

and often, in a spirit of great kindness, but he belonged to the nation more than a party. Cockburn thus relates the great calamity in the novelist's business connexions.

The opening of the year 1826, will ever be sad to those who remember the thunderbolt which then fell on Edinburgh, in the utterly unexpected bankruptcy of Scott, implying the ruin of Constable the bookseller, and of Ballantyne, the printer. If an earthquake had swallowed half the town, it would not have produced so much astonishment, sorrow, and dismay. Ballantyne and Constable were merehants, and their fall, had it reached no further, might have been lamented merely as the casualty of commerce. But Sir Walter! The idea that his practical sense had so far left him as to have permitted him to dabble in trade, had never crossed our imagination. How humbled we felt when we saw him—the pride of us all, dashed from his lofty and honourable station, and all the fruits of his well-worked talents gone. He had not then even a political enemy. There was not one of those whom his thoughtlessness had so sorely provoked, who would not have given every spare farthing he possessed to retrieve Sir Walter. Well do I remember his first appearance after this calamity was divulged, when he walked into court one day in January, 1826. There was no affectation, and no reality, of *facing it*; no look of indifference or defiance; but the manly and modest air of a gentleman conscious of some folly, but of perfect rectitude, and of most heroic and manly resolution. It was on that very day, I believe, that he said a very fine

thing. Some of his friends offered him, or rather proposed to offer him, enough of money, as was supposed, to enable him to arrange with his creditors. He paused for a moment; and then, recollecting his powers, said proudly—"No! the right hand shall work it all off!" His friend William Clark sipped with him one night after his ruin was declared. They discussed the whole affair, its causes and probable consequences, openly and playfully; till at last they laughed over their noggins at the change, and Sir Walter observed that he felt "something like Lambert and the other Regicide," who, Pepys says, when he saw them going to be hanged and quartered, were as cheerful and comfortable as any gentlemen could be in that situation.

We presume that Lord Cockburn did not find leisure to continue his "Memorials" after 1830—where the present admirable volume comes to an abrupt conclusion. It provokes no criticism, for it is written in a very genial spirit towards everybody, in any way loveable, and even in the celebrated case of Burke the murderer, the only anecdote told of him, although the author was his wife's counsel on the trial, is calculated, so far as possible, to extenuate his crimes: and even the medical men are spared. Braxfield and Cockburn were at the antipodes of judicial practice; and that fact constitutes a leading charm, present in every page of the book.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

SIR WILLIAM HAMILTON, BART.

DIED at his house, Great King-street, Edinburgh, 6th May, 1856, of congestion of the brain, Sir William Hamilton, Bart., Professor of Logic and Metaphysics in the University of Edinburgh, one of the most profoundly erudite men that Scotland has produced, and perhaps the greatest metaphysician of modern times. He was born in Glasgow, in 1791. His grandfather, Thomas Hamilton, Professor of Anatomy in the University of that city, by his wife, Isabella, daughter of Dr. William Anderson, had a son, William (who died in 1793), the father of the subject of this notice. His mother was the second daughter of William Stirling, Esq., heir male of the ancient family of Calder. Sir William was the elder of two sons. His brother, Thomas Hamilton, Esq., at one time an officer in the army, was the author of "The Youth and Manhood of Cyril Thornton," a novel, published in 1827, one of the most vigorously written fictions of its day; "Men and Manners in America," published in 1833; "Annals of the Peninsular Campaigns," and other popular works.

Sir William studied first at the University of Glasgow, and afterwards, having obtained one of the Snell Exhibitions, in Balliol College, Oxford, where he took first class honours. He passed Advocate at the Scottish bar in 1813. The representation of the family of Hamilton, of Preston, in

East Lothian, and Fingalton, in Renfrewshire, the oldest branch of the noble house of Hamilton, having, in 1799, devolved upon him, he took the necessary steps to have his right acknowledged, and on the 24th July, 1816, was, by a most respectable jury, before the Sheriff of Midlothian, served heir male in general to Sir Robert Hamilton, the second baronet of the family, who died, unmarried, 20th October, 1701. By that return, he proved himself to be, of the house of Preston and Fingalton, the twenty-fourth in lineal male descent from Sir John Fitz Gilbert de Hamilton, of Rossaven and Fingalton, who lived about 1330, and was the second son of Sir Gilbert, the founder of the House of Hamilton in Scotland. The lands of Rossaven, here mentioned, are in Lanarkshire, and afforded an occasional title to the heir-apparent of the family. Ross, in the Gaelic, signifies a promontory, or peninsula. Rossaven, therefore, is the promontory or peninsula, formed by the confluence of the Aven and the Clyde, near Hamilton.

