

OBSERVATIONS

MADE IN

A JOURNEY

THROUGH THE

WESTERN COUNTIES OF SCOTLAND;

IN THE AUTUMN OF M,DCC,XCII.

RELATING TO

THE SCENERY, ANTIQUITIES, CUSTOMS, MANNERS,
POPULATION, AGRICULTURE, MANUFACTURES,
COMMERCE, POLITICAL CONDITION, AND
LITERATURE OF THESE PARTS.

Sed neque Medorum sylvæ, ditissima terra
Nec pulcher Ganges, atque æuro turbidus Hermus,
Laudibus Italix certent. —

O fortunatos nimium, sua si bona norint! VIRO.

By ROBERT HERON.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOLUME SECOND.

P E R T H:



PRINTED BY R. MORISON JUNIOR,
FOR R. MORISON AND SON, BOOKSELLERS, PERTH;
BELL AND BRADEFUTE, EDINBURGH; AND
VERNOR AND HOOD, BIRCHIN LANE, LONDON.

M,DCC,XCIII.

*Gough Add: Scotland
8. H. 26.*

CONTENTS.

| | <i>Page.</i> | | <i>Page.</i> |
|------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| GLASGOW - - - - - | 1 | Glenluce to Stranraer - - | 275 |
| Glasgow to Lismahagow - - | 3 | Stranraer - - - - - | 284 |
| Lismahagow to Weston - - | 12 | From Stranraer to Ballantray | 293 |
| Weston to Newton of Crawford | 30 | Ballantray to Girvan - - | 311 |
| Newton and to Holefane - | 52 | Girvan to Kirk-Ofwald - | 314 |
| New Galloway and the Glen- | | Kirk-Ofwald and to Ayr - | 322 |
| kens - - - - - | 145 | Ayr and its Environs - - | 333 |
| From New Galloway to Kir- | | Ayr to Irvine - - - - - | 356 |
| cudbright - - - - - | 176 | Irvine, Kilmarnock and the | |
| Kircudbright - - - - - | 185 | Environs - - - - - | 368 |
| From Kircudbright to Gate- | | Irvine to Beith - - - - - | 382 |
| house of Fleet - - - - - | 200 | Beith to Kilbarchan - - | 389 |
| Gatehouse of Fleet - - - | 214 | Kilbarchan and to Paisley - | 392 |
| From Gatehouse of Fleet to | | Paisley and the Country to | |
| Ferry-town of Cree - - | 234 | Glasgow - - - - - | 402 |
| Ferry-town of Cree, and to | | Glasgow to Stirling - - | 430 |
| Newton-Stewart, alias Doug- | | Stirling and to Perth - - | 438 |
| las - - - - - | 245 | From Perth to Edinburgh - | 457 |
| From Newton-Douglas to Glen- | | Edinburgh - - - - - | 467 |
| luce - - - - - | 249 | | |

JOURNEY

THROUGH THE WESTERN PARTS

OF

SCOTLAND.

GLASGOW.

INTENDING to return to Edinburgh by the way of Glasgow; I did not, upon this occasion, spend much time in examining the curiosities of this opulent commercial city. I had, once before, passed a few days in Glasgow. The kindness of friends had made me acquainted with many of those things which were most remarkable about it. It was indeed greatly altered and enlarged since that period. But, it might be better, I supposed, to survey its improvements upon my return.

ONE sentiment which I felt upon finding myself again in a great town, was such, that I cannot help mentioning it. At sight of the spacious and busy streets, the frequent shops, the crowded market-places, the carefully dressed men and women, methought, I felt myself again at home. Here every

VOL. II.

A

convenience

JOURNEY THROUGH

convenience of life might be easily obtained. I had lately travelled through regions which were destitute of many of the most grateful of those conveniences. Here, a person might have so much general society, as to leave him little desire for the *rare* pleasures of frank, easy, unsuspecting converse, or for the *ideal* enjoyments of generous friendship and virtuous love. In the wild scenes which I had left, there was little to soothe the wounded spirit,—little to give a relish to life, after the once open and simple heart had experienced the perfidy, the ingratitude, the inhumanity of men. Here, there was enough to busy the mind, and enough to keep desire awake, and to expel care from the bosom, although not an eye should meet you with a glance of kindness, and not a countenance should seem to say, ‘ This is the face of a well-wisher.’

SUCH were the reflections, partly melancholy, and partly pleasing, which arose in my mind, as I retired to rest on the evening on which I had reached Glasgow. The necessary transaction of some business detained me here, all the following day. On the Tuesday, I left Glasgow, and continued my excursion towards Hamilton: my purpose being, to visit Galloway, and to return to Glasgow through Ayr-shire.

From

From GLASGOW to LISMAHAGOW.

It was towards the afternoon when I left Glasgow. Here, too, as when I had entered this city, on a different quarter, I observed the town to decline gradually into the country,—not to be divided from it by an abrupt line. The roads are excellent. They were crowded with passengers on foot and horseback, and with carriages of various descriptions. The wetness of the season had indeed rendered them deep: but this was not so much the fault of the roads, as of the season. From the road, as I proceeded, I saw one of the most picturesque tracts of level country I had ever surveyed. A good many decent, with some splendid gentlemen's houses are scattered over it. The surface of the ground is, in many places ornamented with belts and clumps of planting; and even with larger, and more regular tracts of wood. Coal-pits and quarries of limestone, with smoking lime-kilns are to be seen, here and there, over the country. The fields were not yet cleared of their corn, but it stood at least almost every where in the shock; and while its appearance in that condition, at so late a period in the season might indeed awaken a train of unpleasing reflections,—it however gave the scenes a richer and less

bare aspect than they must otherwise have exhibited. Hedges divided the fields. The level of the country was sufficiently varied by swelling knolls. Fancy naturally strove to clothe it in the gayer colours of spring, of summer, and of opening autumn, and in the effort gave little less amusement to the mind, than if I had been actually surveying the realities which she attempted to picture out.

ONE remain of antiquity which I had an opportunity of remarking from the highway was Bothwell-Castle, the ruins of which have still an air of majesty to remind the beholder of its ancient strength and grandeur. It is said to be in the same style of building, as the old castles of Wales. Its walls were sixty feet high: they are fifteen in thickness. It stands close upon the bank of the Clyde, upon a rocky foundation. At one time, the massy wall crushed the rock; and large fragments of the wall and the rock fell down together into the Clyde. Opposite to Bothwell-Castle, upon the other side of the river, stand the ruinous remains of the Priory of Blantyre, the property of Lord Blantyre. This Priory appears from historic documents, to have been founded before the end of the thirteenth century. It was dependent upon the monastery of Jedburgh. Upon the abolition of the Romish Religion in Scotland in the sixteenth century, it fell into the hands of a Walter Stuart,

Stuart, Lord Privy Seal; who was in the beginning of the following century created Lord Blantyre.

THE soil of this tract of country is rich and fertile: commonly, a clay, or a loam; in some places mossy. In this vicinity are a sulphureous, mineral spring or two. At some distance, on the banks of Calder-Water, are great quantities of iron-stone rich in metal, which are dug, and, at a furnace near Glasgow, wrought into pig-iron: the proprietors of the land receiving for the iron-stone at the rate of sixpence a ton. Those iron-stones are said to exhibit, many of them, impressions which seem to have been made by leaves, trunks, or branches of various trees.

BOTHWELL-CASTLE is well known to have been a seat of the ancient Douglasses, in their days of feudal splendour. Strong as it was, they trusted not entirely to its strength for their security. Between Bothwell-Castle and the Priory of Blantyre, there was a secret subterraneous passage, running under the bed of the Clyde. By this the inhabitants of the castle, at least the tenderer part of them, could retire in time of danger to the protection which the sanctity of a religious establishment afforded, in those days of barbarism and superstition. A handsome, large, new house has been built,
at

at a small distance, by the present Lord Douglas, in a situation, commanding a view of the river and of the ancient castle.

In this neighbourhood, the river Avon which has its sources in the parishes of Avondale and Galston, meets the Clyde. The meeting of the two rivers, and the surrounding scenery have been finely celebrated by Miss Hannah Williams, in a sweet little ode, inserted in her novel of Julia.

THIS is truly a fine tract of country. The neighbourhood of a city so large, so populous, so busy, and so flourishing as Glasgow, the natural fertility of the soil, the abundance of useful fossils, and the spreading spirit of manufacture, are circumstances all conspiring to promote the population, the industry, and the wealth of these places.

WE passed by Bothwell-bridge, where was fought, in the last century, a straggling battle, between the Covenanters and the King's troops. The event of the battle is well known to have been ruinous to the affairs of the former. Those who fell, were by their brethren, accounted martyrs. The same bridge celebrated in the story of that battle, still stands. The Clyde is not here navigable. But, when swelled by rains, this river, as well as the Avon, spreads

a vast body of water over its banks. In the month of March, 1782, the Clyde rose sixteen feet above its ordinary level; overflowing a great tract of the adjacent country, and assuming the magnificent aspect of an arm of the sea.

WE were now within the parish of Hamilton, and drew near to the town of the same name. The Avon, the Clyde, and several streams divide, water, and fertilize this district. The level of the surface is finely diversified. The banks of the streams are often decorated with wood. Salmon, trouts, pikes, perches, roaches, lampreys, eels, and flounders abound more or less in the rivers. Fine black cattle are fed in the fields. Wheat, oats, pease, beans, and barley are the crops raised. Potatoes are here, as elsewhere through Scotland a favourite and plenteous article of culture, and of food. The pastures have been improved, too, by the sowing of grasses richer and more nourishing than the native sward.

THE town of Hamilton is one of the handsomest of smaller towns in Scotland. It contains about three thousand and six hundred inhabitants. Of these about four hundred may be weavers. Cabinet and carpenter work of various sorts is made here. The tanners are considerable; and dressed leather is carried

carried from Hamilton to the London market; the raw hides being first purchased from Glasgow and from Ireland. No fewer than an hundred and twenty hands are employed in the manufacture of shoes. The manufacture of stockings on frames, gives employment to four and twenty hands. A manufacture of thread-lace has been long carried on here. Through the fluctuations of fashion, it had gradually declined. But, the late Dutchess of Hamilton and Argyle turned her attention to the encouragement of this manufacture; brought up to it at her own expence, twelve orphan girls; and patronized the use of the lace, so as to revive, in a great degree, that spirit with which it had been formerly made here. It is again declining. The chief employment, however of the women of Hamilton and its environs, has long been the spinning of linen yarn. Large parcels of this yarn were formerly exported from Hamilton to Ireland: but the Irish have since learned to spin for their own manufactures. *Hamilton* races are well known to be among the best frequented of our animal races. In consequence it may be, that the manufacture of saddlery goods has come to be carried on, to some extent here. Linen was formerly the only species of cloth produced by the weavers of Hamilton. They are now chiefly employed by the manufacturers of Glasgow, in working cotton stuffs.

THE

THE houses of this town have a remarkable air of neatness. I have mentioned the women of Dumbarton as having appeared, in my eyes, remarkably homely. I shall add here, that the women of Hamilton seemed no less remarkable for fine faces, handsome figures, and neatness of dress. They were of the middle size; the out line of the face, a fine oval; the eyes commonly blue; the hair, fair, or a light brown; the nose inclining to aquiline, yet not absolutely so; and their dress had a neatness and cleanliness, more pleasing than finery. It was not simply one or two of the young women of this place, that appeared thus charming. Almost at every door, I observed one of these captivating female forms at work, as I passed hastily through the town.

HERE is a good inn, well kept by a Mr Clarke from London. He is an obliging, intelligent man, but has not a little of the air of a groom, a boxer, or a cock-fighter. As a burgh of Regality, Hamilton possesses a prison and a town-house. It has also commodious buildings for market-places. The parish-church is an handsome building. An inscription over the gateway of an old house still standing in the town bespeaks the date of its erection to have been in the year 1533. *Hamilton-house*, the seat of the Duke of Hamilton stands near the town. The

parts of this edifice have been erected at different periods. That which is most ancient, appears to have been finished in the year 1591. The more modern and most considerable part was built in the end of the last century. It was formerly surrounded by the town. But, its noble possessors have by degrees pulled down such of the houses of the town as stood nearest to the palace, and have given such a direction to the plan of such others as have been since built, that the palace is now left detached from the town. The buildings of the palace form three sides of a quadrangle. Several of the rooms are spacious; but they are not all alike well furnished. Of the paintings, that of Daniel in the Den of Lions has been highly praised by Connoisseurs. In the middle of the great park, about a mile from the town, and on a rock, overhanging the west bank of the river Avon, stand the ruinous remains of Cadzow-castle, the ancient manor-house. Cadzow seems to have been anciently the name of the whole circumjacent district. Opposite to these ruins, and on the other side of the river Avon, is an artificial ruin, which was built about the year 1730, after a design drawn by the elder Adams, and intended for an imitation of the castle of Chatelherault, in France, the name of which it bears. In the park, near these ruins, are some of the stateliest oaks in Scotland. Within the present century, the number of these noble trees

trees has been greatly diminished: some having fallen, through the decay of age. Of those which yet remain, many are now only mutilated trunks, divested through the same decay, of the spacious, spreading boughs which once shaded them. Some still measure, in girth, upwards of 27 feet. Here, so late as the year 1770 were a remnant of those white cattle with black or brown ears and muzzles which were once common in Scotland. Their shyness and ferocity of temper rendered them troublesome and little useful. They were therefore exterminated in the year above mentioned. The Duke of Hamilton has here a park well stocked with fallow deer.

FROM Hamilton we continued our journey towards Lismahagow. The highway was still excellent. Turnpikes have been erected at proper distances; and this road is kept up by the contributions of those who have occasion to travel it. Near Hamilton, the country was inclosed chiefly, and the fields in a state of cultivation. As we advanced, however, some wide, level tracts, as well of brown heath, as of open, neglected green pasture appeared on either hand. Night came on. But, the sky was serene: And as the road was good and the country inhabited, the short ride we had yet to take by night, was little less pleasing, than

it might have been by day; had it not been that the circumjacent country was in a great measure hid from our view. As we drew nearer and nearer to Lismahagow, the houses by the way-side, seemed to exhibit an aspect more and more miserable. And for the last three miles, the country appeared to be entirely uninclosed.

LISMAHAGOW, and to WESTON.

AT Lismahagow, I was entertained by the hospitality of Dr Wharry. Lismahagow is a village of great antiquity. Here was anciently an abbey of monks, dependent on the abbey of Kelfo. The situation of the village is an excellent proof of the judgment with which the Romish Clergy used to chuse out situations for their religious houses. It stands in a pleasant vale, on the bank of a fine stream, and is, on all hands well sheltered. The ground, too, is here of singular fertility. And when one reflects on the open, uncultivated condition of the country, some hundred years since; it is plain that the good monks could hardly have been then placed in a site more pleasant, more fitted to afford the conveniencies of life, or more secure. The parish of Lismahagow, is still a collegiate charge. And I believe, the first minister enjoys one of the
best

best country livings in the church of Scotland. The ancient church still stands. But, I did not observe many other monuments of antiquity remaining here. Mr Wharry's house, at which I was entertained, stands on an eminence, at a small distance above the village. Hence I had a fine view of the village, of the vale winding above it, and of the country spreading out, beneath, where the country swells partly into hills rising slowly, and to no very lofty elevation, and in part spreads out into a plain susceptible of cultivation. Within this landscape, also, stands the house of Auchtafardale, the seat of a Mr Moffman.

FROM Mr Wharry's son, I received a present of some curious petrifications which he had collected from a lime-quarry. Among these were the petrified vertebræ of some animal, the specific character of which I could not guess at, by so slight a remain; the two valves of a small cockle-shell; still close and united; a single valve of another cockle-shell; with some petrified teeth; and various other petrified animal remains. Such specimens as these were, in the infancy of natural history, supposed to have been formed by an actual conversion of the substance of the animal or bodies—which they resembled,—into stone. It came afterwards to be known, that no such unaccountable and extraordinary conversions
of

of one substance into another, entered into the œconomy of nature. Ingenuity conjectured, and observation confirmed the conjecture, that such curiously modified, lapideous bodies, must have been formed by the gradual decomposition of the animal or vegetable bodies in whose mould they were cast, and the deposition of stony particles in the spaces which those animal or vegetable bodies had occupied. The famous Lough Neagh in Ireland, by this deposition of stony particles suspended in its waters, gives, within a certain time, a stone of the precise form and dimensions of any piece of wood that may be laid to putrify in it. Calcareous stones are known to derive their origin from the decomposition of certain animal substances, just as some other fossils are formed by the decomposition of vegetable bodies. It is easy to conceive, then, that, in the gradual deposition of strata of calcareous matter from the suspension of their particles in water, animal substances not yet dissolved might be immersed in the forming strata of calcareous matter: In this situation they might be dissolved, by degrees: But, as they were dissolved, the mould which they had occupied, would be, naturally, filled up with those loose calcareous particles which were diffused around them. Such are my notions of those petrifications which we find especially in lime-quarries

quarries; and such, I believe, is the generally received theory.

NEXT morning, I took leave of my hospitable entertainer, Mr Wharry, and proceeded onwards towards the sources of the Clyde.—At no great distance from Lismahagow, are those famous cataracts of the Clyde,—the *Lims of Corra* and *Stonebyres*. At *Corra Lynn*, the stream is precipitated over a rock, down a perpendicular height of an hundred feet. On a pointed rock, just opposite to where the water begins to fall down the steep, stand the ruins of a castle which about fifty years since, or perhaps somewhat more, was inhabited. When the torrent was swollen by floods, it would dash down with such violence as to shake the rock and the castle upon it, so that water in a glass was spilled by the concussion. Just under this awful cataract stands a mill, the wheel of which seems as if it were, every moment about to be dashed in pieces, by the weight of water which falls upon it.

A MILE farther up the river is the cataract of *Stone-byres*, perhaps still more strikingly magnificent than that of *Corra*. The walk between the two is beautifully romantic. The rocks rise on each side, to the height of an hundred feet above the bed of the river. They are covered with wood. The
channel

channel is of solid rock, sometimes worn into cavities by the force of the water; which is compelled by a variety of obstacles to assume varied directions in its progress: and forming a number of inferior cascades. Although at Stone-byres *Linn* the water falls from an elevation greatly inferior to that at Corra, yet the width being here broader, the mass more diversified, the eddies more turbulent and outrageous; this cataract is perhaps formed to impress the imagination with still deeper awe and horror than the former. At a mile's distance from these scenes of grandeur, and while the water-falls are still hid within the embosoming woods, a thick smoke-like mist is seen to rise over it; and nearly the hollow noise is heard, which stuns the ears.

ROUND Lanark, the country is, in a considerable degree, ornamented and cultivated. A part of the town-common which has been lately alienated, is likely to receive great improvement, in consequence of the alienation. A Cotton-work has been lately erected here by that eminent manufacturer, Mr David Dale of Glasgow. I have been informed, that a greater quantity of cotton-yarn is spun here in the week, than at all the other similar works for the spinning of cotton, that have yet been erected in Scotland.

SENSIBLE,

SENSIBLE, that, by travelling straight along the highway, I should be enabled to form but a very imperfect notion of the state of the country; I availed myself of a cross road at no great distance from Lismahagow, and by that wandered over the hills, towards Weston. Where a much frequented highway passes through any country, the houses by the way-side are commonly neater, and the fields better inclosed, and more carefully decorated, than in the interior parts, which are more remote from the observation of strangers. This is in part the effect of the advantages which a road opening up a country gives, to promote the industry and by consequence the wealth of its inhabitants;—and partly arises from the pride which the gentlemen of a country very properly and reasonably take in shewing its best face to strangers, and in hiding the nakedness of their land. Not maliciously to spy the nakedness of this district, but to enjoy its diversified scenery, and to remark its real condition, did I turn from the highway.

THE day was fair; and the reapers were every where busy in the fields. The corn was nearly all cut down; but considerable quantities stood in the shock; and, as appeared to me, in no very dry state: and that which was yet growing, did not seem to be fully ripe. I accosted the reapers, as I

VOL. II.

C

passed

passed various parties, and cheerfully called to them to *be busy, and win the curn*, as soon as possible. They always replied with that civility and good-nature for which the peasantry of Scotland are everywhere remarkable. They indeed seemed to labour with all that activity and earnestness which the lateness of the harvest, and the extreme uncertainty of the weather required. The fields appeared to me, to be awkwardly divided, and ill-fenced. The arable ground lay immediately around the different farm-houses. Beyond, was, in every farm, seemingly, a wide tract of open muir, appropriated to the purposes of pasture for sheep and black-cattle.

TRAVELLING thus across the country, I passed near by one farm-house, in the parish of Lismahagow, the name of which I learned to be the MOAT. It stands in a hollow. Immediately around is a tract of *bog* forming almost one continued quagmire. The *steading* of the farm-house with the offices, is on a mount in the midst of this quagmire. As I approached the door of the house, to ask the way onwards, I observed the walls of the office-houses, to be ancient, strong, and well-built, as well as of considerable extent. Upon a more minute survey, I perceived plainly, that they were the remains of some considerable old castle, or at least house built in the castellated fashion. The farmer,

who

who was an obliging and intelligent man, could give me no information concerning the antiquity of these remains, or the time at which the castle had been deserted for the lowly farm-house beside it; and its halls converted into stalls for horses and oxen. It should seem that the mount on which these remains stand, has been once insulated, either naturally or artificially. The marshy ground around it has been once a natural or artificial lake, or at least a moat. But, the state of the country being changed; our houses affording us the security of castles, without the precautions of fortification; the sameness, or the same inaccessibility of situation being no longer preferred among us, for our houses, the moat has been deserted by its original inhabitants, and from being perhaps the dwelling of the Lord of the Manor, has fallen to be the humble habitation of a farmer.

IN Italy, in Greece, and in those countries in Africa and Asia, which were anciently famous for population and opulence, the traveller frequently meets with something similar to what I found here. He finds the noblest monuments of antiquity converted to the basest purposes; hovels erected within the dismantled walls of palaces; the pillars wrought by the most exquisite care of ancient art, confounded with the meanest materials in the structure of

some wretched edifice, scarce fit for a human habitation; and the trophies of the conquerors profaned by the hands of slaves. But, such objects suggest reflections much more melancholy than are inspired by any medleys of ancient grandeur and modern meanness which our own country may exhibit. *These* mark the decline of civilization, and teach the mind, that man and all his works, in all their perfection, are fluctuating and transient; that not only does barbarism yield to the progress of civilization and refinement, but returns often to triumph over these, and sweep them away, after they have attained the most splendid heights. But, when in Britain we see the desolate ruins of some ancient castle, or behold the remaining monuments of that system of life which prevailed among our forefathers, converted to meaner purposes than those to which they once served:—We cannot avoid reflecting on the progress which civilization and social happiness have made among us, since the days when—moats and castles, for instance, were necessary to the security of families. Happy indeed is the change which has removed the habitations of our men of fortune from the islet and the mount to the open lawn,—which has filled up our moats, and broken down our drawbridges,—which has diminished the thickness of our walls, and enlarged the number, and the dimensions of our windows,—which has transferred

transferred ornamental architecture from the priory and the cathedral, to the villa of the merchant and the splendid mansion of the great land-holder!

As I rode on, I passed across a wide tract of muir, distinguished by the name of *Broken-Crofs Muir*. The origin of the name I could not learn. The extent and level of this tract are such as might well fit it for a scene of battle. Although now bare, and brown over with heath; it seems to have been once occupied by a forest. On one side, it has been opened and cut down, for a good way, for peats. I rode near to the *peat-breast*, and could observe, by the pieces of wood which were scattered thick through the black, peat-earth, that the latter must undoubtedly have owed its formation to the decay of resinous trees. This muir has been once a pine forest. It has been suffered to decay, unheeded, by the injuries of time, when our ancestors were alike unqualified to avail themselves of the various advantages which abundance of wood afforded, or to turn to serve the purposes of agriculture, after the wood had decayed or had been carried away, those tracts over which forests had originally extended.

VARIOUS foolish enquiries have been suggested concerning the origin of peat-earth, or *mos*, as it is commonly called. I have heard people ask, whether

ther peat-earth did not grow like a vegetable? Only simplicity and careless observation could leave it possible for any person to ask this question. The origin of peat-earth appears evidently to be from ligneous vegetables, of various kinds, chiefly of a resinous character; and not refusing an intermixture of the earth formed by the decay of herbaceous vegetables; but rejecting, as unsusceptible of combustion all alloy of pure earth, of whatever specific character. Beds of peat-earth grow, as they are augmented by the decay of one generation of ligneous vegetables after another. Of any other growth, they are absolutely incapable. In almost all extensive strata of moss, we find trunks of trees, sometimes fresh, and sometimes so far decayed, as to crumble into dust between the fingers. In many places, the trunks of the trees lie so thick and are so vast in their size, as to bespeak evidently, that they once formed stately forests in the same situations. As in limestone, the forms of animal bodies are often distinctly discernible: so, in a dried peat, or on the face of a stratum of peat-earth, we may observe frequently the remains of ligneous vegetables. It is remarkable that perishable bodies of all kinds, whether animal or vegetable, are wonderfully preserved, if deposited deep in a bed of this earth. There is something in its nature, and something in the nature of the juices with which it impregnates
water

water penetrating through it, that counteracts putrefaction with singular energy. Human bodies have been found in peat-mosses in a state of as perfect preservation, as if embalmed by the art of the ancient Egyptians. Most probably the wood found in strata of peat-earth, would have been reduced to dust, had it been deposited in any other situation. The resin of the wood from which this earth is chiefly formed, may be, in part, what gives it this preserving quality. A mixture of other juices, such as that of the barks used in tanning leather, may farther co-operate to the same effect.—

CONTINUING my route, by a very indifferent parish-road over this moor; I passed near by a farm-house, the name of which has now escaped me; but I can still recollect, that the apparent antiquity of some trees which grew around it, and the accumulation of the earth about the house and the garden convinced me, that it had been very anciently inhabited. When the earth round any cottage or farm-house is raised considerably above the general level of the ground on which it stands, no surer proof is necessary of its having been long the habitation of human beings. Through the West Highlands, every cottage was bare of trees; and even more considerable mansions were sheltered only by shrubs, or trees of very youthful growth.

The

The earth was not raised about the cottages or farm-houses in these regions. They seemed, every where, to be of no very ancient erection.

FROM the farm-house the aspect of which suggested these conjectures, I proceeded down the sloping side of the hill, to *Douglas-water*. Crossing it by a ford, I rode on through corn-fields and excellent pasture-grounds; being still conducted by the road, to a coallery at a place called *Ponfeagh Burn-foot*. The workmen were busy: abundance of coals lay around the pits: near them stood a row of huts, the habitations of the colliers. Passing close by the doors of those huts, I had an opportunity of holding some conversation with one of the colliers' wives, who stood at her door, with her sick child, in her arms. Among other enquiries, I asked whether the child had received the small-pox, the disease of which he was ill, by inoculation.—He had not. Nor has the practice of inoculation been yet established in this neighbourhood. The good woman would have thought herself shockingly criminal, had she intentionally communicated to her child, the infection of disease.

THE natural riches of this tract of country seem to be great. But, industry has yet done comparatively little, taste hardly any thing for it. The
fields

fields are not regularly divided. The fences are paltry walls of dry stone which a hog might almost overleap, a lamb almost break down. Planting seems not to be thought of, except immediately around the houses of gentlemen. The agriculture seems to be irregular and imperfect. A very little care, and that directed by no extraordinary intelligence might, in such natural circumstances improve to all desirable perfection of imperfection. I have reason to believe that Lord Douglas, the landlord of the greater part of this country is sufficiently desirous to promote such improvement. The haste with which I passed through this country rendered it impossible for me to have the honour of waiting on Lord Douglas. But, I have heard his farmers mention him in such terms as to convince me, that he sees the necessity of preserving the pre-eminence which, his family gained by warlike exploits, and by the generosity of the military character;—by leading in those arts of peace which though anciently contemptible, are now held in the highest estimation.—Indeed, to maintain their dignity of character, our Nobility in general, will now do well to enter into the spirit of the country, and turn their cares to its *improvement*; as their ancestors did, in a ruder and more unsettled age, to its *defence*.—To be brave in war, and magnificently hospitable in time of peace—were formerly all the qualities

VOL. II.

D

necessary

necessary to distinguish a nobleman. But, war is no longer the great business of life in Europe. The Nobleman should never be unpractised in the arts of war, and never unskilled in the policy of his country. But, to these accomplishments, to add an acquaintance with the most dignified and important arts of peace, and an assiduity to promote them. Of all these, none is of equal dignity and utility, or falls equally within the province of the great landholder, as agriculture. By promoting this, he may, at once enrich himself, and augment the strength, the population, and the opulence of his country.— Let me add, that in the present time, there is an urgent necessity demanding all the great among us, thus to distinguish themselves. The lower orders have begun to murmur at the sight of their luxurious opulence. Their murmurs are indeed unreasonable, but will be less so, if the great shall voluntarily do, in their sphere, as much for the advancement of the common interests, as want urges the poor to do in their's.

