succeeded in digging out the bats with shovels. In 1573, the Earl of Leicester, who was then high steward, was presented by the inhabitants of Tewkesbury, with a silver cup which cost 16l.; and the next year, on the incorporation of the town, the townspeople sent to Kenilworth castle, as a present to the earl, a large ox, which was seventeen hands high, and measured in length from head to tail twenty-six hands three inches. This enormous animal cost the sum of 14l. In 1578, the town was visited by a pestilence, of which thirty persons died in six weeks; and in 1579, the same sickness was again experienced, but it began and ended in the Swan inn. In July, 1580, in consequence of the plague then raging in Gloucester, the assizes for

the county* were held in Tewkesbury. In 1586, there was such a scarcity in the county that the justices of the peace and the bailiffs concurred in abridging the liberty of buying grain, and entirely prohibited malting. In July 1587, the Severn and Avon so suddenly overflowed, that in less than two days all the meadows around Tewkesbury were completely inundated, and several of the inhabitants who had taken out carts to carry their hay into the town, were obliged to escape, and leave the carts loaded in the fields. The ricks of hay were carried towards the bridge with such impetuosity that the townspeople were obliged to stand with forks, and break them up, lest they should destroy the bridge. In November 1592, the plague began in the Barton-street, with one or two houses being only infected till the April following, when it raged very furiously, continuing all the summer, winter, and spring following, till the middle of May, when contrary to expectation it entirely ceased; no less than five hundred and sixty persons dying of it within the year, and of houses infected, there were one hundred and fifty or more. During which time, from before Whitsuntide until about All-Saints, no market or fair was kept in the town. Many of the inhabitants forsook the town in consequence of the sickness. In 1598, the plague carried off 40 of the inhabitants. In 1602, the bridge over the Swilgate was built. In 1603, the first year of the reign of King James I., 23 persons died of the plague.† In 1604, the drought was so excessive that the Avon was dry from Whitsuntide to Bartholomew tide following. In 1607, a large entire blue stone was dug up from beneath the church, which was 13 feet 8 inches long, 3½ feet broad, and 7 inches thick. It was afterwards used as a communion-table. On December 20, of the same year, a frost set in, and continued till the 18th of February following, during which time all the rivers were frozen over. In 1620, the harvest was so abundant that barley sold for 16d. per bushel, and the best wheat for 3s. In 1625, the first year of the reign of Charles I., 20 persons died of the plague. In January 1634, the deepest snow ever remembered by man fell in the vicinity of Tewkesbury, accompanied by such tempestuous weather that many persons perished through its inclemency. Notwithstanding the extreme heat of the ensuing summer, it is said that quantities of the same snow and ice were found unthawed in the quarries of Brockhampton. In 1637, the Avon was first rendered navigable by Mr. Sandys, of Fladbury. In 1640, there were eight overflowings of the waters about Tewkesbury, between Midsummer and Michaelmas. In September 1643, the Earl of Essex halted in Tewkesbury, with his army, for four days, and then marched to Newbury, prior to that battle. In July, 1655, Henry Saule bought at Tewkesbury market thirteen bushels of excellent wheat, at 17d. per bushel, and barley at 22d.! In February 1661, the

* The bailiffs in their accounts charged 11s. for wine, and 13s. 4d. for tent, with which they had treated the court, &c.

† It is remarked that they were buried in wooden coffins, which of course would imply that such a mode of interment was not common at that period.

west window of the church was blown down; it was not rebuilt till 1686. On December 23, 1673, there was so great a flood that the water reached into the chancel of the abbey church. A little after seven o'clock in the evening of January 4, 1675, a tremendous shock of an earthquake was felt in the town and its neighbourhood. In June, 1721-2, the town was so completely flooded that the inhabitants were obliged to use boats in passing from one street or house to another. In 1723, such a drought prevailed that scarcely any rain fell from March till the middle of November. In 1725, the Severn was flooded four times, the Avon six times, and the Swilgate ten; and in the following year there were more than twenty inundations. In 1735, John Newman, a child four years old, fell into the water wheel of a mill while it was at work, and was carried unhurt through the wheels, his body having got between the paddles.* The space between the wheel and the shooting was but two inches. On December 25, 1739, a frost set in and lasted till February 19. The Severn was so hard frozen that loaded waggons and horses passed over at the Upper and Lower Lode. In 1743, hail-stones damaged the church-windows, and those of several houses in the town; the injury was estimated at 500l.; some of the hail-stones measured five inches in circumference. In 1754, there were nineteen "shuts" of water, by which the town mills were stopped for one hundred days. In 1770, the greatest flood ever then remembered at Tewkesbury, was caused by the fall of snow, succeeded by a heavy rain that lasted without intermission for three days and three nights. On October 11, 1771, the tide of the Avon flowed five inches perpendicularly. On Thursday, May 20, 1773, the Severn and the Avon poured down with so much impetuosity and suddenness, that before night the meadows around the town were completely under water. In 1775, the shock of an earthquake was again very sensibly experienced. In January, 1776, there was so great a fall of snow that three waggons going from Tewkesbury to Cheltenham were for many days covered upon the road. On Wednesday, July 16, 1788, his majesty King George III., accompanied by the queen and princesses, visited Tewkesbury.

Pursuing the route towards Malvern and Worcester, three miles north of Tewkesbury, we pass through Twining, to the right of which, about a mile from the high road, is Croome, the delightful seat of the Earl of Coventry. The park and pleasure grounds are extensive; most tastefully disposed, and beautified by an artificial river, carried to a distance of a mile and a half. "The house at Croome is surrounded by 1,400 acres of land, upon which you do not see a thistle growing, nor a tree or a bush undesigned, or out of place."†

* In the year 1812, a similar circumstance occurred at Ford Mill, Newport, Isle of Wight—the miller's son, a child, about five years old, fell into the water wheel, and was carried through. His father, on learning the circumstance, rushed out to the other side of the mill, and, to his great joy, instead of seeing a mutilated corpse, he beheld his boy carried unhurt down the stream, into which he leaped, and brought him out with no other mark of the accident than a slight scratch on the knee. A few years afterwards the poor little fellow fell into the very same place and was drowned.

† Agricultural View of Worcestershire.

" Lord Coventry," said the late Judge Perrot, " brought a million of money into Worcestershire by his skilful exertions in making the roads throughout the county."

Passing Upton-on-Severn, to the left, by Severn-Stoke and Kempsey, through a richly wooded country, abounding with the picturesque scenery of a lovely valley, lying at the foot of the towering Malverns, we reach

Worcester, advantageously situated on the eastern banks of the Severn. The city is of great antiquity, and was erected into an episcopal see, and the cathedral built by Ethelred, king of the Mercians, about the end of the seventh century, when it flourished exceedingly. It was besieged by Hardicanute, and suffered dreadfully. King Stephen passing through during his war, went to the cathedral, aud offered his ring at the high altar. In 1159, Henry II. and his queen, Eleanor, were both crowned here, for the second time. In 1651, Charles II. was proclaimed here, where he halted with his army, but was defeated by Cromwell. Charles escaped through St. Martin's gate, and the usurper ordered his men to level the walls of the city to the ground. The cathedral is a grand and venerable edifice.—The carpet manufactory was once very considerable; but having in a great measure declined, the chief celebrity of Worcester in the present day is attributable to the china ware, which is allowed to surpass every other in fineness and whiteness, and may be almost said to equal even the finest productions, in transparent clearness. The manufactories imperatively claim inspection, which is most politely granted to every respectable person. The glove trade has also been brought to a state of great perfection; and the hop trade is carried on so extensively as to be considered the first market in the kingdom, the county itself being proverbial for the excellence of its plantations.—The market days are Wednesday, Friday and Saturday.

The grand and bounding chain of the Malvern hills stretches for nine miles, like an immense barrier, between the counties of Worcester, Hereford and Gloucester. These lofty beacons ascend upwards of thirteen hundred feet above the surface of the Severn, in Worcester; and nearly three hundred above the plains of Hereford. From such Alpine eminences, the prospects are so grand—so vast—and so magnificent, that description would but feebly express their effect upon the mind.—On the Hereford beacon are the remains of a double intrenchment, nearly half a mile in circumference. More to the south the traces of a single intrenchment may be seen; and on the declivity, in the rock, is a spacious cave, rudely hewn, but nothing of its origin is known. On the Worcester side is the famous Malvern chase, once given to Gilbert de Clare by Edward I. Along the ridge of the hill a deep ditch was drawn to distinguish the earl's boundary from that of the Bishop of Hereford. " The Holy Well," the most celebrated of all the Malvern springs, for its salubrious qualities, is situated about midway up the eastern side of the hill, and is about one mile from Little Malvern, and two from Great Malvern; near the latter is St. Ann's Well, to which a winding foot-path leads.

Great Malvern is on the declivity of the hill—its site at once romantic and beautiful. It had formerly an abbey of Benedictine monks, the greater part of which yet remains in perfection, a curious specimen of gothic architecture.—The church is a noble structure, having an embattled tower.

Little Malvern, once a considerable village, and formerly the site of several convents, is placed in a pleasant valley, three miles from Great Malvern.

APPENDIX.

ACTS OF PARLIAMENT.

EPITOME of an Act of Parliament passed 2d George IV. entitled "An act for better paving, lighting, cleansing, watching and improving the town of Cheltenham; and for regulating the police thereof; and for removing and preventing nuisances and annoyances therein."

Sec. 1. Repeals former acts of 26th and 46th George III.

2. Appoints commissioners for carrying the act into execution; these, with commissioners subsequently appointed, now consist of

Agg, James
Agg, William James
Allen, John
Anderson, Simpson
Arkell, James
Askew, Thomas
Armitage, Edward
Bastin, John
Beach, Michael Hickes
Browne, John
Brookes, Joseph
Baker, Rev. Wm. Innes
Briggs, John
Brisac, George
Buckle, William
Butt, Thomas Packer
Beavan, J. G.
Byrch, Thomas
Byrch, John
Ballinger, Willism
Critchett, Richard
Capel, Rev. Christopher
Capel, William, jun.
Capel, Daniel
Chalmer, George
Coley, R. W. M. D.
Coxwell, Rev. Charles
Coxwell, Charles, jun.
Christie, Thomas, M. D.
Clarke, John
Caldwell, Rev. George
Capper, Robert
Clutterbuck, James
Cole, Christopher
Crump, Robert
Crowther, J.
Davis, James Godwin
Dawson, John
Duckkett, Sir John
Dunally, Lord
Edwards, Thomas
Fisher, Thomas
Fisher, James
Forster, Richard
Frost, Peter
Fowler, Henry
Fowler, James
Freeman, Rowland
Foulkes, Henry D. D.
Fombelle, J.
Gray, Thomas
Gyde, William
Gardner, John
Griffiths, Thomas
Gwinnett, Theodore
Hicks, Sir Wm. bart.
Hughes, Robert
Hughes, General John
Howell, Edward
Harris, Henry William
Henney, Thomas
Hawkins, James
Harward, Rev. John
Harward, Rev. Thomas
Ingledew, W.
Jones, Baynham
Jones, John
Jones, Gilbert
Jones, Thomas
Jervis, Rev. Charl. A. M.
Kelty, Alexander
Kay, Brook
Lennon, Colonel
Millett, Hamlet
Moore, Hon. Robert
Minster, Thomas
Matthews, Edward
Macklin, Rev. Wilson
Madegon, George
Matthews, James
Miller, Rev. W. Saunders
Newman, Thomas
Nash, Thomas, D. D.
Newell, Thomas, M. D.
Newell, Rev. Thos. B.
Neale, Rev. John
Nicholson, Alexander
Onslow, Rev. Dr.
Ollney, Col. J. Harvey
Orr, Gen. John
Otway, Sir Loftus
Phelps, Frederick
Pitt, Joseph, M. P.
Pitt, William
Pruen, Rev. Thomas
Pruen, Richard
Packwood, John
Rooke, Harry
Russell, William
Russell, George
Read, Joseph
Read, William
Ricketts, Robt. Tristram
Roebuck, John
Scott, J. R.
Smith, Thomas
Skillicorne, Rev. R. S.
Smith, Thomas
Seager, Charles
Semper, Michael
Straford, Joseph Cooper
Tracy, Charles H.
Tatham, Edward, D. D.
Thompson, Pearson
Townsend, Robt. L. D. D
Trecothick, James
Trye, H. N.
Wood, W.
Wooley, Cornelius
Williams, Rev. Hugh H.
Wood, James
White, Richard
Welch, John Gregory
Wynne, Charles
Workman, Francis
Welles, Edmund Martin
Ward, John
Younghusband, Capt. R.

4. Provides that if in consequence of the death, refusal, or incapacity to act of any commissioners, it should be judged expedient to increase their number, then the justices of the peace at any general quarter sessions for the county of Gloucester, are authorised upon application in writing, under the hands of five or more of the commissioners assembled at any special meeting, to be held for that purpose, to nominate and appoint such persons as they the said justices in their discretion shall think fit, in the room and stead of the commissioners so dying, refusing, or becoming incapacitated to act as commissioners.

5. Provides that if at any time the said commissioners should be reduced to a less number than fifty, then the remaining commissioners, or any five of them, who should be present at a meeting to be specially held for that purpose, are authorised to appoint so many persons as should appear to be wanting, in order that the number of commissioners shall, at all times, be fifty at least.

6. Provides that no person should be appointed by the justices or commissioners as aforesaid, who should sell any ale, wine, cider, or spirituous liquors by retail; or who should hold any office or place of profit under this act, or who should be interested in any contract under this act; nor unless he should be a fixed resident in the parish of Cheltenham, or in some parish adjoining; and also be in the receipt of the rents of hereditaments, situated in the said parish of Cheltenham, or in some parish adjoining, of the clear value of one hundred pounds above incumbrances; or unless he should be a fixed resident in the said parish of Cheltenham, and possessed of a personal estate alone, to the value of two thousand pounds over and above the amount of his debts; and that any person to be so appointed, and not being qualified as aforesaid, acting as a commissioner, should forfeit 50l.

7, 8, and 9. That meetings should be held the first Wednesday in every month.—That five or more commissioners being present, should constitute a meeting for business, at which the acts of the majority should be binding. If less than five commissioners present, the meeting to stand adjourned. No previous order or resolution of commissioners to be altered, or rescinded, unless at a special meeting to be convened for the purpose; and by a greater number of commissioners than those who made such previous order or resolution.

10, 11, 12, and 13. Commissioners empowered to appoint officers for carrying the act into execution, and to take security from such officers. That no officer so appointed should take any fee or reward, unauthorised by the commissioners, under a penalty of 100l.

15 and 16. That the said commissioners should cause books of their proceedings, and accounts of their receipts and disbursements to be kept by their clerk. That such books should at all times be open to the inspection of persons rated and assessed for the purposes of the act, who should be allowed to take copies without fee or reward.

17 and 18. That actions are to be brought by or against the commissioners in the name of their clerk, or of any one commissioner, and that such clerk or commissioner be indemnified.

19. That the pavements, lamps, and buildings, &c. for the purposes of the act, are to be vested in the commissioners, who are empowered to sell the same; and that persons wilfully breaking, or damaging any of such articles, shall, for every offence, forfeit a sum not exceeding 10l.

20. The commissioners are empowered to pave and mend the present or future streets, and public places within the town; and to make and repair sewers, drains, &c.; and to remove any rails, trees, &c. they may deem useless, or a nuisance: and to set up any rails, &c. for the protection of passengers.

21. That the surveyor may procure materials for mending the roads, &c. from any common or brook, without paying for the same; and from any private lands, on compensating the owner, and having given him previous notice.

26. That no person shall make any alteration in the pavements or footways, without the license of the commissioners.

27. That if any householder within the town give notice to the surveyor that pavements, &c. want repair, the surveyor shall view the same, and report the state thereof to the commissioners; and if the same shall be reported to be defective, the commissioners may order them to be repaired; but if the surveyor shall report otherwise, then the commissioners or three of them, are required to view the same, and their order is declared to be final.

29. Any person about to lay out a new street, is required, under a penalty of 50l. to give notice thereof to the clerk to the commissioners; and the commissioners are empowered to appoint a person to fix the level of such street, and are also empowered to pave the gutters, and to charge the expence to each proprietor who ***shall build*** in such street, in proportion to his frontage; and which gutters are afterwards to be kept in repair by such proprietors.

30. That when any new street, &c. shall be laid out, and three-fourths of the buildings shall be erected, each proprietor of a house or lot of land, is required to pave the footway, and stone the road to its centre.

31. That when any new street, &c. shall have been paved and stoned, then on application of the proprietors of the soil, the commissioners are empowered to declare the same to be a public street, &c. and which is thenceforth to be kept in repair by the commissioners.

33. The commissioners are authorised to contract with a scavenger, who is required on every Tuesday and Saturday, or on such other days as the commissioners shall appoint, to sweep, collect, and carry away the dust, dirt, rubbish, snow, &c. from the streets, &c. and to bring a cart into such streets, &c. (giving notice of its approach by bell or voice)

and to carry away the dirt, &c. from the premises in such streets, on pain of forfeiting a sum not exceeding 5l. for every offence.