The baronetcy which this family possesses is one of Nova Scotia, and was conferred 6th November, 1673, on Sir William Hamilton, born in 1647, on account of the services of his father, Sir Thomas Hamilton, Knight, in the Royal cause, at the battles of Dunbar and Worcester, in 1650 and 1651. The patent of baronetcy is in remainder to the heirs male in general. The first baronet held

a high command in the army of the Prince of Orange, in the expedition to England at the Revolution of 1688. He did not, however, live to witness the success, or to reap the fruits of that glorious enterprise, but died at Exeter, of a sudden illness, while the troops were on the march to London.

His brother, Sir Robert Hamilton, second baronet, was the leader and champion of the extreme Covenanters, and in 1679, at the age of 29, commanded their forces with greater intrepidity than prudence in the victory of Drumclog and the discomfiture of Bothwell Bridge. He afterwards took refuge in Holland, and was forfeited. At the Revolution, his attainder was reversed, and on his brother's death, he succeeded to the honours of his family. But while, as we are informed, he could not, without violence to his notions of religious obligation, "acknowledge an uncovenanted sovereign of these covenanted nations," he constantly refused to prefer any claim for his brother's estates, which he was legally intitled to redeem; as such a proceeding would have necessarily involved a recognition of the Prince and Princess of Orange in their title to the Scottish crown. He was the author of the famous Sanquhar Declaration, published by "the faithful," 10th August, 1692, and was soon after arrested at Earlston. After being detained a prisoner in Edinburgh and Haddington for nearly eight months, he was set at liberty without any compromise of his principles, and till the end of his life was permitted, without any farther molestation, to testify, with his usual zeal and fidelity, against the backslidings, both in Church and State.

Previous to the disruption of the Church of Scotland, in May, 1843, a fugitive tract made its appearance with especial reference to the party who afterwards formed the now flourishing Free Church, intitled, "Be not Martyrs by Mistake," in which the author endeavoured to demonstrate that the principles for which they were contending were principles which the most learned Presbyterian divines had solemnly renounced. The writer was Sir William Hamilton, the lineal representative of the victor of Drumclog, and the author of the Sanquhar Declaration, of him who, during his life, as his biographer in the "Scots Worthies" says, was "the principal stay and comforter of that afflicted remnant, who alone, amid the general defection of the times, continued faithful in their obligations to Christ and his covenanted cause."

Soon after being called to the bar, Sir William began that remarkable series of contributions to the "Edinburgh Review," which were collected and published in 1852, in one volume 8vo, under the title of "Discourses in Philosophy and Literature, Education and University Reform," and have been translated into French by M. Peisse. These essays are, in an especial degree, distinguished for vigour and originality of thought, not less than for vast and varied learning.

In 1821, Sir William was elected by the Faculty

of Advocates and the Town Council, with whom the patronage lies, to the chair of Universal History in the University of Edinburgh, and in 1836, on the death of Dr. Ritchie, he was appointed by the Town Council, the patrons, to the Professorship of Logic and Metaphysics in the same University, for which more than for any other he was peculiarly qualified. He published but little, and it is to be hoped that his lectures on intellectual science will yet be given to the world in a completed form. He edited Dr. Thomas Reid's works, with selections from his unpublished letters, and previous to his death, he was engaged upon the works of Dugald Stewart. He was a corresponding member of the Institute of France, and an associate of many literary societies. He also held the office of Her Majesty's Solicitor for Teinds in Scotland. He married, in 1829, his cousin, a daughter of the late Hubert Marshall, Esq., and leaves a son, the present Sir William Hamilton, Bart., born in 1830. The last portion of the family estates were sold during the minority of the eldest son of the fourth baronet in the last century, and no part of them now remain with the inheritor of the title.

JAMES WILSON, ESQ. OF WOODVILLE.

DIED, at Edinburgh, on 18th May, 1856, James Wilson, Esq., of Woodville. Scarcely less distinguished as a naturalist than his brother, Professor Wilson, as a poet, he did not long survive him. Like his brother, he was a native of Paisley, a town which has given birth to several eminent individuals, such as Tannahill, the two brothers Wilson, their namesake, Alexander Wilson, the ornithologist, and the late John Thompson, M.D., professor of General Pathology in the University of Edinburgh.