CONTINUING my journey through Douglassdale, I had a distant peep of Douglas-castle, and passed near a cottage, the name of which, the appearance of the soil about it, and several ancient trees scattered near, bespoke it to be placed within the confines of an old forest. The name I neglected to
note;

note; but, I think, it was *Wood-house*. After this, I was directed by an obliging stranger to cross over the broad summit of a lofty, but slowly rising hill, to regain the highway. Of the elevation of this hill I received one convincing proof in the excessive cold which I felt on its summit. It was grey with new fallen snow; a shallow marsh extending over almost the whole of it, was here and there covered with thin ice; my fingers were benumbed, and my limbs chilled by the sudden cold I was here exposed to, more than I remembered them to have been, by any blast that I had ever before faced. To superficial observation a marsh or basin of water on the summit of a hill may seem a strange phenomenon. Yet, it is a phenomenon which the traveller has often occasion to remark. And a little reflection will easily enable us to account for it. Mists and clouds are naturally attracted round the towering heads of mountains; the vapours raised from them are soonest condensed; From the loftiest situations in every country do rivers always take their rise; On the sides and at, bases of hills are springs commonly situate. These facts shew, that the mountains are the great reservoirs of water, and the great agents, which, in opposition to the sun's efficiency, attract it from the upper regions of the air to the bosom of the earth. In many instances, the form

D 2

and

and structure of mountains is such, that the water which they attract is speedily conducted away to the regions lying below them. In others, however, this does not so readily happen. The situation, the exterior form, or the internal structure of the mountain is such as to retain *in equilibrio* some considerable portion of that water which the clouds, from time to time, deposite in its bosom. Hence, as circumstances vary, in some cases, a small lake or pond on the summit of a mountain; in others, a marsh; and in others springs, bursting up on the summit; or trickling through the chinks or seams of the rocky sides.

As I descended down the opposite side of this hill, on one hand a tract, wild as the bleak hills of Argyleshire, opened before me; on the other appeared green hills and cultivated vales. Turning to the highway, I met trains of lime-carts. Here and there, as I advanced, I observed quarries of limestone. Round the farm-houses, where the ground was cut deep by the trampling of cattle, a great depth of fertile soil was exhibited. The crops of corn standing partly in damp flocks in the field, and partly conveyed within the barn-yard, were of luxuriant growth. The aspect of the fields was now and then diversified by green plats of turnips; and the black cattle were much less like the lean kine of
king

king Pharoah's dream than those which I had lately observed. This was near to the village of Weston, and low upon the banks of the Clyde, and of another small river, or rather rivulet which here carries its tribute into the Clyde.

PROCEEDING along the side of this rivulet, at some small distance from it, I observed in a situation where the adjacent plain seemed to sink lower, and to spread its level extent wider,—two of those large barrows which are among the most numerous monuments of antiquity that our country exhibits; and not only our country, but almost every region of the globe that is known to have been anciently inhabited. These were finely rounded in their form: they retained a fresher verdure than the adjacent scenes.—A little farther, I found it necessary to ask a labourer whom I saw busy gathering his potatoes from the ground, to direct me on the way. Near the spot where he was busy, I observed a heap of manure. By enquiring, I learned from him that it was a compost of lime, dung, earth, and green vegetables. I enquiring farther, concerning the spirit with which improvements in agriculture were pursued in this neighbourhood; he informed me, that the Lord Justice Clerk, who has here an estate, and a country-seat, set a good example of agricultural improvement, and warmly encouraged his tenants
to

to imitate the example; but that such improvements were far from being generally so eagerly prosecuted through the country. I soon after reached the house of Mr Henderson, the respectable clergyman of Weston. I was entertained, for the evening, by his hospitality, and instructed by his conversation. As a member of the Church of Scotland, I am peculiarly pleased with every occasion which leads me to reflect, how highly it is dignified and adorned by the abilities, and by the virtues of its clergy.

WESTON—to NEWTON of CRAWFORD.

THE aspect of this country is indeed rather bare, yet not unpleasing. The course of the river gives animation to the adjacent scenes. Its banks are naturally fertile, and present commonly either corn-fields, or rich meadows. The contiguous hills rise with no abrupt precipitancy, but with gentle, waving declivities. Their summits and sides are clothed with verdure. On the western side of the river are some scenes of rich cultivation. The vale is of no wide extent. But, when it shall be farther improved by the labours of enlightened agriculture, and ornamented by the cares of ingenious taste, it will undoubtedly present some of the most beautiful landscapes in Britain. The harvest is commonly late in
this

this neighbourhood. When, however, the grounds shall be better sheltered by new belts and clumps of trees; and when every field shall be carefully inclosed; the additional warmth thus secured, will undoubtedly promote the earlier ripening of the crops.

THE vale of Stratclyde was indeed anciently possessed by a principality of Britons. But, whether their domains might extend so near to the sources of the river, as over this vicinity I know not. This was certainly a part of the Roman province of Valentia. I should suppose, that the Scots and Picts had hardly advanced thus far in their incroachments upon the Britons, when the East-Angles, founding the ancient kingdom of Northumbria, extended their dominion into Galloway and Ayrshire. Of the names of places in this district, a greater part are Saxon, than are Gaelic, or British—*Weston, Libberton, Robertson, Lammington* are names of parishes, and all evidently of Saxon origin. *Tintoc* and *Dungavel* are names of hills, and probably British. The dialect of this district is, I apprehend, strongly Saxon;—as that of Dumbartonshire, of Renfrewshire, and even of some part of Ayrshire seems to be strongly impregnated with the remains of that dialect of the Celtic which was spoken by the ancient Britons. Upon the whole, therefore, I should suppose, that the earliest inhabitants of this tract of country may have been Belgic

gic Britons,—that these after losing the protection of the Romans, fell under the dominion of the Northumbrian Saxons,—and that the peasantry of these parts, as the peasantry are always the most permanent portion of the inhabitants of every country, have ever since been a mixture of Saxons and Britons, whom time has, insensibly incorporated into one body.

LEAVING the manse of Weston, and its worthy possessor, after an evening's enjoyment of his hospitality, and agreeable conversation; I continued my journey along the upper skirt of the Lord Justice Clerk's plantations, and upon the western side of the fine hill of *Dungavel*, towards the Bridge over the Clyde, a few miles distant. Among other places which we had occasion to pass, was the village of Roberton. Near it stands the ruinous church of the Parish of Roberton. This church has been suffered to fall into ruins, since the Parish was united with that of Weston. Every where as I proceeded up this vale, I could discover by certain marks, that it had been anciently a scene of agricultural industry, and a seat of no inconsiderable population. The houses were only cottages. But, in many instances, the walls of those cottages seemed of very ancient erection. The *stedding* of the cottage, and its little patch of kitchen-garden was always raised considerably

considerably above the level of the ground lying around; The garden always planted with trees; These commonly old and venerable; and sometimes decaying through age. The cottages were more numerous, than that they could have been necessary for the accommodation of the inhabitants, when population was not multiplied by the resources of agriculture. Approaching near the bridge above-mentioned, I saw, in the ruins of an old castle, a more permanent monument of the ancient state of this country. The walls appeared not by their structure, to be of the most remote antiquity. It is situate at the base of the eastern hill, where it sinks abruptly into a stripe of low ground forming the bank of the Clyde. Enquiring its name, I was answered, that the *Meat* was the only name, the inhabitants of the neighbourhood were accustomed to give it. This name is Saxon. Its primitive meaning is understood to be *a court*. It has been easily transferred to signify, the place in which such a court used to assemble. Hence all those circular and apparently artificial mounts which are distinguished by the name of *Meat*. There was also the *moat* of a castle;—the trench or *fosse*, filled with water which cut it off from all communication, except by a draw-bridge, with the surrounding country. The relation between these two significations of this word, is too distant and subtle for my perception.—But, I am inclined to

VOL. II.

E

believe,

believe, that wherever any old building retains the name of *Moat*, it must have at first received it, as being either the customary seat of some court,—or, as erected in or near a situation, where a court had used to assemble. Whether the artificial, circular mounts, denominated *moats*, may have also burying-places, I can hardly presume to decide. In form they so nearly resemble the barrows which are known for the tombs of our remote ancestors,—differing only in magnitude, as to render it highly probable, that in most cases, they might be also burying-places, made of a larger structure, to receive a greater number of dead bodies, or for some other reason which cannot now be known.

FROM the Moat, I was conducted forward to the bridge over the Clyde. I meant to proceed, by Elvan-foot towards Dumfries. But, having before travelled along the highway which leads from Clyde-Bridge to Elvan-foot, on the north-western side of the river, I now chose rather to cross the Clyde by the bridge, and continue my journey upon its southern bank.

ABOUT eight miles, north-west from Clyde bridge, in a situation esteemed one of the highest in Scotland, stand the villages of Leadhills and Wanlockhead, inhabited by miners. These mountains had
been.

been long believed to contain rich mineral treasures in their bosom. Some small quantities of gold had been found on the muirs of Crawford; and stones, which national prejudice, and unskilfulness in mineralogy, reckoned precious, were found on them. At length, veins of lead were discovered and opened up. They were found to be numerous, extensive, and rich in ore. They were wrought with the best success. Lead ore commonly affords an intermixture of silver. That dug from these mines yields silver in a liberal proportion. The processes of refining the ore, and of separating the dross and the silver, were not all originally performed. After being purified to a certain degree, the lead was sent to Holland, to be finally prepared for use by the ingenuity of the Dutch. Practice has, by degrees, taught our Scotch miners greater skill. Yet, I am not sure, whether, at Leadhills and Wanlockhead, the lead ore drawn from the adjoining mines be yet finally prepared for use.

As these mines have continued to be wrought, new veins have been from time to time, discovered. The concurrence of miners has, by degrees, formed two not inconsiderable villages, in a situation, one would be apt to think, by the exterior aspect of the country, least of all, likely to become the seat of any tolerably numerous population. Bleak, wild,

and lofty as the country is, and notwithstanding the austerity of the climate, these villagers have naturally been obliged to form little kitchen-gardens, and to cover small patches of the adjacent ground with corn and potatoes. Every tender vegetable has here, indeed, a dwarfish, stunted aspect; Yet so much has been already done to subdue the stubbornness, to soften the ruggedness, and to fertilize the sterility of nature; that I can easily suppose it possible for cultivation to establish her empire even in these wilds.

Nil mortalibus arduum est.

THE labour of the miners is severe and unremitting. Through night and day, it is continued; one class relieving another, by turns of eight hours each. The company who are proprietors or tacksmen of these mines have adopted a very judicious arrangement, for the payment of the wages of the labouring miners. They supply their families with meal at a certain rate; deducting from the annual wages of each miner, the price of the meal with which his family is furnished. What yet remains to be paid in money, is not advanced weekly, but at the end of each quarter, or half-year. Only within these few years has this mode of paying the miners been here adopted. They were formerly paid by the week or the fortnight, and left to find all necessaries

ries for themselves. Then, however, they were dissipated, improvident, and continually in want, although receiving high wages. To form them to habits of better œconomy; and to render their circumstances easier, was this method of providing for, and of paying them adopted by their masters. It has produced very beneficial effects.—It were well, if manufacturers, and people in general who have occasion to employ many labourers, could be persuaded to follow the example. Those labourers, if paid only once a month, or at the oftenest, once a fortnight, would be more industrious, more frugal, and less turbulent, than when they receive their wages by the day or by the week. At present, however large their wages, they still live, as it were, from hand to mouth; consuming as it is received, whatever has been earned by the week's labour, in the security of receiving a new supply with the end of the ensuing week.—Nay, such has been, of late, the demand for labour, and such the imprudence of our manufacturers, that the wages of several weeks have been often advanced to workmen, before the labour was performed. This practice is only to administer to the dissipation, the idleness, the miserable poverty of workmen. Hardly any practice could be introduced, having a tendency more directly pernicious to the nerves of industry, of opulence, of frugality, of virtue in a community.

THE

THE labours of miners are certainly more noxious to the health than many other species of employment. Yet, here died, two or three years ago, an old miner, at an age considerably above an hundred. His name was John Taylor. His organs and faculties continued in vigour nearly to the last. What was farther remarkable, was, that he had never been eminent for that temperate abstinence which is esteemed favourable to longevity. A dram and a draught of good ale he had been accustomed to take freely through all his life, and believed them necessary to the support of his health and spirits.

IN the intervals of their labour, these miners find time for reading. They have even furnished themselves with a common library which contains a considerable number of good English authors. Many of them are of the religious sect of the Seceders or of the M^cMillanites. They have likewise among them a chapel, and a chaplain of our established church; being too distant from the parish-church, to attend the weekly service in it.

THE lead is conveyed, as prepared, in bars to Leith. Good carriage roads being necessary for this conveyance; on this account probably, have the roads between Leadhills and Edinburgh been more carefully repaired, than might otherwise have happened

pened. The carts coming and going frequently with lead between Leith and Leadhills, have opened an easy communication for the whole country through which the road leads, with the metropolis; and in this way, have signally contributed to the improvement of the country, and the accommodation of its inhabitants.

THIS tract of country is one wide range of mountains. They swell to a great height, but are round, not peaked at the summit. Some are green; others, brown over, with heath. Close upon the wayside, between Clyde bridge and Leadhills, are several decent houses of modern erection, with little plantations of wood rising about them; which form a pleasing contrast with the wildness of the environs.

To what has been before mentioned concerning the mines and the village of Leadhills, I shall here add from later information, That the Earl of Hoptoun, the proprietor of these mines, receives from the Company who are tacksmen of them, every sixth bar of lead for his rent;—That, the ore has of late been found in unusual abundance;—That in 1786, 10,080 bars of lead were cast here, and in 1790 no fewer than about 18,000;—That immediately after the American war, the price of lead rose, but has again fallen somewhat; and that the foreign markets

kets to which this lead is chiefly exported are, those of Holland and Ruffia.

AFTER crossing the river by the bridge, I continued my journey towards Elvan-foot, by an old parish road which, although shorter, has been little travelled, since the high-way was perfected on the opposite side of the river. As I advanced, I had many new proofs of what I have before observed concerning the ancient occupancy and population of this country. The earth was raised high around the cottages. Where trees surrounded them, those trees were venerably ancient. Nay, I saw reason to infer, that the population was diminished; for not a few of the cottages were ruinous and deserted. In one or two situations, I observed remains of old castles, the names of which, I had not opportunity to learn. At a mile's distance above the bridge is a marshy plain of narrow extent, but divided from the contiguous base of the hills by a sort of dry trench, which I should suppose to have been the ancient channel of the river.

As I rode on, the road became gradually more rugged, and with it the aspect of the surrounding country. These are the Southern Highlands of Scotland. Agriculture is but little tried among them. Some spots of ground scattered here and there,

there, are indeed sufficiently susceptible of cultivation, and not without fertility to reward the labour of the husbandman. But, even on these, it is so very late before grains are ripened, that they are commonly shaken by winds, withered by frost, or rotten by rains, before they can be cut down, and gathered in. These mountains are then appropriated chiefly to the purposes of pasture. They are divided into large farms; the rents of which, although at a very trifling rate for the acre, are, however, commonly from two to three hundred pounds for each farm. A considerable part of the stock of every farmer in these parts, formerly consisted in black cattle. But these have, by degrees, given place to sheep. Sheep are now the favourite stock of the farmers of Crawford-muir: And I have reason to believe that they are the most skilful and successful shepherds in Scotland. The sheep which they are accustomed to rear, are these commonly named among them *short* sheep, having black faces and black feet. The value of a sheep's grass, for a year, is estimated at two shillings. The best of these are sold at twelve or fifteen shillings a head. Their wool is coarse, and brings only from five to seven shillings, a stone. Sheep of a different breed, and bearing finer and more valuable wool, have been lately recommended to the shepherds through Scotland, by a society formed for the improvement of

British wool. The sheep fed on the Cheviot hills, in Northumberland are of this breed. Their wool brings from twelve to fifteen shillings a stone. But, of this wool a greater number of fleeces are required to make up the stone; and at all the English markets, the *short* sheep are purchased in preference to these last, because their flesh is confessedly more delicate, and of a better flavour. Conversing with one farmer in these parts, who was avowedly an advocate for the Cheviot breed; he could not avoid acknowledging the inferiority of the flesh of these, but insisted, that to his own taste, it was but *very slight*. The turn of the farmers of these parts to the rearing and management of sheep has contributed, in a considerable degree, to the depopulation of the country. The population of the parish of Crawford is asserted to be one-half less than it was, forty years ago; an assertion which confirms the inference I have deduced from the number of the ruinous and desolate cottages by which I had occasion to pass.

THE price of labour has risen greatly in this neighbourhood, within these last thirty years. A maid servant has now two pounds for the wages of her labour in the summer half-year, who at the distance of thirty years backwards would hardly have obtained one pound. A ploughman living in his master's house, has from six to eight pounds of yearly

yearly wages. A shepherd, living in his own cottage, and tending his master's flock, gets from ten to twelve pounds in the year. In this country of sheep and shepherds, *dogs* are the favourite, domestic animals, and are highly useful by their services. They are trained by their masters to the exercise of surprising sagacity. Each shepherd is attended by his dog. Remaining himself in the vale, he sends his dog up the hill, to gather in or drive forward his sheep. The dog having executed his commission, returns for new orders from the master. They converse in a set of vocal signs; and the dog has intelligence to comprehend, and submission to obey very complicated commands.

THIS country is well known to have been within the limits of the Roman province of Valentia. Within this district are yet to be seen the remains of two Roman roads; and the sites of three camps, supposed to be Roman, but so entirely effaced, that this cannot be, with certainty, determined. I had an opportunity of surveying the castle of Crawford, now desolate and ruinous, situate close upon the river, opposite to the village of Crawford. Its walls still stand. It is surrounded with trees; and by the structure, appears to have been intended not less for protection, than for accommodation. Tower-Lindsay, a more ancient edifice, built on the same site,

was famous in the days of our renowned Wallace. Being occupied by an English garrison, that hero took it by storm; killing fifty of the garrison in the assault. For security, the farm-houses on Crawford-muir were anciently stone-vaults: and of these some still remain. In these strong-holds, the inhabitants lurked, when invaded by the plundering rapacity of the Douglassies from Clydesdale, and the Jardines and Johnstones from Annandale. Various hills within this neighbourhood still retain the name of *Watches*, having been anciently the stations of scouts, who watched the approach of enemies, and in case of danger, lighted fires to spread the alarm through the country.—It was in the minority of James VI. that a German mineralogist visited these hills in search of ores. Among the sands of the rivers of Elvan and Glengonar, (both rising from those hills in the bowels of which veins of lead ore have since been opened,) he gathered some small quantities of gold dust. A place where he washed this gold, still retains the name of *Gold Scour*, derived from that circumstance. Verses are still repeated among the neighbouring inhabitants, which import, that this mineralogist, by his successful searches, accumulated a large fortune. An account of his labours and discoveries, written by himself, is yet preserved in the Advocates' Library. The attempt to gather gold on these hills, was, not very many
years

years since, renewed by the order of the late Earl of Hopetoun; but being found less profitable than common labour, was, very wisely, soon discontinued. It is still occasionally found on the tops of the rocks, in small particles, seldom exceeding in size, the point of a small pin.

Near to the highway, and on the side of the river opposite to that on which I travelled, is the old church-yard of the parish of Crawford, in which are buried some of those who were shot, in the days of Charles II. by the soldiers, whom his Parliament and Ministers in Scotland employed in the war which they waged with Puritanism and the Covenanters. The graves of those who fell in that cause, are still venerated through Scotland, as the graves of martyrs.

THE village of Crawford is of considerable antiquity: it is occupied by feuars, holding under the proprietors of the neighbouring lands. They have used to hold what has been called a freedom, consisting of four or five acres of *croft* land for each family; with the privilege of feeding, each a certain number of sheep, cows, and horses on *the bill*, or common pasture. They were governed by a *birley* court in which every proprietor of a freedom had a vote. The chief business of this court was always
to

to decide what number of sheep, cows, and horses each feuar had a right to feed on the common. The business of the Court was concluded with festivity at the alehouse. These old feuars were an indolent race. Their little tenements afforded them sustenance without requiring them to undergo the fatigue of labour: And they were little solicitous to improve their circumstances. It should seem that this establishment must have been formed for the maintenance of the retainers of the lords of the ancient castle,—Douglasses or Crawfords. Both military habits, then, and the character of the retainers and servants of a great man—would contribute to the indolence of those villagers.

THE manners of the present inhabitants of these parts are such as do no disgrace to the shepherd life. Truth, honesty, and a moderate share of industry sufficiently distinguish them. Licentiousness in pleasure does not yet prevail here. Animal food makes a principal part of their sustenance. As the population is not considerable, in proportion to the extent of the country; the inhabitants are generally in easy circumstances. The farmers live comfortably; and even the cottagers seem to be, for the most part richer, than the labourers and artizans in many other places who receive equal wages. A sequestered situation, and a neighbourhood thinly inhabited

inhabited are favourable to habits of frugality, if unfavourable to industry. The temptations to expence are here unknown; and the distance of markets where necessaries or conveniencies might be purchased, obliges every one to lay in a little stock at once; by which means he is accustomed to the possession of property.

THE ascent is considerable between Clyde Bridge and the Kirk of Crawford. Yet, through this part of its course, the river falls, without any remarkable cataract, to command the wonder and suspend the attention of the traveller. A few decent houses have been built, of late, having their roofs slated, and with narrow parks, inclosed and planted about them. Hereafter the rugged aspect of these scenes may be greatly softened; and the Clyde may to its very source, display a continued series of cultivated and decorated landscapes.—Not that I should wish to see my countrymen all one nation whether, of artificans or of husbandmen. I, for my part, think it necessary to the safety, and to the true prosperity of a country, that the shepherd, the husbandman, and the manufacturer should be intermingled in it: that there should be diversity of characters, diversity of employments, diversity of ranks, among its inhabitants. This *concordia discors* will constitute its truest strength. There was a time in the history of society

ciety, when the subdivision of the arts was little known. Every individual or every family there prepared for themselves every article of necessity or convenience. But, how much more uncomfortable was then the condition of human life? How small the ingenuity and the industry which men then exerted? How few the enjoyments they provided for themselves? How little were they exalted either in intelligence or accommodation above the brutes?—Now, as the subdivision of the Arts has been the great cause of their improvement, and has contributed, more essentially perhaps than any other cause, to give strength, grace and dignity to social life; So, does it seem reasonable to conclude, that diversity of employments, and diversity of situations in life, affording scope to every different degree of perfection in the bodily organs,—to every different degree, and every different cast of mental ability,—to every turn of imagination, and to every variety of passion or humour,—must call forth all the energies of the human character, and exalt society to the highest perfection of which it is capable. When we look round the world, or review the history of past times, we perceive that every stage in the progress of social life possesses its peculiar advantages. The disdainful freedom, the invincible endurance, the acute sensation, the matchless cunning of the savage hunter have been justly celebrated. The simple manners

manners, the *living moving* riches, the roaming spirit, the necessarily hardy character, with some relish which the hunter has not attained, for the comfort of more settled life,—which distinguish the shepherd tribes, have formed them for the conquerors of the earth. The husbandman is fit perhaps above all others for the temperate enjoyment, and the steady defence of the blessings of cultivated life. The artisan, where manufactures are not very assiduously cultivated, little differs in character from the husbandman; when manufacture is the predominant species of industry, the manufacturer has greater docility, and is capable of more intense temporary exertion than the husbandman, but is inferior in foresight. Now, unite all these characters in the same society; and if they harmonize, it will be stronger, than any other arrangement could possibly render it. They must harmonize; for they are formed mutually to accommodate one other. Only give them, in addition the merchant, to be the bond of the common union.—The policy of states is regulated by the predominancy of one or another of these characters among their respective members. Upon this, is their general character of peaceful or warlike formed. The former are too military; the latter too timid; too soft, too pacific. No diffusion of refinement, no frequency of national intercourse, no enlargement of knowledge, will prevent

states absolutely manufacturing and commercial, and living in great perfection of civil order—from becoming a prey to the incroachments of more daring and martial barbarism. I have heard some amiably benevolent philosophers express their opinion, that the art of Printing contributing to illuminate Public opinion, and to diffuse civility so much more speedily and more generally than in the ancient world, must so rapidly civilize any barbarians who should over-run modern Europe, that establishment in the seats of European refinement would operate an instant alteration in their nature. But, the benevolent philosophers of antiquity, if they had ever dreaded the inroads of barbarism and ignorance, might with as much reason have consoled themselves, that these would soon be subdued by the *Art of Writing*.—Another argument which a benevolent philosophy has equally suggested, to fortify us against the fear of ever again seeing the night of Gothic barbarism and ignorance return over Europe,—is—That the nations can never be conquered without artillery and a complicated military discipline, like their own, being employed against them; and that before any invaders can learn the use of these, they must learn also the arts of civility which have arisen with these, must become refined, civilized, and enlightened, like those whom they invade.—But, this is futile reasoning. Soldiers have never been the most civilized
of

of mankind. All the mechanic arts may be acquired by imitation, although not invented, without conferring any considerable share of intelligence or refinement on those who thus acquire them. The best soldiers in Europe at present, are of the nations the least civilized. All the pomp of artillery, and of military evolutions, without hardy, vigorous soldiers, and a nation willing to try the chances, will prove useless before bold barbarians hardly acquainted with military order, but ardent for conquest, and prodigal of life.

No: Our best security against a second invasion of barbarism, must be,—to preserve, if possible, in every state, a mixture of the different spirits which animate mankind in the different stages of social improvement. Let us discourage the immoderate growth of the great towns; Encourage agriculture, by scattering manufacturing consumers of its productions, in small colonies, over the country; Encourage the shepherd life, in scenes peculiarly adapted by nature for pasturage; spread fishermen round our coasts; send hunters to our mountains, and woodmen out into our forests. Thus may we in security enjoy the advantages, cultivate fine arts, and participate, in such as are innocent of the refined gratifications of luxury.

NEWTON: and to HOLESTANE.

I HAD again crossed the river near the old castle of Crawford, and continued my ride along the highway to the inn of Elvanfoot situate just upon the junction of the river Elvan with the Clyde. This inn, which I should suppose to have been misrepresented by some late English Travellers, as more wretched than it really is,—I had not occasion to enter. Having formerly experienced the kind hospitality of Mr Hope, the respectable farmer of Newton. I again crossed the river by a decent stone bridge which has been here thrown over it, and for the rest of the afternoon and the evening enjoyed Mr Hope's conversation and friendly hospitality.

NEXT day, I continued my journey towards Dumfries. The country is of the wildest and most uncultivated appearance, on both hands, for the whole length of the way between Newton or Elvanfoot and Durrifdeer Kirk. The house of Newton presently occupied by Mr Hope, and the property of Mr Irvin of Newton, is a large house; but being more than sufficient for the accommodation of Mr Hope's family, it has not been carefully repaired, from time to time, and begins to become ruinous.

It

It hangs with a picturesque effect, over the channel of the river. It is sheltered on both sides, by a small plantation of not very thriving pines. A hill screens it above. The inn of Elvanfoot fronts it on the opposite side of the river. The road from this place to the Kirk above-mentioned is as rugged and difficult as can well be imagined. No bridges have been thrown over the rivers. The surveyor seems not to have pointed its direction; nor the hand of the labourer to have ever attempted to remove the rocks, or fill up the gullies. Sheep wander over the adjoining heaths. The shepherd with his dogs here and there appear to animate the scene. The hills on either hand vary their forms, as the traveller advances; incroaching in one place, in another, receding; now presenting a more obtuse, and now, a more acute angle; but still, without other clothing than the brown heath. The farm houses, are not only mean and incommodious, but have their office-houses,—barn, byre, stable, peat-house,—so crowded upon them, as to render the *clofs* or area before the door, a scene of indescribable filth and confusion. Here are the sources of the Clyde, and in the same range of mountains, of several other rivers, which fall into the sea, either on the western, or on the eastern coast. Of these, the Clyde and the Tweed are two of the most considerable rivers in Scotland, holding their course through
great

great lengths of country before they join the sea : And as no stream can, in its course rise to an elevation above that of its Spring,---and yet the tract of country through which these rivers run, is varied by continual inequalities ;---hence may it be inferred, that the height of these hills is possibly the most considerable in the South of Scotland. A point where several nascent streams bring the first tributes to the Clyde, is called the WATER-MEETINGS.

THE predominant character of the circumjacent rocks seems to be schistous. Onwards from Elvan-foot, a few miles southward, towards Durrifdeer, and westward from the highway, is the slate-quarry of Glenuchar. Workmen from England have been employed to open and work it. The slates are of excellent quality. But, the remote and almost inaccessible situation of the quarry seems to have hitherto prevented this work from being prosecuted with any considerable spirit. It is painful to see the natural riches of any country lie thus, either altogether, or almost entirely, neglected. Even the neighbouring inhabitants seem to retain a partiality for the use of turf, heath, and straw, which makes them cover their houses commonly with these materials, in preference to slates which they can so easily obtain.