34. If any person shall throw or lay any bricks, stones, ashes, &c. into, or on the side of any street, &c. or into any public sewer, he shall forfeit a sum not exceeding 40s.

35. The penalty not to extend to rubbish, or dirt, occasioned by building or repairing houses, provided a space be left for foot passengers and carriages, and a light be put up to prevent damages, and the gutters be not impeded, and the buildings be enclosed, and the rubbish, &c. be removed, within a time to be expressed in a notice to be given by the commissioners.

36. Persons are authorised to keep and dispose of any soil, dust, ashes, &c. made on their premises, so that the same be not laid on any street, &c. and be not kept so long as to become a nuisance to the neighbourhood.

37. The occupiers of houses, &c. in the several streets, &c. are required on pain of forfeiting a sum not exceeding 40s. to sweep the footways before, behind, and at the sides of their respective houses, &c. every morning before 10 o'clock.

38. Commissioners empowered to compound with any inhabitant for doing such duty.

39. The commissioners are authorised to water the streets, &c. as often as they shall think fit.

40. The commissioners are empowered to contract with any person or company, for lighting the streets, &c. with oil or gas, or to erect a gasometer themselves, for lighting the streets, with a proviso that the commissioners shall not enter on private property for laying down pipes, &c. without consent of the owner.

41. That if any person shall wilfully break, carry away, or damage any lamp-post, or iron, he shall forfeit for every offence a sum not exceeding 5l. in addition to satisfying the damage done, and in default of payment may be committed to goal for a space of three calendar months. And it is declared to be lawful for any person witnessing such offence, to seize the offender without warrant, and take him before a magistrate.

42. And if any person shall accidentally break or damage any lamp, &c. a magistrate is empowered to compel the party to make satisfaction.

43. The commissioners are authorised to bring actions against persons contracting with them, and not performing their contracts; and to compound with such persons for any penalties they may have incurred.

44. The commissioners are exempted from personal responsibility in respect of contracts entered into by them in their public capacities.

45. The commissioners are authorised and required to appoint watchmen, and to make regulations for their government, and to provide watch-boxes; and the watchmen are to apprehend all felons, rogues, disturbers of the peace, and suspected persons found wandering, or misbehaving, during the hours of watch, and to conduct them before the magistrates as soon as may be.

46. Every victualler harbouring a watchman during his hours of duty, to be fined a sum not exceeding 5l.

47. The commissioners are authorised to reward watchmen disabled or wounded in the execution of their office.

48. The commissioners are empowered from time to time to make by-laws, for the licensing and regulating hackney coaches, sedan chairs, wheel chairs, flys, &c. and for punishing the misconduct of the persons licensed; but such by-laws are not to have effect until one month after public notice thereof.

49. Any person acting as flyman, chairman, &c. not being duly licensed, to pay a sum not exceeding 5l.

50. Regulates the mode of granting licenses; and declares what shall be paid for such licenses respectively.

51. That hackney coaches, flys, chairs, &c. shall be numbered, and the persons attending them shall wear tickets, and shall leave a paper, specifying their respective places of residence, with the clerk to the commissioners.

52. Any person refusing to pay, on demand, the fare of a hackney coachman, flyman, sedan chairman, &c. may be summoned before a magistrate, who is authorised to issue a distress for enforcing payment; and in case of such distress proving insufficient, to commit the defaulting party to a prison for three calendar months.

53. Any magistrate is empowered to summon before him offenders against the by-laws of the commissioners, to determine their complaint, and to enforce his decision by distress or imprisonment, as in the last section.

54. Copies of the by-laws signed by the clerk, to be affixed on the church door, pump-rooms, and market place, and to be from time to time renewed when necessary.

55 and 56. Act not to prevent any person using his own coach, fly, chair, porter, &c.

57. The commissioners are required to cause every street, &c. to be designated by its name being written at each end, and every house. &c. to be numbered. Any person maliciously pulling down, or obliterating such name, or number, is liable to a penalty of 40s.

58. That the number of any house being defaced, the occupier shall replace it within seven days after notice, under a penalty of 40s.

59. That if any person or persons, either by themselves or their servants, workmen or others, shall upon any of the pavements of the streets, &c. made or built, or to be made or built, within the town, and used as a footway, or upon any other footway designed and appointed as a footway only, run, draw, drive, or carry thereon, any truck, wheelbarrow, handbarrow, or carriage whatsoever, or roll any cask or tub, (other than for the necessary loading or unloading thereof,) or wilfully ride, lead, or drive any horse on any of the said pavements or footways; or wilfully permit any horse to go thereon; or shall fasten any horse to any house, wall, or post across any of the said pavements or footways; or if any person shall in any such streets, &c. expose to sale any horse, or

other beast, in any part of the said town, (except in any public market or fair;) or burn, or cleanse, any cork or hoops, or wash or scald any cask or tub; or empty any of the contents of such cask therein; or place any furniture or merchandise, or any cask, tub, box, pail, bucket, stool, bench, or stall, on or in the said pavements or footways; or place any blind, shade, or awning, or any other matter, in the front of any house, shop or other building, or so as in any way to cause any obstruction or impediment in the pavements or footways; or hew, saw, or cut any stone, wood, or timber; or make, or repair, or wash, or clean, any coach or other carriage in any of such streets, &c.; or shoe, bleed, or farry any horse or beast, (except in cases of accidents;) or clean, or dress, or turn loose, or suffer to wander, or exercise any horse or beast therein; or if the driver of any waggon, or other carriage, shall in any part of the town ride on the shafts, or in or on any part thereof, without reins, or on any of the horses or cattle drawing the same; or if any person having the care thereof, or driving any waggon or other carriage, shall not readily and promptly turn out of the road on meeting horses and carriages, so as to leave proper and sufficient quarter for such horses and carriages; or if any person riding any horse or beast, or driving any carriage of any kind, shall ride or drive the same furiously, or so as to endanger the life, or limb, of any passenger; or in case the owner, or driver, of any waggon, or other carriage, shall suffer the same to remain in the said streets, &c. with or without horses, longer than be necessary for loading or unloading thereof; or suffer any stage coach, or other carriage let to hire, to remain longer than may be necessary for the taking up or setting down of any passenger, or for loading or unloading their luggage; or if any person shall draw any timber, block or blocks of wood or stone, or other heavy materials, in upon or through any of the aforesaid streets, &c. without any nib, or carriage, or with such nib, or carriage, to the detriment thereof; or show, or expose any stallion, or stonehorse; or make any bonfire, or let off any musket, or other fire-arms, or any crackers, squibs, or other fireworks; or slide upon any pavement or footway, or occasion any other kind of obstruction or annoyance, in or upon any such streets, &c.; or shall obstruct or incommode, hinder or prevent, the free passage of any footway or causeway, or prejudice or annoy, in any manner whatsoever, any person travelling, passing, or going thereon; or if any person shall sift, throw, or lay any ashes, (except in the time of frost only,) or any dust, filth, or other offensive matter, in any of the streets, &c.; or if any person shall sell by auction, or public sale, any goods, wares, or merchandise, without the leave of the commissioners; or hang up, or expose to sale, any goods, wares, or merchandise, or any fruit, or other matter or thing, in or upon, or so as to project over, the foot or carriage-way, of such streets, &c., or on the outside of the window of any house, or shop, or so as to obstruct or incommode the passage: or if any person shall kill, or slaughter, or dress, or cut up, any animal, either wholly or in part, in any of such streets, &c.; or cause, or permit, any blood to run from any slaughter-house, butcher's shop, or shambles; or fix up any flower pot at any window, without sufficiently guarding the

same, so as to prevent its being blown down; or leave open (after sunset) the door, or window, of any cellar or other underground apartment, or of any area, in any of the said streets, &c., without having placed or left a sufficient light to warn and prevent persons from falling therein; or bait any bull, or other animal, or throw at any cock or fowl, in the manner called cock throwing; or play at football, or any other game, to the annoyance of passengers; or if any person shall wilfully break any glass, or window panes, or windows, in or belonging to any dwelling-house or building; or if any person shall commit any other kind of obstruction, or annoyance, in any part of any such streets, &c., each and every person so offending in any of such cases, or the owner or proprietor of any such horse, beast, cattle, carriage, goods, matter or thing, aforesaid, as the case may be, (in any of such cases where the persons actually offending, cannot afterwards be found or discovered,) shall for each and every such offence forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding 5l.

60. Every person carrying a sedan chair after sunset, without a lanthorn in the front thereof, is liable to a penalty of 40s.

61. That any beast found wandering in the streets, &c. may be impounded and sold after seven days notice to the owner (if known); or if unknown, after advertisement in a Gloucestershire newspaper, unless such owner pay a penalty of 1l. and the expences consequent on such impounding and advertisement.

62. That in case any slaughter-house, hog-stye, necessary-house, stone-yard, or other noisy, noisome, or offensive building, or place whatsoever, or any stone-yard, in or near any of the streets, &c. within the said town, shall, upon complaint made to the commissioners, be by such commissioners deemed a nuisance to any inhabitant, it shall be lawful for the commissioners by notice in writing under the hand of their clerk for the time being, to order any such nuisance, or offence, to be removed; and in case the same shall not be removed within fourteen days after such notice, such person or persons shall forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding ten shillings, for every day the same shall continue unremoved, after the expiration of the time mentioned in such notice.

63. That no person shall empty a necessary house, or carry any night soil along any street, &c. before twelve o'clock at night, or after four o'clock in the morning; or scatter or carelessly drop any night soil in any such streets, &c. under penalty of 5l. one moiety to the informer. If the night men employed cannot be discovered, the occupier of the premises to be liable.

64. Every person making a drain into a public sewer without the license of the commissioners, liable to a penalty of 50l. and costs.

65. All private drains to be cleansed under the inspection of the surveyor.

66. The commissioners are authorised to divert the course of gutters.

67. The occupiers of houses are required to convey the water from the roofs thereof to

the public gutters by pipes, (unless to a private cistern) and at their own expence to remove any projection which in the judgment of the commissioners should incommode passengers in any street, &c. under a penalty of 20s. per week, after the expiration of a notice to be given by the commissioners. The commissioners are also empowered to remove such projections, and to recover the expences thereof from the occupiers of the houses, &c. The occupiers of houses removing such projections in pursuance of notice, are authorised to charge the expence thereof to their landlords.

68. That on oath of two or more persons, that any house or other building is so ruinous as to endanger the lives of the passengers, the commissioners are required to cause the same to be inclosed, and to give four days notice to the owner thereof to appoint a surveyor to meet another surveyor to be named by the commissioners, to judge of the propriety of pulling down, or securing such house, &c. And if such two surveyors, or an umpire to be by them named, shall certify that the house, &c. ought to be pulled down, or secured, then if the owner thereof shall not pull down, or secure the same within three days, the commissioners are authorised to do it, and to recover the expence thereof from such owner.

69. That the ground, whereon any house, &c. shall be taking down, erecting, or repairing, shall be enclosed at the expence of the proprietor under a penalty of 20s. per day; and the commissioners are also authorised to inclose the same, and to recover the expence thereof from the proprietor.

70. That if any person shall wilfully set fire to, or cause, permit, or suffer the chimney of any house, &c. to be on fire, he shall forfeit a sum not exceeding 5l.

71. That engine keepers bringing engines in good condition to assist in extinguishing a fire, to be paid by the commissioners as follows—To the first, 3l.; to the second, 2l.; and to the third, 1l.

72. The commissioners are authorised to purchase fire engines, and to keep the same in order.

73. The commissioners are authorised to set up and maintain a public weighing machine.

74. That if any person shall build, or take down and erect, or alter any house adjoining another house, he shall set up a party wall, or walls next such other house, of stone or brick, of such thickness as the surveyor shall appoint, not less than nine inches, or more than 14 inches; and shall not cover such house with thatch under a penalty of 10l. per month. And every person shall before beginning to erect such house, give seven days notice thereof to the surveyor; and the surveyor is authorised from time to time, to inspect the same; and the owner shall pay him a sum not exceeding 50s. to be fixed by the commissioners.

75. That if any hole be dug, or stone, &c. be placed in any street, &c. the person digging such hole, or owner of such stone, &c. to cause a light to be placed fom sunset

to sunrise, to prevent accident; and if the commissioners shall think fit, to cause the same also to be inclosed under a penalty of 10s. per day.

76 and 77. The commissioners are empowered to provide and maintain a public office for transacting their business, and to erect and maintain public slaughter houses.

78. That it shall be lawful for the said commissioners to widen and alter the narrow parts of the streets, lanes, ways, passages, and other communications, so as to make the same safe and commodious for carriages and passengers; and also to open and make proper communications between the said streets, &c.; and to open and make any new carriage or foot roads, to all, or either of the public wells and springs, then or there after to be opened in the town, and between such wells and springs; and also to alter, widen, and improve the then present communications between the said town and the aforesaid wells and springs, or any of them; and also to erect and make such buildings and conveniences as should be necessary for the using of such public wells; and also to take down, and remove all or any of such houses, buildings, or erections mentioned in the schedule to this act, viz. in Portland passage, and the Rose and Crown yard, as they shall consider necessary for effecting the improvements as aforesaid, and are empowered to purchase the lands, &c. for the purposes aforesaid.

80. The commissioners are empowered to sell their interest in the old market-house, and to take a lease of the new one.

81. Usual clauses for enabling public bodies, or parties, under any disability, seized of any premises required by the commissioners, to sell such premises.

82. If any person seized of, or interested in any of the lands, &c. mentioned in the schedule of the act, which the commissioners might require, should refuse to treat for or to sell at the commissioners' price, or if any other difference should arise, the same is to be settled by a jury to be impannelled for the purpose at the quarter sessions, (the commissioners giving to the other party fourteen days previous notice,) and the verdict of the jury to be conclusive, provided the sum thereby awarded, be paid by the commissioners to the party entitled thereto, within six calendar months after demand.

85. If the sum to be awarded by the jury exceeds the sum previously offered, the commissioners are to pay the costs of the jury and witnesses; but if the sum to be awarded should not exceed that so previously offered by the commissioners, then the owner of the property to pay costs.

86, 87, and 88. These sections provide for any difficulty which might arise, as to who should be entitled to the money paid by the commissioners in respect of lands purchased by them, or in the event of the sellers not being enabled to make out a good title, and as to the mode and form of conveyance, and as to paying off mortgages.

96. The commissioners are empowered to re-sell any part of the land so purchased by them, which may not be wanted for the purposes for which the same was bought. The original proprietor to be entitled to the option of purchasing.

99. That if any person shall sustain any damage by reason of the exercise of any powers in the act, the same to be ascertained and settled by a jury at the quarter-sessions.

100. The commissioners are authorised and required, once or oftener in every year, as they should see occasion, to cause such sum of money to be raised by a rate or assessment upon the several houses, warehouses, shops, cellars, vaults, stables, coach-houses, brew-houses, granaries, malt-houses, buildings, and public wells, then or thereafter to be built or made within the said town, and upon the several gardens, yards, or lands thereto respectively belonging and adjoining, and upon all gardens, orchards, paddocks, closes, tenements, and hereditaments adjoining to or upon any of the streets, &c. then or thereafter to be made or built in the said town, according to the annual rent or value of the same respectively, not exceeding in any one year the sum of three shillings in the pound, upon such annual rent or value, as the said commissioners should think proper and necessary for defraying the several charges by the act provided, such annual rent, or value, to be from time to time settled, ascertained, and fixed in such manner as the said commissioners should direct or appoint, subject to an appeal to the justices of the peace at any general quarter-sessions.

101. That no houses, buildings, yards, gardens, orchards, lands, tenements, or hereditaments, within the limits thereinafter mentioned, not theretofore rated by virtue of the old repealed acts, should be rated or assessed by virtue of this act, until the streets, &c. where such houses, &c. should be situated, should be lighted or paved by virtue of this act; and in case any of the said streets, &c. should be lighted before the same should be paved, then the rate or assessment upon the houses, &c. should not exceed one third of the rate which should be charged in respect of houses, &c. situated in streets, &c. being lighted and paved by virtue of this act, until the same should be paved also; in which case the same shall then be chargeable with the whole rate.

102. That it should be lawful for the said commissioners yearly to nominate any one or more of the inhabitants of the said town to be the assessor or assessors of such rates or assessments; and the money so to be rated and assessed should be paid by the tenants or occupiers of the respective houses, &c.; but no rate or assessment should be valid until the same should be allowed and signed by five of the said commissioners at the least, at any meeting to be held for the purposes of this act. No person compelled to serve the office of assessor more than once in five years. The collectors to receive rates and pay the amount to the treasurer.

105. The commissioners are empowered to inspect the parish rate books, or land tax books; and to alter any rate or assessment where improperly made.

107. If any tenant or occupier of houses, &c. rated, should refuse or neglect to pay the rate for fourteen days after demand, the same to be recovered by distress and sale of the defaulter's effects, under a magistrate's warrant.