Mr. James Wilson was the youngest son of a leading Paisley manufacturer, and was born in November, 1795. His father died about 1797 when the family removed to Edinburgh. After passing through the usual school and college classes, he was apprenticed about 1811, to Mr. William Mackenzie, Writer to the Signet; but delicacy of health prevented him from following out the profession. He had early displayed a love of natural history, ornithology and entomology particularly engaging his attention, and whilst yet very young he had made a considerable collection of birds and insects. Literature, however, divided his pursuits with science, and when yet a student at the college he published several little pieces of poetry, although without his name. He is said to have shown in his youth a peculiar vein of subtile wit and grotesque humour which made him a welcome addition to every social circle.

In 1816 Mr. Wilson went on a tour to the Continent, when he visited Holland, part of Germany, and Switzerland. Soon after he visited Paris, being entrusted to purchase a collection of birds

for the Edinburgh Museum. It was afterwards arranged by him, and now constitutes one of the most attractive series of objects in the Museum. In 1819 he made a tour in Sweden, and soon after his return, symptoms of the pulmonary complaint which ultimately proved fatal, first showed themselves. He went, in consequence, to Italy, where he resided during the winter of 1820-21. In 1824, he married Isabella, daughter of the late William Keith, Esq., and settled down to a life of scientific and literary labour. In 1831, he published at Edinburgh, a quarto volume, entitled "Illustrations of Zoology, being Representations of new, rare, or remarkable subjects of the Animal Kingdom, drawn and coloured after Nature, with Historical and descriptive details."

In 1834, with James Duncan, he issued a 12mo volume, bearing the title of "Entomologia Edinensis, or a Description and History of the Insects found in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh." To the less scientific public he was known by "The Rod and the Gun, being two treatises on Angling and Shooting; by James Wilson, F.R.S.E., and the author of the Oakley Shooting Code," Edinburgh, 1840, 12mo; and by his "Voyage Round the Coasts of Scotland, and the Isles," published at Edinburgh, in 1842, in two volumes, 12mo. He was also the contributor of some of the most pleasant papers in "Blackwood's Magazine," and the "North British Review." The "Quarterly Review" and the "Edinburgh Review" were also occasionally enriched by articles from his pen.

He was an acknowledged authority on entomology, and scarcely less distinguished as an ornithologist, and ichthyologist. In his earlier days, Professor Jameson, who filled the Natural History chair in the University of Edinburgh from 1804 to 1854, and was generally very reluctant to permit others to touch his specimens, welcomed Mr. Wilson's help in arranging the Natural History Museum, and left the birds and the insects very much to him. In his later days he became the assistant in the same way of Jameson's successor, Professor Edward Forbes, on whose untimely death, in 1855, the chair of Natural History was offered to Mr. Wilson, but declined by him. The appointment is in the Crown, and on the vacancy occurring, on his refusal, those in authority consulted him as to the person best qualified to fill it. The characteristic love of a naturalist for dumb animals showed itself in him like a human affection. In his early invalid days the walls of his sick chamber were hung round with birdcages, containing his favourite songsters.

Brought up in the Established Church of Scotland, and latterly an elder in it, he came out with those who left it at the disruption in 1843. He joined the Greyfriars Congregation of the Free Church. Their pastor was his own nephew, the late Rev. John Sym. As one of the elders of Free Greyfriars, Edinburgh, he took an active part in all the Christian schemes of the Free Church, of which he was an attached adherent.

Mr. Sym died in January, 1855. His death greatly distressed him, and from a severe pulmonary attack which followed this bereavement he slowly recovered never to regain his former health. In his last illness, he knew that recovery was hopeless, and shortly before his death, he calmly arranged all his affairs, leaving messages for his friends, and mingling with them announcements "of his faith in Christ crucified as the only ground of hope." Nearly his last words were the quotation from Scripture—"Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither hath it entered into the heart of man to conceive, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." And not long after uttering them at early dawn on Sunday, the 18th of May, he entered into rest.