AFTER

AFTER a ride of eight or ten dreary miles, the traveller, at length, beholds a fairer landscape open before him. He reaches the verge of the height, and has now to pursue his way for nearly two miles, almost down the front of a precipice. The hills open, so as to form a narrow pass: And the aspect which they present, on either hand, is harsh and rugged, as if the opposite fronts had been torn asunder by violence. On the southern side, the road, a comparatively narrow path has been cut with difficulty. It is constantly rough with small, or perhaps absolutely obstructed with greater fragments of stone, rolling down upon it, from the broken front of the hill above. Below, on the other hand, the chasm sinks to a considerable depth, and the abrupt declivity rising beyond it, presents nothing to the eye, but the crumbling of schistous rocks. But, the prospect now opening to the west and the south-west is more pleasing: a level country, divided, cultivated, rough here and there with wood, and having decent houses scattered over it. On the foreground is the Kirk of Durrisdeer, distinguished by the burial-place of the noble family of Queensbury. Beside this church is a small cluster of cottages, extremely mean and covered with thatch. But, the traveller, after crossing the dreary muirs of Crawford is highly gratified to see a few habitations before

fore him, and to find himself approaching a cultivated district.

THIS range of mountains is of great extent. It forms a waving, irregular ridge which stretches almost from the western to the eastern coast. It is the most southern range in Scotland. The *Ochils* and *Grampians*, with their appendages. Other similar ridges meet these in a transverse direction. Insulated mounts and hills rise here and there.

BESIDE this pass, crossing Crawford-muir, and terminating at Durrifdeer Kirk, there is another, to the northwest, called *Enterkin*; another still higher in the same direction near the ancient Burgh of Sanquhar: To the South-east, by Moffat, there is yet another, through which the great highway between Dumfries and Edinburgh leads.

THE ancient family of the Douglasses, in that grandeur, to which they had risen before the reign of James II. when their wealth and power rivalled those of the Crown,—were proprietors of a great part of this range of hills. Their property being forfeited by rebellion, returned into the hands of the sovereign, and was by degrees parcelled out, anew, among other subjects. Lord Douglass and the Duke of Queensbury are however, proprietors
of

of a considerable extent of land in this neighbourhood; the estates of the former lying chiefly on the northern side,—those of the latter, on the southern side of these hills.

THE great proprietors in these districts have the wisdom to deal more liberally with their tenants than many other Scotch landholders do. They give them leases for a good number of years together, and are pleased to see their farmers in comfortable circumstances. Some of the other proprietors of the lands of Scotland; chiefly those indeed who have but newly purchased their land-property; either incapable of discerning their own true interests, or through an oppressive desire to retain the peasantry as nearly as possible in the slavish, destitute condition of the ancient villainage,—refuse any length of lease, and require the most exorbitant rents; thus leaving it impossible for it to be said of them, unless calumniously, that any farmer has thus made his fortune on their estates.

THE narrow pass, immediately above Durrifdeer Kirk, is named the Wallpath. Towards the opening are the remains of an old earthen or mud-wall fort, called *Deer-castle*, which formerly commanded the pass. The highest of these hills is the *Lowthers*; the top of which is very often snow-clad.

The river rising near its base, falls into the Nith, and it runs along the southern side of the hills.

THE country now assumed the name of Nithsdale, from the river, which rising on the confines of Ayrshire, holds its course in a south-eastern direction, till it discharges its waters into the Solway-Frith, a few miles below the town of Dumfries.

NITHSDALE is rich in coals, limestone, and freestone. Its soil generally fertile, highly cultivated, and susceptible of yet higher cultivation. Around Durrisdeer Kirk, the agriculture is still such as to shew, that the husbandmen's industry is rather slackened by the seductive example of the indolence of the shepherds in their neighbourhood. As I advanced, the road became less rough. But, the season being wet, and the soil soft and deep, I found it here and there broken into miry pits which were almost impassable. The labourers were still busy in the fields: here cutting down the corn, and there spreading it out to the sun, or carrying it in. The surface, from the base of the hills to the bank of the Nith is almost level; yet sinking and swelling occasionally, with variations of the level which would be beautiful, if clumps and belts of wood were scattered over the scene in sufficient abundance. Not that it is absolutely bare of wood. But even where
there

there are trees, these are ragged and withered, so as rather to give an air of defolation, than of beauty. Here and there, too, I remarked remains of old walls; and from these appearances was led to conclude, that this tract of ground, now parcelled out among farmers, must have been formerly inclosed as parks for deer or cattle for the Duke of Queensbury, whose property it is, and whose castle of Drumlanerig stands near.

To me it seems, that the situation and the nature of the soil invite the farmers of these parts rather to the raising of crops of grain than to the management of black-cattle, or sheep. But their cares seem to be divided between the two. In the parish of Durrisdeer a stock of about ten thousand and five hundred sheep is kept. The *Cheviot* or *long* sheep, lately introduced here by some of the more intelligent farmers have afforded extraordinary annual returns from their wool. Potatoes and barley are raised on the arable grounds with great industry. Oats, as through the rest of Scotland, are the favourite crop. Wheat has been tried, and not unsuccessfully. The inhabitants of this neighbourhood furnish the miners of Wanlockhead and Leadhills with considerable quantities of grain and meal. The farmers on this part of the Queensbury estates complain of the inconvenience attending the per-

formance of certain servitudes which still continue to be exacted from them.—By a negligence, unfavourable above all others, to the progressive improvement of a country, the means provided by Act of Parliament for the formation and reparation of parish roads seem not to be skilfully or attentively applied to their purposes. I have already had occasion to observe, that the state of the bye-roads is invariably the best criterion of the industry and opulence of any particular district.—Coals are found in the neighbourhood of Sanquhar, at but a small distance from Durrisdeer and its immediate environs. But, the imperfection of the roads renders this fuel more expensive than might, at first, be supposed, to the inhabitants of these parts.

ON the opposite side of the river Nith stands Drumlanerig castle, the principal seat of the Ducal family of Queensbury. It is a noble, spacious edifice, more Gothic than Grecian; well adapted for the abode of a great and opulent nobleman, holding a little court among his dependents and vassals. I know not, at present, the particular date of its erection. It must have been, as I should suppose, towards the end of the last century, or in the beginning of the present. Having now been, for a number of years, greatly neglected; it has an air of decay and desolation. The extensive and stately
woods

woods around it have been gradually cut down. The wild cattle in its parks have been exterminated. Modern improvements not having advanced about it in the same proportion in which its ancient magnificence has been dilapidated; it now presents the melancholy image of fallen grandeur, and perishing art.

THE ancestors of the family of Queensbury were a branch of the ancient Douglasses, whom some circumstances lead me to suppose to have been rather of Saxon or of British, than of Norman origin. It is well known that between the reign of Alexander III. and that of James II. the family of the Douglasses had risen to an enormous height of power, and had acquired the property of the greater part of the lands in the southern counties of Scotland. The estates of the present family of Queensbury were then theirs. Vast possessions in Galloway had been acquired by intermarriage with the family of the Comyns. The forfeiture of their estates in the reign of James II. conveyed their property in this part of Scotland to the Crown. These lands were gradually granted away to other families which arose. But the descendants of the Douglasses regained a part of their ancient possessions. In this tract of country is *Morton* giving a title to the Earl of *Morton*. And the Duke of Queensbury is proprietor of most of those

those lands in Nithsdale which were formerly the property of the heroic Barons of Douglas. The rise and the series of the family of Queensbury, I shall not attempt to trace. Its representative at the period of the Union, appears to have had a very active concern in the accomplishment of that event. His successor was the friend of Pope, and the patron of Gay. He and his Dukes survived all their children. They are remembered in Nithsdale with the fondest veneration and regret. The present Duke of Queensbury is well known in the gay circles about Court.

At Holftein, I experienced the liberal hospitality of Mr Harkness, one of the most extensive and most intelligent farmers on this part of the Duke of Queensbury's estates. His corn was snug in his barn-yard. His servants were busy in taking up the potatoes. The *smearing* of his sheep he had not yet begun. I could not but think it strange that I should not have found the harvest so far advanced in any other part of the country, since I had passed through the vale of *Glenurquy*.

HOLFSTEIN,

HOLESTAIN,---to DUMFRIES.

I CONTINUED my journey, in the evening, towards Dumfries. Soon after passing Holestain, I entered on one of the best roads I have ever travelled; level, smooth, dry, and of sufficient breadth. Turnpikes have been erected upon it at proper distances. This mode of collecting a fund for the forming and repairing of highways is certainly one of the most ingenious and equitable that have been contrived. Every individual pays, by this arrangement, exactly in proportion to the benefit which he receives. The more generally turnpikes are employed, so much the more numerous and more useful are our roads likely to become.

ON my right hand as I proceeded, lay a branch or *spur* of those mountains which I crossed. This secondary range spreads out into Galloway, and at the same time extends southward, so as to form an irregular barrier dividing Nithsdale and Annandale from Galloway. At some distance westward is *Penpont*, where a very ancient arch is thrown over a stream which pours down, in storms, with great impetuosity from the mountains. Except the stripe immediately on the western bank of the Nith, and
similar,

similar, but much narrower stripes of land on the banks of smaller rivers falling into it; all this district is mountainous and fit only to afford pasture for sheep and black-cattle. The hills, rise up in a great variety of rugged forms; and instead of the schistous rocks of Crawford-muir; we have here the *whinstone*, and the grey granite.

THE river *Cairn* is the next stream which falls from the north-west, after passing through the vale of Glencairn, it joins the Nith, before reaching Dumfries. Along the banks of the Cairn, agricultural industry seems to have done all that could be expected in a situation so secluded among impervious hills. But, here is so extensive a tract of pasture-ground, partly in Galloway,---partly in Dumfries-shire,---partly in Lanarkshire, and partly in Ayrshire;---that I am sorry to see the whole so hopelessly appropriated to the purposes of rearing black-cattle and sheep. It *may* be improved, and filled with population. But, great wisdom and great public spirit will be necessary to accomplish these ends; and after all, the improvement must proceed slowly.---Let the proprietors of the lands learn to fix themselves at home, with a resolution to enrich themselves by promoting the improvement of their domains.---Let them build themselves comfortable seats, wherever they do not already possess such.---Let them
open

open up the country by parish-roads, by cross-roads which may join the highways in every direction, and by roads to every village, and market town.--- Wherever there is a suitable situation, let them bring together the few families of artificans that may be necessary to supply the more common parts of drefs, furniture, and labouring utensils to the respective neighbourhoods.---Let them next consider, whether the country possesses peculiar advantages for any manufactures.---Were it not better to work up their wool into cloth than to export it raw?---Or if it should be a matter of difficulty to establish a manufacture of woollen-cloth,---why not prepare it with greater pains for the carder and spinner? The drefing of wool in Spain is of itself a very complex piece of industry, subdivided into many subordinate branches.---Again, are there not streams on which cotton works might be erected?---May not hides be imported from Ireland, from Russia, from America, and drested here, with sufficient advantage? May not flax be imported from America or from the north countries on the continent of Europe, and with sufficient advantage, manufactured here into linen. Were a few clusters of manufacturers once scattered over this wild country; agriculture would necessarily spread through it, with them: and this intermixture of artificans, of husbandmen, and of shepherds, would form the happiest, the most virtu-

ous and the most independent society that patriotism could desire to see settled in these parts.

It is remarkable that through this tract of country, the names of places are universally Gaelic. The Saxons or East-Angles, when they drove back the Picts and Scots from the territories which these had seized upon the departure of the Romans out of the island, seem never to have penetrated into the interior parts of Galloway and Dumfries-shire. These mountains seem to have served as fastnesses to which that part of the Picts who had advanced farthest to the south-west, retired for security against the hostilities of the Saxons. Had it been otherwise, the names of the hills, farms, or smaller rivers must undoubtedly have been Anglo-Saxon. It appears probable therefore, that, till after the extinction of the family of the old lords of Galloway, and the partition of their estates among the Baliols, the Bruces, the Comyns, the Douglasses, the Kennedys, the inhabitants of the landward parts of Galloway were a pure, unmixed race of Picts.

BUT, the opposite bank of the Nith presents a fairer extent of fertile ground, than that which lies towards Galloway. In Closeburn is abundance of limestone useful alike to encourage the neighbouring inhabitants to lodge themselves in comfortable houses

ses, and to promote the improvement of the arable land. If quarried and prepared for these uses with great earnestness, and with every desirable advantage to the proprietor.---It is pleasing to remark how one advantage for improvement promotes improvement in general! The use of lime for a manure has made the inhabitants of this neighbourhood turn their attention more assiduously to agriculture. Ploughing up their fields, they have seen it necessary to divide and subdivide them by suitable fences. Using ploughs and carts, they have perceived the necessity of forming good roads. Enriched by the success of their farming, they have naturally desired better houses and gardens, better clothes, more luxurious eating and drinking. Such is the concomitant progress of industry and luxury. Only awake either industry, or the desire of gratification. The one rouses the other; and they continue to advance hand in hand, till the facility of gratification renders desire important.

THE farm-houses, as one proceeds down the bank of the Nith to Dumfries, become more and more decent; the houses inhabited by persons above the rank of farmers become numerous; and by the natural effect of cultivation, even where ornament is not studied, or because wherever cultivation has been carried to a considerable height, ornament, is there

necessarily studied,—from which ever of these causes, certain it is, that the division of the fields, the rising wood scattered here and there over them, and the neatness of the houses, give an aspect to this part of Nithsdale, which may well please even him who has been accustomed to view the most ornamented tracts of the most naturally beautiful country.

CLOSEBURN has been long the seat of the Kirkpatricks, one of the most ancient families in this part of Britain. I suppose them to have been of Norman origin, and to have come into Scotland in the reign of Malcolm Canmore. Before the rise of the disputes about the Scottish succession which ended in the exaltation of Robert Bruce, the Kirkpatricks were settled in this neighbourhood. Roger de Kirkpatrick seconded the blow by which John Comyn of Badenoch was slain at Dumfries, to make room for Bruce's ambition.

THE parish of Closeburn is famous for one of the best Schools in Scotland. A considerable endowment was, it seems, provided for it, by some generous friend to learning,—at what distance of time backwards, I know not. But, even this endowment might have failed to make it eminent, had not the late Mr Mundel, a very worthy and amiable man, and an uncommonly able classical scholar,—been fortunately

tunately appointed Master. A Schoolmaster at once able and amiable is a very uncommon phenomenon in Scotland. Mr Mundel's character therefore easily attracted scholars from various quarters. The agreeable, rural situation of the School, the paternal attention which Mr Mundel was understood to pay to pupils placed in his house, and the rising classical fame of this seminary under his direction, made many respectable parents desirous to place their children under the immediate tuition of this worthy man. Many gentlemen, educated by him, have already distinguished themselves in the world. Having been, for a great number of years, useful and respectable in this situation, and having lived in all the vigour and cheerfulness of youth to a good old age,—he died within these last two years. The school is now under the management of his son.—To a character so worthy, one is proud to seize an opportunity of offering even a mite of praise.

THE environs of Dumfries are in a state of high cultivation. Gentlemen's seats are scattered as thick around it, as around Edinburgh or Glasgow, although not through so extensive an area. It was night before I could reach this city. But, the sky was clear and serene; the moon shone bright: and resolved as I was, on this journey,—as through the journey of life, if I can,—to make the *most*, of every

ry advantage, and the *least* of every inconvenience; I highly enjoyed this fine scenery, even by moonlight. Near the *Auld-girth* bridge, I remarked some single trees, close upon the wayside---I had the curiosity to ride round one or two of them, and admired their wide-spread branches, their bushy tops, their straight and gross trunks. Crossing to the western side of the river, by this bridge, I rode on through open fields, and along the finest highway, I think, in Scotland, for two miles. Cottages appeared here and there, either close upon the highway, or at a small distance. In one place, I could perceive a small lake or overflowed marsh. In another a marsh, having small heaps of wet *peats* still spread over the drier parts. On my other hand, I had the banks of the river, generally fringed with wood, sometimes shelving gently and sometimes rising more abruptly. At the *New Bridge* I again crossed to the eastern side of the river. Near the eastern end of this bridge is a cluster of cottages, picturesquely situate. Here the traveller is still two miles distant from Dumfries. Every step he proceeds, new objects, rise to convince him, that he is about to enter some pretty considerable city. By eight in the evening, I reached the *George Inn*, in Dumfries. The Gentlemen of the Caledonian Hunt were, at this time, met here: and the Inns and the whole town so crowded with company, that I could
not,

not, but with the utmost difficulty, and after much sollicitation obtain lodging and entertainment for the night.

DUMFRIES.

DUMFRIES is situate on the banks of the Nith, about nine miles above where it discharges its waters into the Solway Frith,---in $55^{\circ} 8' 30''$ of northern latitude,---and $4^{\circ} 25' 15''$ from the longitude of Greenwich. It is the capital of the shire distinguished by its name. In the twelfth century it was a place of some consideration. A bridge was, at that remote period, thrown over the Nith, in this situation. Some religious houses were established here. A castle was built. And thus the fishing of the river,---the concourse of passengers drawn hither by the bridge,---the sanctity of the religious houses,---and the protection afforded by the castle concurred to draw together a little community, and to form a city.

WHILE England and Scotland, were separate kingdoms, under different monarchs, this city was a place of strength to which the Scotch borderers retired from the hostile incursions of the English. Perhaps the citizens of Dumfries might avail themselves of their situation, and try the success of fishery, at the time when most of our Scottish sea-ports
drew

drew such considerable opulence from this source. As the times became more peaceful, and the adjacent counties of Kirkcudbright-shire, and Dumfries-shire became more populous and more wealthy; this city derived considerable advantages from its being the scene of markets and of county meetings. The noble family of Maxwell, first of Caerlaverock, afterwards ennobled under the titles of Lord Herreis, and of Earl of Nithsdale, were possessors of the Castle of Dumfries, and in some manner lords of the town. When this family fell through mistaken loyalty and mistaken religion, Dumfries seems to have suffered, for a while, by its decline.

WITH its advantages of situation, however, it could never sink into a very low condition. Since the beginning of the present century, it has made gradual advances in wealth and population, corresponding to those of the surrounding country.— It is a considerable town, containing nearly seven thousand inhabitants. Its principal street extends full three-fourths of a mile in length: In the middle, it may be nearly an hundred feet wide. Its breadth may be from one-fourth to one-third of a mile. The houses are, in general handsome. And the situation of the town, on the eastern bank of the Nith, from which it rises gradually,—is beautiful and advantageous. The streets are well lighted;
the

the pavements may be improved.—It has no remarkably handsome or magnificent public buildings; if we except its Infirmary, erected ten or twelve years since,---for the reception of the sick poor of Galloway and Dumfries-shire,---and supported by charitable contribution. An handsome Doric column, within a square railing, nearly in the middle of the town, preserves the memory of the late amiable Duke of Queensbury, one of the best benefactors of Dumfries.---The flesh-market is a square, shaded round, and having behind proper conveniences for slaughter.---Here are two principal inns; and both are tolerably well kept. Dumfries has two churches for the reception of the parochial Congregations of the Established Church,---an Episcopal chapel,---a Methodist,---a Relief,---and an Antiburgher meeting-house.---The bridge over the Nith, by which Dumfries is connected with Galloway, and with one of its suburbs, called the Bridge-end, was erected, five hundred years ago. A new bridge is now a building at some distance above.

DUMFRIES is a Royal Burgh, governed by a provost, bailies, and a town-council, and having the artificers or *Trades* likewise united in different Incorporations. Its public revenue may be about fifteen hundred pounds a-year. It enjoys by its charter,

VOL. II.

K

the

the privilege of holding two weekly markets, and three annual fairs. To these markets and fairs, cattle are brought in for sale, from all the adjoining country. The toll paid to the town for cattle passing along the ancient bridge above-mentioned, amounts to two hundred pounds a-year.

DUMFRIES has little trade, and few manufactures. Forty years ago, large quantities of tobacco were annually imported into the port of Dumfries. That trade has been since turned into other channels. About eight or ten vessels belong at present to Dumfries: These are employed in a coasting trade: bringing in lime, coals, and merchant's goods of various sorts,—and exporting potatoes and grain. The industry of the artificans of the town is employed chiefly for the direct accommodation of the citizens and of the inhabitants of the circumjacent country. Leather is dressed in two or three tan-works. Some stockings and hats, with some small quantities of linen and coarse woollen cloths have been manufactured here with sufficient advantage. Such quantities of flour, meal, and barley are made in the mills belonging to the town as to enable the tacksmen to pay four hundred pounds Sterling of yearly rent. From fifteen hundred to two thousand dozens of hare-skins are annually sold in Dumfries. Branches of three different banks are established

blished in this city. A tambour manufacture has been lately attempted here by a company from Glasgow. Here is a printing-house; and a newspaper is published weekly.

DUMFRIES is a fort of Metropolis to the counties, on the meeting confines of which it stands. It is the seat of the Commissary-Court, of the Sheriff's Court, of a Presbytery and a Synod. The Commissioners of the Land Tax for the County of Dumfries hold their meetings here; and the Justices of the Peace, their Quarter-Sessions. The Justiciary Court too sits here in the Spring and the Autumn Circuits.

THE Schools of Dumfries have been long eminent. Many very able scholars have received their initiatory classical education here. Here has been a succession of three of the ablest teachers of the Latin language that have been known for this some time in Scotland: Mr Trotter, Dr Chapman, and the present Rector of this School, Mr Waite. Here are also masters for the French and English languages, for the different branches of the Mathematics, for Writing, and for Dancing. Hither, too, are many of the little Misses of Galloway and Dumfries-shire sent to receive their education in *boarding-schools for young ladies*.

IN Dumfries and its immediate neighbourhood are various remains of antiquity. The sites of two ancient castles, one the property of the once powerful family of the Comyns, the other, the property of the Maxwells, are still shewn. At the entrance into the town from the North-East are the remains of an old Chapel, which was built by Bruce, as a place in which mass might be said for the soul of his father-in-law, Sir Christopher Seton, who was hanged on the spot, by the order of King Edward I. of England. Here is a field bearing the name of King-holen, which it is supposed to derive either from Bruce or from Comyn. Here is also an eminence called Kirkland moat, which may have been a station for the conveyance of intelligence in the time of the border feuds. In digging the foundation for a house, a leathern bag containing some old Scotch coins and some metal *fibulæ* or broaches, were some years ago, found here. A Roman coin, bearing the inscription AUGUSTUS, thick as a half-crown, yet not broader than a six-pence, was some years since found in the channel of the Nith. The old Abbey of Lincluden; a ruinous structure, still remains sufficiently perfect to shew, how wonderfully well the Regular Clergy of the Romish Church were lodged, at a time when Architecture had done comparatively little for the accommodation of the other inhabitants of this island.

DUMFRIES

DUMFRIES is perhaps a place of higher gaiety and elegance, than any other town in Scotland, of the same size. The proportion of the inhabitants, who are descended of respectable families, and have received a liberal education, is greater here, than in any other town in this part of the island. These give, by consequence, a more elevated and polished tone to the manners and general character of this city. The mode of living which prevails here, is rather shewy than luxurious. To be esteemed *genteel*, not to sit down to a board overloaded with victuals, is the first wish of every one. The inhabitants of towns flourishing in trade and manufactures are frugal only of their time, and of those gratifications which have something ostentatious in the enjoyment of them. The citizens of Dumfries are frugal of their money, but hold idleness, a proof of gentility: and they value only such enjoyments as they can be seen to share, and can be esteemed the greater for sharing. They delight in fine and fashionable clothes. They are fond of assemblies and plays. A play-house has been lately erected here; and the players have fared better than in many more populous and opulent towns.—The amusements of this city, its advantages for education, its convenient and healthy situation allure many of the inferior gentry from the neighbouring counties, to spend half, or perhaps the whole year here,

here. The Dumfries and Galloway Hunt meet annually here, and rouse the town to festivity, for a whole week together. Both the Dumfries and Galloway, and the Caledonian Hunts were assembled here, at this time. Every inn and ale-house was crowded with guests. Many, even of the more respectable citizens had been persuaded by the tempting offers of very high rent, to let their best rooms for a few days. In the mornings, the streets presented one busy scene of hair-dressers, milliner's apprentices, grooms, and valets, carriages, driving and bustling backwards and forwards. In the forenoon, almost every soul, old and young, high and low, master and servant hastened out to follow the hounds, or view the races. At the return of the crowd, they were all equally intent, with the same bustle, and the same ardent animation, on the important concerns of appetite. The bottle, the song, the dance, and the card-table endeared the evening, and gave social converse power to detain and to charm till the return of morn.—Dumfries, of itself, could not afford ministers of pleasure enough for so great an occasion. Here were waiters, pimps, chairmen, hairdressers, and *ladies*, the priests and priestesses of these festivities, from all those more favourite haunts where pleasure ordinarily holds her court. Not only all the gayer part of the neighbouring gentry were on this occasion assembled in Dumfries :
but

but the members of the Caledonian Hunt had repaired hither from Edinburgh, from England, and from the more distant counties of Scotland. The gay of the one sex naturally draw together the gay and elegant of the other. Here was such a shew of female beauty and elegance as I should suppose few country towns, whether in Scotland or England, likely to exhibit on any similar occasion. One of the finest animals, after man and woman is an handsome horse; and of handsome horses, the race-grounds certainly displayed a great number. They were equally decorated with handsome carriages.

The gayer, the more avaricious, and the more unthinking part of the citizens of Dumfries, fondly congratulated themselves upon this season of expense and festivity, this concourse of the great and gay. But, those of a more sober and reflecting turn, seemed rather to indulge a different train of sentiment upon the occasion. They feared the effects of the example upon the minds of their women and their youth. They suspected, that desires of splendid luxury might now be excited, and habits of dissipation formed, which would prove highly destructive to the good morals and the prosperity of their city. They seemed to think the present gain trifling, in comparison with the evils which
were

were necessarily to flow in succession from the same source.

AT Dumfries, I fortunately met with a man whom I had long been accustomed to esteem, Dr Lamont, Clergyman of Kirkpatrick-Durham. By his kind invitation, I left Dumfries with him on a Saturday evening, and accompanied him to his manse, about twelve miles distant.

THE Nith is the boundary between Dumfries-shire and Galloway. The country immediately beyond the river is still in a fine state of cultivation. Its face is diversified by softly swelling knolls, level holms, villas, farm-houses, and cottages, open lawns, and wooded declivities. The farm-houses appear not to be, all, the most commodious imaginable. But, the villas with grounds laid out around them, in the style of, English gardening,—are very numerous. Dumfries, and its immediate vicinity was the seat of the Maxwells, at a period when this ancient family was almost the most considerable in the South-west of Scotland. And the cadets and dependents of the family were then settled in considerable numbers in the neighbourhood. Thus was the district parcelled out into many little estates; and many houses for the residence of gentlemen's families were built upon these. Several of these little estates have
by

by this time gone from the original proprietors. But having been once separated, they have not been again accumulated together. New houses have been built on them, or the old houses repaired so as still to afford accommodation to the proprietors.— Hence, and not on account of the vicinity of the town, the number of handsome houses and genteel families around Dumfries.

THE road leading from Dumfries up through Galloway, recedes, as it advances, still farther and farther from the sea-coast. For some short way even the distant prospect towards the sea, is rich and beautiful. At length, it is interrupted by rocky and heath-covered hills. The elegant agriculture in the immediate neighbourhood of that city soon declines. The green hedges give place to low, slender, and ill-built walls of dry stones. The cornfields become less extensive, less numerous, and more irregular. You begin to perceive that you are advancing into a country into which cultivation has hardly made its way before you.

AT the distance of four miles from Dumfries, the highway touches upon a corner of Lochrutton, a lake which would adorn the adjoining country if its borders were less bare, and its environs more highly

VOL. II.

L

cultivated.

cultivated. Even at present, its effect is not unpleasing*.

BARNBAGHLE rises with a very slow ascent, and to a considerable elevation. From its summit over which the road nearly leads, the traveller enjoys an extensive prospect, partly of the country through which he has passed, partly of that which he is entering. Cultivation begins to creep slowly up the southern side of this hill. The soil has sufficient depth and natural fertility. The declivity is gentle enough to afford the easiest access to the plough. The farmers begin to be sufficiently sensible of the superior advantages of agriculture. Means of improvement are not wanting. I would willingly hope therefore, that all this tract of country which the eye commands from this height, may within a very few years, be seen to wear an aspect much more different than at present, from what it must have appeared in the days of the ancient *Selgovæ*.