108. That on any tenant quitting a house, &c. rated, he shall pay a proportion of the

rates up to the time of his quitting, and any person entering thereon shall in like manner pay from the time of his entry only. And in case of any tenant quitting without paying the rates, the same may be recovered by distress and sale.

109. That when there shall be more than any one tenant of a house, &c. rated, either may pay, or the commissioners may distrain on either for the whole rate due; and the tenant so paying or being distrained on, may deduct the amount out of the rent due, or to become due, to his landlord.

110. Landlords letting a house in separate apartments, or ready furnished, or for a less term than a year, where no effects shall be therein for satisfying the rates, is liable to be assessed to the extent of one half year's rate per annum.

111. That no church, chapel, meeting-house, church-yard, meeting-house yard, alms-house, hospital, market-house, or work-house, within the said town, and not yielding a profit, shall be liable to be rated.

112. The commissioners are empowered if they deem it necessary, to make a higher rate so as not to exceed one third of the rack rent.

113 and 114. The following property is exempted from the rates, viz. houses of less value than 5l. per annum; property in the occupation of persons so poor as to be exempted from the poor rates; land used as arable, meadow, or pasture only, and not adjoining to any street, &c. within the town; houses unoccupied whilst excused from payment of assessed taxes.

115. That any person aggrieved by any rate or assessment made in pursuance of this act, shall, and may first apply for relief to the said commissioners at the first or second meeting to be holden next after demand shall be made of such rate or assessment; and the commissioners are authorised to give such relief in the premises, as to them shall seem reasonable. And if any person so applying, shall not be satisfied with the order or determination of the commissioners, or such appplication shall not be attended to by the said commissioners at such first or second meeting as aforesaid, then such person shall nevertheless be obliged to pay such rate, and then and not before, may appeal in the manner after mentioned to the general quarter sessions.

116, 117, and 118. The commissioners are empowered to raise the sum of 1885l. on security of the rates, either by mortgages at legal interest, or by selling annuities for a life or lives in their discretion, and by these sections the form and manner of mortgaging, and granting annuities, and assigning the same, are pointed out.

119. The commissioners are empowered to pay off mortgages, on giving six calendar months previous notice to mortgagees; and also to redeem any annuities with consent of the annuitants granted under the authority of the old act, and to borrow an additional sum equal to the sum paid for the purchase of such annuities.

121. That the commissioners shall not grant annuities at a higher rate than is there provided for.

122. If interest on mortgages, or annuities, should be in arrear thirty days after demand, the commissioners are empowered to appoint a receiver of the rates, for the purpose of paying such mortgagee or annuitant; and in case after service of a notice on the clerk to the commissioners, the commissioners shall not appoint such receiver for twenty-one days, then such mortgagee or annuitant is authorised to appoint a receiver for the purposes aforesaid, or such person may sue for his interest or arrears of annuity at law.

124. This section imposes a penalty of 200l. on any person, or body of men contracting to light the town with gas, who should cause, or permit any washings or noisome liquid from the gasometer to flow into any river, running stream, pond, &c. intended to supply any town, place, or farm, with water; together with a further penalty of 20l. per day after three days notice, until the same should be discontinued. Action to be brought within twelve calendar months.

125. Every person interrupting the commissioners, or their officers in the execution of their duty, is liable to a fine of 5l.

126. Any unknown person guilty of offences against the act, may be detained and conveyed before the magistrates without any warrant.

127. All offences subjecting persons to penalties, to be determined in a summary way by one justice of the peace; and the justice is authorised to levy penalties imposed by distress, and in default of payment, to commit the offenders to goal for three calendar months. Half the penalty to be paid to the commissioners, the other half to the informer.

128. The justice is empowered to mitigate penalties to not less than one fourth of the sums respectively specified in the act.

129. All prosecutions to be commenced within six calendar months after offences committed.

130. In case of actions against persons guilty of offences under the act, wherein verdict shall be given against defendants, they shall pay double costs.

131. Inhabitants to be competent witnesses.

132. Persons summoned as witnesses, to attend under penalty of 5l.

133. Form of conviction for offences under the act.

134. Persons aggrieved by any rate or assessment, (after an appeal made to the said commissioners, in manner by this act directed,) or by any order, judgment, or determination of the said commissioners, or by any penalty imposed, or by any conviction made by the said justice, or justices, or by any other thing done in pursuance of this act, (except where any order, judgment, or determination is directed to be final or conclusive,) may appeal to the justices of the peace at the next general quarter-sessions, to be holden for the said county of Gloucester, provided the same shall not be holden within one month next after the cause of complaint shall have arisen, but if the same shall be holden within that time, then at the next following general quarter-sessions of the peace

for the said county, the persons appealing within seven days after such complaint, or grievance, happening, entering into a recognizance before some justice of the peace for the said county, with two sufficient sureties, conditioned to try such appeal, and to abide the order of and to pay such costs as shall be awarded by the justices at such sessions, and giving to the clerk to the said commissioners twenty-one days notice at the least, in writing, of such intended appeal, or other the respondent or respondents, and of the matter thereof, previous to the sessions at which the same is to be heard; and the justices shall hear and finally determine every such appeal, in a summary way, and award such costs to the party appealing or appealed against, as the said justices shall think proper.

137. Any distress taken in pursuance of the act not to be unlawful for want of form.

138. No action to be brought for any thing done in pursuance of the act, unless within six calendar months thereafter, nor until twenty-one days after notice in writing to the clerk to the commissioners; and a plaintiff bringing an action, and not succeeding, is liable to treble costs.

139. That for the purposes of the act the limits of the town shall not exceed one mile and a half each way from the old parish church.

140, and 141. That the rights of the lord of the manor shall not be prejudiced, nor the provisions of the gas light act be altered by this act.

142. Declares the present a public act.

THEODORE GWINNETT, Esq. is clerk to the commissioners of this act.

BY-LAWS, &c. RELATIVE TO CHAIRMEN.

1. SEDAN-CHAIRS.—***Fares for Distance.***—That the fare for carrying one person any distance not exceeding 500 yards, including the distance from the stand, or place from whence the chair shall be called, to the place where the fare shall be taken up, shall be 6d.—Above 500 yards, and not exceeding 900 yards, 1s.—Above 900 yards, and not exceeding 1200 yards, 1s. 6d.—Above 1200 yards, and not exceeding one mile, 2s.—Above one mile, and not exceeding one mile and a half, 2s. 6d.—Above a mile and a half, and not exceeding two miles, 3s.—That after twelve o'clock at night, and until two o'clock in the morning, the fares shall be increased one half more than the above-mentioned sums, and that after two o'clock, and until six o'clock in the morning, the fares shall be double.

Fares for Time.—That when chairs are hired by time, the fare for any time, not exceeding half-an-hour, shall be 1s. 6d.—Above half-an-hour, and not exceeding an hour, 2s. 6d.—Above an hour, and not exceeding an hour and a half, 4s.—Above an hour and a half, and not exceeding two hours, 5s.—And for every half-hour beyond two hours, 1s. And that the last-mentioned fares be increased at such times, and in such proportions, as the fares for distance.

2.—Wheel Chairs.—*Fares for Distance.*—That those fares shall be the same as the fares before-mentioned, relative to sedan chairs hired for distance.

Fares for Time.—That when wheel-chairs are hired by time, the fare for the first hour, shall be 2s.; and for every half-hour afterwards, 6d.—And that the fares for wheel chairs be increased at the same times, and in the same proportions, as the other fares for time before-mentioned.

3. Fly Carriages.—*Fares for Distance.*—That the fare for carrying one person any distance, shall be the same as for a sedan chair.—That for two persons the fare shall be one half more.

Fares for Time.—That when fly carriages are hired by time, the fare for the first hour, and for carrying one person, shall be 2s. 6d.—And for every half-hour afterwards, 1s.—That the fare for the first hour, and for carrying two persons, shall be 3s.—And for every half-hour afterwards, 1s. 6d.—That all fares for fly carriages be increased at such times, and in such proportions, as the fares for sedan and wheel chairs.—That no fly carriage shall be permitted to stand or draw up on the flagged pavement.

Sedans, Wheel Chairs, and Fly Carriages.—That as often as such chairs and fly carriages are hired for time or distance, the same may be detained in waiting to take up the fare one quarter of an hour without any extra charge, but that for any additional time, not exceeding one quarter of an hour, an extra fare of one shilling shall be paid, and an additional shilling for every succeeding half-hour beyond the first half-hour.

That when a sedan, wheel-chair, or fly-carriage is called, and proceeds to the place to take up the fare, and is sent away without such fare, the chairmen or flymen shall be entitled to receive sixpence if they have come not exceeding 500 yards, and one shilling for any distance beyond.

That the commissioners, or their surveyor for the time being, shall at the request of any one or more person or persons, direct the measurement of any distance or distances in dispute, the expence of which shall be paid by the chairman or chairmen, flyman or flymen, if the distance be less than he or they shall have charged, and if more by the person or persons with whom any such dispute may arise.

That at all public places the chairs and fly carriages standing first, shall be entitled to take the first fare, unless the person chusing to take any other chair or fly carriage than the first, shall walk to the same where it shall be then standing.

That any chairman or flyman demanding a higher fare than he is entitled to, or refusing or declining to carry any fare when called on, or using any abusive or insulting language, shall forfeit and pay for such offence a sum not exceeding 40s. and be suspended from using any chair or fly carriage, or rendered incapable of using it altogether, as the commissioners shall in their discretion think fit.

That the name or names of the owner or owners of every chair or fly carriage, shall be painted on some conspicuous part thereof, under a penalty of 20s. for every omission.

That no chair shall, when empty, go upon the pavement or footpaths within the limits of the town, under a penalty of 10s. for every offence.

That every chairman or flyman employed with any chair or fly carriage, shall wear, as a badge, the number of the chair or fly carriage to which he shall be licensed, upon the sleeve of his coat or upper garment, and that the figure or number shall not be less than three inches in height.

That the stands for chairs and fly carriages, shall be at the places undermentioned :—The south side of the High-street, opposite St. George's-square.—The south side of the High-street, in front of Yearsley's boarding-house, opposite the gate-way of James Agg, Esq.—The corner of the old bank, one sedan chair.—The north side of the High-street, in front of the New Market Inn yard, or as near thereto as conveniently may be.—The south side of the High-street, in front of Bettison's library.—The south side of the High-street, in front of the rooms.—Each corner of Cambray-street, in Cambray-street.—The east corner of Bath-street, and at the back of Duffield and Weller's literary saloon.—Gyde's-terrace.—At the corner of Berkeley-place.—Oxford-parade.

That not more than one sedan chair, two wheel-chairs, and one fly carriage be permitted to stand at any of the places above mentioned, at the same time.

That copies, or full extracts, of all by-laws formed and made respecting chairmen and flymen, or their chairs and carriages, or of such of those by-laws as may be considered necessary for the information of the public, and also a statement of the distances taken by the surveyor, shall be separately printed on cards, or in some convenient shape, and delivered to the chairmen and flymen, when and as often as they shall be licensed ; and that the same shall be placed, kept, and continued on some conspicuous part of the inside of every chair and fly carriage ; and that no chairman or flyman neglecting to comply with this regulation, shall be entitled to demand or receive any fare of any person or persons employing him during the time he shall neglect to comply therewith.

That the poles of sedan chairs, when plying for hire, shall always be taken out, under a penalty of 10s. for each offence.

MEASUREMENT OF THE TOWN OF CHELTENHAM.

Branches from the North Side.	YDS.
From High-St. to top of Oxford-St.	140
Hewlett-St. to Hewlett Turnpike	227
High-St. to top of Berkeley-St.	215
High-St. to top of St. James's-St.	200
High-St. to the Chapel in Gyde's-Terrace	110
Thence to the top	90
From High-St. to Albion-St. end of Winchcomb-Street	130
Thence to Gloucester-Place	110
Thence to Sherborne-Street	150
Thence to Sherborne-House	70
Thence to Fairview Cottage	158
From High-St. to Albion-Street, Winchcomb-Street	130
Thence to No. 2, North-Parade	220
Thence to end of Winchcomb-St.	180
From Portland-St. to Warwick-Hc.	170
Thence to the New Church	110
Thence to the Evesham Gate	200
From High-St. to top of North-St.	100
Thence to Lady Huntingdon's Ch.	160
Thence to Field Lodge	200
Length of Counsellor's-Passage	190
Henrietta-Street	190
King-Street	172
Milsom-Street	164
White-Hart-Row	200

North side, parallel with High-Street, from Hewlett's-Gate to Maidenhorn-Gate.	
From Hewlett'sGate to Berkeley-St.	40
Thence to St. James's-Street	140
To Gyde's-Terrace	40
To Sherborne-Place	100
To Gloucester-Place	80
To Winchcomb-Street	110
To Portland-Street	110
To the top of North-Street	70
To Margaret-Street, (or Back-Lane)	110
To Counsellor's-Passage	140
To Henrietta Street	140
To Rutland-Street	140
To King-Street	140
To Milsom-Street	60
To White Hart Row	280
To Maidenhorn Turnpike	153
	1853
From New Church to Albion-Street	280
Thence to High-St. by North-St.	150
Thence to the Church-Yard	60
Woodbine-Lodge (House) from St. George's Place	470

Down the North Side.	YDS.
From the London Gate to Mr. Moore's	160
Thence to	
Centre of Oxford-Parade	140
Priory-Street	100
Corner of Hewlett-Street	80
Centre of Berkeley-Pl.	60
St. James's Street	141
Gyde's-Terrace	40
York Hotel	100
Queen's-Buildings	100
Royal Hotel	20
Winchcomb-Street	84
George Hotel	80
North-Street	107
Entrance of New Market	100
Counsellor's-Passage	38
Henrietta-Street	130
King-Street	300
Milsom-Street	60
Nag's Head Inn	200
Captain Rickett's	80
White Hart Row	14
Tewkesbury Gate	57

Up the South Side.	
From Tewkesbury Gate to Grove-Street	290
Thence to	
Devonshire-Street	91
Royal Oak Inn	80
Ambrose-Street	107
St. George's-Place	160
Church Passage	155
Road leading to 8 Bells	35
Colonnade	70
Plough Hotel	160
Assembly Rooms	40
FromTewkesburyGate to Assembly Rooms 1188	
From Assembly-Rooms to Williams's Library	20
Thence to	
Cambray	60
Theatre	112
Mill-Lane	150
Chalybeate-Gate	31
Centre of MontaguePlace	179
Holly Cottage	60
London Gate	380
Length of the High-Street from Gate to Gate	2180
From Assembly Rooms to London Gate.. 992	
Wellington Mansion to High-St. Cambray260	

Branches from South Side.	YDS.
From the Gate in the High-Street to Mr. Barrett's Chalybeate Spa	211
From Cambray to back of Theatre	160
Thence to corner of Bath Road	50
To Thompson's Baths	168
To the first Road above	40
To Montpellier-House	275
To Thompson'sUpperRide	185
To Thirlestaine House	211
From Cambray to ditto 1089	
Engine-HouseLane to Lindsey Lodge	409
Thence to Mr. Thompson's House	200
To Montpellier-Lodge	120
To the top of Montpellier-Parade	200
To (opposite) Claremont House	60
Thence to Thompson's Spa	340
From Williams's Library to Thompson's Spa, by Lindsey Lodge and top of Montpellier Parade 1329	
From Engine-House Lane to corner of the Riding House	695
Thence to the Spa Walk	260
Thence to Thompson's Spa	160
From Williams's Library to Thompson's Spa, by Engine-HouseLane and the Riding House 1115	
From Colonnade to Sherborne Spa	700
From Colonnade to the Old Spa	756
From Colonnade to Thompson's Spa	1000
From ditto to the last House in the Crescent	490
From ditto to Fisher's New House	380
From ditto to ditto Old House	80
Length of Church Yard	101
From ditto to Fisher's	90
From Church Passage to door	60
From Church Yard to ManchesterSt.	115
From St. George's Place to Manchester-Street	150
Thence to Fisher's Old House	50
To ditto New ditto	80
Thence to last House in Crescent	167
Thence to the Bridge	74
Thence to the Old Spa	216
From St. George's Pl. to Old Spa	737
From ditto to Sherborne Spa	797
From ditto to Thompson's Spa	1080
From St. George's Place to Manchester-Street	150
Thence to Somerset Place	110
Thence to Somerset House	100
Thence to New Street	100
Thence to Alstone Turnpike	80
From St. George's Place to Bays Hill Lodge	1020
From Ambrose St. to Catholic Chp.	180
From ditto to Baptist Chapel	190

The public roads in and about Cheltenham, are under the jurisdiction of commissioners appointed by, or in pursuance of powers contained in several acts of parliament, of which the following is a brief summary:

An act of 25th George III. continued, altered, and enlarged by act of 46th George III. for "amending the roads from a place called Piff's Elm, in the Tewkesbury turnpike-road, through Cheltenham, to Elston church, and from thence to Coombend Beeches, in the road from Cirencester to Gloucester,; and from the market-house at Cheltenham to the Burford turnpike-road, at a place called Puerdon Ash; and from Cheltenham to the road from Gloucester to London, at or near a house called Kilkenny; and from the direction-post in Bembridge field, through Birdlip, to join the road from Gloucester to Bath, at or near Painswick, and a house called the Harrow, all in the county of Gloucester."