MAJOR HENRY LANGHOME THOMPSON, C.B. DIED, at the residence of his mother in Gloucester-street, London, on Friday, 13th June, 1856, Major Henry Langhome Thompson, one of the gallant defenders of Kars. He was the son of the late Jonathan Thompson, Esq., an old Appleby scholar, who held the appointment of Receiver-General of Crown Rents for the Northern Counties, and grandson of Mr. Joseph Thompson, of Bailleborough, Appleby. His mother was the daughter of Major Smythe. He was educated at Exeter, and in 1845 was appointed to an ensigncy in the 68th Regiment of Bengal Native Infantry. On 12th February, 1850, he was promoted to a lieutenantcy, and in the second Burmese war he received a wound, from which he had not recovered when he returned to England, in the autumn of 1854. In the late war against the Russians, when the demand was felt for Indian officers to aid in the proposed campaign in Asia, Lieutenant Thompson, although his wounded arm was still in a sling, volunteered his services, and straightway proceeded to Constantinople. After visiting the seat of war in the Crimea, he returned to the Turkish capital, and then repaired to Erzeroum and Kars. In consequence of his gallant behaviour at the latter place, he was, in the winter of 1855, appointed a Captain, unattached, of the royal army, and recently her Majesty conferred on him, as well as on his brave brother officers at Kars, a Companionship of the Bath.

On the surrender of Kars, he was, with the other heroic men who did their utmost to hold out that now celebrated fortress, and were only driven by famine and disease to yield it to the Russians, sent to St. Petersburg. His sword was returned to him by General Mouravieff, "in admiration of noble and devoted courage, and as a mark of admiration and respect." With Lieutenant-Colonel Lake he arrived at Hull, on Saturday, the 7th June, when a public entertainment was given to them, the Mayor of the town presiding. On that occasion Major Thompson was suffering severely from cold and sore throat. On reaching London,

he was attacked with fever and bronchitis, and died Friday, the 13th June.

General Sir William Fenwick Williams, K.C.B., the Commander at Kars, landed at Dover, on Monday morning, the 16th June, and in his reply to an address presented to him by the Mayor and Corporation of Dover, he thus feelingly alluded to his deceased companion in arms: "I have a melancholy duty to perform, and a tribute to pay to departed heroism and worth—to the memory of one of my brave companions, Capt. Thompson, it was only the day before yesterday, while at Paris, that I heard of his severe illness, and little did I then think that the scenes of this world would so soon close upon him. I had looked forward to visiting his mother's house, and cheering him as he had so frequently cheered me. Unfortunately, unhappily, it has been ordered otherwise. The only consolation that can be offered to his widowed mother is that her lamented son died a glorious specimen of an English officer. I can assure you that he was never daunted; that when reduced to a skeleton by dire disease, he was not prevented doing his duty day or night. Poor Mrs. Thompson will have the consolation which has been the only consolation experienced by many mothers during the war,—they have given their sons to the service of the country." The remains of Capt. Thompson were conveyed to Brompton Cemetery on Tuesday morning, the 17th June, accompanied by his gallant chief, as well as by Lord Panmure, Colonel Lake, and other officers. He had only

reached his 27th year, but he was one of a "small band of heroes," whose names will be preserved in history, and for ever associated with the heroic defence of Kars.

SIR ALEXANDER CRICHTON.

DIED, at his seat, the Grove, near Sevenoaks, Kent, on the 4th June, Sir Alexander Crichton, Knight, M.D., F.R.S., aged 93, having been born in the spring of 1764. He was the son of Alexander Crichton, Esq., of Newington, Midlothian, and grandson of Patrick Crichton, Esq., of Woodlee and Newington. He was physician in ordinary to Alexander I., Emperor of Russia, and was Knight Grand Cross of the Russian orders of St. Vladimir and St. Anne, and Knight of the Red Eagle of Prussia, second class. He returned to England in 1820, when he was knighted, and received permission to wear his foreign orders. He also became physician to the household of the Duke of Cambridge. He was the author of a work on mental derangement, and various other valuable medical publications; and honorary member of the academy of sciences of St. Petersburg, a corresponding member of the Royal Institute of Medicine in Paris, and a member of the Royal Society of Sciences in Gottingen, &c. He married in 1800, the only daughter of Edward Dodwell, Esq., of West Molesey, Surrey.

THE SUMMER OF THE HEART.

By L. M. THORNTON.

I SAW her with a rosy wreath
 Of wild flowers, fresh and gay;
 I heard her sing, in dulcet strains,
 Her merry, simple lay.
 Oh! why that garland fresh and fair,
 And why those notes so sweet—
 And why that smile and beaming glance
 A wanderer to greet?

Her sky of life was one clear blue—
 No storm-cloud flitted by;
 She'd yet to learn what plough's the cheek.
 And what bedius the eye.
 She'd yet to mourn that season bright
 Which comes but to depart;
 And, having left us, comes no more—
 The summer of the heart.