EVEN now, however, it must be allowed, that wherever wild heathy or rocky hills, or sluggish morasses are not interspersed, agriculture has made considerable progress through this south eastern corner of Galloway. A Mr Currie of Redbank and Mr Maxwell of Cargen were among the first who attempted any thing like improved agriculture in the vicinity

* Almost immediately south of this lake stands the Old Castle of *Hills*.

vicinity of Dumfries. Along the sea-coast, abundance of excellent manure, especially for a light soil, is found in the fleech on the shore. The fleech is a mixture of shells with earth, and sand comminuted by attrition. From an hundred to an hundred and twenty tons are, as circumstances vary, laid to manure an acre. Lime is also imported from the opposite coast of Cumberland in sufficient abundance. Marle pits have been discovered here and there in the plains and morasses.

It is on the banks of the Nith, along the sea-shore, through the plains lying among the hills, and on the declivities of these hills where they are least rugged, and rise with the gentlest ascent,—that the labours and improvements of agriculture have been here prosecuted with success. By many of the improvers, a rotation of crops has been judiciously adopted, by which the ground is made to yield almost constant returns, and yet its fertility not exhausted. Oats; a fallow with fleech or with lime; wheat; barley with grass-seeds; clover-hay;—Such is the round of crops and of manure and pulverization by which, in a series of five successive years, some of the most intelligent husbandmen in these parts, cultivate the natural fertility of their grounds. By others, this series is varied by the raising of potatoes, turnips, kail, and cabbages.

L 2

WHEREVER

WHEREVER these improvements in agriculture have been prosecuted, one capital object with the farmer has commonly been to provide for the feeding and fattening of black cattle. For this purpose, have fields possessing a rich sward of natural grass, been inclosed, and exclusively appropriated for pasture. Foreign grasses have been for the same ends industriously introduced and cultivated for pasture, and for dry forage. Turnips, cabbage, and green kail have with the same views, been all entered among the articles of crop. The cattle which are fattened in these parts, and upon such articles are partly sent to England for sale, and partly disposed of to butchers from the adjacent towns. They are of a great variety of races; the native breed of Galloway having been often crossed by mixtures from different counties in England and from Ireland. But a small proportion of the cattle fed in this part of Galloway are reared here from calves. They are commonly purchased from the interior parts of the country, where the only labours of farming are the rearing of sheep and black cattle. With black-cattle, a few sheep for domestic use, and for the butchers in the immediate neighbourhood, are occasionally fattened by some of those farmers. But these begin to be more and more disliked; they are hostile to green fences, and are much more vicious and unmanageable than bullocks, cows, and

and heifers. A breed of large English sheep, white-faced, and bearing excellent wool have been introduced into the southern parts of Galloway. They are sold when fattened, at a price between one and two guineas. Their flesh is less delicate in its flavour and relish, than that of the small, ancient Galloway breed. Their wool is commonly intermixed with no inconsiderable proportion of dry hair.—Let me not neglect to observe, that the agricultural improvements above-mentioned, have been tried only by a few enlightened and public-spirited gentlemen, residing on their estates, and by some of the more opulent farmers guided and encouraged by their example. The other husbandmen may have, indeed availed themselves of the use of the manures; but they have scorned to follow the rotation of crops. Their principle of husbandry is to raise crop after crop of oats upon their fields, till both the fertility of the ground and the strength of the manure are exhausted; after which, they are obliged to leave it long to rest. Low-stone walls are the common fences, and very little wood is spread over the face of the country.

AT a small distance southward from the foot of Barnbaghle hill is a mineral spring, of a chalybeate character, known by the name of *Merkland-well*. It was once the Spa of Kirkcudbright-shire; but
since

since first the sulphurated and chalybeate waters of Moffat, and afterwards the mineral waters in the northern counties of England,—have risen into repute;—the Merkland-well has been less frequented. Its water is esteemed an effectual remedy in agues, stomachic complaints, and nervous disorders of all kinds. It is light, diuretic, and an excellent restorer of the appetite.

THESE parts of Kirkcudbright-shire exhibit few certain vestiges of very remote times. Hardly any traces of the ancient Roman dominion can now be discovered over them. Of the *Selgovæ*, that tribe of the ancient Britons whom the Roman writers represent as situate here, between the *Brigantes*, to the South, and the *Novantæ* to the North and South-west, there may be some more certain remains. To those are the barrows and circles of grey stones most probably to be referred. In an age ignorant of architecture, the memory of the dead can be preserved only by the song, or by piles of earth or stones, raised over his buried body. The circles of stones may have been erected either for the purposes of civil or of religious assemblies by a simple people who had not yet learned to build magnificent temples or senate-houses. However, it is commonly religion that first teaches rude tribes any thing like form or order, and since temples are commonly the earliest works

works of rising architecture, I should suppose the circles of stones to have been in their original formation, sacred to the superstition of our forefathers. As to their being *Druical*, of this I am less inclined to speak positively. Concerning the Druids we have been amused with greatly too much profound nonsense, and visionary conjecture. We have little real evidence to enable us to say, that the Druids of Cæsar and other Roman authors are certainly the same with the ministers of those rude ceremonies to which these circles refer. It is certain, that those circles of stones are not peculiar to those parts which are supposed to have been occupied by the ancient Celts, but entered also into the superstition of the Scandinavians. And if our British Druids performed their orgies in the solemn retirement of groves; so also did the priests of almost all the nations of antiquity, till after the progress of arts and of civility had softened the character of their superstition, and had supplied them with temples and altars. Be this as it may; these are the only remains in these parts, which can be, with confidence, ascribed to the ancient Britons. In this neighbourhood, is a circle of nine grey stones, not less than five hundred feet in circumference, and in an elevated situation. Similar circles, various in extent, are considerably numerous through all this country; nor are the barrows and artificial mounts less so.

IT

It is well known, that the Pictish invaders of this part of the Roman province of Valentia, were repulsed or subdued by the *Anglo-Saxons*, who under *Ida* founded the kingdom of *Bernicia* or Northumberland, in the 547th year of the Christian æra. Dumfries-shire, and the south-west of Galloway, with some part of Ayrshire remained in the possession of the Anglo-Saxons, till the end of the eighth century. I am inclined to think, that in the names of places, and in the dialect of the country, I can yet discover some memorials of the Anglo-Saxons. Through all the South-west of Kirkcudbright-shire, and for the length of fifteen or sixteen miles inwards from the sea-coast, *INGLES-TON* occurs frequently as the name of a place. Some worthy Antiquarian whose name I cannot, at present recollect, has ingeniously conjectured,--that these Ingles-tons were places where our fore-fathers had been accustomed to kindle fires, to alarm the country in cases of danger from the approach of foes: *Ingle* signifying in the ordinary dialect of Scotland---fire; and no phrase being more frequent or familiar than *Ingle-side*. I venerate the ingenuity of the Etymologist who has suggested this hypothesis. Yet, with due deference to his authority, I am rather tempted to suppose that these *Ingles-tons* are so many stations which were occupied by the *Angles* or *Anglo-Saxons* of Northumberland, when masters of this part of Galloway. In the end
of

of the eighth century these were subdued by the Picts; after having under *Edwin* their sixth monarch, extended their sway over the whole of Galloway and Ayr-shire, and even to the *Hebudaæ*. If not absolutely exterminated by their Pictish conquerors, the *Angles* might possibly continue to occupy these places which are still distinguished by their names. Their dwellings would in this case naturally receive from their Pictish lords, the names of *Angles-towns*. In this idea, I am even inclined to fancy, that a minutely accurate enquirer who should carefully examine within what limits, this name, *Inglstone* is confined, might thus ascertain the particular extent of the ancient Northumbrian monarchy, upon this side. Although the *Angles* may have been finally exterminated or expelled from these parts by their Pictish conquerors; yet would the new possessors naturally continue to discriminate by their names, the habitations and establishments which they had occupied. Other places through this part of Galloway likewise retain Saxon names; although it must indeed be confessed, that through all this district, those names which are the most permanent, the names of rivers, hills and vales, are undeniably in some dialect or other of the ancient Celtic.—The ordinary dialect of this part of Galloway is another proof of its having been anciently in the occupancy of the Anglo-Saxons. It may indeed be *dashed* with

a small intermixture of Danish. It differs remarkably from the dialect spoken in the shires of Renfrew and Dunbarton, which I suppose still to retain a mixture of the ancient British. Of the names of points, promontories, creeks, rocks and bays along the coast of Galloway, I believe many to be Danish; *Southwick, Rerwick, Rhofs, Sandwick, Alnwith*, with many others. To the intermixture of the *Danish* or *Norse*, do I attribute the great abundance of broad, open founds, observable in the dialect of the inhabitants of the southern parts of Galloway. Here too, are many other names of places, evidently Saxon. Of these that which most frequently occurs, is *Borland*. Wherever there is an *Ingleston*, there is always a *Borland* in the near neighbourhood. Now, if we should suppose this *Borland* to be compounded of the two well known Saxon words *Boor* and *Land*; this will suggest the conjecture, that these *Borlands* might be so named by the Anglo-Saxons, as having been occupied by the *villains* or *vassals* of the martial lords who were seated in the *Inglestons*.---(other Saxon names are *Greenlaw, Carlinwark, Tunland, Twynholm, Carleton*.) This idea concerning the circumstances connected with the origin of the term *Borland* is strongly confirmed by what is related concerning the plan upon which the Saxon landholders used to parcel out their grounds. A Saxon estate

was

was usually divided into two parts, the *inland* and the *outland*. The former was reserved by the proprietor for the maintenance of his family, and was cultivated by his slaves or bondmen; while he himself either lived in savage idleness, or was engaged in military enterprises. The other part was either granted to some military companion or dependent, to be held by him for the performance of certain services;— or was let to tenants, named *churls* or *cæorls*. And, as I suppose the places distinguished by the name *Borland* to have been occupied by boors or bondmen, employed in farm-service, in the Anglo-Saxon period of the history of Galloway: So am I also inclined to consider those places, the names of which are compounded with the word *cæorl* or *churl* to have been farms let in those days, to tenants.

It seems probable too, that the most conical of the *moats* or *tumuli* in this part of Galloway are equally to be referred to the Saxon times. Of the remains of encampments,—and there are several,—in this part of Galloway, those may be inferred to have been Saxon, which are of oval form, or of an oblong square, rounded at the angles. As to *houses*; some remains of the Saxon fashion of architecture may yet be traced into those places of Kircudbrightshire which are most remote from improvement,—

in the interior partitions, formed of wattles, and plaistered on both sides with clay. I believe that that the Saxons were the first who introduced this mode of building into Britain. Their ordinary houses being of this structure. Even their more considerable edifices were only dry stone walls, supported by parallel walls of turf or clay on each. In *Dornock*, on the border of *Cumberland*, all the peasants' houses are still built in the ancient Saxon fashion.

THE Saxons were skilled in weaving *linen-cloth*; and I fancy that we are indebted to them for the use of *sbirts*.

SUCH are the remains of Saxon history and manners, connected with the antiquities of the South-eastern parts of *Kirkcudbright-shire*. The buildings of the Saxons have not been here much more permanent than those of their British predecessors.—The memory of the *Selgovæ* is here preserved by the circles of grey stones, and by the barrows which are here and there to be met with; the names of the rivers and mountains, too, those which are permanent above all other names of place appear to have been improved by them. Their Saxon successors appear not to have raised many more durable monuments.

THE

THE next in antiquity of the artificial curiosities of this part of the country are the remains of old military castles and of religious houses. These are, for the extent of the country considerably numerous. They are of various forms, and in various states of preservation. Some of the castles may have been built by the old *Pictish* or Gaelic Lords of Galloway. The rest we no doubt owe to the progress of Roman arts and manners.—Of all the ancient inhabitants of Europe, I know not, that any except the *Romans*, and the *Moors* of *Spain* had any knowledge of the art of building with stone and lime. From these the rude ancestors of the present inhabitants learned all that they ever knew of building with solidity. Their buildings are all therefore either in the Roman fashion corrupted by their incapacity of perfect,—or by their fantastic ideas of beauty, strength, and utility;—or in the Moorish fashion altered in the same manner;—or in a style compounded of the Roman, the Moorish, the Teutonic, and the Celtic. Kirkcudbrightshire affords the remains of the two ancient abbeys of DUNDRENNAN; and SWEETHEART or NEW-ABBEY; the former founded by one of the old Pictish Lords of Galloway into whose possession it came, upon the ruin of the Northumbrian monarchy; the other founded by *Dervorgilla* daughter and co-heiress to the last of those lords. I suppose *New-abbey* to have received

received this name in reference to the abbey of Dundrennan founded prior to it. The castle of *Buittle*, and another within a lake, named *Loch-Fergus* probably belonged to the old Lords of Galloway. Several others appear to have been possessed by the Douglasses, the Herreifes, the Maxwells. And there are others which have been built by families who settled in Galloway at a later period, or were dependents upon those above-named.

It is the common tale of Antiquarians, that the Anglo-Saxon inhabitants of Galloway were subdued or expelled by the Picts, in the end of the eighth century. This I am strongly inclined to doubt. That the Picts might penetrate into Galloway, before the arrival of the Saxons in this island, about the time when the Romans were obliged to abdicate the dominion, and to desert the protection of the Britons,—I shall allow. They might then establish themselves here. The Saxons do not appear to have ever occupied the inland parts of Galloway. There the Picts might continue in a dubious subjection to the Saxons, while the kingdom of Northumberland continued to flourish, and the Saxons to occupy the sea-coast. When, by the union of the heptarchy in one kingdom, and afterwards by the Norman conquest, the Saxons became unable to support themselves in Dumfries-shire, Galloway, and

and Ayr-shire; the Picts, in the interior parts of this country might then throw off their allegiance, and by successive incursions at length entirely subdue and expel their masters: thus asserting to themselves the sovereignty of Galloway.---But, one thing which appears to me certain, is, that, if they were Picts who penetrated into Galloway, when the Roman Empire in Britain terminated, those Picts undeniably spoke the language of the Celts. The names of places in the interior parts of this country, where not plainly of very modern imposition; are universally Celtic; except the Saxon and Danish surnames and names of places towards the coast; and no ancient names which may not be traced in the Celtic will be found in Galloway. By this I think it certain, that they must have been a tribe of free Celts, who invaded Galloway, and made themselves masters of it upon the retreat of the Romans. When, in addition to the above circumstances, I consider the contiguity of Galloway to Ireland; the probability that there must, in the remotest times, have been a frequent intercourse between Galloway and Ireland;—and the equal probability, that although within the limits of the Roman province, Galloway was always, in a great measure neglected by the Romans;—I am led to infer, that, they who, after the retreat of the Romans, poured in upon the Britons, on this quarter, were rather Celts from
Ireland.

Ireland. The name of the country justifies the idea of their being *Gaels*; and *Gael*, is only another name for *Celts*, affixed by some circumstances which cannot now be well ascertained. The old inhabitants of Galloway are in some ancient Latin charters named *Galwegenses*. Now *Galweg* surely signifies the country of the Gaels. Thus heedless of the doubtful facts related by some ancient historians who had little opportunity to ascertain the truth of what they related; and of the theories of some modern writers, who have built those theories without a knowledge of facts or circumstances on which to found them; I suppose all the old inhabitants of Galloway who were not of Romanized British, of Saxon or of Danish origin, to have been---either remains of the inhabitants whom the Romans found here, that had not been fully subjected by their arms, or incomers from Ireland. They were long distinguished by the name of *the Wild Scots of Galloway*. In the armies, they were remarkable for a ferocity, and for an impetuous, undisciplined mode of fighting, by which they very nearly resembled the character of the native Irish, such as it is described to have been, when the English first conquered Ireland.

I HAVE introduced these remarks here, that they may serve as a sort of theory to which I may refer local facts in my progress through Galloway.

KIRKCUDBRIGHT-SHIRE lies under some disadvantages, to which Ayr-shire and Dumfries-shire are not subject. It has neither lime, coal, nor freestone. It is true, that limestone has been found in these south-eastern parts of Galloway: But, either from its peculiar nature, or for want of proper fuel, attempts to burn it, have failed of reducing it to calx. Marle, however, a calcareous manure formed from shells, but having something fœtid and oily in its character which lime wants, has been found in great abundance through these lower parts of Galloway. For pit-coal here is no substitute but peat.

To *Milton*, the road by which I travelled from Dumfries, is part of the great highway between London and Portpatrick. At Milton, we turned off the highway, and proceeded through bye-roads, in a north-west direction, to Kirkpatrick kirk. The highway seems here to be in some sort, the line of demarcation dividing cultivation from wildness. The house of Milton, indeed, standing on the upper side of the highway, with some little plantations about it, and the village of the same name, below, have an agreeable aspect. But, no sooner

VOL. II.

N

have

have you passed these, than a black heath, diversified by a morass and a small lake, opens to view, on one hand,—and on the other rising grounds, green but bare and uncultivated,—or where cultivated, deformed by a ragged, careless, cultivation. Low stone dykes are the only fences dividing the fields; and these are often so very low, so carelessly built, and so broken down, that the most sluggish and feeble of feeble, sluggish animals might easily make its way over them. Nearer the sea-coast, by the importation of lime, and by the digging up of marle, the improveable lands have received more or less improvement. Here marle has not been found, and lime cannot be obtained unless at a price greater than unskilful husbandmen, novices in the labours of agriculture dare venture to pay.

THE sale of the sheep and the black-cattle which they rear and feed—enables the farmers to pay their rents, and maintain their families. But, these places seem to be exactly in that state, in which industry and population are the most likely to remain long without improvement. Neither agriculture, nor the management of cattle, are exceedingly well understood, or practised with great enterprise. These people seem to have no notion that large fortunes are to be acquired by the arts of husbandry, no less than by manufacture or merchandise. Manufactures

tures have not been introduced. The rearing of black-cattle and of sheep are the chief objects to which the farmer directs his care. These people are not in a condition of miserable poverty. They have the comfortable enjoyment of the necessaries and of many of the conveniencies of life. But, their numbers are comparatively few. No one has risen, by the practice of the employments common in the country, to any considerable opulence. And the poor conceive no hopes of the acquisition of wealth otherwise than by emigration.

THERE are two or three means that may be employed for improving the face of this country, and rousing the people to industry by intelligent and public-spirited landholders. They have already begun to improve the parish-roads with great assiduity. Let them persist, till the whole country is made sufficiently open to foot, horse, and carriage.—The next thing for them to do, is, that each cultivate a little domain of his own, and content himself with being rather a loser, than a gainer in the management,—provided only, that he can here exhibit such improvements as it may be advantageous for his tenants and dependents to become acquainted with.—In the third place, I should think that every intelligent landholder might let his lands under conditions, which might contribute greatly to improve

the practice of farming upon his estate. And lastly, let landholders in these parts try, by all means, to allure manufacturers to form little establishments among them in situations favourable for manufacture.

REFLECTIONS and suggestions, such as these, every traveller through these parts of Scotland may find frequent occasion to throw out. Compared with the richer and more populous counties of England, or even with those parts of Scotland where manufactures have been established and agricultural improvements diligently pursued,—Galloway *may* seem much behind in population and in enlightened industry. But in a comparison with most countries on the continent of Europe, it will have the advantage. The vast empire of Russia is yet a wilderness, with only some spots of cultivation, and some slender companies of inhabitants scattered here and there over it. The labour of the mines is the principal branch of industry prosecuted in Sweden; and this is an employment so little lucrative—for the most part,—so unhealthy, and so uncomfortable, that the inhabitants of that country in which the working of mines—is---the species of industry chiefly cultivated, can never be in a very thriving condition, or very numerous. As little can be said for the cultivation of Denmark or of Poland---It is indeed

deed well known that our chief imports from the North of Europe are *timber* and other *raw materials*. But, no country, of which the inhabitants are in proportion to its extent numerous, and in which the arts are industriously and ingeniously cultivated, will export its productions in a *raw, unwrought state*. It is therefore clear from the nature of their trade, that the kingdoms in the North of Europe are in no high state of internal cultivation and population. The desarts in Spain;—the annual emigration of the flocks of the Spanish shepherds with their flocks, over a wide extent of country, from one province to another;—the exportation of unwrought wool and silk, as the principal commodities of domestic production which Spain has to export;—and the numbers of the robbers and gypsies in that kingdom, shew its industry and population to be in no enviable state. France, even before its late distresses, was confessedly less populous in proportion to its extent than Great Britain, and its people poorer than the inhabitants of Scotland or England. Germany is under all the disadvantages of France, and wants, at the same time, many of the advantages which it possesses. Although we should not believe more than one-half of what travellers tell us; we should however find no reason to envy the Italians, in the present condition of their country.---Even here, then, where the country is so bare,---where
agriculture

agriculture is so careless and imperfect,—where industry is so languid; I am persuaded that Scotland shews the labouring part of the community in a better condition than we should find them any where upon the Continent of Europe. How great! how happy then shall we be, when all our latent *capabilities* of improvement shall be fully unfolded, and brought into exertion?

As we drew nearer to Kirkpatrick Kirk, we entered upon better roads. Roads have been formed in various directions through this neighbourhood. But, the soil being soft and deep; gravel being perhaps not to be readily obtained; the workmen being lazy or unskilful; or the superintendents of these works driving too hard bargains with the workmen;—These roads are universally miry and unsolid; more like loose earth, hastily turned up with the spade, than like a compact stratum designed to resist the impressions of the weather, and the pressure alike of feet and of carriages of all sorts. I cannot hope, that if a new influx of barbarians should ever again desolate Europe,—such roads as these, would, like the Roman highways, remain the most permanent of all monuments to testify to future times the ingenious industry of the people by whom they were formed.

KIRKPATRICK

KIRKPATRICK occurs as the name of a Scotch parish oftener, than any other name. That which I had now entered, was *Kirkpatrick-Durham*. There are, besides, Old Kirkpatrick; Kirkpatrick-Fleming; Kirkpatrick-Juxta; Kirkpatrick-gray; and perhaps other Kirkpatricks unknown to me. All these parishes have been so named in honour of St Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, by whose ministrations the Irish were first converted to Christianity. St Patrick was a Briton, a native of the parish of Old Kirkpatrick in Dumbarton-shire. He seems to have preached in many places in the south-west of Scotland. He passed at length into Ireland,—by Portpatrick most probably, which still bears his name. By the conversion of the Irish, he became eminent in the Romish Church. In veneration for his saintly memory were all these churches in Scotland which still bear his name, consecrated to him, as their patron and protector.

THE face of the country in the parish belonging to this church is, for the greater part, heathy. The farms are divided by low, and insufficient stone dykes. The southern parts of this tract begin to be inclosed and cultivated. The northern parts are occupied as pasture-grounds for sheep and black-cattle. The average rent of these latter grounds is not more than two shillings an acre. On these, as on almost
all

all other unimproved pasture-lands, the sheep and black-cattle are bred and reared to full growth, but seldom fattened. The farm-houses, are, in general, very mean and incommodious: the walls low and ill-built,—the covering of the roof, broom, straw, or fens. Potatoes are very generally raised, and in large quantities, here, as in most other parts in Scotland.—If Sir Walter Raleigh did indeed introduce the potatoe from America, and plant it on his estates in Ireland, for the first time of its being known, or planted in these islands;—he must be acknowledged to have performed, in this, a more beneficial service to his country, than if he had succeeded in the discovery of gold mines in Guiana. The overflowing population of Ireland has been chiefly encouraged and supported by the use of potatoes. Since potatoes were, within the present century introduced into Scotland, the fare of the common people has been greatly bettered. Almost every variety of soil and climate known in this island favours the growth of potatoes. No process of agriculture contributes more to the enriching and pulverization of the ground, than the dunging, digging, weeding, and ploughing necessary in raising potatoes. They form a most nutritious article of food to men, acceptable at almost all tables. They are no less useful for the nourishing and fattening of domestic animals of all kinds. Swine particularly

ly thrive and fatten most rapidly, when fed upon potatoes, with a small mixture of corn. Cows yield great abundance of milk, when fed upon potatoes. Potatoes afford a spirit, by distillation. They may be manufactured, with great advantage into starch.

THE progress of agriculture has been, in these parts of Galloway, considerably checked by *thirlage* to certain milns. The nature of this thirlage is, to oblige the possessors of certain farms to pay to the occupant of the particular miln to which his farm is *thirled*, a certain proportion of all his grain,—except what may be requisite for seed and for horse-corn. When milns were first erected in this country, the erection of the miln, and the establishment of a miller might be so expensive, as to render this thirlage necessary. Agriculture was in those days, little pursued: No farmer thought of raising more grain than was necessary for the use of his family, and the payment of such rent, as he was obliged to pay in grain. All the corn, therefore, which was produced in the country, except that consumed by horses, or reserved for seed, was to be made into meal, where it had been raised. The management of milns being then a more complex task, and less generally understood, than at present, was, by consequence, to be paid for at a higher rate. In these circumstances, nothing could be more natural than to en-

ture to certain milns, the custom of certain lands. When a landholder erected a miln on his estate, he by a deed of *thirlage*, suitable to the feudal ideas of the age, irrevocably settled upon it certain servitudes, and a certain income by which it might be maintained. These establishments were undoubtedly of great benefit to the whole country at the time of their institution; contributing to improve the diet and the modes of life connected with it. But, in the advancement of that progress of improvement to which they contributed, they have, at length ceased to be necessary, and have become burthensome. The agriculture of the country has become so much more considerable, that milns can now be supported, wherever they are necessary, without monopoly or feudal servitude. To be obliged to employ a miller who is disliked, or who has indifferent apparatus about his miln, or is ill-skilled in his business, appears an intolerable grievance to the farmer. And still worse does he think it, to be compelled to pay a mulcture which is much more than an adequate reward for the labour by which it is earned; and to be obliged to pay for the grinding of corn which he perhaps finds it more advantageous to sell without making it into meal.—I should think, that this obstacle to the improvement of agriculture might be easily removed by a regulation enjoining the proprietor of every miln, to sell
his

his rights of thirlage, for a regulated price, at the demand of the proprietors of the lands respectively burthened with them.

POPULATION has been augmenting, for some time, in this neighbourhood. The enlightened ideas adopted by some of the landholders have been the chief causes of this progress.—Roads have been formed, to open up an intercourse between the different parts of the country. The lands have been subdivided and inclosed. The attention of the farmers has been directed more than formerly, to agriculture. Dr Lamont, the present clergyman of Kirkpatrick-Durham, being at the same time proprietor of considerable land-property in the neighbourhood, has, with great ingenuity, spirit, and success, laboured to improve his own fortune, and to set a laudable example to the other landholders in the neighbourhood. He has subdivided his lands into small possessions. Within these eight or ten years, a village consisting of from fifty to an hundred families, has been raised in the neighbourhood of the church. By his exertions, a company have been engaged to begin the establishment of a cotton manufactory, upon a joint stock. Another company have, equally under his direction, begun a small woollen manufactory. Another company have been persuaded to form a small stock for the

O 2 establishment

establishment of a warehouse, to supply the neighbourhood with those grocery goods, and other wares which are, of necessity, to be imported into such a country as this. As the labourers in Manufactures are, for the most part, little capable of regular frugality, but after earning and spending liberal wages, are often helplessly indigent, in the case of disease, or infirm old age:—Dr Lamont, therefore, not satisfied with merely bringing people of this class together, into the village, and finding them employment, has also suggested a scheme to cheat them into economy. A SYMPATHETIC SOCIETY has, under his auspices, been lately formed here. The members being chiefly labourers, and persons desiring to encourage a scheme which has been contrived for their benefit, contribute at admission, two shillings and six-pence each, to a common fund, and in addition to this, six-pence a month, ever after. Out of the stock thus formed, the occasional necessities of any of the members who may be reduced to want are supplied, by fixed regulations through the hands of office-bearers appointed to its management. The careless are thus taught to practise economy both for themselves and for their neighbours: And want is relieved, without the humiliation of beggary. To give gaiety to a place where pains have been taken to establish industry,—and to allure the inhabitants of the environs.

te

to resort hither as to a scene of amusement, and of trade; a fair,—I believe, of old institution,—has been encouraged here; and races have been established, as accompaniments to the fair. This fair and the races take place on the last Thursday of March, annually. The races, with the fair, draw numbers together. The villagers are enriched by the money spent on the occasion. And the neighbouring farmers are gratified by an opportunity of enjoying, on a small scale, the same amusements of which the Great and the Fashionable are most passionately fond.

I WOULD not willingly disapprove of any thing having a tendency to promote industry. Yet, I would not have the numbers of the people increased, their industry quickened, or their enjoyments multiplied; at the expence of their virtue. For this reason, chiefly, would I incline to discourage the extension of our larger manufacturing towns. Crowded together, and continually supplied with money, the workmen, in those towns, hold an almost perpetual holiday. This frequency of convivial and sensual enjoyments render them incapable of frugality, or temperance. They become, by consequence, extravagant, debauched, idle, and knavish. They waste the earnings of their labour, even before they are earned. Their health and strength are equally wasted.

wasted. What are our greatest seats of manufacturing industry, but so many sinks where virtue is corrupted, and population wasted?—Now, it is upon these views, that I should perhaps presume to disapprove of all attempts to promote the apparent and temporary prosperity of any country by making it a scene of rustic festivity. Villagers who have learned to depend upon the profits of a market, a fair, or a race for a considerable part of their livelihood, are thus irresistibly, more or less, inclined to idleness at other times. Their manners acquire a tone of indolence and of rude debauchery. Manufactures can never thrive among them. They become schools of dissipation to the peasantry of the circumjacent country. This effect is not discerned in its commencement. The mischief is commonly done, before the agency producing it, can be noticed. Market-days, and markets are useful and necessary. But, races, cock-fightings, and festive meetings for the purpose solely of festivity, ought to be carefully discouraged, wherever industry and virtue are to be cherished.