The roads are divided into districts, called the first and second districts of Cheltenham roads: the latter comprising the road from Cheltenham to Bath, through Birdlip. Meetings under these acts are holden at the Fleece Inn, Cheltenham, on the second Friday in every month.

THEODORE GWINNETT, Esq. is clerk to the commissioners.

An act of 49th George III. for "making and maintaining a road from the first small bridge or culvert which crosses the present turnpike-road from Cheltenham to Gloucester, on the Gloucester side of Staverton bridge, to join the same turnpike-road in the town of Cheltenham." The meetings under this act are holden at the Masonic-hall.

J. C. STRAFORD, Esq. is clerk to the commissioners.

An act of 50th George III. for "making and maintaining a road from Albion-street, in Cheltenham, to Bunch-lane, in or near the village of Bishop's Cleeve, in the said county of Gloucester, to join the turnpike-road leading from the town of Evesham, in the county of Worcester, to the said town of Cheltenham." The meetings under this act are holden at the Masonic-hall.

J. C. STRAFORD, Esq. is clerk.

The road from Cheltenham through Prestbury to Winchcomb, is regulated by acts of parliament passed in the 22d George III., and 54th George III. The meetings of commissioners are held either at Winchcomb or Prestbury, of which previous notices are given by advertisement.

THE GAS-LIGHT ACT.—An abridgment of the act passed 59th George III. A. D. 1819, for "lighting the town of Cheltenham with gas."

The shareholders for the time being are constituted a corporate body, by the name of "The Cheltenham Gas-Light and Coke Company."

The capital stock of the company is 15,000l., divided into transferrable shares of 50l. each; and the proprietors are authorised, in case such sum should prove insufficient for the purposes intended, to raise amongst themselves, or by the admission of new subscribers, a further sum of 10,000l. The subscribers to be interested in the joint stock in

proportion to their subscriptions. That such stock be liable to the debts of the company but that no subscriber be personally liable.

The powers of the company, and objects of the act are declared to be, to produce gas, coke, oil, tar, &c. from coal, or other material; to make contracts with the paving commissioners for lighting the town and parish of Cheltenham, or any part thereof, or with individuals, for lighting any manufactories, places of public exhibition, inns, private houses, &c. in the town or parish; and to sell the coke, oil, tar, &c. so to be produced.

To effectuate these objects the following enactments are made:—That the company may purchase land below the turnpike-gate at the bottom of the town of Cheltenham, whereon to erect gasometers and other necessary works; and to re-sell any land so purchased which they might not want.

That a committee of seven proprietors, (to be annually chosen at a general meeting of the company) shall have the power of calling general meetings, of paying and receiving monies, of purchasing land, of contracting to supply gas, of appointing and discharging officers and servants, of selling articles produced at the works, of enforcing and compromising contracts, &c. and of requiring security from the treasurer or other officers of the company.

Any member of the committee is eligible to be re-elected the succeeding year—but any such member dealing in an article manufactured by the company, or making a contract to do work for the company, is disqualified from voting on the committee. And if any member shall cease to be a shareholder, or shall refuse or neglect to attend any five successive meetings of the committee (unless prevented by illness or absence from home,) he shall no longer be one of the committee.

The committee are empowered to meet and adjourn from time to time at their discretion. That all questions be determined by the majority of votes, including the vote of the chairman; if then equal, the chairman to have the casting vote. No business to be transacted if less than four members of the committee are present.

That a general meeting of the proprietors be held in each year, in the months of June and December, of which fourteen days previous notice shall be given in the Cheltenham Chronicle, or other paper for the time being, printed in Cheltenham—for the purpose of electing the committee of management, and for the making and repealing of by-laws. The subject of discussion to be determined by vote, and the chairman, in the event of an equal division, to have the casting vote.

The committee of management, or any ten or more proprietors, holding twenty-five shares, are empowered, by giving the notice mentioned in the last section, and specifying therein the time, place, and objects of such meeting, to call a special meeting of the proprietors at large; and the determination of such meeting is declared to be equally binding with that of a general meeting.

The proprietors to vote at general and special meetings, in proportion to their number

of shares as follows, viz. For one share, and less than three shares, one vote—for three, and less than five shares, two votes—for five, and less than seven shares, three votes—for seven shares, and upwards, four votes; but no proprietor to vote, unless he shall have held a share for three calendar months, nor when interested in the question under discussion in any other manner than as a shareholder. The proprietors are authorised to appoint another proprietor, as proxy.

That a dividend shall be declared in the months of July and January in every year, by the committee of management, and the accounts of the company be audited at a general meeting to be held in the month of January in each year.

The company are authorised to break up the soil and pavement of the streets, &c. within the town, as well for the purpose of laying down, as for the varying and repairing, the pipes, &c.

If the paving commissioners deem it expedient, the company are required, at the expence of such commissioners, to raise, sink, or otherwise vary the situation of any of the pipes for conveying gas through the streets and places within their jurisdiction.

But if the company break up any private road for the purposes of the act, the pipes are to be laid in such a situation as the proprietor thereof shall direct—and after having been laid, such proprietor is authorised, at his own expence, to alter or vary the position thereof, so as no damage be thereby done to the company.

The company to repair all damage done by them in carrying their works into effect.

If any person shall lay a communication with the company's pipes, without their consent, or supply any other person with gas, he shall forfeit to the company 40s. per day, to be recovered by distress and sale.

Any person interrupting the company's workmen in the execution of their duty, shall forfeit a sum not exceeding 5l. And if any person shall wilfully break or otherwise damage any pipe, post, or other apparatus belonging to the company, or extinguish any public lamp, or light, or waste any gas, and shall be thereof convicted before a magistrate, he shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding 5l. and three times the amount of the damage done, to be recovered by distress; and in default of payment, the party offending may be committed to Northleach gaol for three months.

That if any damage as aforesaid shall happen through accident, the magistrate to settle compensation to be made to the company.

The company are required to erect lamp irons and gas lamps, and to contract with the paving commissioners for lighting the town with gas for three years, from the 29th of September, 1818. And also, if the commissioners should require it, to contract to light the town for a further term of five years from the expiration of the first term, at such annual price per lamp, and for such hours as the commissioners should consider just and reasonable. Such price to be fixed from year to year during the said term of five

years, with reference to the price of coal, labour, and other materials at a special meeting of the commissioners to be held three months before the 29th September in each year, of which meeting notice shall be given, and not less than fourteen commissioners be present.

It is provided, that should such last mentioned contract not be entered into,* the company should remove the gas, and substitute the oil lamps belonging to the commissioners.

The price of gas to individuals was limited during the three years next after passing the act.

The company are authorised to lay pipes along the public streets and places in the town for the supply of individuals with gas, although no contract with the commissioners should be entered into.

The clerk to the commissioners is required to give to the clerk to the company, a list of the commissioners; and the latter clerk, to give to the former, a list of the company.

Any proceeding, writ, or notice requiring service on the company, may be served on any number of the committee of management, or be left at his place of abode, or be served on the clerk, or left at his office or place of abode, or at the office of the said company.

Any penalties incurred under this act, may be recovered by information before a justice of the peace for the county, and one half be paid to the informer, the other to the overseers of the poor of the parish.

Nothing contained in the act is to prevent the company being indicted as a nuisance, or any action being brought against them for damage done.

The act to be deemed a public act.

THOMAS GRIFFITHS, Esq. is clerk to the company.

WATER WOKKS' ACT.—In the year 1824, and 5th of George IV., an act of parliament was obtained for the better supplying the town and neighbourhood of Cheltenham with water. The following is an abridgement of those parts of the act which more immediately concern the public.

The proprietors for the time being are constituted a corporate body, by the name of "*The Cheltenham Water Works Company.*" The joint stock of the company amounts to 17,500l. divided into transferrable shares of 250l. each. The company are also empowered to raise a further sum of 8,750l. in like shares of 250l. each, and 5,000l. by way of mortgage.

The proprietor of one share is entitled to give one vote; of three shares, two votes; of five or more shares, three votes; and to appoint another proprietor as his proxy.

The management of the concerns of the company, subject to by-laws made at a general meeting, is vested in a committee of seven proprietors annually chosen.

* This contract was entered into, and will expire 29th September, 1826.

A general meeting to be held in the month of April in every year, for the making of by-laws, appointment of officers, &c.

The company are empowered to make aqueducts, and lay down the necessary pipes for conveying water from the Glenfall and springs adjacent to the town, and to purchase other springs or wells which any persons may be willing to sell to them.

When the company shall have laid the main pipes, any inhabitant of the town (after six days notice to the company) may lay down a branch pipe of half an inch bore, for the supply of his, or her house with water, paying the rates to the company after mentioned.

The company are obliged so far as their means will allow, to furnish to every occupier of a house in any street, square, or lane in Cheltenham, where the pipes of the company shall be laid, a sufficient supply of water for the use of his or her own family, at a rate not exceeding the following scale, viz :—

	£	s.	d.
When the rent of such dwelling-house, or part of a dwelling-house shall not exceed 20l. per annum, at a rate per centum per annum, not exceeding	7	10	0
Above 20l. and not exceeding 40l.	7	0	0
40l. ..... 60l.	6	10	0
60l. ..... 80l.	6	0	0
80l. ..... 100l.	5	10	0
100l.	5	0	0

The company not to receive above 10l. per year, nor be obliged to furnish water for less than 12s. per year. Where the actual rent of any house supplied with water cannot be ascertained, the same to be taken at the assessment to the house tax.

If the company shall wilfully neglect to supply any occupier of a private house in any street, square, or lane, where their pipes shall be laid, with water for the use of his or her house at the rate aforesaid, for the space of ten days after demand, in writing, and tender of one year's rate for such supply, the company shall forfeit to such occupier treble the amount of the sum so tendered.

If any person shall wilfully let off water from any cistern, reservoir, or pipe, or injure or damage the same, or any plugs, cocks, or works of the company, or shall bathe in or contaminate the waters, he shall forfeit a sum not exceeding 10l.

If any person supplied with water by the company, shall furnish any other person therewith, he shall forfeit a sum not exceeding 5l.

The company are required to make a fire plug in every street, &c. where a pipe shall be laid, for the supply of water for the extinguishing of fires ; and to deliver a key at each place in Cheltenham where an engine shall be kept.

The engineer, or other authorised agent of the company, is empowered in the day time, and having given twenty-four hours previous notice, to enter into any house supplied with water, to see that such water is not wasted or improperly appropriated. Should

such engineer or agent be refused admission, or be obstructed in his examination, the company are authorised to cut off the supply of water from the house into which he so ineffectually sought admission, or was obstructed in making his examination.

Every person supplied with water, is required at his or her expence, to provide a proper cistern, with a valve, or ball and stop cock, to be affixed to the pipe conducting the water from the main pipe, for the purpose of preventing the water running to waste when the cistern shall be full; in consequence of neglect, or refusal, the company are authorised to cut off the supply of water.

THOMAS GRIFFITHS, Esq. is clerk to the company.

DAYS OF ATTENDING THE PUBLIC OFFICE.—The magistrates acting for the Cheltenham division, hold a session at the Public Office, every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, and meet for the transaction of business at any other time when called upon for that purpose. Their attendance can speedily be obtained upon application at the Public Office, or at their respective residences.

MAGISTRATES.

Sir WILLIAM HICKS, Bart. Witcomb.
JAMES AGG, Esq. Hewletts and Cheltenham.
ROBERT CAPPER, Esq. Marl Hill.
JAMES CLUTTERBUCK, Esq. Berkeley-place.
Rev. Dr. TOWNSEND, Cleeve.
Rev. W. HICKS, Eastington.
HENRY NORWOOD TRYE, Esq. Leckhampton Court.
Sir ALEXANDER WILLSON, Charlton Kings.

The prison is situated near Ambrose-street.

SOLICITORS.

Mr. BLIZARD, Essex-place.
Mr. BOWYER, Colonnade.
Mr. BUBB, Manchester House.
Mr. BUTT, Queen's-buildings.
Mr. R. COLLIER, High-street.
Mr. CROAD, Stamp Office, Regent Gardens.
Mr. ELGIE, St. George's-square.
Mr. GOODWIN, Oxford-passage.
Messrs. GWINNETT and NEWMAN, North-street.
Mr. HUGHES, Portland-street.
Mr. W. JESSOP, Somerset Cottage.
Mr. KELLY, Winchcomb-street.
Mr. P. KELLY, High-street.
Mr. LOVETT, Winchcomb-street.
Messrs. PACKWOOD and LOVESY, America House.
Mr. PRINCE, Colonnade.
Messrs. PRUEN, GRIFFITHS, and PRUEN, Public Office.
Mr. REED, High-street.
Mr. STEVENS, Winchcomb-street.
Mr. J. C. STRAFORD, Bath-street.
Messrs. WALTER and BILLINGS, Bath-road.
Mr. WELCH, High-street.
Mr. WHATLEY, Henrietta-street.
Mr. WINTERBOTHAM, High-street.

THE LIBRARIES.*—What Bacon has said of private studies may be justly applied to the public libraries of Cheltenham, which "serve for delight, for ornament, and for ability;" and the spirit of emulation which pervades the town is not unfelt or neglected by the respective librarians. There can be no more rational or agreeable recreation—no more pleasurable means of diversifying the amusements of the day, than the reading-

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* "One of the first things I do, whenever I come to any town, is to make a round of visits to all the principal book-seller's shops. I think them by far the most amusing lounges in the world."—*See Peter's Letters to his Kinsfolk.*

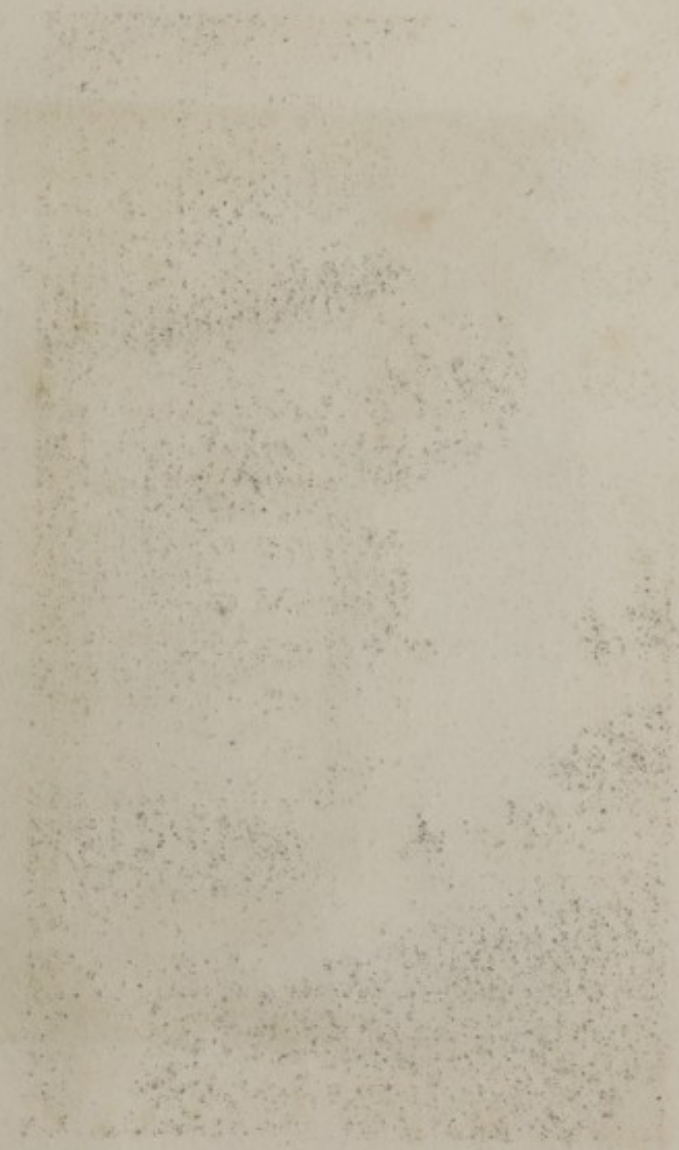


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THE LITERARY SALOON.

CHELTENHAM



DUFFIELD & WELLER'S LITERARY SALOON, CHELTENHAM.

rooms afford: the tables piled with the London and provincial newspapers, periodical publications, reviews, &c. and surrounded by shelves, loaded with all the literature of every age, and of almost every country: neither should we be unmindful of the great accommodation thus afforded to visitors, who, during their casual sojourn, have, for a trifling subscription, proportioned to their stay, all the advantage and information that they could derive from their own bookshelves, however extensive they may be.

LIBRARIES.

Mr. Bettison's Cheltenham Library, High-street.
Mr. Williams's English and Foreign Library, Corner of the Assembly-Rooms.
Miss Roberts's Library, 370, High-street.
Messrs. Duffield and Weller's Literary Saloon, 405, High-street.
Mr. Harper's Repository of Arts and Reading-Room, 350, High-street.
Mr. Porter's Repository and Reading-Room, Arcade.