It is pleasing to view, and to exhibit a clergyman of the church of Scotland, in the respectable light of a leader in beneficial improvements, and an active promoter of virtuous industry among his parishioners and neighbours. Next after discharging
affiduously

affiduously the functions of his office, and setting an example of decorous manners; a Clergyman can do nothing worthier than this, of the clerical character, or more honourable in the sight of both God and man.—Thus has Dr Lamont gained the affection and the esteem of all who witness his generous and enlightened exertions. And the establishments under his influence are likely to preserve his memory in a country which he labours to awaken to virtuous industry.

From KIRKPATRICK-DURHAM to NEW-GALLOWAY.

AFTER spending a day at the manse of Kirkpatrick-Durham, I continued my journey towards New-Galloway. A tolerably good parish-road leads from Kirkpatrick-Kirk to the Bridge of Orr. In this vicinity are various remains of circular walls, and mounds, which undoubtedly mark the situations of Saxon or Danish stations or encampments. The Danish are now scarcely to be any where distinguished from the remains of Saxon camps. Both are round, and have similar ditches and earthen walls surrounding them. The coasts of all Galloway were not only occupied by the Saxons, but also infested by the piratical Danes. Hence it is impossible to decide, without more accurate investigation of these matters,

matters, than I have yet had in my power, which of these remains of military stations are Danish,--- and which Saxon.---

I WAS soon upon the banks of the *water of Orr*. This river takes its rise out of *Loch-Urr*, or *Orr*; a lake situate at the distance of ten or twelve miles farther up the country; about three miles in circumference; and bounded by the three parishes of *Glencairn*, *Dunscore*, and *Balmaclellan*.---This lake seems to be the *Lough-Cure* of *Camden*, from which he erroneously represents the *Nith* as issuing, and on which he relates that the *Selgovæ* had a town called, by the Romans, *Corda*. This lake is, at its greatest depth, nine fathoms. It has, within it a small island, on which are yet to be seen the ruins of an ancient castle. On this site perhaps might the huts of the *Selgovæ* stand. The isle is now frequented by water-fowls: and eagles have been known to breed on it. Pikes and trouts; both species often very large;---are the only fishes which it produces.

IN the environs of this lake are *Jarborough Bow-Butts*, where in the days, when all were warriors, and the arrow the chief missile weapon, the old inhabitants of that neighbourhood are supposed to have exercised themselves in shooting the bow.

THE

THE *Urr* thus issuing from the lake of the same name, holds its course, for a number of miles, through a wild tract of country, and over an irregular channel. As it advances, its stream is increased by the accession of various rivulets. It begins, at length, to shew some stripes of level and fertile ground upon its banks. It becomes the boundary between the two parishes of Cross-michael and Kirkpatrick-Durham. As these terminate, *Buittle* commences on the one side, and *Urr* upon the other. The country becomes more level, on either hand, and displays greater cultivation, as the river advances. By the time of its reaching *Dalbeattie*, it has increased to a very considerable stream. A few miles below this last place, it discharges its waters into the *Solway Firth*; affording an inlet to the tide; and a sort of road where vessels in the coasting trade enter. These vessels bring chiefly lime and coals from the coasts of Cumberland. Grain and potatoes are the articles which they export.

AT *Dalbeattie*, are mills, and a small village which seems thriving. It is indeed rather surprising, that, a situation so favourable has not before this time, been occupied by a town or village of considerable magnitude. But, the inland country was formerly shut up. Its cattle and sheep were not articles for exportation by sea. What imports the country re-

VOL. II.

P

quired,

quired, were introduced by the way of Dumfries, Kirkcudbright, or Wigton. Roads have been formed which establish a communication between the foot of this river, and the more adjacent parts of the interior country. The lime imported, has already been laid in great abundance upon the lands. The quantities of grain for exportation increase. And, if some suitable manufacture could be established at Dalbeattie, I should expect to see it rise to rival the most considerable towns in this part of Galloway.

THE banks of this river are not destitute of natural beauties, and artificial decorations. At the bridge by which I passed are a few cottages with a dyeing house and a corn-mill, situate low upon the banks of the river, while the adjoining grounds rise, with somewhat of an abrupt elevation, almost immediately above them, so as to produce with the aid of the bridge, the highway, and some trees and wild shrubbery, a sufficiently picturesque effect. From this situation, nearly to the mouth of the river, the lands are on both sides, cultivated, and rudely inclosed. The stream is here and there scantily shaded with wood. The hills rise to no great elevation, and are, all over arable. The vales are commonly covered with a rich sward of natural grass. A morass of no great extent, now and then intervenes.

Some

Some miles below the upper bridge is another on the great road between Dumfries and Portpatrick; the haugh bridge. An estate bordering here, upon the river, was not many years since purchased by a Mr *Herries* of London, who has since built an handsome house, near the bridge, which he now, chiefly inhabits. The *Herrieses* were one of the first Norman families,—for I take them to have been Norman,—who obtained possessions in this part of Galloway. Towards the end of the fifteenth century, the family of Maxwell acquired their estates and honours, by the marriage of the then Lord *Maxwell*, with the heiress of the last Lord *Herries*. Many families of this name are still scattered through the south-eastern parts of Kirkcudbright-shire. Mr *Herries* whom I have here mentioned as lately settled in this neighbourhood, is, I believe, originally from Galloway. And it would be not unpleasing if others of the same name, like him, acquiring fortunes, should restore the honours of their name in Kirkcudbright-shire.

OF the family of Maxwell, many more descendants, and those in the higher ranks of life, remain in this country. Several miles below the *Haugh* stands the house of *Muncheys*, the seat of Mr Maxwell, a very amiable, Roman Catholic gentleman. He is proprietor of an extensive estate in that neigh-

bourhood. Adjoining to his house are considerable plantations,—chiefly of pines. Some of the lands lying on the *Urr* are, in a fine state of cultivation. By the influence perhaps of this family, Roman Catholics are more numerous in that neighbourhood than in the rest of Kirkcudbright-shire.

OPPOSITE to *Munches*, upon the western side of the *Urr* stands the old castle of *Buittle*, said to have been originally a castle possessed by the ancient Lords of Galloway. It came, by marriage, into the possession of John Baliol, who was for some time king of Scotland. It fell, afterwards into the hands of the Douglasses.—

SINCE the history of the ancient Lords of Galloway is so much connected with many of the remains of its ancient buildings; I shall here introduce those few facts which I have learned concerning them. I have already suggested my opinion, that the ancient *Galwegenses* were not a tribe of Picts; but rather the descendants of some of the old *Selgovæ* and *Novantes* who had retired before the Romans, to the interior hills, among which we know not that these invaders ever penetrated;—reinforced perhaps with occasional emigrants from Ireland. When the Romans began to withdraw their forces from Britain, those unconquered inhabitants

bitants of the mountains, rushed down upon the *Romanized* and subjugated Britons. In concert with the Scots and Picts, they advanced rapidly into the southern parts of the island. By the Anglo-Saxons, they were driven backward into their former fastnesses. Their shores were occupied by the invaders. They were divided by the territories of the Britons of Strath-Clyde, from the Scots and the Picts in the more northern parts of the island. They might perhaps become dependent upon the Saxons; but still they remained a distinct people.

THE Scots, in the mean time, subdued the Picts. The conquered, incorporated with their conquerors, ceased to be named, as a distinct people. The Britons of *Strath-Clyde*, as those of *Cumberland*, gradually melted away, before the Saxons and the Scots. The Danes began to invade the coasts of Britain. The Saxons lost, by degrees, all their territories in the south of Scotland. The *Gallowenses* regained possession of the whole country, from the confines of Ayrshire, on the one side, to the mountains of Clydesdale, and the Solway frith upon the other. Interested to co-operate with the Scots against the Danes and Saxons, they soon fell into a state of dependency upon their more powerful allies. Descended from the same origin, as the Scots, their customs and manners might have been the same; had

had not those of the Scots been greatly altered and improved by their union with the Picts, and their intercourse with the Saxons. They, now, therefore, appeared a distinct people, and might probably be nearly allied in character to their contemporaries in the North of Ireland.

THIS political distinction, and this diversity of character were sufficient to make them appear in the eyes of those old writers by whom they are mentioned,—a peculiar race. Their ruder manners gained them the appellation of Picts, and the character of being descended from the ancient Picts. They had been named by the Saxons, more properly *Gaels*, and their country *Gallweg* or *Galloway*.

By the labours of the *Saxon Clergy*; by the intermixture of the Saxons who remained among them, after the limits of the Northumbrian kingdom were contracted; by their subjection to the *Saxonised* Scots; and by the occasional invasions of the Danes; they lost, by degrees, the use of the Celtic language and the peculiarities of their manners. Yet, it seems probable, that they retained these long after their union with the Scots.

At what particular period, the petty sovereigns of Galloway became feudatories to the kings of the Scots,

Scots, cannot now be ascertained. When the *Galwegians* went out with the Scots, to battle against their common enemies, the post of honour was usually assigned to the former. A battle was lost by David the First, by the misconduct of the *Galwegians* who led the van of his army. In the reign of Malcolm Canmore, in the twelfth century, all Galloway was subject to Fergus, perhaps the most powerful subject then in Scotland. Being afterwards unsuccessful in a war with his sovereign, Malcolm IV. he assumed the habit of a monk, and spent his last years in the abbey of Holyrood house.—His sons Uchtred and Gilbert inherited his territories of Galloway and Carrick. By their father's misfortunes, their country had fallen more entirely than before, under the power of the Scottish sovereign. Upon the captivity of William the Lion, they threw off the Scottish yoke, and entered into alliance with the English. Gilbert, by the aid of the English, subdued his brother, and put him to death. Upon the death of Gilbert, however, Roland, the son of Uchtred became lord of all Galloway; while the earldom of Carrick was assigned to his cousin, Duncan. Alan, son of Roland was the last of the old Lords of Galloway. Dervigild, his third daughter, marrying John Baliol of Bernard-Castle in Yorkshire, carried the lordship of Galloway into that family. Thomas Macduallen, natural son of Alan, obtaining the aid
of

of the king of the isle of Man, fought to possess himself of his father's territories, but was obliged to flee to Ireland.

JOHN BALIOL, the son of Dervigild, became in his mother's right, King of Scotland, and Lord of Galloway. It was he whom tradition relates to have resided, often in *Buittle-Castle*. With the sovereignty of Scotland, the family of John Baliol lost the lordship of Galloway. It fell at length, to John Comyn, grand-nephew to Baliol. Comyn was slain by Robert Bruce at Dumfries. His daughter and heiress, became the wife of Archibald, Lord Douglas, an adherent to Bruce; and with her the family of Douglas acquired the lordship of Galloway.

IN this family it remained, till the estates and honours of the Earl of Douglas were forfeited to the Crown, in consequence of his rebellion against King James II. This forfeiture took place in the year 1455*.

THE estates of the Douglasses in Galloway were soon granted by the munificence of the Scottish monarchs to other feudatories. The *Maxwells* of Nithsdale obtained great part of Kirkcudbright-shire. The

* For the most important of these facts, I confess myself indebted to a Learned Paper on the Ancient history of Galloway, by Mr Riddell of Glenriddell, the most eminent *Antiquarian* now in Galloway.

The *Stewarts* of Garlies became the most considerable proprietors of the lands in Wigton-shire. In the progress of civility, lands came to be transferred by sale. The *Gordons* of Kenmore, then acquired great part of the possessions of the *Maxwells*; and other considerable families arose in these parts.

EVEN during the time of the old lords of Galloway, other families beside them, would surely have possessions here. They had undoubtedly their feudatory dependents, who held lands from them, under certain conditions. Certain surnames still prevail here, which I suspect to have descended from the ancient inhabitants, the wild Scots of Galloway. Such are *M'Clurg*, *M'Lellan*, *M'Ghie*, *M'Kie*, *M'Dowall*, *M'Culloch*, *M'Taggart*,—perhaps *Murdoch*, and *Murchie*: *M'Turk* is probably Danish. Of the families of these names, some might possibly be cadets from the lords of Galloway: Others, from the first, distinct and dependent families. I should suppose the *Fergusons* of Galloway to have descended from the old Lords.—

THUS imperfect is the history of ancient Galloway. The view of its present state is more entertaining than the story of its progress.—The tract of country lying between the rivers *Urr* and *Dee*, which I entered, upon crossing the former of these rivers, is,

for the greater part, highly fertile, and well cultivated. The house of *Mollance*, the property of Mr Coupland of Collicton, is seen, before one has advanced far over the bridge. It stands in a level situation. It is considerably large, and in a good stile of building. With the surrounding grounds, which are laid out in a good taste, it contributes greatly to decorate and dignify the landscape within which it appears. The adjacent lands are, by the care chiefly of Mr Coupland, divided by a sufficient number of roads. The soil is here soft and deep. In forming these roads, therefore, it has been thought prudent to have them laid at first with common mould, without any considerable covering or mixture of gravel. After this stratum has been wrought together and consolidated, for some time, the puddles and chasms broken in it are filled up, and the whole laid with gravel. I am not sure, that this is the *very best* plan for forming useful and desirable roads. I found myself disposed to complain of it, when travelling on the roads which had been formed upon it; for they were broken into many an almost impassable chasm.

ADVANCING across the ridge which divides the Dee from the Urr, I found myself in a tract of country that presented every mark of rapid improvement. The fields are divided by stone-walls
of

of suitable height and strength. The farm-houses are decently built, and have their roofs commonly covered with slate. New farm-houses are rising here and there, in the style almost of handsome villas. The country is indeed bare of wood. The idea of lining the walls by which the fields are divided, with rows of trees, or of planting thorn hedges has not yet been generally adopted here. Yet, several clumps of rising wood are scattered over these knolls; And every considerable house is sheltered by plantations rising round it.

FROM the middle of this bridge, the traveller beholds a wide extent of beautiful landscape, stretching to the south and the south-west. On the foreground are the cultivated fields which form the lower part of the parish of Cross-michael; the house of Green-law, almost hid amidst the extent of wood, which spreads out around it, on all sides, except the front; the village of *Carlinwark*, (newly christened *Castle-Douglas*;) the *Carlinwark* loch, below; its environs, in a fine state of cultivation, thick-set with farm-houses; towards the southern extremity of the prospect, *Ingleston*, the seat of Mr Heron, and the woods embowering the house of *Gallston*; while mountains rise beyond, inclosing the landscape, towards the sea. Towards the south-west, the eye ranges over a wide and rich extent of landscape:

Q 2

The

The banks of the river, beautified, here and there, with wood : Several churches and gentlemen's seats : the ancient castle of *Thrieff* or *Thrieve* ; and hamlets and villages thickly scattered over the scene.

MUCH has been done, within these last twenty years, towards augmenting the population, and improving the cultivation of these parts. It was, I believe, by some gentlemen from Ireland, that the inhabitants of Galloway were first taught the use of marle, as a manure. Through all that tract along this coast, which lies within eight or ten miles of the sea-shore, has marle been found in considerable abundance, in the bogs and mosses, and at various depths. In these marle-mosses, are sometimes found *exuvia* of animals which no longer inhabit this island. I have seen the clint and horns of an *Aurochs* dug up from a marle-pit in this neighbourhood. But, of all the strata of marle which this country has hitherto been known to contain, the most remarkable is that of the CARLINWARK LOCH. This loch cannot be more than four miles in circumference. On its sides are tracts of morafs from which the neighbouring inhabitants procure their *peats*. Even through these, the marle has been found to extend partially. But, the whole, or almost the whole bed of the lake has been found one continuous stratum of marle, of considerable thickness. Within the period above-mentioned,

mentioned, or perhaps earlier, this marle has been dug or dragged up, and purchased as a manure, by all the neighbouring farmers. To the existence of this vast stratum of marle has agriculture been indebted for the wonderful progress which it has lately made in these parts. The late proprietor, Mr Gordon of Culvennan, desirous no less to improve the state of the country, than to increase his own income, formed a canal to connect the Carlinwark loch with the river Dee, that the farmers on the banks of the river, wherever it is navigable by boats, might obtain marle for the manuring of their lands, by water-carriage. The roads were, at the same time, improved through the neighbourhood, so as to render them more easily accessible to carts. Families of labourers were settled at the head of the loch, who might be employed in digging and dragging up the marle; And this whole tract soon came, by these means, to assume a new aspect, and to receive a great increase of population,

WITH the same prudence and public spirit which had directed him in turning the marle of the loch to his own advantage, and to the advantage of the country; Mr Gordon proceeded to form a village in the situation where labourers had been established to dig up the marle. He feued out a certain extent of ground into small portions, for houses and gardens,

dens, upon moderate terms. The neighbouring peasants were pleased with the idea of becoming *Lairds*. They crowded eagerly to obtain feus in the rising village. The proprietor had soon the pleasure of seeing his village occupied by a considerable number of labourers in husbandry, country artificers, petty shop-keepers, a few ale-house-keepers, and some old peasants who having saved some small sums, were willing to enjoy in their latter days, that ease and dignity, which, they fancied, were to be found in the village life, and in the possession of a *house and garden of their own*.

THIS village—of *Carlinwark* or *Castle-Douglas*, is situate upon the highway between Dumfries and *Portpatrick*. The number of its inhabitants was augmented, therefore, by incomers from Ireland; the Irish being, like the Scotch, strongly disposed to emigrate to any country richer than their own. It became the favourite haunt, too, of wandering beggars: and many houses of entertainment for this class of guests were soon opened in it. Being advantageously situate for intercourse with both the sea-coasts and the inland country; it soon became likewise a seat of smugglers. It seemed, for a while, to be rather the retreat of idleness, of want, and of vice, than a scene of cheerful, thriving, virtuous industry.

AMIDST

AMIDST these circumstances, one might have been led to fear, that the formation of this village would, in the end, prove more injurious than beneficial to the adjacent country. It appeared to be merely a gathering of the poor, the idle, and the vicious together, not to correct and amend their manners, or to improve their circumstances; but to foster their vices, to encourage their sloth, and to render their poverty still more helplessly miserable. A market where provisions might be disposed of, but where little money was to be received, was little beneficial to the neighbouring farmers. A village thus formed, seemed a focus from which the contagion of vice might be spread over all the neighbourhood.

BUT, only for a short while after its first establishment, had it these effects. Even then, the ground fenced out, afforded a much higher return to the landlord, than he could have drawn from it, by any other mode of management. It supplied him with abundance of labourers for the casting of his marle. The market of the village was, at least more or less convenient to the adjacent farmers. And they too found here a choice of labourers for hedging, draining, and ditching, for mowing, for threshing, and for harvest-work.—Besides, a number of labourers thus brought together, were a great engine

engine which might be employed to some purpose of the first importance in social life. Their poverty would rouse them from idleness: And Education, Religion, and Law might check their vices.

ACCORDINGLY, in its progress, this village now becomes every day more thriving and more respectable. Flax-dressers, weavers, tanners, faddlers, cotton-spinners, masons, and carpenters are now established here. Of these artizans, some serve the country by supplying it with articles of home-manufacture, which were, before, to be imported from distant parts; others produce new articles of export, by which this neighbourhood gains in its traffic with other places. To maintain order, here, the village was some time since, erected into a burgh of barony, and placed under the government of magistrates, elected by the feuars. A court-house has been built, to give form and dignity to their meetings. And a prison reared, to awe offenders. A school for the instruction of the young had been provided, before it was thought necessary to provide restraints for those who were grown up. Many of these citizens having acquired some share of property, have thus become so respectable among their neighbours, as to have authority for the preservation of decency and order.—By all these means has this village rapidly risen to a thriving condition, and

and contributed, in no inconsiderable degree, to the improvement of its immediate environs. It has lately—the superiorities and the adjoining grounds—passed into the hands of a new proprietor, Mr Douglas of Castle-Douglas. By his care, the name of *Carlin-wark* has given place to Castle-Douglas, by which it is henceforth to be distinguished. It seems probable, that his connections in trade and manufacture, his disposition to promote the improvement of a place, in the advancement of which, the interests of his own fortune are concerned, and a generous desire to distinguish himself as the benefactor of the country—may induce him to follow out the views of the late Superior of the Burgh, with sufficient judgment, liberality, and spirit.

ANOTHER village has also risen, at the distance of three miles westward from *Castle-Douglas*. The name of this village is *Ronehouse*. It owes its origin to a great market or fair, which has long been held annually, in the beginning of July, in its near neighbourhood. This fair is well known among horse and cattle-dealers by the name of *Keltonbill* fair. It has long been one of the most considerable that are held in this part of Scotland. From Ireland, from England, and from the most distant parts of North Britain, horse-dealers, cattle-dealers, sellers of sweetmeats, and of spiritous liquors, gyp-

fies, pick-pockets, and smugglers are accustomed to resort to this fair. Every house in the village is crowded; And all become, upon this occasion, houses of entertainment. The roads are for a day or two before, crowded with comers to this fair. On the hill or park where it is held, tents are erected in rows, so as to form a sort of street for the entertainment of the multitude. Through the whole fair-day, one busy, tumultuous scene is here exhibited of bustling backwards and forwards, bargaining, wooing, carousing, quarrelling, amidst horses, cattle, carriages, mountebanks, the stalls of chapmen, and the tents of the sellers of liquors, and of cold victuals. The fair is held on Tuesday: and for all the remainder of the week, the villagers are accustomed to wander about, and eat and carouse in each other's houses, to consume the cold victuals and the liquors which remain of what they had provided for the sale of the fair.—Nor is this fair frequented only by the peasantry and the dealers. The busy scene attracts commonly many of the neighbouring gentry to be spectators, for some short time, of the confusion, the tumult, and the rude festivity which it displays.

BUT, since agriculture has begun to be advanced in this neighbourhood, and since the landholders have adopted the principle of granting feus, and of subdividing

subdividing their lands into small possessions of a few acres each; the village of Ronehouse has advanced more from these causes, than by the influence of its annual fair. It is now the seat not only of alehouse-keepers, but of labourers who find employment among the neighbouring farmers, of mechanics who are in the same manner employed by the neighbourhood, of some peddling shop-keepers, and even of one or two small manufacturers.—Another village, considerably populous, stands at two miles distance, from Ronehouse, at the Bridge of Dee.—The situation of all these three villages, upon the highway between Dumfries and Portpatrick brings a good many emigrants from Ireland to settle in them.

ALL this tract of country is indeed wonderfully populous. It is a fine proof of the tendency of agriculture to bring wealth and population to those seats where it fixes. The influx of labourers from Ireland keeps the price of labour low. The vicinity of the sea-coast affords the farmers sufficient convenience for the exportation of their grain. The highway leading into England gives them considerable advantages for the sale and exportation of their cattle. Hence a rapid increase of wealth and population. Every circumstance seems to concur to point out this, as a scene formed to become the seat of

R 2

thriving

thriving manufactures. Coals alone are wanting. But, these are readily procured from the opposite coast of Cumberland.

YET this district has been perhaps more enriched, than beautified by its agriculture. A rotation of crops has not yet been generally adopted by these farmers. They lay lime or marle upon their fields; and then sow one seed of oats after another, till the soil and the manure are for the time, exhausted. No fence but the dry stone dyke is known among them. No surface would be more easily, or more delightfully ornamented with wood than the slowly subsiding vales, and the softly swelling heights of these lands. But, they are almost universally bare. No clumps crown the eminences: No belts divide the fields; hardly has the farmer's or the cottager's kitchen-garden, a few trees to shelter it and his house.

IN this neighbourhood, in an isle formed by the Dee, which divides into two streams, that encircle this isle, and then re-unite, stands the ancient castle of THRIEFF or THRIEVE. Its ruins,---for it is now ruinous,---occupy a considerable extent of ground. The origin of its name is unknown. A more ancient castle than this, is known by authentic records, to have formerly stood in the same situation.

If
"

If I might risk a conjecture, I should refer the foundation of that more ancient edifice to the times, when the sway of the *Bernician* or *Northumbrian* monarchs extended over these parts of Galloway. This might be the residence of the RIEVE, or governor, under the *Bernician* king, and might, from this circumstance, receive the denomination of *the Rieve's castle*. This seems, at least, the most plausible of the conjectures which have been offered, to account for the origin of this name. From the earliest periods in the Scottish history of Galloway, this castle appears to have been occupied. It seems to have been a strong-hold of the old Lords of Galloway, or of some of their more considerable dependents. By succession, it came from them into the hands of the Douglasses. Some of these last is supposed to have reared the present castle. Upon the forfeiture of their possessions, in 1745, the castle of *Thrieve* fell to the Crown. It was granted to the Maxwells of Nithsdale, as hereditary keepers. In the troubles of the last century, it was bravely defended for a while, by the Lord Maxwell, for his royal master. In times of turbulence when this castle afforded a protection to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, against rapine and invasion, it had been settled, that, I think, more than twenty of the neighbouring parishes should pay annually, at Martinmas, a beef-cow or ox to the Constable, Governor,

vernor, or Keeper of the Castle. This tribute continued to be paid, even since the beginning of the present century. When the family of Nithsdale sold the adjoining part of the estate of Kelton, they reserved the castle on this account.—The castle and the isle are now possessed, by what right I know not, by the proprietor of the estate of Kelton.

SINCE the castle became less eligible for a dwelling, a house has been built, at some small distance upon the southern bank of the river. This is the house of Kelton. The parish in which it stands, bears the same name; as does also the adjoining estate. Contiguous to *Thrieve-castle*, upon the north-west, is the farm of *Thricve Grange*; which, from the name, I should conjecture to have been anciently attached to the castle. At some distance farther to the north-west, is the house of *Balmagbie*, bearing the name, too, of an estate and a parish, the ancient possessions of the M'GHIES, one of the most ancient families in Galloway. The estate has now passed into the hands of a Mr Gordon of London.

SUCH is the country which opens to the traveller's view, as he advances to the north-west, over the ridge, by which the river *Urr* is divided from the *Dee*.—Near the kirk of *Crossmichael*, at a place called *Crofts*, is a beautiful monument of ancient times;

times; the summit of a hill of moderate height, commanding the river, and its banks immediately below,—formed into an oval camp. This is, no doubt, a monument of the Saxons. It unavoidably attracts the notice of the traveller, as the road passes near. I have not learned, that the traditions of the country have preserved any part of its history.

THE road now leads down upon the bank of the river, to a scene which has been lately improved by considerable decorations. These lands having, within these few years been purchased by *Mr Sloan-Laurie* of *Woodhall*; he has built for himself an handsome house, on the bank; has made preparations to lay out and decorate the surrounding grounds in a good taste; and has scattered about, a good many farm-houses of a very neat comfortable aspect. The clergyman of the parish's little domain lies in the immediate neighbourhood; and his attention and taste have also contributed to the improvement of this landscape.—The church of *Crossmichael* stands near. A small village is rising round it. The houses are intermingled among the little gardens of the villagers; and trees of a good growth rise among these; the whole has a very pleasing effect. The hill above displays, near its summit, the house of *Culgurff*, with some clumps of trees around it. On the opposite side of the river are the kirk of *Balmaghie*,
with

with the manse, a decent farm-house or two, and at some short distance, above, the house of *Livingstone*.—These are delicious scenes; sequestered, yet cheerful and animated; cultivated, yet not divested of the simple graces of nature; wanting only somewhat more of careful decoration, and of skilful agriculture, to render them the most beautiful that fancy can conceive. The prospect is indeed bounded by heaths and hills; but the effect of these is sufficiently softened by the beauties of the foreground.

THE church of Crossmichael was a place of worship in the remoter times of the history of Popery. This parish was, I think, a dependency of the Abbey of *Sweetheart*, or New Abbey, already mentioned. Here stood anciently a cross sacred to St Michael; around which the peasantry of the neighbouring country were wont to assemble, at Michaelmas, to a fair. The fair is still held. The cross has been removed. I believe, that while there were fewer roads, carriers, country-shopkeepers, and less ordinary intercourse among the inhabitants of these parts, than at present,—this fair used to be better frequented than it now is.

GREAT attention has lately been paid to the roads, in these parts. The road up the bank of the Dee, and afterwards of the Kerr, opening a communication

tion with the inland part of Kircudbright-shire, and with Ayrshire has been carefully improved. They are now busy repairing it, and correcting its direction. For some miles above Cross-michael-Kirk, it is still good. It leads still through pleasing scenery, along the bank of the river.