MUSIC-SHOPS.

Cooper's Harp and Piano-Forte Warehouse and Circulating Library of Music, 406, High-street.
Hale and Binfield's Cheltenham Harmonic Institution, Music Warehouse and Library, 387, High-street.
Finlayson's Music Room, 404, High-street.
Williams's Musical Library, Corner of the Assembly-Rooms.
The Literary Saloon, which is likewise a Repository of Musical Compositions.

SCHOOLS.

Rev. G. Gretton, Academy, Swindon.
Rev. W. H. Hawkins, Grammar School, Cheltenham.
Rev. J. Tucker, Ham House Academy, Charlton Kings.
Rev. J. G. Villar, Bishop's Cleeve.
Miss Ashwin's Ladies' Establishment, Prestbury.
Miss Cockburn, Charlton Villa.
Mrs. T. Cooke, Grosvenor House.
Mrs. R. Wells, Castleton House, Charlton Kings.

The Museum of Mawe and Tatlow, situated near Mr. Thompson's Montpellier pump-room, is an object of universal attraction.

The Cheltenham Chronicle has now been established upwards of seventeen years, during which period it has been honoured by the high patronage of his present Majesty. It is published every Thursday morning, at Griffith's Printing Office, Pittville-street.

The Cheltenham Journal is published every Monday morning at Hadley's Printing Office, Queen's-buildings.

The Bath and Cheltenham Gazette is published every Wednesday morning, at Bath.—Agents, Messrs. Duffield and Weller, 405, High-street.

The Gloucester and Cheltenham Herald is published every Saturday morning, at Gloucester.—Agent, Mr. Harper, 350, High-street.

The Masonic Hall, situated in Portland-street, was built at an expence exceeding 4000l. raised by the voluntary subscription of the brethren of the Foundation Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, established in Cheltenham, in the year 1817. It consists of two principal spacious rooms, handsomely furnished with all the paraphernalia of the order; and in the upper room an excellent organ has been erected. The Lodge meets on the first Wednesday in every month.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE
FIRE AND LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY,

Established 18th January, 1825.

PATRON.

His Grace the DUKE of BEAUFORT, K.G. Lord Lieutenant of the County.

PRESIDENT.

The Right Honourable LORD SHERBORNE.

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TREASURERS—Messrs. CRIPPS & Co. Cheltenham and Cirencester.
STANDING COUNSEL—JOHN PHILLPOTTS, Esq. | SOLICITOR—THOMAS GRIFFITHS, Esq.
SECRETARY AND ACTUARY—HENRY WILLIAM HARRIS, Esq.

THIS company is formed upon principles selected with great care, from the practice established in other offices, and with the object of retaining in this county a great portion of the capital and profits heretofore withdrawn therefrom, by distant societies of a similar nature. The capital to consist of seven thousand shares of 100l. each.

At the expiration of seven years, from 31st December, 1825, and thenceforward at the expiration of every five years, persons having been previously insured three years, will proportionably participate in the profits equally with the shareholders. In cases of fire assurances, the share of profits to be paid to the insurer; and in cases of life policies

for the whole term of life or lives, the profits to be added to the policy by way of bonus or reduction of premium. at the election of the insurer.

The society are empowered to advance money on security of any policy.

All disputed claims (where no fraud is suspected) must be referred, in the usual way, to arbitration, if the assured desire it.

Life policies may be sold, transferred, or mortgaged, without notice to the company.

The deposits are to accumulate with the premiums received for seven years, before any division is made, subject only to interest at four per cent. on all deposits, (to be added to the amount of the subscriptions), and to the current expences of the company, and any loss which may have occurred during the period.

No person to be liable beyond the amount of his shares subscribed for; and such stipulation to form a part of every policy.

Shareholders to participate in the profits equally with the assured.

No shares to be transferred without the consent of directors, and without the purchaser becoming a party to the deed of settlement.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

No Charge for Policies of £300 and upwards.

TABLE OF ANNUAL PREMIUMS TO BE PAID FOR INSURANCES.

Common Insurances,

On Sums not exceeding £5000.

At an Annual Premium of 1s. 6d. per Cent.

BUILDINGS of Brick or Stone, standing alone, or separated by Party Walls of Brick or Stone, without Openings, having Brick Chimnies, and covered with Slate, Tile, or Metal, wherein neither HAZARDOUS Goods are deposited, nor HAZARDOUS Trades carried on.

N.B. Goods which do not affect the Risk of the Building, though rated as hazardous, on account of brittleness, &c. do not come within the meaning of this Clause.

GOODS deposited in Buildings of the above description, such as Household Goods, Merchandize, and Stock, not being hazardous.

FARMING STOCK generally; (that is, in one Sum on the Stock and Utensils, in all or any of the Buildings, Yards, or Places, on any one Farm, the number of Acres to be specified,) is charged at 2s. per Cent. If with an Average Clause, 1s. 6d. per Cent.

Hazardous Insurances,

On Sums not exceeding £3000.

At an Annual Premium of 2s. 6d. per Cent.

BUILDINGS, as described in the former Class, in which HAZARDOUS Goods are deposited, or HAZARDOUS Trades carried on; and all SHOPS and WAREHOUSES in which German or Metal Stoves, with Pipes, are set up.

BUILDINGS covered with Slate, Tile, or Metal, but built of Brick or Stone, without PARTY WALLS; or with Brick or Timber, or Timber and Plaster, in which neither hazardous Goods are deposited, nor hazardous Trades carried on.

THATCHED BUILDINGS not having a Chimney, nor adjoining a Building having one.

GOODS, not hazardous, deposited in hazardous Buildings.

GOODS and STOCK of hazardous Trades, in Buildings not hazardous.

Also, Hemp, Flax, Tow, Pitch, Tar, Turpentine, Resin, Oil, Tallow, and Spirituous Liquors, in such Buildings.

Ships, Vessels, and Barges, in Dock, Port, Harbour, River, or Canal; and their Cargoes, not hazardous.

Ships, Vessels, and Barges, building or repairing.

Doubly Hazardous Insurances,

On Sums not exceeding £2000.

At an Annual Premium of 4s. 6d. per Cent.

BUILDINGS HAZARDOUS, in which also HAZARDOUS Goods are deposited, or HAZARDOUS Trades are carried on.

THATCHED BUILDINGS, having a Chimney, or adjoining a Building having one.

All Buildings whilst being erected, or whilst under general Repair.

GOODS HAZARDOUS, deposited in HAZARDOUS Buildings.

STOCK and GOODS of certain Trades, deemed liable to more than ordinary Risk.

Also, Oil of Vitriol, Saltpetre, Brimstone, China, Glass, Curiosities, Trinkets, Jewels, Medals, Pictures, and Watches; Looking Glass Plates, and Sculpture.

SPECIAL RISKS.—Buildings and Stock of Businesses of extraordinary Risk, may be Assured by Special Agreement.

A Duty is payable, amounting to 3s. per Cent. per Annum, on all Property Assured from Fire.

The Trades and Goods considered respectively HAZARDOUS and DOUBLY HAZARDOUS, may be known by application at either of the Offices of the Company, in Cheltenham or Gloucester.

PARTICULARS REQUIRED ON A PROPOSAL FOR INSURANCE.

Name, residence, and occupation of the party—whether in his own right or as a trustee—an accurate description of the buildings to be insured, their situation, and in whose occupation; and the materials of which the walls and roof consist—whether occupied as private dwellings, or otherwise—the process of trade or manufacture (if any) carried on therein; and particularly whether there be used therein, or in any building adjoining thereto, any steam engine, stove, coakel, kiln, oven, furnace, or other fire-heat, whereby the risk may be encreased; or any other circumstance of risk, either from the situation or construction of the premises, or the nature of the business to be carried on, or the implements or goods to be used therein.

An accurate description of the nature of any goods or other property, proposed to be insured; and the situation and construction of the buildings or places containing the same.

Amount and term of assurance.

CONDITIONS OF FIRE ASSURANCES.

1. If any fraudulent omission or misrepresentation be made in the proposal for insurance; or if, after an insurance is effected, the risk be increased by any addition to or alteration of the premises, or the implements, &c. used therein; or by the carrying on of any hazardous business, or the deposit of any hazardous goods; or by any hazardous communication, not mentioned in the proposal for insurance, and due notice in writing be not given thereof to the company, the policy to be void.

2. No insurance to be in force until a deposit or the premium and duty be actually paid; and no receipt to be valid but those printed and issued by the company, and signed by a director, clerk, or agent, or by the secretary.

3. If property insured pass by representation, assignment, or otherwise, into other hands, the interest in the policy may be preserved to the successor, on the succession being allowed by the company's indorsement on the policy. And if goods insured be removed, such removal must also be allowed by a similar indorsement; but no additional premium will be required, unless the risk be encreased.

4. Notice to be given by persons insuring with this company, of insurances on the same property effected or afterwards to be effected with any other office: and this society to be answerable only for rateable proportion of loss or damage with such other office or offices. Policy to be void in default of such notice.

5. Persons insuring for seven years, to be charged for six years only; and for any number of years more than three, a proportionate discount to be allowed both on the premium and duty.

6. No loss or damage to be made good which may happen from fire occasioned by invasion, foreign enemy, civil commotion, riot, or any military or usurped power; nor for any loss or damage by fire to hay, corn, seed, or other property, arising from natural heating, or in consequence thereof.

7. Persons insured who sustain any loss or damage by fire, must forthwith give notice thereof, in writing, to the company, and, within three months, deliver a particular account thereof, and substantiate the same by oath, affirmation, production of books or vouchers, or by such other reasonable means as the directors may require. And until such proof be made, or if any fraud shall appear in the claim, or any false statement be made, the amount of such loss or damage shall not be recoverable.

8. On such satisfactory proof being made, the insured to receive the indemnity, without any deduction or discount; but the company reserve the option either to pay the amount, or make good the property by re-instatement.

9. Disputed claims (where no fraud is suspected) to be submitted to arbitrators indifferently chosen; and their award, or that of their umpire, to be conclusive.

10. Money, securities for money, bonds, bills, notes, account books, tallies, deeds, or gunpowder, cannot be insured.

11. Printed books, jewels, plate, trinkets, wearing apparel, watches, china, and glass; medals and other curiosities; paintings, drawings, and sculpture, are not included in any insurance unless specified in the policy.

12. Leaseholders, trustees, mortgagees, and reversioners, may insure, provided their tenure or interest be specified.

13. Policies for less than a year to expire at six o'clock in the evening of the day of the termination thereof, without the allowance of any extra days; but insurances for one year, or any longer term, may be renewed within fifteen days after the expiration thereof.

THE POST-OFFICE.—The days and hours the post is dispatched from, and arrives at, Cheltenham :—Comes in from London every day (except Monday) about 8 o'clock in the morning.—Goes out to London every day (except Saturday) at a quarter before 6.—Comes in from Maidenhead, Henley, Nettlebed, Oxford, Warwick, Stratford-on-Avon, Witney, Burford, Northleach, and Cirencester, at 8 in the morning; and goes out at a quarter before 6 in the evening. Letters for the above places should be put in by 5 o'clock.—Comes in from Stroud, Minchinhampton, Wootton-underedge, Bristol, Bath, West of England, Swansea, Worcester, and all parts of Worcestershire, Birmingham, Coventry, Lichfield, and all parts of Staffordshire, Derbyshire, Shropshire, Cheshire, and Lancashire, Kendal, Sheffield, North Wales, Holyhead, North Britain, and (by packet) from Dublin and the North of Ireland, about a quarter after 7 every morning. The letters are generally delivered at the post-office, about a quarter after 9.—Goes out to the above places every evening at half-past 9. The letters must be put into the post-office by 9.—Comes in every afternoon at a quarter before 6 from Monmouth, Hereford, Brecknock, Llandovery, Carmarthen, Cardigan, &c. and (by packet) from Wexford and the South of Ireland. Goes out to these places every morning about 8.—Comes in from Gloucester, Newent, Newnham, Mitcheldean, and Coleford, every morning about a quarter past 7, and afternoon at a quarter before 6.—Goes out to Gloucester, &c. every morning about 8, and evening at half-past 9.—Comes in from Tewkesbury every afternoon at half-past 5 o'clock.—Goes out to Tewkesbury every morning about 8. The letters from Tewkesbury are delivered with those from Gloucester, Newent, &c. about half-past 6 in the evening.

Mr. STOKES HEYNES, Post-Master, Regent-Gardens.

ITINERARY.

Cheltenham to London, by Uxbridge.

	M.	F.		M.	F.
Charlton Kings	1	7	Brought fd.	57	7
Dowdeswell	1	3	West Wycomb	4	7
Andover's Ford	2	0	High Wycomb	2	4
Northleach	6	6	Loadwater	2	6
Barrington	5	7	Beaconsfield	2	7
Burford	3	1	Gerrard's Cross	3	3
Witney	7	2	Uxbridge	5	0
Eynsham	5	4	Hillingdon	1	2
Botley Bridge	4	3	Hayes	1	3
Oxford	1	4	Southall	2	7
Wheatley	6	2	Ealing	1	7
Wheatley Bridge	0	6	Acton	2	5
Tetsworth	5	2	Kensington Gravel Pits	3	2
Stoken Church	6	0	Hyde Park Corner	1	4
	57	7		94	0

Cheltenham to London, by Henley.

	M.	F.		M.	F.
Charlton Kings	1	7	Brought fd.	51	4
Dowdeswell	1	3	Beggar's Bush	2	2
Andover's Ford	2	0	Nuffield Heath	2	5
Northleach	6	6	Henley	6	1
Barrington	5	7	Hurley	4	4
Burford	3	1	Maidenhead	4	5
Witney	7	2	Slough	5	4
Eynsham	5	4	Colnbrook	3	6
Botley Bridge	4	3	Cranford Bridge	4	4
Oxford	1	4	Hounslow	2	7
Littlemore	2	5	Brentford	2	3
Nuneham Courtnay	2	6	Hammersmith	3	3
Dorchester	3	4	Kensington	2	0
Bensington	2	8	Hyde Park Corner	1	5
	51	4		97	5

Cheltenham to Bath.

	M.	F.		M.	F.
Shurdington	2	4	Brought fd.	20	6
Painswick	6	4	Lasborough	1	0
Stroud	3	6	Dunkirk	4	0
Rodborough	2	0	Petty France	0	4
Inchbrook	2	0	Cross Hands Inn	3	1
Nailsworth	1	0	Toll-Down-House	2	7
Tiltup's Inn	2	0	Swainswick	5	6
Kingscote	1	0	Bath	2	7
	20	6		40	7

Cheltenham to Worcester, Birmingham, and Lichfield.

	M.	F.		M.	F.
Bedlam	1	5	Brought fd.	37	7
Uckington	1	0	Lickey Hill	4	4
Tewkesbury	6	3	Northfield	2	6
Twining	2	4	Selby Oak	2	0
Stratford	2	1	Barnbrook	0	4
Naunton	1	3	Birmingham	3	6
Severn Stoke	2	5	Aston	2	2
Clifton	1	5	Gravel-hill	0	6
Kempsey	1	6	Erdington	1	6
Worcester	4	2	Sutton Colefield	2	6
Claines	3	4	Hill	2	1
Droitwich	3	2	Shenstone	3	1
Upton Warren	2	6	Lichfield	3	1
Bromsgrove	3	1			
	37	7		67	2

Cheltenham to Birmingham, by the New Evesham Road.

	M.	F.		M.	F.
Cross Hands	7	6	Brought fd.	28	0
Evesham	6	2	Mappleborrow G.	1	4
Red House	1	6	Bramston Cross	4	0
Norton	1	2	Forshaw Park	1	0
Rushford	2	0	Drake's Cross	2	2
Dunnington	2	0	Weather Oak	1	0
Arrow	2	0	Mill-Pole Hill	2	4
Alcester	1	0	Moseley	2	4
Coughton	1	6	Birmingham	2	0
Studley	2	2			
	28	0		44	6

Cheltenham to Bristol.

	M.	F.		M.	F.
Gloucester	9	3	Brought fd.	29	1
Whitminster Inn	7	6	Alveston	4	6
Cambridge Inn	3	4	Rudgway	0	6
Berkeley Heath	4	0	Almondsbury	1	7
Newport	1	2	Filton	3	1
Stone	1	6	Horfield	1	5
Falfield	1	4	Bristol	2	4
	29	1		43	6

Cheltenham to Salisbury, by Devizes.

	M.	F.		M.	F.
Stroud	12	6	Brought fd.	39	3
Minchinhampton	3	0	Rowde	4	0
Tetbury	6	0	Devizes	2	0
Malmsbury	4	0	Lide	3	0
Corston	2	1	Red Horn	2	4
Kington-Langley	5	0	Barrow Cross	9	0
Chippenham	2	0	Druid's Head	1	4
Derry Hill	2	2	Salisbury	6	0
Sandy-lane	2	2			
	39	3		67	3

Cheltenham to Salisbury, by Warminster.