PARTON-HOUSE, the seat of Mr Glendonwyn of Parton, is finely situate on an eminence hanging over the level bank of the river, and sheltered by wood. A level tract here extends along the river-side. This, however, is of no considerable breadth. The ground soon rises, for a very narrow extent, with a gentle ascent; and then starts up somewhat abruptly to form a ridge above. The shelving of the hill is here fringed partly with a furze and wild shrubbery, and partly overhung with taller trees. The road leads among these; yet still to leave the river and its opposite bank within view. The effect is charming. And on this shelving side is Mr Glendonwyn's house seated, so as to command a prospect of great part of the fine scenery which adorns the progress of the river.

THE proprietor of this house and of the adjoining estate of Parton, is the representative of a very ancient and honourable family, whose possessions were once much more extensive, than they have

VOL. II.

S

lately

lately been. In the more southern provinces of Scotland, the family of Glendonwyn have, from a very early period after the Norman conquest, enjoyed extensive possessions. In this district of Kirkcudbright-shire, and in the contiguous side of Dumfries-shire, their lands were very considerable. Sufferings for their loyalty in the last century, and various circumstances have, in the progress of time concurred to impair their possessions. By the present proprietor, the fortunes of this family have been augmented. A circumstance, which the esteem in which he and his ancestors have always been held, renders very pleasing to all who know him.

AT *Parton*, the prospect becomes more bleak, and exhibits less verdure or cultivation, yet is still beautiful. Upon the banks of the river are tracts of meadow sometimes wider, sometimes narrower. Corn-lands intervene between those and the hills. Wood is scattered irregularly upon the rising slope of the hills, upon the brink of the river, round the cottages, and the farm-houses. The church and the manse of *Parton*, situate, one upon the bank of the river, the other, at an inconsiderable distance, near the base of a wooded hill. Near the church is a *moat*, planted around, and upon the sides, up to its summit with trees. All these objects produce a pleasing effect on a summer night, when the beams of the

the setting sun are softly reflected from the waters: While the cattle on the adjoining pastures, and the peasants busy at their labours or returning from them, join to animate the scene. The crops on these banks are the earliest ripe in all the country. The river abounds with a great variety of fishes; trouts, pikes, perches. Salmon enter it at Kirkcudbright-shire, and advance many miles above this situation, towards its source.

A MILE or two above Parton is the junction of the rivers Dee and Kerr. The promontory formed between them, has received the name of Airds. The estate of Airds formerly the property of a respectable branch of the family of M'Ghie, has been purchased within these few years, by a M. Livingston. It is covered over with wood, for some length. The bare rock shews itself, here and there, through the wood. The effect of the whole, rising between the meeting rivers, is sufficiently picturesque. From the height, the eye commands a wide and rich prospect of the lower environs of the Dee.

NEARLY opposite to Airds appear the ruins of the old house or castle of Drumrask, and near it, an humble house covered with thatch, which is occupied by the present proprietor. Drumrask was, at one time, the property of a branch of the family of

S 2

Glendonwyn,

Glendonwyn,—at another of a cadet of the family of Gordon of Kenmure. It now belongs to a Mr Shaw. A rising wood of oaks divides it from the river on one side. The extent of meadow and of corn-land becomes here narrower. On one side rise towering rocks: and a bleak muir spreads out, on the other.

THE fossils of these parts are not greatly diversified. The loftier strata of rocks consist commonly of blue whin, or grey granite. Extensive morasses of peat-earth; and wide beds of the same in a drier state, are, every where to be found. These indeed afford almost the only fuel which is used by all classes of the inhabitants of these parts. No pit-coal is found here. The country is not sufficiently opened up by roads—to render the importation of coals from the sea-coast, or from the coal-beds of Ayrshire easy. It is but little wood that these parts afford; and that little is too precious to be used for fuel. But peats are in great abundance, and cost very little more than the labour of cutting, of drying, and of carrying them home. Trunks of trees are still found in these mosses in a state of good preservation. Here as elsewhere, the beds of peat earth have been chiefly formed by the decay of the forests.

PROCEEDING

PROCEEDING a short way onwards, by a road, which becomes more indifferent as you advance, the fine lake of Kerr opens upon the eye. Immediately beyond this lake, rise a range of hills which terminate abruptly towards the south-east, in a rock more elevated than the rest, known by the name---half-Gaelic---half---Saxon,---of *Benin-hill*. These hills advance, on their front, almost close to the edge of the lake, before they terminate: Leaving room only for a road, known by the name of *Lowron* road—possibly from the person who was first employed to form it. The lake may be nearly four miles in length, and where widest, from one to two miles in breadth. It is formed by the stagnation of the waters of the river Kerr. Some islets, covered, or in part covered with wood, are scattered over it. Its shores are here and there fringed with wood. At its head appear Kenmure-Castle in a most picturesque situation; the small burgh of New-Galloway; with a wood of stately elms, beeches, and pines filling up the space between. Above where the Kerr diffuses itself into this lake, a level tract of fine meadow and of fertile arable ground,—the holm of Kenmure,—extends between the edge of the river, and the town, the wood, and the castle on the western-side. The side on which the traveller approaches, as this landscape appears, is cultivated,—towards the lake. Close upon the eastern edge, and embowered in wood,

OF

or sheltered at least with wood, stands the House of Shermours, which with the estate connected with it, is the property of Mr Spalding-Gordon of *Holm*, and presently Sherriff of Wigtonshire. The house of Shermours was several years ago reduced to a ruinous condition by fire. It is finely seated, at no great distance from the edge of the lake.

UPON the loch and the river-side, these lands are still arable. The farm of *Park-Robin* produces no inconsiderable crop, beside feeding a good number of black-cattle, and a quantity of sheep. The agriculture of these parts has been improved within these last ten or twelve years, by the use of those manures, which have been so successfully employed in the more southern parts of Kirkcudbright-shire. Marle has been brought from the loch of Carlinwark, in boats, by the canal communicating between that loch and the Dee, and up the river---from where the canal joins it. Lime has also been brought hither in carts from the *Dubb of Hafs*, near the mouth of *Urr*, and from the foot of *Tarff* a smaller river which running in a more western direction, joins the Dee near Kirkcudbright:—Both these being stations where lime-sloops discharge their burthens. No rotation of crops serving to keep the ground productive, without exhausting its fertility
has

has been adopted here, any more than upon the sea-shore, and in the lower parts of Kirkcudbright-shire.

THE breed of sheep in these parts, is reckoned to afford the best flavoured mutton that Scotland yields. The black-cattle are very generally valued. Yet, I would not venture to assert very earnestly, that the farmers of the Glenkens excell greatly in the management of either sheep or black-cattle.—*Glenkens* is the name appropriated to all this district divided by the river *Kerr*.

GALLOWAY, and this, among the other parts of Galloway, was anciently famous for a small breed of horses, very little larger than the horses of the Highlands and of Shetland, known commonly by the name of Shelties. That race are no longer preserved unmixed here. Nor does the breeding of horses enter so much as it once did, into the œconomy of the farmers in these parts. Irish horses are often imported into Galloway.

IN the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, the Scots carried on a considerable trade in horses, which they bred and exported to foreign countries. They carried horses both of a great, and of a small size, into England for sale. An Act of David Bruce's imposes a duty of the sixth part of the value, on the
exportation

exportation of every horse out of the kingdom ; a proof that horses were exported ; and that this prince had some reason for wishing to restrain the trade. James I. established regulations favourable to the exportation of horses. The breed common at that time, in Scotland, was the small sized, whose race has been continued in the Galloways and the Shelties. In the reign of James II. larger stallions and mares were imported from Hungary. James IV. had swift horses, on one of which, by Lesley's account, he rode 150 miles, between Stirling and Elgin, by Perth and Aberdeen, in a day. James V. made several regulations for improving the breed of horses in general, throughout Scotland. Still, however, the breed continued small. Nor was it, till after it had been frequently crossed, that the ancient small breed came to be confined to Galloway and the distant Highlands. In the Highlands as in Galloway, this breed are daily more and more neglected. Yet as they possess all the good qualities of mules without their vicious defects, I should be sorry to see them entirely exterminated.—It was perhaps, when horses of the small size were more generally and more carefully tried in Galloway, than at present, that Kelton-hill fair became famous as a horse-market.

CROSSING

CROSSING Ken by a boat, called the boat of *Cubbocks*, we now entered the burgh of New Galloway.

NEW GALLOWAY and the GLENKENS.

ALTHOUGH agriculture have attained to no great height of improvement in the upper part of this tract of country which is watered by the Ken and the Dec;—Although it be rather the rearing than the feeding of sheep and black cattle,—the least lucrative branch in the management of domestic animals—which is chiefly pursued by the farmers of these parts;—Although no manufacture have yet been tried here, with success, or prosecuted with spirit: Yet, is the population of this district far from inconsiderable; and its inhabitants certainly enjoy a competent share of the first necessaries, and the conveniencies of life.

THE farms are commonly of moderate extent. Several families are often established upon one farm. A sort of village is commonly formed round or near every parish church. A few other hamlets of labourers, artizans, and shop-keepers are scattered through every parish. And, here and there are small towns or villages of greater magnitude.

THE Burgh of New Galloway was erected into a Royal Burgh, by Charles I. about the year 1633. No houses had been built, and no assemblage of population gathered hither, before that period. When Charles, in a visit to Scotland, dealt out among his principal Scottish subjects, such honours and bounties as he had to bestow; Sir John Gordon of Lochinvar obtained a peerage, with the title of Viscount of Kenmure, and the creation of this Royal Burgh upon his estate.

SITUATE in the vicinity of Kenmure-Castle, in a situation, one of the most delightful that fancy can conceive to exist in a wild country; favoured by its lords; and enjoying burgh-privileges; New Galloway seems to have soon attracted a few inhabitants. Its present population may be between four and five hundred souls. And, as the extent of the burgh has not, for a very long while, been increased; it seems probable, that its population might, in a short time after it was first founded, rise to nearly its present amount.

THE inhabitants are mechanics, labourers in husbandry, a few alehouse-keepers, two or three shop-keepers.—It consists of two small streets, crossing each other at right angles. It rises at the foot of an irregular ridge of ground. The houses are
low,

low, ill-built, thatched with straw, and very imperfectly repaired within. A fashioned window was lately a curiosity not to be seen here. One of the streets making a part of the highway between *Kirkcudbright* and *Dalmellington*, on the confines of *Ayr-shire*, is decently paved, and kept tolerably clean. The other is not usually preserved in so good a condition. But, a few slate-houses, rising to the height of two stories, or a story and a half, are interspersed among the lower and thatch-covered houses: The little gardens of the citizens lie close behind their houses, above and below the town: They are divided by hedges; and trees rise around, or here and there among them: The spire of the court-house is a distinguished object in the groupe: And when the smoke rises from the little chimnies; and the whole is viewed either from an elevation above, or from below; no assemblage of objects can be conceived, more pleasing to the eye, and the imagination.

Most of the inhabitants of this little burgh possess, beside their houses and gardens, small *crofts*, on which a cow or two are fed, and a few bolls of potatoes and corn raised,—and a small spot of meadow upon the river, which affords winter-fodder for their cattle. Thus, if they prepare nothing which they can export to distant places; they are

T 2

supplied

supplied, at home, with a great share of those few articles of necessity or convenience which they require.

BESIDE the inhabitants of the town, a good many families of cottagers are scattered over the adjoining *Mains of Kenmure*.

THIS little burgh is of considerable utility to the adjoining country. It has a weekly market to which meal is brought from the low country, and to which the farmers, but more especially the cottagers from the remoter muirs repair to supply themselves. It has a post-office, by which it serves as a point of correspondence between the adjacent district and the other parts of the island. It has a mill to which the little crops of the neighbourhood are brought to be made into meal.—I have sometimes thought, that if a miller with some small capital, and at the same time, a turn for trade, were established here, he might carry on a lucrative trade in grain between the upper and the lower country: He might purchase corn from the farmers in the Low Country, make it into meal, and supply the inhabitants on the pasture-grounds in his neighbourhood.—The shop-keepers of this town, with the aid of the travelling chapmen, supply all the neighbourhood with most of those foreign articles which they require in

their

their simple modes of life. Here is a school, too, which, like the other parish-schools in Scotland, contributes happily to the preservation and the diffusion of useful knowledge among the poor.—Unfortunately, the roads which pass, this way, have never been very carefully repaired, or greatly frequented: And here is no good inn for the reception of strangers; although travellers who can content themselves with a narrow room, without great variety of provisions or of liquors, will here find the most obliging treatment, and enough of plain fare.—

THE houses in the town, with the whole circumjacent grounds, are the property of Mr Gordon of Kenmure. The town might have been enlarged ere now, if the landlord had adopted the policy of granting feus. But, in the idea, I suppose, that unless where there are thriving establishments of trade or lucrative labour, the practice of feuing serves only to collect together a horde of the poor and the dissolute; the lords of New Galloway have hitherto granted very few feus,

THE inhabitants of *Glenkens* are as much distinguished by uncorrupted manners and liberal good sense, as those of any other district of Scotland which I have ever had occasion to visit. This one would attribute, in a good measure, to the superior proportion

portion which those who are esteemed gentry, and those who have received a liberal education, here bear in numbers, to the poor and the uneducated.—It is observable, too, that of all that part of mankind who earn their maintenance by their labour, country-mechanics and labourers in husbandry are usually the most intelligent. Their intelligence is not diminished by their being intermixed among shepherds. Now this is precisely the description of the people of these parts.—Besides, the inhabitants of Kirkcudbright-shire in general, have never been remarkable for religious prejudices of any kind: Otherwise, although the purity of their manners had not been corrupted, yet might their tempers have been soured by the vitiating leaven of enthusiasm.

THE beauties of *LOCH KEN* and its environs appear to have been partially distinguished by the great of the country from the earliest times. Kenmure-Castle, situate in the happiest site that can be imagined for the seat either of a Martial Chieftain, in a rude, or a man of taste and fortune, in a polished age, seems to have been a strong-hold in the days of the ancient Lords of Galloway. John Baliol who succeeded to a great part of the estate of those ancient lords, is said to have often resided at Kenmure. Resigning to the English monarch; all
his

his possessions in Scotland, he had neglected to reserve his patrimonial estates of Buittle, Kirkandres, and Kenmure in Galloway. These, Edward, by a particular deed, restored to him. Kenmure came at length into the possession of the Douglases. Upon their forfeiture, it was granted by the Crown, to the Maxwells of Caerlaverock. From this family it was purchased by Sir John Gordon of Lochinvar, in the end of the fourteenth, or at least, in the fifteenth century. To his posterity, the estate of Kenmure has ever since belonged.

THE family of Gordon of Kenmure are among the most ancient and honourable in Scotland. The Gordons of Scotland and England are originally from Normandy. In their first settlement in Scotland, they obtained estates in Berwickshire. In Berwickshire, there is still a parish distinguished by the name of Gordon. This family were, at length subdivided into two great branches; both of whom acquired new possessions in different parts of Scotland. One received from the Crown a grant of lands in the North, and founded the family of the present Duke of Gordon: the other acquired the lands of Lochinvar in Galloway, and were the ancestors of the Gordons of Kenmure, and of the other distinguished families of this name, in the south-west of Scotland. The family of Gordon of
Lochinvar,

Lochinvar, in process of time, acquired, by grant, by purchase, or by marriage, the greater part of the lands in Kirkcudbrightshire. They removed from Lochinvar, their first seat in these parts, to Kenmure. They were distinguished by the confidence of their sovereigns, and by their loyalty. Sir John Gordon of Lochinvar was one of the faithful adherents to the unfortunate Queen Mary. His son or successor was one of the most distinguished Scotchmen in the court of James VI. It was in regard, no doubt to their fidelity to his ancestors, no less, than to their great possessions and influence in this country, that Charles I. bestowed the title of Viscount, and the privileges of the peerage on the representative of this family, who was his contemporary.—The Gordons were related by marriage, to the family of Gowrie. And it is said that the Viscount of Kenmure wishing to claim the honours and estates which had been forfeited from that family, had sold the barony of Stichel in Berwickshire, which had been long the property of his family, and presented the purchase-money to Buckingham, to buy his interest with the king, on the night before that unfortunate minister was murdered at Portsmouth.—However this might be: The family of Kenmure were, through the subsequent part of the last century, friends to the people and steady professors of the Presbyterian religion; yet at the same time loyal subjects to their sovereigns.

sovereigns. Upon the succession of the family of Hanover to the British Throne, an attachment too faithful, to the male line of the princes by whom his ancestors had been trusted and honoured, carried the Viscount of Kenmure to join the friends of the Pretender in the year 1715. His life was lost, and his peerage forfeited in that cause. His descendants inheriting his estate, have since endeavoured by serving in the army to make amends for their ancestor's mistake. The Honourable John Gordon, the present representative of this ancient family, who resides at Kenmure-Castle, is distinguished no less by his attention to promote the prosperity of the country, and the interests of his tenants, than by his descent from a line of ancestors to whom Galloway and their country in general have so many obligations.

THE house of Kenmure stands upon an insulated mount, which, before observing the rock, of which it is, on one side, composed, the spectator might be apt to suppose artificial. Here are several buildings of different ages; all of them considerably ancient. Within are spacious and elegant rooms, handsomely furnished. The library contains a fine collection of the best writers in different languages. The paintings do honour to the taste of the collectors. Among others, here is one of the few genuine portraits of Queen Mary; who, in her misfortunes,

was greatly indebted to the loyal attachment of one of the ancestors of this family.

THE clanship of the North has long been forgotten here. Yet, the dependents of the family of Kenmure are still attached to its representative, with much of that affection and respect with which the tribes of the Highlands have, till lately, been accustomed to adhere to their lord. Many respectable families of the name of Gordon are established in Kirkcudbright-shire: And most of these are proud to trace their descent from the family of Kenmure. Several of the tenants on the estate occupy the very farms which were possessed by their fathers and grand-fathers. Of the inhabitants of the burgh, some have lived either in it, or in its neighbourhood, almost ever since it was erected. And, those who so long enjoy the protection of a race of benefactors, insensibly form habits of respect and attachment, which no change of manners or of circumstances can readily efface.

ONE institution which does high honour to the good sense and the benevolence of Mr Gordon of Kenmure, is a FARMER CLUB, at which he himself occasionally attends, and presides. In situations less shut up from the intercourse of the world, meetings of this nature are less necessary; for the necessary
intercourse

intercourse of business affords those who are placed in such situations, opportunities enough of comparing and examining their respective habits, practices, and opinions, and of receiving information of what passes in the more distant parts of the world. Yet, even there, advantages are derived to society from such associations. But, in a district, like this, remote from the busy scenes of commerce and industry, unless precautions be used to oppose the influence of local circumstances; customs, manners, and opinions descend unvaried and unimproved, from generation to generation: The son imitates his father, and has no ideas of perfection not exemplified in his practice: Opinions are hardly ever matched against each other with any thing of that collision which is necessary to try their respective tempers. Hence that retrogression of improvement in the arts, and in the modes of life which often takes place in such situations. Now, every means that may tend to obviate these disadvantages must plainly be highly beneficial to those places which are exposed to them. In this respect, do I suppose, that the GLENKENS may be benefited by the FARMER CLUB of New-Galloway. The farmers meeting together monthly, converse about their stocks, their crops, the markets, the seasons: Any thing peculiar in any one man's mode of management, if he find it beneficial or think it plausible, is, with an honest pride

U 2

communicated

communicated, for the approbation and the imitation of his neighbours: If it be ridiculous, or disadvantageous, it will not fail to be eagerly noticed by those who think it foolish to desert the old and beaten track: Every farmer, too, attending such a meeting, will naturally strive to do himself credit by communicating whatever he may have learned at distant fairs or markets, or may have observed in his excursions to these, concerning the improvements in husbandry that are elsewhere pursued. Thus a body of useful information is brought into the common stock. Those prejudices for old practices are dissipated, which restrained the progress of improvement. Useful experiments are suggested. And a whole neighbourhood learn to countenance each other in trials, which no one durst singly to have ventured upon.

THE Farmer-Club at New-Galloway being but newly formed: I know not that they have taken any measures to register their mutual communications,—to make experiments at the common expence,—or to give form, dignity, and permanency to their institution. Without such, it might be transient, or might produce no other advantages than those of a common convivial club. I am therefore willing to hope, that the same liberal intelligence which suggested its institution, must certainly discern

cern the propriety of using every means to render it as useful to the country, as its nature will permit.

WITH the institution of this Club, markets for cattle have begun to be held at New-Galloway. These markets are so arranged, that from New-Galloway, the dealers in cattle can proceed to Rone-house, or to Gate-house of fleet, and from these to Dumfries, to continue the sale or purchase of cattle.

THIS might be an advantageous situation for establishments of several species of manufacture. Here is abundance of various sorts of provisions. Those other articles of provision, fish and grain which are not in the greatest plenty here, are easily procured from the Low Country and the sea-coast. Abundance of peats may be obtained at a very moderate price,—if these people had only industry enough to make a good cart road to their peat-mosses. And, when a good road shall be formed between this part of Galloway and Ayr-shire, coals may be had, very cheap, from that country: Or if a canal were drawn between the loch of Ken and the mouth of any of the rivers, Urr, Dee, or Tarff, the coals of Cumberland might be imported at a reasonable enough rate. With these advantages, any manufacture for which the raw materials might be

be readily obtained, and its productions readily brought to market, might certainly succeed here.

YET some circumstances lead me to fear that no very flourishing manufacture will, for a long while yet to come, be established at New-Galloway; unless perhaps it may be by the wealth and enterprising spirit of strangers from the present seats of manufacture. The native inhabitants of this place having been accustomed to ideas of labour and of gain very different from the principles and the œconomy of manufacturing trade, cannot easily divest themselves of prejudice, and attempt manufactures with sufficient steadiness of resolution or coolness of hope. Whenever they are induced to try any thing like manufacture; they begin with the extravagant hope, that it is *instantly* to enrich them with the most enormous profits; without considering, that any extraordinary industry or attention is necessary to the success of their hopes. They never reflect that no *new attempt of this nature can be highly profitable in its very commencement*: They make no allowance for their own indolence, extravagance, or inexperience: Every disappointment is charged to the particular nature of that species of manufacture which has been attempted. They relinquish it with despondency and disgust; and again sit down satisfied with their former poverty, and with that piddling traffic and loitering

loitering labour to which they have been accustomed.—A tannery, a species of manufacture sufficiently suitable to the circumstances of the country has been repeatedly tried here. The first attempt although opposed hardly by any disadvantage, but the want of a great capital to begin with, and the above-mentioned circumstances in the character of the people, was listlessly pursued from the first, and, by insensible degrees, fell away to nothing. The first ardour with which the second attempt in this branch of business was made,—very soon cooled. The first partners in the concern have shewn an earnestness to transfer their stock to others—Yet, abundance of hides are to be obtained in Galloway. What more may be wanted, are easily imported from Ireland. Bark is to be procured by the purchase of young oak wood, which, though greatly weeded away, is however, as plentiful here, even now, as in most other parts of Scotland. Leather is not one of those articles which are the most troublesome or expensive in the carriage. Such leather as has been manufactured here, has been readily sold, as well in the country, as at any of the next large towns, at which it was offered for sale: Nay, it might have been exported to England and other places by the way of Kirkcudbright, with sufficient advantage: Or, a connected manufacture of boots and shoes, of saddles, of gloves might have been formed here;

here; and these exported with great profit to all directly concerned, and to the neighbourhood in general.

A MANUFACTURE of coarse woollens has been lately proposed here. It is warmly encouraged by Mr Gordon. An attempt has been made to raise by subscription, a stock consisting of a certain number of shares. The subscription is likely to be filled up. Considerable difficulties must be surmounted, before this manufacture can be established. The manufacture of woollen cloths is subdivided into many separate branches: Suitable wool is first to be obtained: The washing, picking, and sorting of this wool, form alone, a very complex labour: Although the carding and spinning of it should be performed by mill-machinery; yet still very considerable pains and expence are requisite to the performance of these operations, however abridged: Next comes the weaving, not the most operose part of the business; Then, the dressing and dyeing, by far the nicest and most difficult of the processes in the preparation of cloth.

BUT, here is abundance of wool; which having been long too much neglected by the farmers, is not indeed of the very best quality. Provisions are cheap, and the price of labour low. Coarse woollens

lens would find a very ready market. In the days of James VI. when the wool of Galloway was more famous than at present, for its fineness, Dumfries possessed a flourishing woollen manufacture. Since that establishment no longer exists, why may it not be replaced by a woollen manufactory at New Galloway?

I MUST, however, confess, that when I consider what an immense and increasing manufacture of woollens exists in England; that a manufacture of coarse woollen cloths has been long established in the neighbouring shire of Ayr; that a manufacture of carpets has already been successfully commenced at Newton-Douglas upon the river Cree; that the processes of this manufacture are complex, requiring great expence, skill, and persevering industry:---The consideration of all these circumstances leads me to fear, that this attempt to establish a woollen manufacture at New Galloway, laudable as it is, may possibly misgive. It is to be hoped that the undertakers will attempt none but those coarse woollen stuffs which have been most neglected in other places. I could even wish, that they would, for a while, content themselves with making yarn, which they might dispose of, to the woollen manufacturers of York-shire;---or, if they *will* make cloth, would sell it raw and undressed to the same manufacturers

of York-shire. Perhaps indeed, they might, with sufficient advantage, finish for the market, coarse carpeting and flannels. The *Irish*, too, who come over into Galloway and eagerly truck their linen for old woollen clothes,---would still more readily accept in exchange, *coarse new cloth*.

A SMALL manufacture of coarse hats might be profitably enough tried at New Galloway. Here is wool, coarse indeed for the most part, yet containing portions in almost every fleece, which, if carefully selected, might prove excellent materials for the hatter. Here are also in considerable quantity, skins of hares, fulmarts, otters. A considerable part of that money which is received for their sheep and black cattle is, every year, paid away for hats. This might very well be kept at home, if a hatter or two were established here; and a good sum might be even brought into the country, by the exportation of hats.

THE manufacture of linens might succeed here, should it not be thought wiser to encourage the importation of Irish linens, in exchange for the productions of a woollen manufacture more suitable to the circumstances of the country. Even at present, linen made in the country can be sold, so as to be
to

to the buyer a better penny-worth than any Irish linen, and yet sufficiently productive to the seller.

BUT, the cotton-manufacture is the favourite object, at present with all the inhabitants of these parts. It has been, within these few years, introduced into the lower part of Galloway, by a company from England. It has afforded employment to many hands, and very large profits to the proprietors and managers. Beholding these circumstances, the native inhabitants of the country have been roused from their natural indolence, and have been induced to turn to the cotton manufacture with incredible alacrity. Let them persist. But, let them not neglect for it, manufactures more suitable to the circumstances of their country, and therefore more likely to prove permanent, if once fairly established among them. It may perhaps be tried at New Galloway. But, I had rather see any of the other manufactures, above specified, thrive there.

I SHOULD suppose, that if manufactures shall be established at New Galloway, if the opulence of this little place shall increase, if the numbers of its inhabitants shall be considerably augmented; the respectable and enlightened lord of the manor, instead of granting feus, may prefer the plan of building hou-

ses to accommodate the new inhabitants, or at least of making the houses which may be built upon other conditions, reverfible to himfelf, or his heirs, after a term of a certain number of years, or upon the death of the builder. Thus may the increafe of population be encouraged, without introducing turbulence or licentioufnefs. Who knows but, that, in the courfe of time, the cottages fcattered over the mains of Kenmure may be converted into fo many villas occupied by the merchants and manufacturers of New Galloway,—and the crofts connected with them, into little ornamented domains?

THIS event would be greatly hafened, if a Canal which was, fome time fince, propofed by the good fenfe and public fpirit of Mr Gordon of Greenlaw, the Sheriff of the County, fhould be drawn to open up a paffage to veffels from the mouth of the Urr, the Dee, or the Tarff, to the loch of Ken. This loch would be a fine bafon for the reception of fuch veffels. The tract propofed for the canal has been examined, and an eftimate of the neceffary expence made out. The work would not be arduous; nor the expence greater than what the landholders, farmers, and merchants interefted might eafily raife. But, thefe people are unaccuftomed, as yet, to any great effort of this nature. They dread engaging in any great moneyed concern, after the fate of the
Ayr

Ayr Bank. They know not, that, in England, the proprietors of canals commonly receive upon them, an interest for their money, not under 30 or 40 per cent. They seem not to have fully reflected on the necessity of opening up a country by roads and canals, in order to bring all its powers into full exertion, and to give a stimulus and free play to its industry.—But, it seems highly probable, that within a few years, not only this canal will be formed, but every proper means employed to open up enough of proper tracts of communication through a district, which, for want of these, has too long remained in a stationary condition,—as to improvement in wealth and industry.