	M.	F.		M.	F.
Chippenham	36	1	Brought fd.	55	5
Notton	3	0	Heytesbury	4	6
Laycock	1	0	Upton Level	1	4
Binegar	1	4	West Codford	1	5
Melksham	1	4	Deptford Inn	3	0
Somington	2	0	Staple Langford	1	5
West Ashton	3	3	Stapleford	2	0
Westbury	3	0	Stoford	1	4
Upt. Scudamore	2	2	South Newton	0	6
Warminster	1	7	Salisbury	5	1
	55	5		77	4

Cheltenham to Winchester and Portsmouth.

	M.	F.		M.	F.
Cirencester	16	0	Brought fd.	61	5
South Cerney	3	6	Andover	3	2
Latton	2	0	Wherwell	3	3
Cricklade	1	0	Winchester	9	6
Water Eaton	1	3	Morested	3	2
Cold Harbour	2	4	Bishop's Waltham	7	1
Swindon	4	3	Wickham	4	4
Wroughton	2	4	Southwick	4	0
Marlborough	8	5	Cosham	3	2
Burbage	6	0	Hilsea Barracks	1	1
East Everly	5	3	Half-way Houses	2	4
Ludgershall	4	1	Portsea	0	5
Weyhill	4	0	Portsmouth	1	0
	61	5		105	3

Cheltenham to Weymouth, by Trowbridge and Frome.

	M.	F.		M.	F.
Melksham	45	0	Brought fd.	63	0
Semington	2	6	Maiden Bradley	4	4
Hilperton	2	0	Stourton	3	4
Trowbridge	1	1	Wincanton	7	0
Southwick	2	4	Sherborne	10	0
Road	2	2	Leweston	2	6
Beckington	1	2	Dorchester	14	4
Old Ford	1	1	Broadway	4	7
Frome	1	4	Melcomb-Regis	2	5
West Woodlands	3	4	Weymouth	0	4
	63	0		113	2

Cheltenham to Weymouth, through Bath.

	M.	F.		M.	F.
Bath	40	7	Brought fd.	64	0
Dunkerton	4	0	Galhampton	1	4
Radstoke	4	1	North Cadbury	1	6
Stratton	3	0	South Cadbury	1	0
Shepton Mallet	5	0	Corton Denham	2	0
Cannard's Grave	1	0	Sherborne	3	6
Presley	1	0	Dorchester	17	3
Ansford Inn	4	4	Weymouth	8	0
Castle Cary	0	4			
	64	0		99	3

Cheltenham to Exeter and Plymouth.

	M.	F.		M.	F.
Bath	40	7	Brought fd.	112	2
Radstoke	8	1	Collumpton	2	1
Chilcompton	3	5	Bradninch	2	4
Old Down Inn	1	4	Exeter	9	0
Wells	6	2	Alphington	1	4
Glastonbury	5	7	Chillingford	1	4
Street	2	1	Shudleigh	6	1
Walton	1	4	Knighton	2	0
Piper's Inn	1	2	Bickington	4	6
Ashcot	1	0	Ashburton	3	2
Knowle	5	4	Buckfastleigh	2	7
Bridgwater	4	0	Dean Prior Court	1	2
North Petherton	3	2	Harburton Ford	1	6
Monkton	4	0	Brent	1	7
Taunton	4	2	Biddeford Bridge	3	1
Runwell	3	0	Ivy Bridge	2	1
Wellington	5	0	Lee Mill Bridge	2	6
Maiden Down	4	1	Ridgeway	3	5
South Appledore	3	4	Plymouth	4	7
Willand	3	4			
	112	2		169	3

Cheltenham to Cambridge.

	M.	F.		M.	F.
Oxford	39	5	Brought fd.	78	6
Wheatley	6	2	Lesgrave	2	0
Albury	3	0	Hitchen	10	0
North Weston	2	0	Walsworth	1	2
Thame	1	5	Baldock	3	5
Heuddenham	3	2	Odsey Grange	4	4
Dinton	2	0	Royston	4	0
Hartwell	2	2	Foulmire	5	7
Aylesbury	2	0	Newton	2	2
Aston Clinton	3	6	Trumpington	4	2
Tring	3	0	Cambridge	2	2
Dunstable	10	0			
	78	6		118	6

Cheltenham to Chepstow.

	M.	F.		M.	F.
Gloucester	9	3	Brought fd.	29	5
Highnam	2	2	Lidney	3	4
Minsterworth	2	0	Aylburton	1	0
Westbury	4	4	Alvington	1	0
Newnham	3	4	Woolaston	1	0
Blakeney	8	0	Chepstow	5	4
	29	5		41	5

Cheltenham to Cambridge by Buckingham & Bedford.

	M.	F.		M.	F.
Oxford	39	5	Brought fd.	84	5
Gofford	4	4	Coln Brayfield	2	0
Weston-on-the-Green	4	6	Turvey	1	6
Middlet Stoney	3	0	Bromham Bridge	5	0
Ardley	2	4	Bedford	3	0
Barley Mow	4	4	Great Barford	4	6
Finmere	3	6	Roxton	2	2
Buckingham	4	0	Wyboston	1	2
Stoney Stratford	8	2	Easton Socon	1	2
Stanton Bridge	4	0	St. Neot's	1	2
Newport Pagnel	2	0	Eltisley	5	4
Sherrington	0	6	Burn-Leys Common	4	4
Emberton	2	0	Cambridge	0	7
Olney	1	0			
	84	5		120	0

Cheltenham to Monmouth, Abergavenny, Carmarthen, and Milford-Haven.

	M.	F.		M.	F.
Gloucester	9	3	Brought fd.	81	4
Highnam	2	2	Reed Brue	3	3
Churcham	1	7	Llwyel	3	4
Birdwood	1	7	Falindra	7	3
Huntley	1	3	Llanymdovery	0	6
Longhope	3	1	Masegood Inn	7	5
Weston	3	7	Cledvulch	3	7
Ross	2	2	Rosmana	1	5
Wilton	3	6	Llandilo-Vawr	1	2
Peneraig	2	7	Rhuradar	2	4
Goodrich Cross	1	1	Cross Inn	2	3
Whitchurch	1	5	Cothy-Bridge	4	3
Monmouth	4	2	White Mill	2	5
Wynaston	2	7	Abergwilly	1	5
Dynystow	1	1	Carmarthen	1	7
Tregare	2	6	Stony-Bridge	1	3
Llangattock	6	1	St. Ulare	8	1
Abergavenny	4	0	Llandowror	2	3
Pentra	1	4	Tavernspite	5	0
Llangrannac	2	6	Cold-Blow	3	7
Crickhowell	1	7	Narbeth	1	6
Bwlch	5	2	Robersonwathen	1	7
Llansantfraid	2	4	Canistos-Bridge	1	1
Skethrog	1	4	Mid county-house	2	3
Llanhamlog	1	3	Harness Mill	1	3
Brecon	3	2	Haverfordwest	3	7
Llanspyddad	2	2	Tier's Cross	4	6
Penpont	2	6	Milford-Haven	4	2
	81	4		168	3

Distances from Cheltenham to the following Places.

Aberystwith	110	Margate	166
Bognor	118	Matlock	104
Brighton	140	Ramsgate	164
Broadstairs	167	Scarborough	233
Buxton	113	Southend	139
Cromer	193	Southampton	95
East Bourne	156	Swansea	109
Harrowgate	176	Teignmouth	124
Hastings	166	Tenby	126
Lakes (Kendal)	212	Tunbridge Wells	128
London	96	Weymouth	110
Lyme Regis	98	Worthing	138
Lymington	105	Yarmouth	201

ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.

Printed by S.Y. Griffith, & Co.
Chronicle Office, Cheltenham.



PLOUGH HOTEL COACH OFFICE,
Cheltenham.

ROYAL MAILS AND LIGHT & ELEGANT POST COACHES
DAILY TO THE FOLLOWING PLACES.

LONDON MAILS *every Evening at ½ before Six o'clock thro' Northleach, Burford, Witney, Oxford, Dorchester, Benson, Henly, Salt Hill, Maidenhead, & Hounslow.*

LONDON The Retaliator Coach *every Morning at Eight o'clock through Northleach, Burford, Witney, Oxford, Tetsworth, Wycomb & Uxbridge.*

LONDON The Two Day Coach *every Morning at Twelve o'clock (Sleeping at Oxford) through Henley.*

OXFORD Coach *every Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday, at Twelve o'clock, through Northleach, Burford, and Witney.*

MILFORD *every Morning at ½ before Eight, thro' Gloucester, Ross, Monmouth, Ragland, Abergavenny, Crickhowell, Brecon, Trecastle, Llandovery, Llandilo, Carmarthen, St. Clears, Narberth, & Haverfordwest.*

SHREWSBURY & HOLYHEAD *every Morning, except Sunday, at Seven o'clock, through Tewkesbury, Worcester, Kidderminster, Bridgnorth, Cowbridge, Shrewsbury, Oswestry, Llangollen, Corwen, Capel Cerrig, Bangor Ferry, Gwyndu.*

BIRMINGHAM *every Morning except Sunday, at Seven o'clock through Tewkesbury, Worcester, Droitwich and Bromsgrove.*

BIRMINGHAM & MANCHESTER *every day except Sunday, at Twelve o'clock through Tewkesbury, Worcester, Bromsgrove, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Stafford, Stone, Newcastle, Congleton, Macclesfield, & Stockport.*

BIRMINGHAM & LIVERPOOL *every day except Sunday, at ½ past one o'clock thro' Tewkesbury, Worcester, Bromsgrove, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Stafford, Stone, Newcastle, Lawton, (Barrerton Green) Holmes Chapel, Knutsford, and Warrington.*

BIRMINGHAM *Monday, Wednesday & Friday, at ½ before Two o'clock thro' Evesham, Alcester & Studley.*

WARWICK & LEAMINGTON *Monday, Wednesday & Friday, at ½ before Two o'clock, through Evesham, Alcester, Stratford & Warwick, & returns the following days.*

BATH *every morning, except Sunday, at Nine o'clock, through Gloucester, Redborough, Petty France, to the York House, from whence Coaches leave daily, to Farrington, Wells, Glastonbury, Bridgwater, Taunton, Wellington, Collumpton, Tiverton, Exeter, Barnstaple, Plymouth, Devenport, Somerton, Longport, Chard, Ilminster, Crewkerne, Axminster, Lyme Regis, Honiton, Sidmouth, Charmouth, Weymouth & all parts of the West.*

BATH *every day, except Sunday, at Two o'clock, through Stroud.*

BRISTOL *every day, except Sunday, at Twelve, thro' Gloster & Newport.*

GLOUCESTER Coaches at ½ before Eight, Nine, Twelve & Three o'clock.

SOUTHAMPTON *Monday, Wednesday & Friday, Mornings, at Seven o'clock, through Cirencester, Cricklade, Swindon, Marlborough, Barbage, Collingburn, Luggershall, Werhill, Andover, Werwell & Winchester in Twelve Hours & Return the following days.*

THE BERKELEY HUNT, NEW COACH TO LONDON, *every Morning at Six o'clock, through Henley & Salt Hill, to the Castle & Falcon, Aldersgate Street & Belle Sauvage, Ludgate Hill, in 10½ hours; arrives in London at half past Four to Dinner. This Coach leaves the above Houses, calls at the Old White Horse Cellar, & Dyson's Black Bear, Piccadilly, every Morning at half past Six, & arrives at the Plough Hotel Cheltenham, at 5.*

PERFORMED BY **JAMES NEYLER & Co**

S. Y. Griffith & Co. Copper Plate Printers.



ROYAL HOTEL COACH OFFICE,
Cheltenham.

IMPROVED SAFETY & ELEGANT LIGHT POST COACHES,
DAILY TO THE FOLLOWING PLACES.

LONDON The Magnet Safety Coach, *every Morning at ½ past Six o'clock thro' Northleach, Burford, Witney, Oxford, Henley, Maidenhead, Slough & Hounslow.*

LONDON Royal Veteran, *every Morning at ½ past Eight thro' Northleach, Burford, Witney, Oxford, Wycomb & Uxbridge.*

OXFORD & LONDON Two Day Coach, *every day except Sundays at Twelve o'clock. Sleeps at Oxford.*

OXFORD Coaches, *every Morning at ½ past Six & ½ past Eight o'clock.*

BATH The Original Post Coach, *every day except Sundays at Nine o'clock through Gloucester & Rodborough.*

BATH The York House Coach, *every day except Sundays at Two o'clock through Painswick & Stroud.*

BRISTOL The Traveller, *every day except Sundays at Twelve o'clock, thro' Gloucester & Newport.*

BRISTOL The Royal Pilot, *through Gloucester every Monday, Wednesday, & Friday, at ½ past One o'clock.*

EXETER The Traveller, *every day except Sundays, at Twelve thro' Gloucester, Bristol, Bridgewater, Taunton, Wellington, Collumpton, & Exeter, where it meets Coaches for Plymouth.*

GLOUCESTER Accommodation Coaches *every Morning at Nine, ½ past Nine & Twelve, o'clock: Afternoon at ½ past One, Three Five & Seven o'clock, in the Evening.*

TEWKESBURY Coaches *every Morning except Sundays, at Eight & Twelve. Afternoon at ½ past One, every Evening at 8.*

MALVERN The Mercury, *every Morning at ½ before Eight, except Sundays, to Evesham to Hotel, Malvern Wells arrives at Eleven o'clock, leaves Malvern at Five.*

LIVERPOOL The Magnet, *every Tuesday Thursday & Saturday at Twelve o'clock, thro' Worcester, Birmingham Walsall, Stafford, Stone & Newcastle.*

LIVERPOOL The Aurora, *every day except Sundays, at ½ past one o'clock sleeping at Birmingham.*

MANCHESTER The Traveller, *every day except Sundays, at Twelve o'clock, thro' Worcester. Sleeping at Birmingham.*

SHEFFIELD The Amity, *every day except Sundays, at Twelve o'clock, through Burton, Derby, & Chesterfield.*

CHESTER The Dispatch, *every day except Sundays, thro' Newport & Fernhill.*

BIRMINGHAM The Traveller, *thro' Worcester, every day except Sundays, at Twelve o'clock.*

BIRMINGHAM The York House Coach, *thro' Worcester every day except Sundays, at ½ past One o'clock.*

BIRMINGHAM The Mercury, *thro Worcester every Morning at Eight.*

WORCESTER Coaches, *every Morning at Eight & Twelve, also at ½ past one o'clock, in the Afternoon.*

WOLVERHAMPTON The Everlasting, *every Morning at Eight except Sundays.*

COVENTRY The Pilot, *thro' Evesham, Alcester, Stratford, Warwick, & Leamington, every day except Sundays, at ½ past one o'clock.*

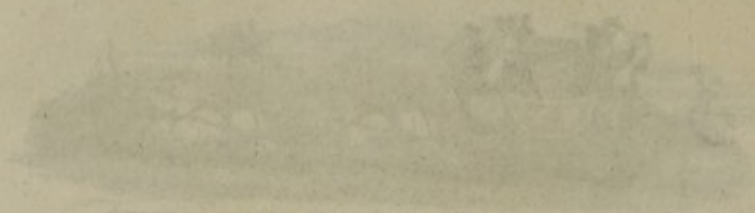
FLY WAGGONS & VANS TO LONDON
on Tuesdays Thursdays & Saturdays at Twelve o'clock & arrives the following Night

THOMAS HAINES Jun.r & C.o — PROPRIETORS.

N.B. Every possible comfort & accommodation afforded to those who may be pleased to honour this Establishment with their patronage.

COACHES SENT TO ANY PART OF THE TOWN TO TAKE UP IF REQUIRED.

J. Corbould & Co. Map & Plate Printers.



THOMAS HAINES, JUN.



FLY WAGGONS TO LONDON,

FROM THE

Royal Hotel Yard,

every day except Sunday through Northleach, Burford, Witney, Oxford & Wycomb, in two days.

TO THE

BLOSSOMS INN, LAWRENCE LANE,

Cheapside,

Calling at the WAGGON WAREHOUSES in Oxford Street, by which conveyance, Goods are forwarded with the utmost care, & at

VERY REASONABLE PRICES.

THE ABOVE WAGGONS,

leave the Blossoms Inn for Cheltenham daily.

ALSO A

FLY VAN,



FROM THE ROYAL HOTEL COACH OFFICE,

CHELTENHAM.

Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays, at Twelve o'clock, through Oxford & Wycomb, arriving at the

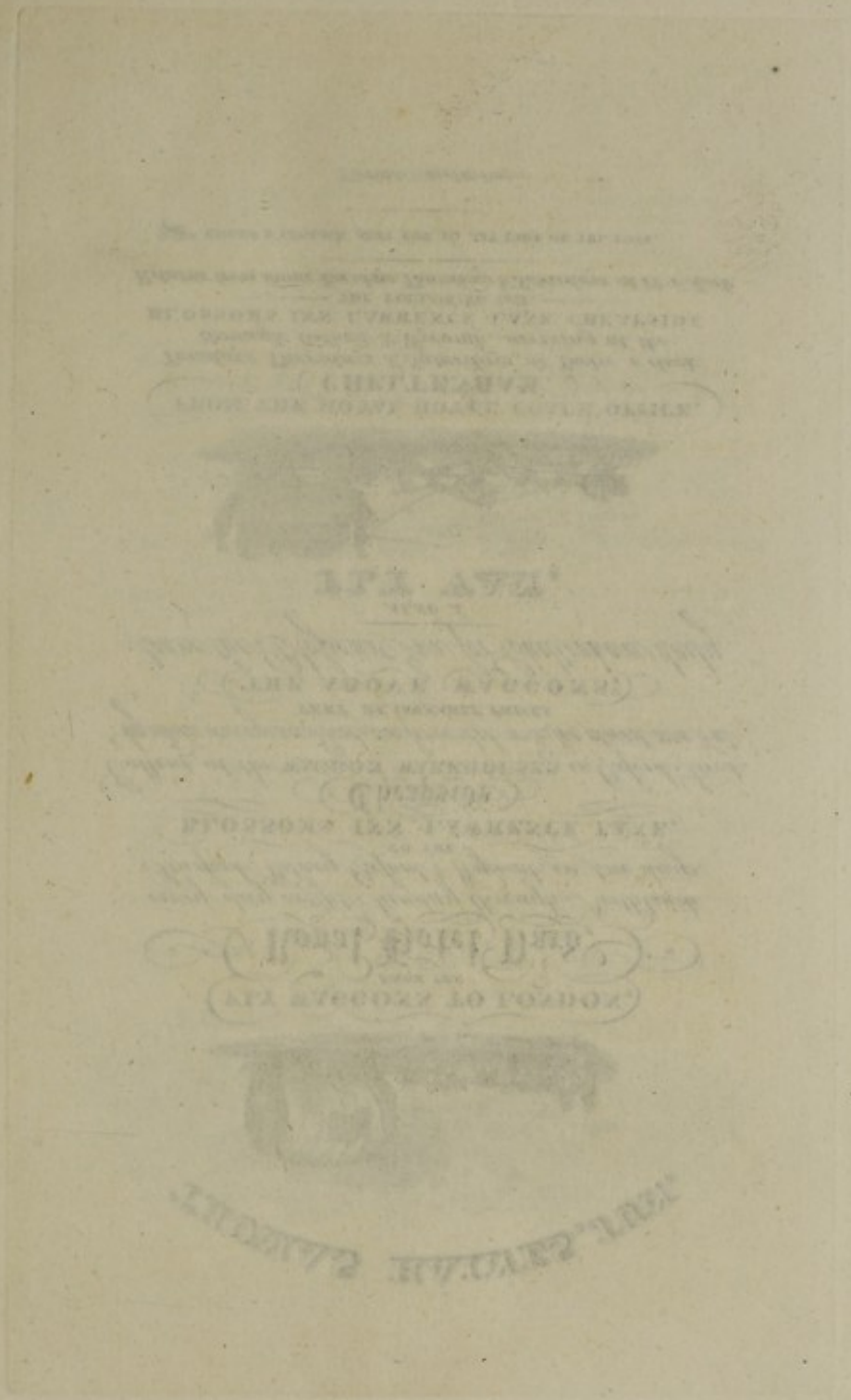
BLOSSOMS INN, LAWRENCE LANE, CHEAPSIDE,

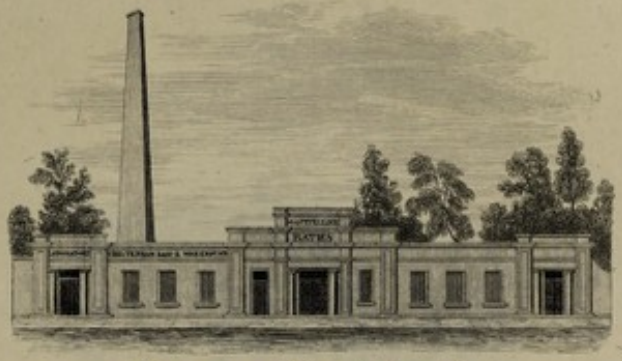
THE FOLLOWING DAY.

Returns from thence Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays, at 12 o'clock.

GOODS & LUGGAGE, SENT FOR TO ANY PART OF THE TOWN.

S. Woodfall & C.t Copper Plate Printers





Montpellier Baths,

BATH ROAD,

Adjoining

Mr. Thompson's Cheltenham Salts Manufactory.

These Baths have lately been fitted up with every degree of comfort and convenience, and it is presumed will be found superior both in size and in every other respect to any in **Cheltenham.** *The Warm Water Baths which are very numerous, are heated by Steam from the evaporation of the Spa Water, and as there is a never failing supply of Water Ladies & Gentlemen may depend upon never being disappointed of a Bath, even at a minutes notice.*

It will be observed the Terms for each Bath.

ARE LESS THAN AT THE OTHER BATHING ESTABLISHMENTS IN

Cheltenham

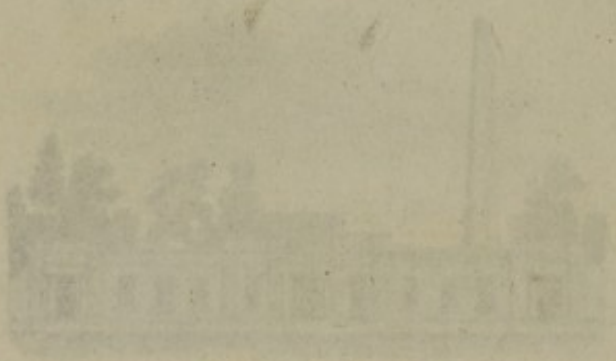
Cold Fresh Water Bath	1 . 6	Warm Salt Water Bath	3 . 6
Warm or Cold Shower Bath	1 . 6	Sulphur Bath	3 . 0
Warm Fresh Water Bath	2 . 6	Attendance to each do.	0 . 6
Vapour Bath	3 . 0	Attendance to do. 1s.	

Douch and all kinds of Medicated Baths.

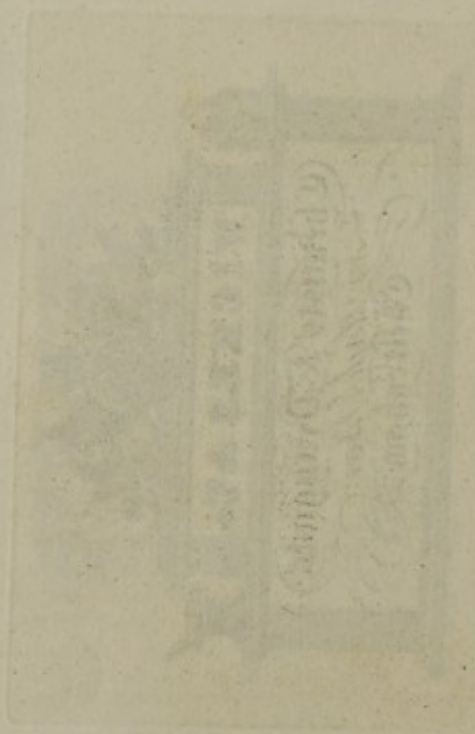
N.B. The Indian Medicated Vapour & Shampooing Baths & the Turkish Bath are fitted up in every respect similar to those of Mr. Molyneux & Mahomed at Brighton.

Cupping

S.Y. Griffith & Co.ª Copper Plate Printers Cheltenham.



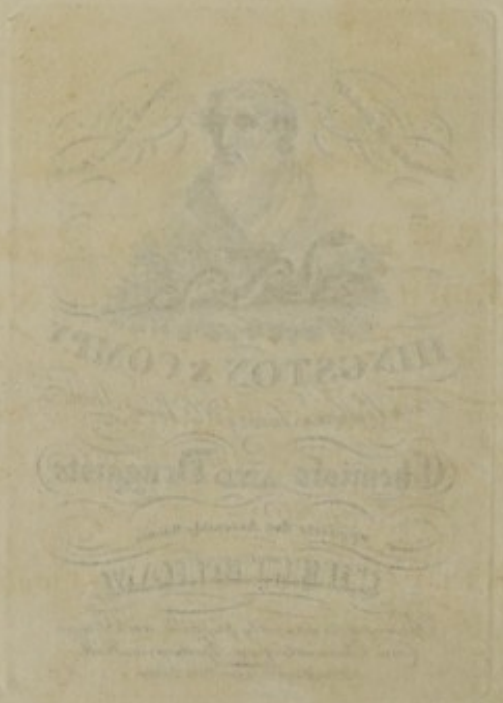

WICKES & Co.
Chemists & Druggists
89 High Street
Cheltenham




J. C. BEAVAN & Co
Late Paytherus, Savory and Co
Chemists and Apothecaries
TO THE ROYAL FAMILY;
114 High Street,
Cheltenham.




Removed to 30 High St.
Opposite Regent's Bank.
HINGSTON & COMP.Y
From Leytherns, Savory & Co's Prize Shop
Chemists AND Druggists,
opposite the Assembly Rooms
CHELTENHAM.
Prescriptions accurately prepared, with Drugs and Chemicals from Apothecaries Hall.
J.T. Griffith & Co Copper Plate Printers



Elephant Paper.



HENRY EDWARDS,

Fancy Jeweller, Cutler, &c.

To His Royal Highness

The Duke of Gloucester,

Removed to No.2 Colonnade,

Leading to the Promenade to Sherborne Spa.

CHELTENHAM.

General Repository for Fancy Goods.

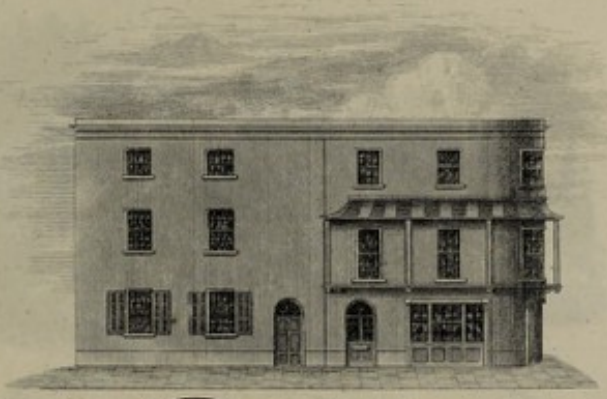
Dealer in

Plated Goods	Tunbridge Wares	Purses
Japanned Wares	Backgammon Boards	Card Cases
Portable Desks	Quadrille Pools	Reticules
Inkstands	Pearl & Gilt Counters	Negligees
Work Boxes	Imp.d Steel Pens	Tortoise Combs
Dressing Cases	Silver Goods	Ivory Turnery
Tea Caddies	Jewellery	Snuff Boxes
Umbrellas	Gilt & Steel Ornaments	Perfumery
Chimney Ornaments	Beads Fans	Candle Shades
Miniature Frames	Pocket Books	Musical Boxes &c.&c.

British & Foreign Toys in variety, &c.

S.T. Griffith & Co.ª Copper Plate Printers Cheltenham





HENRY POINTER.

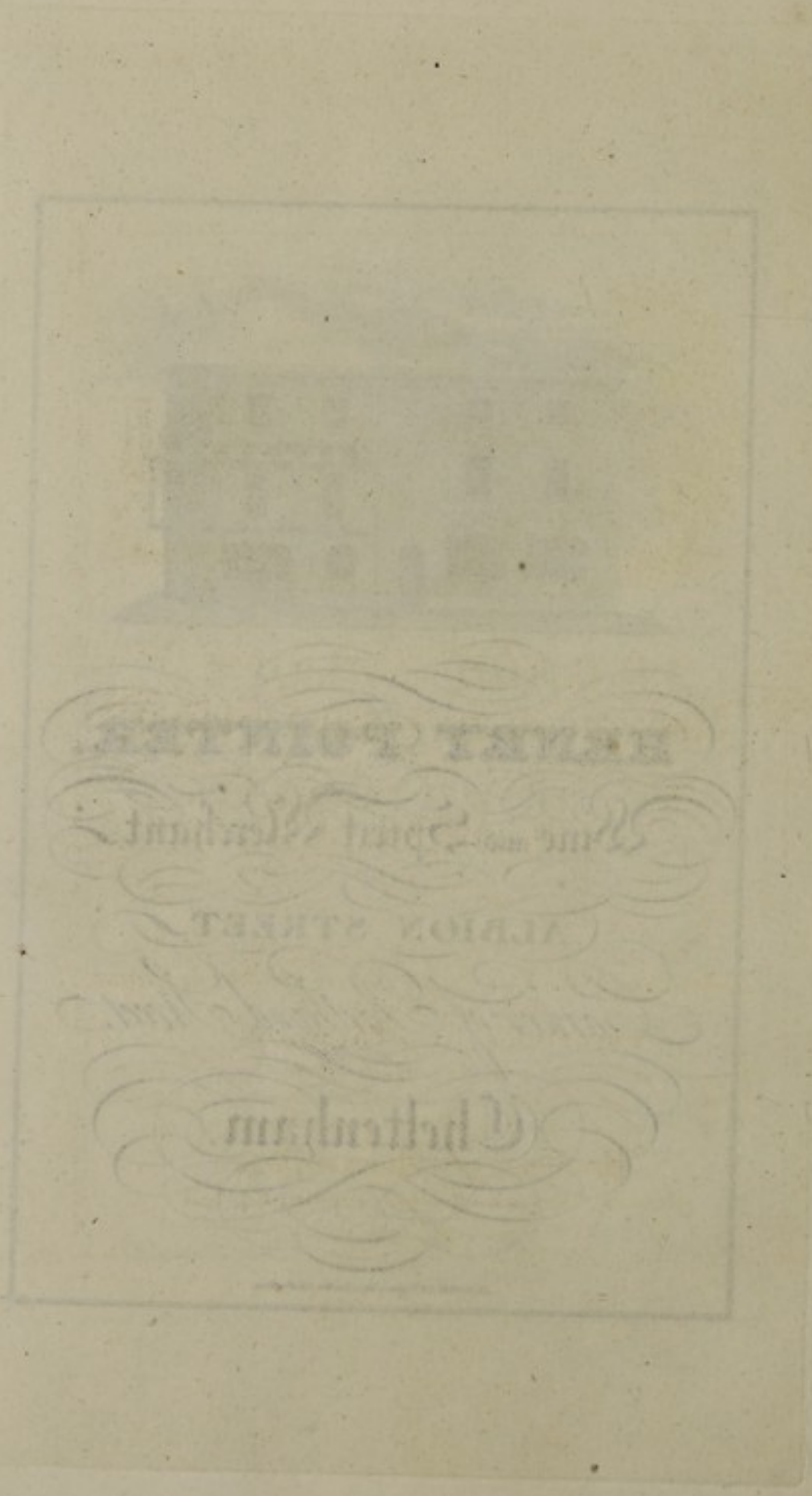
Wine and Spirit Merchant

ALBION STREET

Corner of Portland Street.

Cheltenham.

S.E. Goodall F.C. Gyger Pub. Printers, Cheltenham.





C. HALE JESSOP,

Nursery-man Seeds-man & Florist.

SOMERSET HOUSE NURSERY,

ST JAMES'S SQUARE,

Cheltenham.

Hot House, Green House & Herbaceous Plants, Fruit & Forest Trees, Evergreens Shrubs, Bulbous Roots.

Agricultural & Horticultural Seeds. Mushroom Spawn. Mats. Garden Pots. &c.

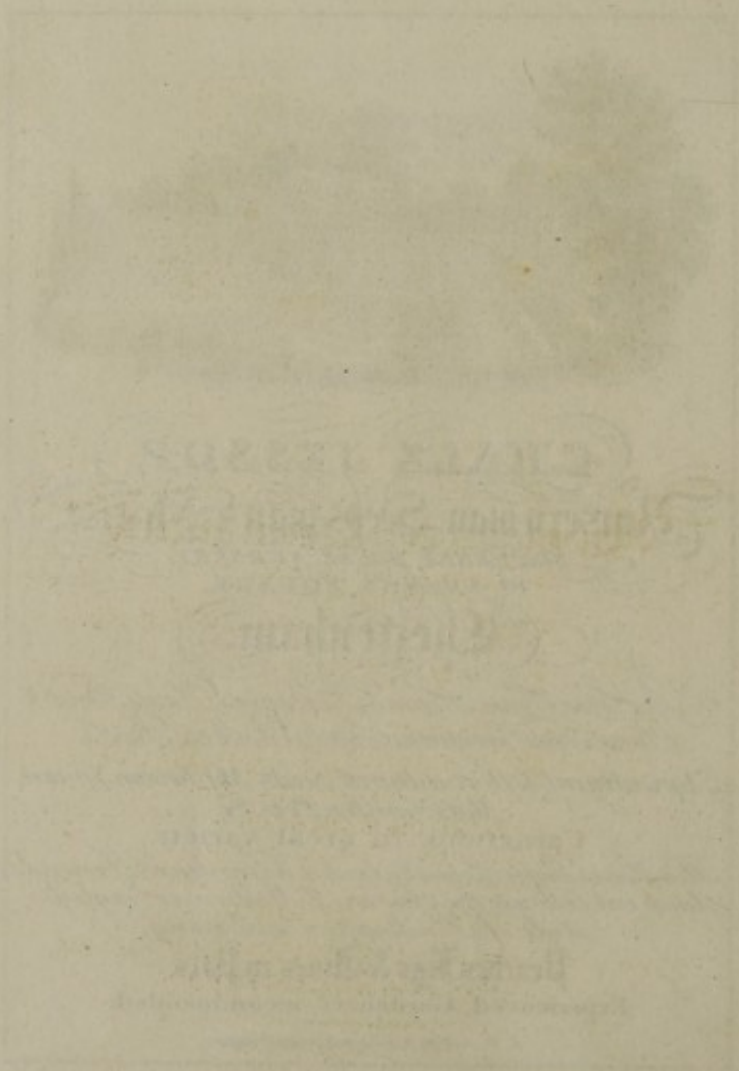
Carnations in great variety.