PROCEEDING upwards from New Galloway, towards the source of Ken; within two miles, another tract of beautiful scenery opens to the view, intersected by the river, and inclosed, in the form of an amphitheatre, by the circumjacent hills. The river appears, advancing through a fine plain, or *holm*, cultivated on both sides. Above, on the east side, rises the village of St John's Clachan, the houses of which being irregularly scattered over a considerable space of ground, produce a finer effect to the eye, than if they were arranged upon a more formal plan. The little crofts lying around them are all carefully cultivated. The gardens are green with
pot-herbs,

pot-herbs, perhaps neatly furrounded with hedges, and sheltered by rows of trees. The houses have commonly thatched roofs. Yet, a slate-roof, here and there, diversifies their appearance. Beneath the village, and close upon the edge of the river, stands the church of Dalry, and near it the manse, both decent buildings, and so situate as to produce a fine effect in the landscape. On the western bank are the house of *Waterfide*; the wooded vale through which *Combe burn* advances to join the Ken; the decent farm-house of *Glenlee* situate amidst cultivated fields, and having wood scattered irregularly around it; the mill of *Glenlee*, in a situation sufficiently picturesque; and at a small distance below, the house and ornamented grounds of *Glenlee-Park*.

GLENLEE-PARK is at present the seat of Lady Miller, the relict of the late Sir Thomas Miller of Glenlee, Lord President of the Court of Session. This house was enlarged and improved by the late Lord President, not many years before his death. The grounds had a great deal of wild natural beauty in them; and the decorations by which he beautified them, are in so happy a taste, as to render this one of the finest spots I have ever seen. They rise with a very gentle slope from the bank. The surface is varied by many waving inequalities. The knolls are crowned with rising wood. Many fine old

old, bushy-headed oaks are scattered singly over the lawn before the house. Some clumps have been planted, to screen it, on the heights behind. The northern boundary of these grounds is a considerable stream, the *Park-burn*. It falls from the western heights towards the river on the front of the house. At two several places in its course, both within the extent of these ornamented grounds, it pours, with a fine cascade over a ledge of rock. After rains, when the stream is swollen, the body of water precipitated over these cataracts, and the noise of its fall, so stun the ear and amaze the eye, as to raise in the mind emotions of sublimity and terror. The pool formed by the dashing water under one of these rocks has been fancifully denominated by the neighbouring peasants HELL'S HOLE; and being very deep, is commonly reported among them to be bottomless. The course of this river is shaded by trees and underwood; and its banks rise abruptly in some places to a considerable height above the channel. In a nook, where the rock seems to incroach upon the stream, a small bathing-place has been built, the situation of which is strikingly picturesque.

At a small distance southward, and upon the opposite side of the river, appears the house of Holm,
the

the seat of Mr Spalding-Gordon, Sheriff of Wigton-shire.

PROCEEDING three miles farther, still towards the source of the river, the traveller sees another range of interesting scenery open before him; and the houses of *Barsheech*, *Stranfasket*, *Knocknalling*, *Earlistown* are all within view, nearly at the same time. A good extent of wood runs round each of these houses. Parks of green pasture, fields of corn and potatoes, with orchards and kitchen-gardens are intermingled. The river animates the scene. The *burn* of *Polbarrow*, with wooded banks, approaches from the north-west, between *Knocknalling* and *Stranfasket*, to join the *Ken*.

ON the southern bank of this stream, on the side of *Stranfasket*, a slate-quarry has been opened; but only opened. Here are very extensive strata of schistous rocks. The slates of this quarry are sufficiently good in quality. The quarry might undoubtedly be wrought with sufficient advantage. Yet, do these people still continue to cover the roofs of their houses with a perishing covering of straw, which it were much wiser in them to reserve for forage to their cattle; and suffer the *Welch* to import all the slates used in this country.

AT

AT some distance above, rise the *Bush* hill, the *Millyeigh*, the *Kells Rhyns*, the highest hills in this part of the country. Amongst these lie several small lakes. On the north-western confines, the *Dee* has its source. From one of these lakes, *Loch-Harrow*, issues *Pulhancroftum* already mentioned. By an extraordinary eruption of water, a piece of ground was here moved, on this very season, and but a few days before I visited this neighbourhood, from one situation to another.

HERE, too, is one of those *rocking-stones* which are of vast bulk, and so poised on their centre of gravity, that although moveable by the finger even of a boy, yet the force of many men would be requisite to move them from their place. These stones are believed to have been engines of Druidical priestcraft. A considerable number of them have been discovered, in different places through the island. At *Stonebenge* is one of very great bulk. Another is to be seen in the neighbourhood of *Perth*. In a late volume of the *Archæologia* is a description of several of these which are to be seen together, I forget in what place. *Mason* in his *Caractacus* has made a happy use of this engine of Druidism.

ADJOINING to these hills, on the south-eastern side, are the remains of an old royal forest. The farm

VOL. II.

Y

within

within which it lies, is still denominated the *Forest*. These trees and underwood, are still known among the neighbouring inhabitants by the appellation of the *King's Forest*. An adjoining farm is named *Altabestie*,—perhaps from *altabestiarum*. This probably was a hunting forest in the days of the ancient lords of Galloway. It became a royal forest, under the denomination of *New-Forest*, in the days, I believe, of King Robert Bruce. The Rangerhip of it was afterwards granted to Sir *John Gordon of Lochinvar*. It now belongs to the estate of Sir *William Milnar of Glenlee*. A road runs between this forest and the old castle of *Dundergh*, situate some miles to the North-East. This castle, the ruins of which shew it to have been very ancient, seems to have been also a castle of the lords of Galloway. It was afterwards, with the estate connected with it, the property of a descendent of the family of *Kenmure*.

In this neighbourhood are two farms, *Castle-Madre* and *Strong-castle* which, by their names, should seem, to have had castles anciently situate upon them. The latter, if I mistake not, still shews some ruins of an old house or castle.

THIS country presents none but wild prospects to the traveller's observation: morasses; wide tracts
of

of heath; craggy hills; here and there a rivulet; and at wide distances, a few farm houses. Hardly any agriculture is tried in these parts. The inhabitants are almost all farmers, or shepherds. Here and there appears a cairn, and here and there a barrow, *Carsphairn* Kirk is situate in a pretty spot among these hills. The river passes close by it. A small extent of green ground lies around. A little village is rising beside the Kirk. I remarked, in reading the inscriptions on the grave-stones, in the church-yard, that almost every person whose memory was commemorated, had died at an age between eighty and an hundred. The shepherd life, the fare which this country affords, and the climate, seem to be here wonderfully favourable to longevity. When a free communication by good roads shall have been opened, in this direction, between Galloway and Ayrshire, the village at Carsphairn-Kirk may possibly become more considerable.

ON the confine between Galloway and Carrick appears *Loch-Doon*. In this lake is an islet; and on it the ruins of a castle named *Balloch-Castle*, a seat of the ancient Lords of Carrick. Carrick was originally a part of the principality of Galloway. At length, the lordship of Galloway fell to one branch of that family; and Carrick to the other. When the lordship of Galloway fell, by the marriage of

one heiress to John Baliol of Bernard-Castle; the earldom of Carrick came, by the marriage of another heiress, to Robert Bruce, lord of Annandale. *Balloch-castle*, in loch Doon, was probably a seat of this lady and her English husband. A curious tale is told, that she having met Robert Bruce, wandering like a young knight-errant, somewhere within her domains, carried him by a not unpleasing violence, to her castle of Tunbury, on the western coast of Carrick, and there detained him, till he agreed to marry her. The story does honour to the captivating qualities of Bruce, and makes the lady little less than a Thalestris. But, I suspect its truth.

At some distance from this lake, and upon the river Dee, between these farm-houses, *Craig-an-ell*, *Craig-an-bay*, and *Craig-an-cailzie*, is a tract of ground, partly morass, partly a dry flat of heath, which the tradition of the people of the country represents as the scene of a battle between Robert Bruce and the English. To countenance the tradition, some fragments of broken weapons were, not long since found here. The story adds, that Bruce was powerfully aided in this battle by a stratagem of three shepherds or goat-herds of the country, of the names of *Murdoch*, *M'Kie*, *M'Lurg*. They brought a drove within sight of the hostile army,——not fully, but so
that

that the distant sight of the horns, with their bleating, impressed the enemies with the idea, that a considerable force was advancing, to aid Bruce against them. They were panic-struck and left Bruce victorious. In gratitude to these by whom he had been thus seasonably assisted, Bruce granted them a considerable extent of land, either from his own patrimonial estate, or from the forfeited estates of Baliol.—One thing certain is, that three considerable families of the names of Murdoch, M'Clurg, and M'Kie had estates in these parts, till within these last fifty years. Indeed the family is still represented by *James Ross M'Kie Esq. of Pulgowan.*

THE rocks in these places are schistous, whinstone, and grey granite. Rock-crystals have been found here and there, among the crags. On one hill, named the *Black-craig*, probably from the darkness of its aspect, when beheld, at a few miles distance, very fine rock-crystals have been occasionally formed. This whole tract of country shews hardly any thing else than heath, rock, and moss. Yet, I do not despair of seeing agriculture and manufactures make their way, in due time, into these sequestered recesses. A road is now forming between Newton-Douglas and New-Galloway, which opens up, much more fully than it has yet been opened, the country lying between these two little towns,
and

and will promote the improvement of the ground on both hands.

BUT although I should rejoice to see these scenes adorned by more general cultivation, and occupied by a greater number of inhabitants, than at present: Yet, I am not sure that growing population, and increasing opulence would not introduce into them vices to which their present inhabitants are strangers; and debauch, while they augmented the society here established: Philosophers and politicians have lately racked their wits, and busied their hands, to stimulate the industry, to multiply the enjoyments, and to increase the numbers of men. But, accursed be that philosophy! perish that policy! which, in its care to make mankind richer and wiser, scruples not to risk or even to sacrifice their piety and their virtue! When I consider how crowded society tends to make its members worthless, I am sometimes almost tempted to fancy, that men were intended for hermits and savages. Yet, society which refines and quickens ingenuity, while it exalts humanity must be the natural state of man. But, not the thronged, compressed society of the camp, of the great city, of the disorderly manufacturing village. In such situations human nature is degraded below itself. No wonder that living and writing, as he did, in the midst of Paris, John James Rousseau should have
been

been led to maintain, that man was happier, more dignified, more independent in the savage state, than in a condition of polished civility. I have remarked that wherever manufactures flourish, and labour can be readily exchanged for the means of sensual gratification; the industrious part of the community are there peculiarly worthless. The inhabitants of this part of Galloway are, at present, undeniably virtuous without pretence, and pious without hypocrisy, above the people of almost any other part of Scotland. The consideration of these several facts, therefore inclines at times, to fear least those improvements which one would otherwise wish anxiously to promote, may in truth rather injure than benefit these people. One virtuous shepherd or husbandman is worth a score of dissipated manufacturing artificers. Let those then who actively promote the introduction of a new species of industry into this country, turn their attention at the same time, to provide against that influx of vice which may probably accompany it. I know of nothing that has been lately done for the purpose of correcting the morals of the poor, and preventing their depravation, except the institution of Sunday Schools. In large manufacturing towns, these must be highly beneficial. And I should suppose that, in some instances, it might be not unserviceable to the same ends, if pains were used to keep some of those salutary

salutary observances of superstitions and dreams of enthusiasm, of which many of the clergy shew too great an earnestness to relieve the people. Even within these last twenty years, within my remembrance, profane swearing has become much more common in the *Glenkens*; a reputation for purity of morals has lost not a little of its value in the eyes of these people; the sabbath has come to be much more carelessly observed; the censures and admonitions of the church have lost much of their authority. It is indeed true, that every age has its own virtues and vices. But not less true is it, that one age may have more numerous vices, and those more enormous, than another. The vices to which these people are at present most liable, are far less injurious to the dignity and the happiness of human nature, than those which prevail among the labouring classes in great manufacturing towns.—I should therefore wish to see villages and hamlets of manufacturing labourers scattered thick over these regions. But, I should be sorry ever to see here a *Birmingham*, a *Manchester*, or a *Paisley* rising.

From NEW-GALLOWAY to KIRKCUDBRIGHT.

AFTER spending a few very agreeable days in *Glenkens*, I set out to visit other parts on the coast,

as

as well of Kircudbright-shire as of Wigton-shire. A tolerably good road, directed, for the greater part, in a judicious line, and ordinarily kept in a state of sufficient repair, leads from New Galloway to the next burgh of Kircudbright. It leads along the western border of Loch Ken, under a steep and abruptly towering hill,—*Benin* hill. At the distance of four or five miles from New Galloway, it crosses the Dee by a bridge of mean and awkward structure. The surrounding scenery has little in it, either to astonish or to please the eye. Nothing is to be seen around but broad flats of heath, or hills rising with no beauty of vegetation on their sides, with no stupendous mass, and with no awful elevation. The river Dee winds through these scenes; but is here a petty stream; and the natural wildness of the country incroaches unsoftened, on its very edges. The sides of the highway are deformed by awkward stone dykes. Hardly a cottage meets the eye. The sheep and black-cattle wandering around, although numerous, give hardly any thing of chearing animation to the scene. On one or two *braes*, indeed, some copses of underwood appear to soften somewhat, the general appearance of wildness, bleakness, and bareness.

If, however, as the traveller proceeds, he turns his eye backwards, on the environs of Loch Ken,

VOL. II.

Z

and

and if the back-ground happens to be, at the moment, more splendidly illuminated, than the foreground, on which he stands; he will be delighted with the picture. The church, the manse, some adjacent houses, the trees and steeple of the town, some part of the holm below, and of the river, and its eastern bank, on the verge of the scene—compose the groupe of objects which he beholds; and it is impossible, without high pleasure, to behold them thus contrasted with the black and bare foreground.

NORTH-EAST from this bridge over the Dee rises the insulated hill or promontory on which stands the house of Airds. It is situate in the angle formed by the junction of the Dee with the Ken. It is of no great height; but, as it has, on two sides, these two rivers, on the third, it overlooks a tract of level heath considerably lower. It is skirted with wood. It spreads out, for a good many acres, in length and breadth. On the summit is some rich arable ground. It commands some fine views of the lower parts of the country, lying to the south-east. *Airds* was once the seat of a cadet of the family of Kenmure. Its later possessors have been already named.

ASCENDING the *Duchray*-hill, immediately after crossing the Dee, the traveller sees an extensive prospect

pect open, as he advances. But, although extensive, it is not rich, nor interesting. On one hand indeed is the village of *Laurieston* or *Clachan-Pluck*, having before it a small lake, and on one side a wood, embowering the mansion of *Mr Sloan-Laurie of Woodball*. A little hut at the foot of the hill has been named *Belleisle*, in consequence of having been the residence of an old soldier who was proud of telling how that he had fought at the siege of *Belleisle*. The lake abounds in those fresh water fishes which are common in these parts; trout, perch, and pike. The village of *Laurieston* has around it some spots of cultivated ground. A few straggling trees grow among the gardens of the villagers. Below, is a wide tract of low lying, level heath; and beyond appear wild and lofty hills.

THE old castle of *Kirkconnel* lies close on the river *Tarff*. Near it, the hills begin to be clad with underwood. The banks of this river for the length of a mile or two, rise boldly over it; and being, at the same time, covered with trees and wild shrubbery, present a scene sufficiently pleasing. A small bleachfield lies fancifully hid in a sort of dell, where the hills retire, and the river winds, so as to leave an acre or two of level ground upon the bank.

A FINE contrast to the dreary scenery contiguous to Laurieston, now opens to the view. The eye wanders with delight, over one of the richest vales in Galloway. On each side are green hills. Decent farm houses, and wood, are irregularly scattered over the sides. Below, flows on the Tarff, with a waving course, through rich meadows, and fertile corn-fields. On one hand are the houses of *Barcaple*, of *Valleyfield*, and of *Largs*; On the other, the village of *Ringford*, and the decent farm-house of *Lint-riggs*. The houses are here, commonly covered with slate; the contiguity of the port of *Kirkcudbright*, rendering it easy for the inhabitants of these parts to obtain slates from Wales. This vale produces rich crops of oats, of barley, and of wheat. Abundance of turnips are also raised here: and cattle fattened for the shambles,

THE *Tarff* is divided from the *Dee*, only by a narrow ridge which terminates in a point nearly where the two rivers meet. This ridge has been expressively named *Tongueland*, and with some appendages, constitutes a parish. The road leading round this point, towards *Kirkcudbright*, passes over the *Dee*, by a bridge, at a very small distance from the *Kirk* and *Clachan*, and from the remains of the ancient *Priory* of *Tongueland*, romantically situate close upon the brink of the *Dee*.

THIS

THIS priory is one of the most ancient religious establishments which the Regular Clergy of the Romish Church possessed in Galloway. Its situation, must have been, in those days, at once sequestered and secure. It is hid under the hill, and washed by the stream. If its inhabitants chose to saunter up to the adjacent hill; they might there enjoy a fine prospect of the bay into which the *Tarff* and the *Dee* pour their united streams, of the beautiful vale of *Tarff*, and of the fine tract of ground extending up the east side of the *Dee*. They appear to have had an excellent orchard. The *Dee* would afford them abundance of the finest salmon to be caught in Britain. The neighbourhood supplied that finely flavoured beef and mutton for which Galloway has been always famous. And they might raise grain on the adjoining land which is now found to repay most liberally the cares of the husbandman. All these circumstances rendered the situation no disagreeable one for a monastery.

KING JAMES the Fifth, I think it was, who preferred to the priory of Tongueland an *Italian* friar whose name was of note in that age. He was an alchymist, a physician, a projector, a philosopher. He was, for some time, in estimation at the Scottish Court. But, an unfortunate accident at Stirling covered him with disgrace, and exposed him to the
coarse,

coarse, but pointed and forcible satire of *William Dunbar*, the poet. Among other merits, he made pretensions to the Art of Flying, and proposed to make wings with which he would rise, in the presence of the King and the whole Court, from the battlements of Stirling-Castle, and fly to France. He made himself wings, fitted them to his body, and in the hope of invading the province of the winged tribes, mounted the battlements of the Castle; while the King and his Court looked on, to see him begin his flight. He waved his wings, and sprung into the air, but to his own great disappointment and mortification, but perhaps according to the expectation, and undoubtedly to the great diversion of the beholders, instantly fell, and, as Dunbar says, sank deep into a dunghill. I know nothing of the subsequent history of this Abbot of Tongueland; except that to account for the failure of his attempt to fly, he pretended, that he should not have fallen, had he not unluckily intermixed the feathers of dunghill fowls with those of eagles and the nobler birds: the sympathy between the hen-feathers in his wings and the earth drew him down; had he used only eagle's-feathers in forming his wings, he should have soared, like the eagle.—These anecdotes have been collected by the late Lord Hailes, in his notes on Dunbar's Poems, published by him, from Bannatyne's manuscript.

THE

THE fishing of the Dee, at Tongueland affords not less than four hundred pounds of yearly rent to the proprietor. The fishes are chiefly salmons, and are esteemed the finest that any river in Britain affords. They are taken not with nets, but by means of cruives formed across the channel of the river, with apertures called *Doachs*, on the lower side. These apertures are shut with small valves which open, to admit the entering fishes, but shut behind them, and can by no effort of theirs be opened for their regrefs. On one or two days in the week, the *Doachs* are set open, so that the fishes may pass up the river, for the benefit of the proprietors of the lands above. Complaints have been made against this practice of damming up rivers near where they join the sea, to intercept the salmons in the progress upwards. It is a lucrative privilege to those who possess it.

THE town of Kirkcudbright is seen to great advantage from the height above the Kirk of Tongueland. The Tarff and the Dee meeting near, form between them, a noble body of water. The tide enters above the point of their junction, into each of the separate streams. Sloops with lime from the opposite coast of Cumberland, commonly advance as far up as to the foot of the Tarff for the convenience

nience of the farmers, who fend their carts, by the roads which meet here.

ON the western bank of the *Dee* after it has been enlarged by the accellion of the Tarff, stands the old castle of *Cumstan*, hid among wood. At some distance, within the country, on the eastern side, is *Bombay*: the ancient seat of the *Maclellans*, lords *Kirkcudbright*. *Loch Fergus* within which are the remains of an ancient castle, built probably by *Fergus*, one of the old lords of Galloway.—In all these parts, agriculture, and the feeding of sheep, and black cattle are the chief cares of the farmer. The country naturally fertile, has been industriously cultivated; although not with that decorating cultivation which prevails in the richer counties of England. Few hedges appear, dividing these fields. The low stone-fence is almost the only one known here. Few clumps or belts of trees have been scattered about.—Yet, in spite of these disadvantages, the country is beautiful. A tract of meadow and corn-fields adjoining to the town of *Kirkcudbright*, is let at a rent of from two to four pounds, an acre. Near the town, too, one sees some proofs, that hedges are actually considered by these people, as a decoration to a country. But, even near the town are some wretched farm-houses, or cottages, with thatched roofs, without chimnies, and having low,
ill-

ill-built walls. But, a considerable share of the grounds laying in this neighbourhood, belong to the estate of the Earl of *Selkirk*. And Lord Daer has lately shewn so much earnestness to promote the improvement of the country, and so much skill and judgment, to accomplish his purpose, although perhaps, with rather too much of the warm enthusiasm of a projector, that much may be hoped, for the removing of such deformities as the above, from his exertions, and example.

KIRKCUDBRIGHT.

KIRKCUDBRIGHT standing in one of those situations which naturally attract population, even in the earliest stages of social life, appears to have been founded at a very early period in the history of Scotland. Its name seems to have been originally, rather *Caercudbrig*. *Brig*—in the northern languages, signifying equally with *burg*, a town; while *Caer* signifies a strength or fortified place. The Danes would probably land occasionally in their piratical invasions of these coasts. A very ancient castle seems to have stood here within the limits of a farm, now named from that circumstance, Castle-dykes. From the Paston Letters, published by Sir John Fenn, we learn, that Margaret, the magnanimous queen of King Henry VI. was at one time, at Kirkcudbright, in the course of those troubles which

VOL. II.

A a

drove

drove her to seek refuge and aid in Scotland. Kirkcudbright was erected into a royal burgh, and Maclellan of Bombay honoured with the title of Lord Kirkcudbright, about the year 1630. By the narrowness of its cross streets, and the aspect of its houses, it appears to have been built, nearly such as it is, at present, in the course of the last century.

It consists of one long, bending street, extending westward from the river-side. The houses are, for the greater part, of decent structure, consisting commonly, of two stories, and having their roofs slated. Several *cloffes*, or narrow cross streets extend backwards, on both sides. The inhabitants have gardens for fruits, and pot-herbs, lying behind their houses; which being often surrounded with neat walls, and having trees rising, here and there, round them, produce, in many instances, a very pleasing effect. At some small distance, north from the town,—indeed almost joining it, at right angles, is the suburb of *Mill-Burn*. At the west end of the town, and adjoining to the church, is the ruinous castle which was built originally by Maclellan, lord Kirkcudbright, but is now the property of the Earl of Selkirk. It has been a stately, spacious building for the time in which it was reared.

KIRK-

KIRKCUDBRIGHT, with the suburb of *Mill-Burn*, may contain from a thousand to fifteen hundred inhabitants. It has never yet been the seat of any considerable trade or manufacture. At one period, indeed, considerable quantities of tobacco were imported and made up for use, here. A small sloop or two are sometimes built here. Here are some merchants who trade with England, and sometimes send out a small vessel for rum and sugar, to the West Indies. A few boats have been occasionally sent by the inhabitants of Kirkcudbright to the herring-fishery. Wines are imported into this place, but, I believe, not directly from the wine countries. Here is a custom-house, with the necessary set of officers. This, being the principal town in the stewartry to which it gives a name; is consequently the seat of the sheriff-court, and of the practitioners of law, belonging to the stewartry. No inconsiderable sum comes annually into Kirkcudbright from the adjacent country, as expences of law suits. Here are not fewer, I think, than twelve or fifteen writers; not to count their clerks. In the progress of the spirit of banking, through this country, two branches of two different Banks have opened offices in Kirkcudbright. I am, indeed, sorry to observe, that, from the earnestness with which people wanting money, seek to obtain credit, at any expence; and partly through the dishonest arts of petty forging

ging practitioners in law, banking-houfes have been multiplied to a number by far too confiderable, in the petty country-towns, within thefe few laft years. Not that, I fuppofe the writers of Kirkcudbright capable of feeking gains by any mean, or difhonourable arts.

BUT, in other places, the practice has been this : A writer has, by fome means or other, obtained fecurity with a bank, for a fum more or lefs; which has accordingly been put into his hands, to be employed in the difcount of bills, and in the tranfaction of other bufinefs as an agent for that bank. He readily employs it, for thefe ufes. Whoever brings him a bill with valid fecurities, obtains cafh for it. Here is one profit. If the granter, acceptor, or indorfer of the bill cannot readily pay the fum when it falls due to the difcounter, fo much the better : 'protests, charges, imprifonment instantly follow, to the much greater emolument of the worthy lawyer, who lately accommodated the poor fo readily, than if the money had been punctually repaid. This is what has very frequently taken place in many parts through the country. Nay, it is the laft fhift of a pettifogger, when all other fhifts fail, to begin this bufinefs of difcount, and of dealing in money, in the name of fome bank : and he never fails to gain enough of bufinefs after he has once fallen upon

upon this expedient.—Beside being plundered in this way, the country people are, by the same unnecessary multiplication of piddling banking-houses, seduced to supply themselves with money, by the ruinous expedient of WIND BILLS. Bankruptcy is the certain consequence; or perhaps forgery is had recourse to as a shift between the two: And the dabbler in bills, thus comes to terminate his career on the Gallows, or in Botany Bay.—Such a gambling in money and in paper credit has also other, not less unhappy effects on the condition of the country. It tempts the man without fortune to engage in an extent of traffic, and to live at an expence which a great capital would be requisite to support and to justify. They bring too large a share of the real capital of the country into the fluctuation of trade; for, it will be found, that to maintain the security of a country, and, at the same time, to promote the prosperity, a very great share of the property of that country should be removed from the dangers and chances of traffic. However, where industry thrives, and the spirit of trade has established itself, the accommodation which banks present, are, for a time at least, convenient and advantageous. But, a poor and indolent people can never be enriched solely by the introduction of banks and banking-house contrivances among them.

BESIDE

BESIDE merchants, shop-keepers, officers belonging to the custom-house, and practitioners in the law, the other inhabitants of Kirkcudbright are chiefly labourers, artificers, and a few sea-faring people. Here are one or two reputable practitioners in surgery. The school is on a good footing. It was, not many years since, under the direction of a man of ability, worth, and reputation, now rector of the school of Leith. The cotton manufacture has been lately tried here. The English gentlemen to whom Kirkcudbright-shire is indebted for this manufacture, wished, at first, to establish their works in the vicinity of Kirkcudbright. But, as they were, by what policy, or prejudices I know not, disappointed here, they sought an establishment at Gatehouse of Fleet, on the estate of Mr Murray of Broughton. The success of that establishment has roused a passion for the cotton manufacture, through this whole country. I know not but those who refused to encourage the erection of a cotton-mill near Kirkcudbright, may have since wished that they had rather been induced to promote it. The spinning of cotton yarn with those small machines *Ginnees* and *Mules* has been tried successfully by several of these people. A company have formed a joint stock for establishing a manufactory of cotton-cloth. And I think, I was told that they had yet greater things in project. A small manufacture of soap and candles

dies has been also attempted here, within these few years. A tannery, which has enriched its proprietor, is of older establishment. That new impulse which the introduction of the cotton-manufacture has given to the industry of this district, has produced the first addition to the buildings of Kirkcudbright, which they have received within these last thirty or forty years. A new street is rising;—not indeed with that rapidity which streets are *run up*, as if reared by the Genies of Aladdin's wonderful lamp, in the environs of London, Manchester, Edinburgh and Glasgow.

KIRKCUDBRIGHT seems to have too little intercourse with the adjacent country, and is not so plentifully supplied with provisions, as it easily might be. It has no regular market for meal. Its flesh-market is not supplied with all that abundance with good butcher-meat which a stranger might expect to find in it. On the river are some salmon-yards belonging to the Burgh, which are let, under the condition of the tacksman's supplying the burghers with fish, at a moderate price. But, these shores afford abundance of excellent sea-fish of many different sorts, which, if the population were more plentiful, might yield a rich store of nourishing provisions, now almost entirely neglected.—The salmon exported from Tonuegland and Kirkcudbright

to

to Liverpool brings a considerable sum of money into the country.—An enterprising butcher, I should think, might drive a good trade in the exportation of salt beef to the great trading towns on the western coast of England.—Large quantities of corn, barley, and potatoes are annually exported from Kirkcudbright to England and to the Frith of Clyde.—A few enterprising and intelligent merchants and manufacturers, with suitable capitals, might, in several different branches of industry, and traffic, enrich themselves, and improve this place mightily, within the space of a dozen or a score of years.—As a burgh, Kirkcudbright having considerable funds, and having also the property of some lands, has long been, in a great measure, independent of the neighbouring landholders. In consequence of this advantage, the magistrates and the members of the town-council are men of great consideration upon the return of every septennial election: And I am rather inclined to suspect, that the bustle of Burgh-Politics, thus created, may have too much engaged the attention of the principal citizens, and thus rendered them too careless of the more lucrative concerns of trade.