Hot Houses, Green Houses &c. erected & Gardens & Grounds laid out both in the Ancient & Modern, or English style of Landscape Gardening.

Peaches, Figs & Vines in Pots,

Experienced Gardeners recommended.

S. Y. Griffith & Co. Copper plate Printers.





EXPERIENCED GARDENERS RECOMMENDED.

J. EVANS,

Nursery & Seedsman

FLORIST,

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Rosina Garden,

Near the London Turnpike

CHELTENHAM,

AND

Blaizen Nursery

on the Shurdington Road near the

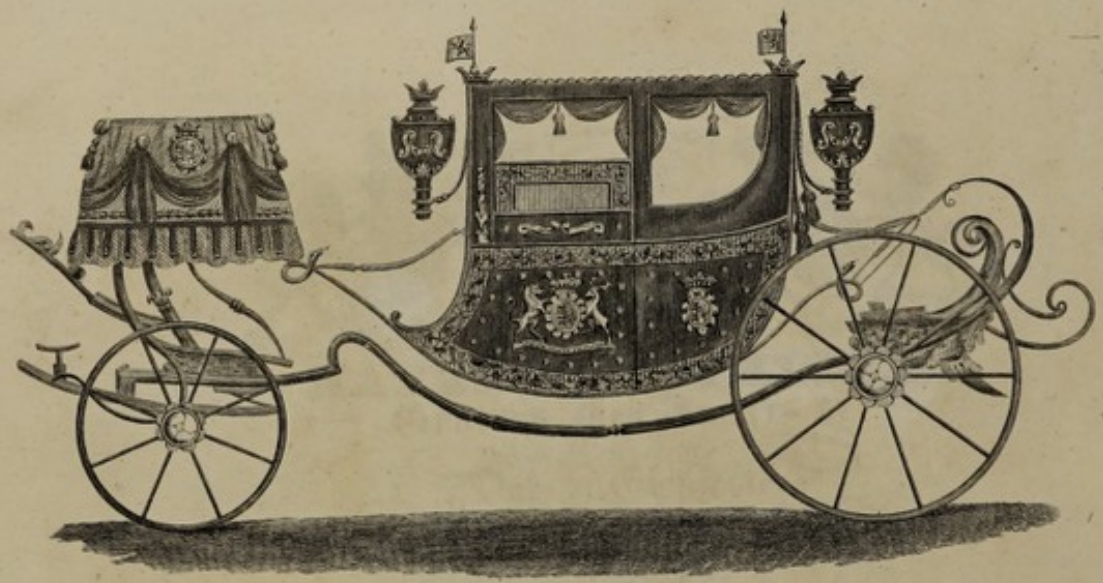
BATH TURNPIKE.

Green Houses &c. Erected & Gardens laid out.

HORTICULTURAL SEEDS FOR SALE.

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Built for Baron de Pontecarvo, a Portuguese Nobleman, at

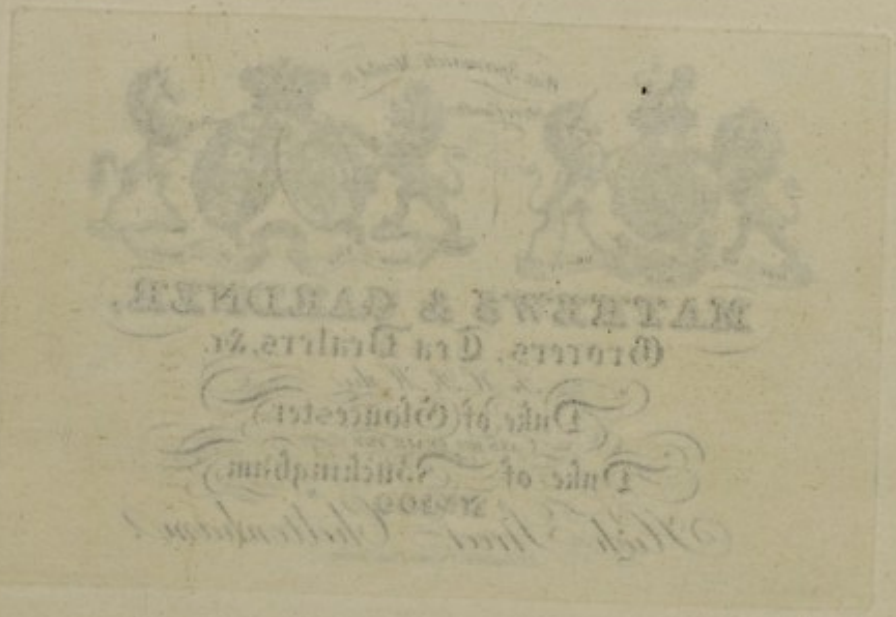
GARRATTS. COACH MANUFACTORY.

HIGH STREET, CHELTENHAM.

Printed & Published by S.Y.Griffith & Co. Cheltenham.




Wax, Spermaceti, Mould &
Store Candles
MATHEWS & GARDNER,
Grocers, Tea Dealers, &c.
To H. R. H. the
Duke of Gloucester,
AND HIS GRACE THE
Duke of Buckingham,
№ 409
High Street, Cheltenham.



Under the

AUGUST PATRONAGE OF

His Most Gracious Majesty.

Their Royal Highnesses

THE DUKES OF YORK AND SUSSEX,

The Royal Family.



Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor & Empress of Russia.

& THE NOBILITY AND GENTRY.

ROWLAND'S,

Macassar Oil

For the Growth of Hair.

ROWLAND'S,

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FOR THE

Complexion.

Alsana Extract

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SOLE PROPRIETORS,

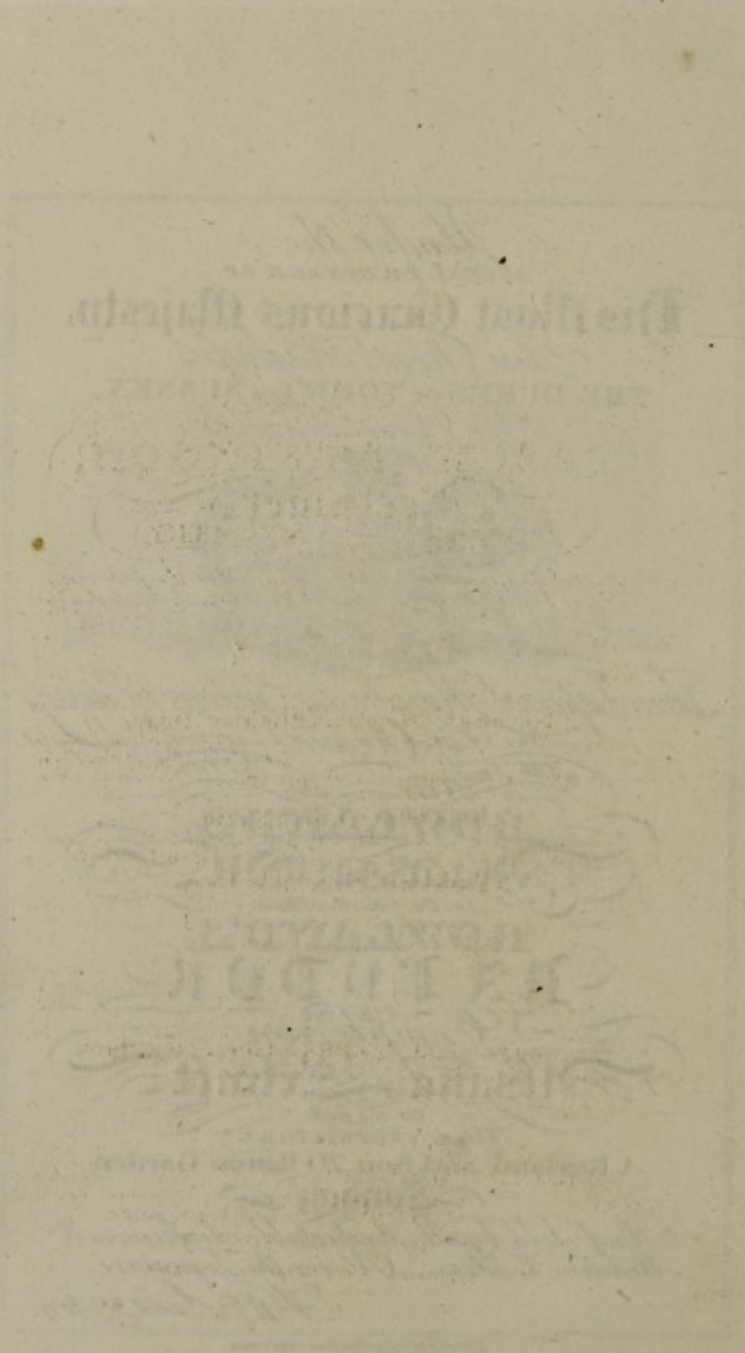
A. Rowland and Son, 20 Hatton Garden,

London

And Sold by all Respectable Perfumers & Medicine Venders — Observe the Signature.

A. Rowland & Son

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JAMES ATKINSON,

Perfumer

TO THE ROYAL FAMILY,

Respectfully informs the Nobility & Gentry that the following Articles of his Manufacture are Sold Wholesale & Retail at his

WAREHOUSE, No 44 GERRARD STREET, SOHO SQUARE,

London,

AND RETAILED BY THE PRINCIPAL PERFUMERS, HAIR DRESSERS AND MEDICINE VENDERS IN THE KINGDOM; VIZ.

Atkinson's Old Brown Windsor Soap.

A very superior Article for Family use, it is very mild & particularly adapted to the Nursery, or to those whose Skin may be tender & as it has been Manufactured many years it goes twice as far as New Soap. It is Sold at 2 s 3 d per pound, or 24 s per dozen pounds.

Atkinson's Curling Fluid.

For dressing the Hair. It clears the head from Scurf, makes the hair soft & glossy as Silk & preserves the Curl in exercise, or in damp weather.

Atkinson's Vegetable Dye.

Allowed by scientific Men to be the only innocent Article by which red or grey hair or whiskers can be rendered permanently black or brown.

Atkinson's Bears Grease.

Which is procured from the Animal in its native climate & is allowed to be the only Article that can be depended upon for infallibly restoring the growth of Hair. It is Sold in Pots at 2 s 6 d. or 4 s. each, and in Bottles at 3 s 6 d. 5 s 6 d. 10 s 6 d. & one Guinea.

Hudson's Botanic Tooth Powder & Tincture.

For making the Teeth white, & preserving them from decay to the latest period of life.

Caution — The above are all enclosed in Wrappers with the Proprietors Signature & Address.

ALSO

ATKINSON'S CONCENTRATED ESSENCE OF LAVENDER.

Possessing six times the strength of the best Lavender Water & being the most genuine powerful & cheap preparation of Lavender ever known.

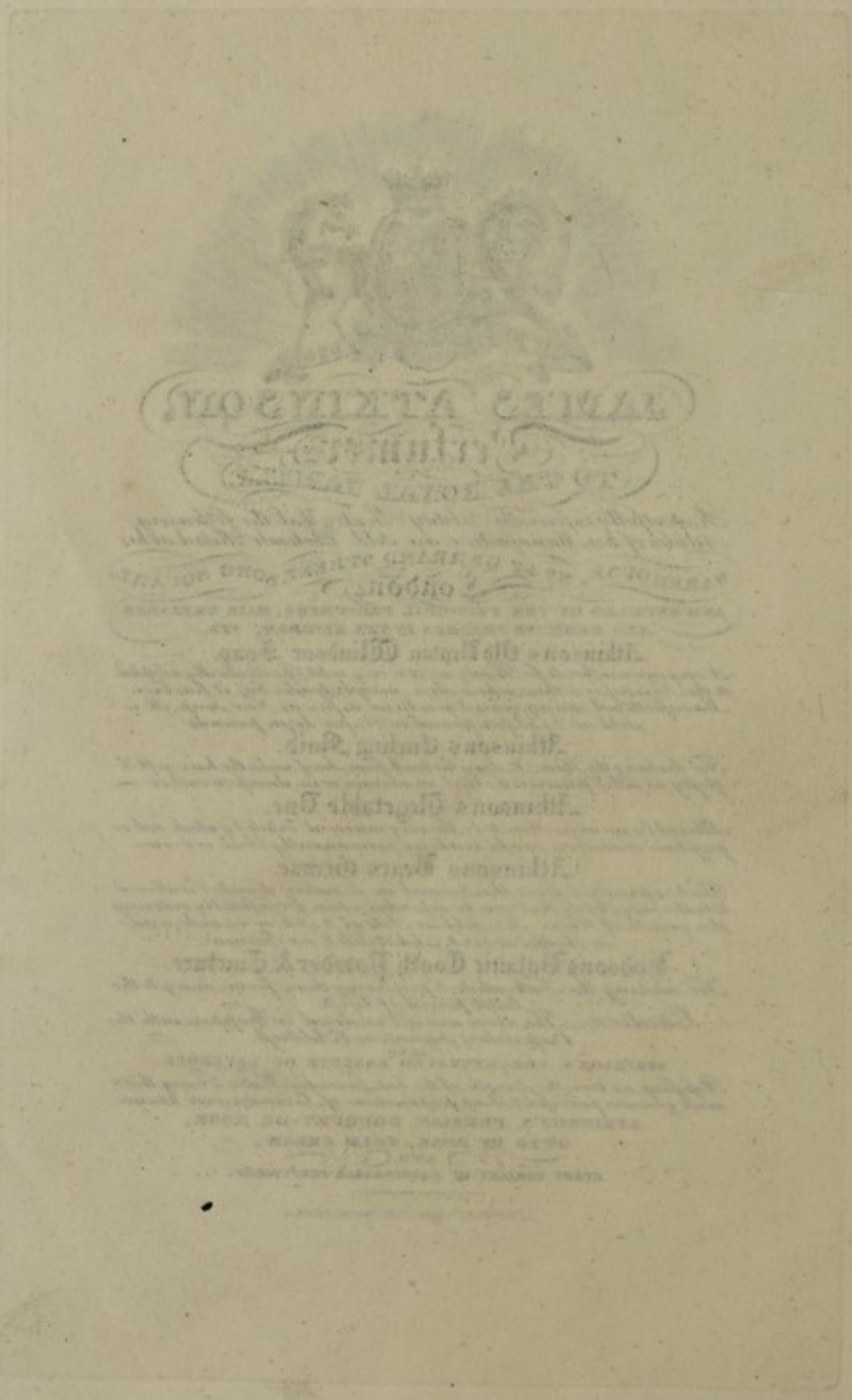
ATKINSON'S PERSIAN BOUQUET DE ROSE,

OTTO OF ROSE, COLD CREAM,

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EVERY VARIETY OF FASHIONABLE PERFUMERY.

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LOST. PAGE



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REMOVED FROM

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London

PERFUMER TO THE ROYAL FAMILY

Respectfully begs to announce to the Nobility & Gentry Residents & Visitors of CHELTENHAM *& its vicinity that his*

Unrivalled Foreign Perfumery

Comprising in particular his much admired Esprit de Lavande aux Millefleurs, Esprit de Rose, Bouquet du Roi George IV. Muguet, Marechalle, & above twenty other sorts

AND HIS

New & Elegant Perfume called

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ALSO HIS

highly perfumed Antique Oils of all sorts may be had in

CHELTENHAM

OF

MESSRS WILLIAMS, BETTISON, WILSON, PRINGLE, CROOK & SEXTIE.

where may likewise be obtained

His Poudre Subtil for removing superfluous hair, Poudre Blanque for dying the Hair, & his much celebrated Pomade Regeneratrix for promoting the growth of the Hair, & preventing its falling off, his esteemed Vegitable Extract for cleansing the Hair, & every other Article of Perfumery.

OF THE MOST SUPERIOR QUALITY

J.D. further begs to notice that he supplies them with

Genuine Bears Grease

PREPARED FOR USE SOLELY BY HIM IN POTS, WITH HIS NAME & PRICE AFFIXED.

J. Smith & Co. Type-Plate Printers.

The Histry of Cheltenham.