THE artificers of this burgh are incorporated. The election of their deacons and conveners is often contested with wonderful keenness and artifice, and gives
occasion

occasion to some days and nights of boisterous festivity among them, in the course of the year. They sometimes repair to an adjacent field, to shoot for a *silver gun*. This and some other exercises still kept up among the inhabitants of some districts, and of some of the towns in Scotland,—are memorials of those times, when it was thought necessary for the inhabitants of Scotland to be prepared to defend themselves, or to engage in the military service of their country, whenever hostilities might be offered which should call for such opposition. *Shootings* at marks, and for prizes, used, even within my remembrance, to be common in the upper parts of Kirkcudbright-shire. But, the strictness of the game-laws, the progress of the arts of peace, and care with which Government, for a while, thought it necessary to prosecute a plan for disarming the people of Scotland, have all concurred to turn the common people from manly, and martial exercises; and unless we shall obtain a militia, an ordinary peasant or mechanic in Scotland, will soon be little fitter to handle a gun, than a native of the *Pelew* islands.

THE inhabitants of Kirkcudbright are undeniably a virtuous and intelligent people. The same thing takes place here, as in the upper parts of Kirkcudbright-shire,—but in a more considerable degree. The gentry and the well-educated part of the community bear a greater proportion in numbers to the

VOL. II.

B b

poor,

poor, the labouring, and the illiterate, than in most other places. Consequently, their spirit and manners are predominant. A degree of liberal intelligence may be observed among the lowest classes, such as the same classes do not display in many other places. The richer burghers, too, instead of those habits and those modes of life which distinguish the opulent citizens of great manufacturing and trading cities,—seem rather to take the tone of their manners from the neighbouring county-gentlemen. Kirkcudbright affords an agreeable enough little circle of elegant society. Public amusements,—except an occasional ball, are unknown here.—Here is a public library, the property of subscribers, who are pretty numerous, and some of them gentlemen in the country, others inhabitants of this town. The collection of books is most judiciously formed, and is annually augmented with an addition of some of the best books newly published. It has already introduced a good deal of knowledge into this country, which it must otherwise have wanted. The late Mr William Laurie of Barnfoul, who was distinguished among the gentlemen of this country, by his learning, his virtues, and his amiable manners, was principally active in forming this Library, and in regulating its concerns—I should wish to see the respectable and intelligent gentlemen of these parts,—add, as they easily might, to this laudable establishment,

ment of a public library,---the institution of a SOCIETY FOR IMPROVEMENTS; AND FOR THE INVESTIGATION OF THE ANTIQUITIES OF GALLOWAY. Such an institution would naturally connect itself with the establishment of the Library. It should be select. Its meetings need not be frequent, but might correspond with the meetings of the Presbytery,---of the Quarter-Sessions,---or of the Commissioners of the Land-Tax and Supply; all which are held in Kirkcudbright. I despair not of living to see such a Society instituted here.

THE Presbytery which meets here, takes its name from its seat. It consists of the clergy of sixteen adjacent parishes,---and,---as in the constitution of other Presbyteries, of as many lay-elders. These clergymen are as respectable a body, as perhaps any other presbytery in Scotland. They are professors of presbyterianism in all its rational orthodoxy. They teach christianity in its native purity and simplicity. They appear neither to encourage, with the arts or the prejudices of priestcraft, those superstitions, and that enthusiasm to which the more un-instructed part of the people are naturally prone;---nor yet, to overlook or neglect the service which may be done to religion, by the proper use of this engine which the feelings and the mistakes of the ignorant necessarily put into the hands of their in-

structors. By preserving this happy medium, they are enabled to maintain the authority of rational religion among their congregations.---They have the honour, too, of having occasionally contributed to the introduction of the most remarkable improvements which have taken place in Kirkcudbrightshire. Yet, in one or two instances, the superstitions of the vulgar have, even in these parts, been followed, and adopted, rather than corrected by their clergy. The Sect of the *M^cMillanites* arose in Galloway. And, even lately the wildest ideas that have been ingrafted on Calvin's Exposition of the principles of Christianity have been preached from a pulpit not twenty miles from Kirkcudbright with a degree of forced warmth, of cant and of absurd effusion not at all creditable to the church, or to the country. Harrangues of an hour or two have been poured out before the morning psalm in the service. Extemporary prayers, accompanied with groans, and coughing have been continued for hours together. Crude, indigested sermons, of immeasurable length, stolen partly from the writings of the Puritans of last century have been delivered. On sacramental occasions, it has been contended among the preachers who could hold forth longest. And the service has been prolonged at such times for almost as long a space as Vulcan was in falling from Heaven,—in Milton's words.

THESE

THESE practices were not a little disgraceful to the good sense and piety of those concerned in them. They seem to have originated in the imperfect education and the inexperience of the person who sought thus to distinguish himself. Good sense, good examples, and more enlightened piety have since taught him, as I believe, to avoid rendering religion contemptible and ridiculous in this way— The clergy of this district have found it prudent to admit some relaxation of the ancient severity of ecclesiastical discipline. They, no longer insist, with inflexible obstinacy, that those who have been confessedly guilty of violations of chastity shall do penance before the congregation. The principle upon which they have proceeded to relax this article of church-discipline, is partly a humane, partly an indolent one. They pity the feelings of compunction and shame which distress the most virtuous, rather than the other part of the culprits, upon such occasions: and they dislike the trouble which it often costs to bring a fornicator or adulterer, to confess, and *make satisfaction*. But, shame, or a sense of reputation, is one of the best friends to human virtue. This guardian the clergy should carefully encourage all their people to maintain about them. Most peasants and country girls will think it a matter of small consequence, whether they preserve their chastity or not, if there be no danger of their being brought

brought to open shame, in consequence of forfeiting it. It may be thought a venial fault which ends in adding another member to the community. But, any person who has taken the trouble but of a little observation and reflection, may be satisfied, that whatever encourages unchastity, discourages marriage; and that marriage is the best law of the intercourse between the sexes, for promoting the increase of population.---Besides, it is foolish, if any one fancies, that the father of a bastard child will more readily confess his intercourse with the mother, when freed from the fear of being rebuked before the congregation. To avoid the expence of an illegitimate child's maintenance, any man will with perjury deny his having taken pains to beget it, who would be guilty of the same perjury to escape a public rebuke for the fornication.---I have been informed, that some raw, unfledged advocates, pleading in cases of child-murder, have presumed to ascribe the origin of this atrocious act of inhumanity to the fear of that disgrace which is annexed to the idea of *standing in the Kirk for fornication*. The reasoning was silly and puerile. It is most commonly to avoid the trouble of parental duties, that unhappy beings suffer themselves to be tempted to the commission of this crime.---But, enough of breaches of chastity, and of church discipline.-----

SOUTH:

SOUTH-EAST from Kirkcudbright, is the parish of *Rerrwick* or *Monkland*. This parish has a great share of its lands appropriated to the purposes of pasturage, although sufficiently susceptible of the improvements of agriculture. Here stand the remains of the ancient abbey of Dundrennan, the seat of a body of Regular Clergy of the Romish Church, who had large possessions in this southern part of Kirkcudbright-shire. In this abbey remained, not long since, monuments of some of the ancient lords of Galloway. *Raebury*-castle stands on the same side of Kirkcudbright.—These shores have long been famous, or rather infamous for smuggling. Salt, teas, brandy and rum, with various other goods are run in at the *abbey-burn-foot*, near *Balcary*, and at other places, on these shores, and dispersed through the country.—It is worthy of observation, that the smugglers are not only men of the most worthless characters, but are hardly ever in the end successful in acquiring any little fortune by their illicit traffic.

BELOW Kirkcudbright, at a small distance, and directly south, is St Mary's isle, a small peninsula formed by the mouth of the Dee, on the one side, and a bay advancing inland on the other. It was once the seat of a Priory, consecrated to the Virgin Mary,—and is now the chief seat of the Earl of Selkirk

kirk. The house I have never visited. The grounds are elegantly laid out with abundance of trees, shrubbery, and winding walks, with ornamented borders. The citizens of Kirkcudbright are permitted to enter these walks, at their pleasure. The family of Selkirk are among the most honourably descended in the South of Scotland: Allied to the chief families of the houses of Hamilton and Douglas. Lord Basil Hamilton grandfather to the present Earl of Selkirk, was one of the most respectable and intelligent of the patriotic nobility of Scotland about the beginning of the present century.—Lord Daer is a promising young nobleman; an improver in agriculture; active in electioneering; one of the Friends to the People.

From KIRKCUDBRIGHT to GATEHOUSE of FLEET.

AFTER spending a day in Kirkcudbright which I had often visited on former occasions, I continued my journey westward. The Dee is crossed in a Ferry-Boat. Close upon the western side is an inn and farm-house known by the name of *Castle-Sods*. The origin of this name I cannot trace. Here may perhaps have been raised upon some occasion or other, a rude fortification of *turfs* or *sods*. Near this inn is a brick-work; for although there be no deficiency

deficiency of stones in these parts: yet these people have learned to use bricks for partition-walls and other purposes, to which they are best adapted. At no great distance is a work which was once *wisely* intended for a distillery of whisky. A cotton-work is now about to replace the distillery.

THE lands are here rich and fertile, and are either laid out in grass-parks, or in corn-fields. The agriculture is not unskilful. But still the lands are deformed by the low stone-fences common through the rest of Galloway; and there are few trees and hedges. A tract of the richest ground in Galloway lies between the two rivers of *Dee* and *Fivet* in the lower part of the parish of *Twynholm*, the parish of *Borgue*, and the lower part, again, of the parish of *Girton*. *Borgue* juts out, into the Frith, forming a sort of promontory. The *Rhofs* of *Balmangan* forms a bay, affording sufficient protection to vessels. In the roads opposite to the mouth of the *Dee*, ships are indeed well protected by the headlands on the south-east and south-west, while they have the land, to screen them, upon the north.

THE names of men and of places on this coast, seem to be chiefly Danish and Saxon. The Danes, in their frequent invasions of the western coasts of England, must have often touched here. They

commonly landed, upon every such occasion, on the isle of *Man*: and this isle lies full within view of this south-west shore of Kircudbright-shire. The names, *Southwick*, *Sandwick*, *Alnwath*, *Rerrwick* are, in their origin, most probably *Danish*, or at least of that ancient *Norse*, of which the present *Icelandic* is the purest living branch. The name *Nest*, occurring, too, with various syllables prefixed as a proper name on these shores, is undoubtedly from the same northern source. To the same origin am I inclined to refer the names *Brown*, *Sprott*, and some others ending in *Son*. Others of these names are Saxon in their origin; *Twynholm*, *Borland*, *Ingleston*. Others more evidently Celtic; *Borgue*, *Airds*, &c. *Bar*, and *Dun*, or *Doon* are the usual names for the hills. Many of the farms and farm-houses have their names from those by whom they were formerly occupied, with the addition of the Saxon *-ton*; *Campelton*, *Kempelton*, *Conchieton*, *Bishoppton*—anciently, I suppose, the property of the Bishops of Galloway.—To judge from the number of parochial divisions which anciently marked this district; it should seem to have been in those days either more populous than at present, or perhaps, a great share of it appropriated to the Church. Within the extent of the two present parishes of *Borgue* and *Twynholm*, were anciently the five parishes of *Twynholm*, *Kirk-Christ*, *Sandwick*, *Borgue*, *Kirkandres*.

kandres.—Exposed to invasion as these shores must anciently have been, it is natural to look for some scenes of warfare upon them. Within the estate of *Barwhinnock* is a fine hill named the *Bar*, the summit of which bears sufficient marks of the rude fortification of the *Danes*, or *Anglo-Saxons*, to shew, that it must have been a military station of one or the other of these people. It is well known, that those who are most skilled in the Danish and the Saxon Antiquities of this island are at a loss to distinguish the encampments of the Saxons from those of the Danes, unless where some collateral history marks the distinction. The immediate vicinity of an *Ingleston* leads me, however, to suspect, that the encampment on the summit of the *Bar* of *Barwhinnock* must have been formed by the Anglo-Saxons. It might be a station from which they could watch the approach of the *Danes*; and to which they could retire, when those invaders advanced upon them. Beneath is one of those *motes* which are supposed to have been the Saxon Tribunals.—At the distance of a mile or two, within the adjoining parish of *Borgue*, and in the farm of *Borland*, is another similar scene of *Danish* or *Anglo-Saxon* encampment, named the *Doon*. *Inglestons* and *Borlands* are frequent in these parts. In almost every parish is an *Ingleston* and a *Borland*: and what is likewise remarkable, in several farms, both a *Doon* and a *Bar*.

CUMSTANE-castle, on the western bank of the Dee, a mile or two above Kirkcudbright, is of considerable antiquity, but, as to its history, I am un-informed. At *Kirkandres*, upon the western shore of *Borgue*, the old lords of Galloway appear to have had a castle; for *John Baliol*, heir to a part of their estates, had a seat at *Kirkandres* which he must have inherited from them; and *Kirkandres* was one of those estates which *Edward*, by a special deed, restored to him, after he had surrendered to that monarch, with the sovereignty of Scotland, all his possessions in it.—It is worthy of notice, that the inhabitants of the district of *Borgue*, inhabiting a sort of promontory, and divided, from neighbours, by the sea, upon two sides, were long regarded by the other people of this district as a sort of peculiar, insulated tribe. The families of the farmers had been settled there for many generations. They were all mutually related by intermarriages. They looked on their neighbours with aversion and contempt: a person of singular appearance or manners was commonly said by the people of the adjacent country, to be a *Borgue Body*. If a stranger went, by accident, to settle among them, he and his family were—for a generation or two, regarded with the dislike and suspicion, and harrassed with that joy over his losses and misadventures, and that ridicule of every thing in which his manners and œconomy differed

differed from theirs,—which barbarous tribes, secluded from the intercourse of civilized life, yet in no want of relief from distress, or of a supply of the necessaries of subsistence,—have been often observed to exhibit towards strangers.—Yet, these people were, at the same time, of pure morals, sober, pious, industrious, some of them opulent, living by the sale of their corn and cattle, and using few articles either of food or of clothing, which were not of the produce of their own farms, or the manufacture of their own hands. They were, at the same time, not a little addicted to smuggling. I take them to have been a more unmixed race either of Danes or of Anglo-Saxons, than remained in any other part of this country. They have, within these last twenty years, been gradually more and more intermingled with their neighbours, and assimilated to them in character, by the adoption of their customs, fashions and manners.

THE agriculture of these parts is fast advancing in improvement. Lime is imported, in great abundance, from Cumberland, and is sold on the shore, at the price of a shilling or thirteen pence for the Winchester bushel. Shells and sea-fleech are found in great plenty on the coast, and form a very valuable article of manure. Various marl-pits have also been opened here and there, in the morasses. A
large

large white-faced species of sheep were, a good many years since, introduced here. These are fed for the butcher, and sold at a guinea or thirty shillings each. Their mutton is in flavour and relish inferior to that of the small, old Galloway breed. Of their wool, some portions are singularly fine: others coarse and hairy. They are named *mug-sheep*; and *mug-wool* is in great request for stockings. The black-cattle are either Irish, of vast bone, and having large horns;—or of the famous Galloway breed, rather small in size, well-shaped, and without horns. They are not commonly bred here, but are bought in, at the cattle markets, *Stirks*, or *Cuddochs*, and after being fed for a year or two, are sold off to the butcher, or rather to the cattle-dealers who carry them to the English markets. The horses common here, are stout draught-horses, valued at—from sixteen to five and twenty pounds Sterling. Their situation near the great highway between London and Portpatrick, and the rich pasture which these lands on the coast afford—give the farmers here, great advantages in the feeding and the sale of cattle. Some of the finest cattle sent from Galloway to England, have been from the parishes of Borgue and Twynholm.

THE general attention to the management of cattle has rendered the inhabitants of these parts more
negligent

negligent than they might have otherwise been, of agricultural improvements. With abundance of the best manure to lay upon a soil, sometimes kindly, sometimes deep, but almost every where of great natural fertility; they could not avoid raising rich crops of oats, and barley. But, hardly have any of them adopted the most advantageous rotation of crops. They are obstinately attached to the old modes of agriculture. They seem to have a sort of instinctive aversion to trees, ditches, and hedges. Indeed trees, ditches, and hedges do not answer so well—perhaps as the Galloway stone-dyke, in pasture-grounds for cattle. And, it must be confessed that, although both cattle and grain can be well sold from these parts, yet the cattle can often be disposed of, with the greater advantage.—I can think, therefore, only of two or three expedients for promoting the progress of agriculture here: 1. Let the large farms be subdivided, and let to families of small tenants, who may just support themselves easily, and pay their rents out of the produce of their farms. These families of small tenants, being more in each family in proportion to the quantity of land which they possess, than if the same family possessed a great farm, will till and cultivate a greater proportion each of their respective farms, in order to find labour by which they may earn the means of subsistence.—*James M' Millan Esq. of Barwhinnock* has exhibited

established on his estate a fine proof of the tendency of this plan of œconomy to promote the progress of agriculture: He subdivided into a number of farms of moderate extent, an estate which might be anciently possessed wholly by the same person. He has formed these subdivisions by good fencible stone-dykes, planting, with taste and judgment, lines of oaks, ashes, and pines, along these dykes. He has built suitable farm and office-houses; and has commonly carried the subdivision so far, that a family of three or four persons are sufficient, with a proper number of cattle, to cultivate each farm. The consequence is, that, the whole estate has thus assumed, comparatively, the aspect of a garden: Three or four times as many people as formerly, find employment and comfortable subsistence upon it: Three or four times the quantity of grain is now raised: As many cattle are fattened: Fewer sheep indeed are fed: Much more of the produce of the estate is consumed upon it than before; And much more is at the same time, exported from it. 2ndly. The next expedient is undoubtedly the introduction of manufactures, which may scatter a little village or hamlet—almost for every farm-house that is at present; over this country. These requiring at once for subsistence the produce of agriculture and of the dairy, with animal-food from the shambles would enable agriculture to draw more particular

particular attention than at present. More of the produce of the country would be consumed within it. Instead of furnishing provisions to the inhabitants of other parts, Galloway would then furnish clothes. Its Stock would consist, not as now in cattle and sheep, but in a nobler species,—in men and women, manufacturers and labourers. This effect the introduction of the cotton-manufacture is likely to produce—in part, at least. 3dly. Every landholder ought to retain under his own management, a certain number of his acres, and to appropriate these exclusively to agricultural improvements; indifferent, although he might be a loser by the event of many of his experiments; provided that he succeeded in some, and could promote gainful improvements in the agriculture of his tenants. 4thly. In every lease, certain regulations favourable to the agriculture of the grounds let, ought to be carefully inserted.—It must be acknowledged that the landholders in general of these parts begin to turn their attention more and more to the advancement of agriculture. By the end of the century, all the lower parts of Kirkcudbright-shire will probably exhibit scenes of as rich and beautiful cultivation, as any in Scotland.

THERE are some articles of stock which I think too much neglected. The great quantities of pota-

VOL. II.

D d

toes

toes raised in these parts have suggested the advantage of keeping hogs. These are sometimes killed for domestic use, sometimes sent to Dumfries and other towns for sale. I have been told, too, that the Dumfriensians are silly enough to send the pork which they have killed to be cured for bacon-hams in Cumberland; from which these hams are re-imported to Dumfries. Now I should think that great quantities of swine might be very profitably fed, killed, and cured here, and in the state of hams exported to Liverpool, to Edinburgh, to Glasgow, and to other places. Those hogs which were first introduced here, were a small race which afforded very delicately flavoured pork and bacon. But, a larger breed, weighing, each, when fattened and full-grown, from four to five hundred-weight, have since been tried; and although their flesh be greatly inferior to that of the smaller race, these people seem generally disposed to prefer them. But, this is a foolish preference; for, being larger, they require more food than the small race; and although their meat were equally tender and well-flavoured; yet would they not be more profitable: Since their flesh is inferior; they are, undeniably, less so. Those who preserve the carcases for domestic use, may be assured, that the meat of the large breed, is much ranker and more unwholesome. Here is abundance of poultry; the common domestic hen; geese; ducks;

ducks; turkies. Were the peacock, an article of eating, as much admired at the luxurious tables of modern times, as it was by the practical Epicureans among the ancient Romans; the inhabitants of these parts might easily rear such large numbers of peacocks, as to enrich themselves.

ALTHOUGH comparatively bare of wood; yet the country between Kirkcudbright and Gatehouse of Fleet exhibits several agreeable enough scenes. The house of *Barwhinnock*, seen from the highway which passes by Twynholm-Kirk, with the ornamented grounds about it; the little clumps of larches, silver-firs, and other pines scattered near; and the numerous snug-looking, small farm-houses interspersed; with the two oval hills, the *Bar* and the *Doon*, limiting the foreground, on the east and the west sides---form all together, a very interesting landscape. The Church of Twynholm below, the manse, the glebe in a fine state of cultivation, and a little village named from the church, and half-hid in an adjacent glen---compose another cheerful, animated prospect.

ADVANCING, by this road, we soon after discover, on the left hand, the house of *Gategill*, with some wood and cultivated fields around. And nearly at the same time, the fine vale of *Fleet* is dis-

D d 2

covered.

covered to the eye. I have seen few scenes naturally more beautiful, and few more highly ornamented than this. Within the bounds of one landscape, the eye beholds the river Fleet discharging itself into the Firth; the houses of *Bardarroch*, of *Ardwell*, of *Cally*, the beautiful and populous village of *Gatehouse*, and the ancient castle of *Cardinels*, with a large extent of adjacent country, either cultivated, and thick-set with farm-houses, with abundance of wood interspersed, or—towards the extremities of the prospect—wildly picturesque.

CALLY-house is the principal seat of *Mr Murray* of *Broughton*, whose estates in this neighbourhood are very extensive. It is a large, modern building, situate on the plain, on the eastern bank of the Fleet. The apartments are numerous, spacious, well-proportioned, elegantly furnished, and possessing especially some fine paintings. The circumjacent grounds are laid out and decorated with great taste. Immediately around the house, the lawn is left open. The office-houses, forming a large square, are removed to a convenient distance. The gardens are divided from the house and the office-houses, by the road running between the village of *Gatehouse* and the parish-church. They are inclosed within high-walls. The extent is considerable. No expence has been spared to accommodate them to the stately elegance

of

of the house, and to the dignity and fortune of the proprietor. They contain green-houses and hot-houses, with all that variety of foreign herbs and fruits which, in our climate, these are necessary to cherish; abundance of all the riches of the orchard, all the beauties of the parterre, and all the useful plenty of the kitchen-garden. They are dressed at a great expence. When the family reside not here, all the country round, as far as Dumfries, are supplied with abundance of fruits from these gardens.— Where the road running between the village and the church passes through these pleasure-grounds, it is lined with trees. Every deformity within these grounds is concealed, or converted into a beauty by wood. Every where, except at proper points of view, these environs are divided by belts of planting from the highways and the adjacent country. Many fine swells diversify the scene. These are crowned with fine clumps of trees. Within the extent of the pleasure-grounds is a house occupied by a farm-servant, which has been built in the fashion of a Gothic Temple, and to accidental observation has all the effect that might be produced by a genuine antique,—South from the house of *Cally*, is a deer-park, inclosed within a high and well-built wall, and plentifully stocked with fallow-deer. The lands adjoining on the south and south-east are commonly well inclosed within hedges, or decent, dry stone-walls,

walls. The farm-houses are very decent buildings, and almost all covered with flates. To the north, rise hills, bare of wood, but, on the front, green, gently sloping, and considerably cultivated. Sheep and black-cattle wander in great numbers, over such parts of these scenes as are not occupied by corn, potatoes, and other articles of crop.

GATEHOUSE of FLEET.

WITHIN the remembrance of several now living, there was only a single house on the seat of this fine village. It was the scene of a considerable market, held, once a fortnight, for a certain number of weeks in the end of harvest, and the beginning of winter. Lying on the great road from Dumfries to Portpatrick, and at a considerable distance—ten or twelve miles---from Carlinwark, the last good inn on this road; it was naturally, a proper situation for an inn. An excellent inn, with a suitable yard and offices, was built. A smith and a few tradesmen were equally necessary. The vicinity of the inn, and the highway, with the advantage of the well-frequented markets, rendered it a situation promising enough for a shop-keeper or two. To a great land-holder, it would naturally be honourable and agreeable to have labourers, tradesmen, and shop.

shop-keepers, near his principal seat, that they might be ready to perform a variety of little services which his household would necessarily demand. It would be no less worthy his care to provide shop-keepers, labourers, artizans, &c. for the accommodation of his tenants, upon his own estate. The situation was one of those which seem intended by nature for the seats of towns: In a beautiful, and fertile vale; by the side of a fine river; so near where that river discharges its waters into the adjacent Frith, that it might easily become a sea port town; and in a neighbourhood where the principal articles of provision were so plentiful, as to be the chief or only articles of export. With these advantages of situation, and through the influence of circumstances *already begun*,--nothing could be more natural or proper than for the proprietor of these scenes, to think of raising a town here.

ACCORDINGLY, as Mr Murray built his own spacious seat, he invited inhabitants to settle and form a village here, by offering very advantageous terms of feu. A plan for a village was formed by his direction: and the feuars were required to build their houses in a certain order, and of certain dimensions. the spot which was marked was a fine plain, not more than a mile distant from Cally-house, close by the inn and the scene of the markets, and on the highway.

highway. Two streets were marked out, divided from each other by intervening gardens. The one, named the *fore-street*, and lying along the highway, was to have all its houses two stories in height and covered with flates. Those in the *back-street* might be meaner in their structure and dimensions, but were to be equally orderly in their arrangement.

THE situation, and the advantages offered, were sufficiently inviting. The enlightened and public-spirited proprietor had soon the pleasure of seeing a fine village rise near his principal seat; more orderly in its arrangement, more uniformly handsome in its buildings, happier in its situation, than---perhaps any other village in Galloway. Attempts were soon made to render it a seat of trade. A Company engaged in the establishment of a tannery here, with sufficient success. Another Company tried to establish a wine-cellar, and to import wines, at this port, to supply the gentlemen of the county: a trade which, if I am not mistaken, has been since relinquished. Mr Murray, at no inconsiderable expence,---either formed a short canal, or deepened and widened the channel of the Fleet, (for, indeed, I cannot, with certainty, recollect which) so as to form a passage by which small vessels might advance from the Frith, almost close up to the village.

MEANWHILE,

MEANWHILE, the richer cottagers were invited from the adjacent country, by the haughty prospect of becoming *Lairds* in Gatehouse. Mr Murray had occasion to throw some smaller farms together; and this circumstance drove several families from the country into Gatehouse. The local advantages brought the tradesmen and shop-keepers at Gatehouse into a thriving condition; and this naturally allured others to repair from the adjacent *clachans* and hamlets to settle in the same seat. Tanners, glovers, weavers, shoe-makers, sailors, masons, carpenters, butchers, bakers, alchouse-keepers, day-labourers, smugglers were thus brought together in Gatehouse. The parish school was transferred hither. And although in one or two instances, the attempts to augment its opulence and population might mis-give; yet in the whole, it continued to advance with wonderful success.

THUS was it advancing, when *Messrs Birtwhistle*, gentlemen who had for some time before, dealt largely in cattle purchased from Kirkcudbright-shire, and had lately become proprietors of an estate, in the neighbourhood of Kirkcudbright,—proposed to establish a cotton-work here, and obtained a suitable lease from Mr Murray. *It was said*, that these gentlemen had previously applied to the Earl of Selkirk for a lease of grounds near Kirkcudbright, on which

VOL. II.

E e

they

they might have erected their cotton-work; but that his Lordship apprehending, that an Earl's mansion might be disgraced by the vicinity of an establishment of manufacturing industry, rejected their offers with earnestness.

MORE successful in their application to Mr Murray, they immediately built a large fabric, at a great expence, at the western end of the village. Water to drive the machinery, by the apparatus of wheels and cranks, was to be brought from a lake, several miles distant, among the hills to the north-east,---by an aqueduct, to the expence of forming which Mr Murray contributed: The Fleet lying too low to leave it possible to obtain water from it which might be conveniently raised to such a height as to command the wheels. Every difficulty was overcome. The works were prepared; and the manufacture begun. The poor people in the immediate neighbourhood, although numerous enough, were however so little accustomed to any thing like the regular industry of manufacture, that they could not at first be persuaded to apply to the employment which this establishment afforded, for reasonable wages. Those in the neighbourhood again who had provisions to sell, had fancied that they might now obtain for such articles, any extravagant prices they should chuse to ask. But labourers soon flocked from

from Ireland and other places, to perform that work which the good people about Gatehouse could not be induced to perform: And the importation of butter, cheese, and some other articles of provision from a distance soon brought the farmers of the neighbourhood to reason. The returns answered the wishes of the adventurous undertakers. The money circulated, served to enrich, and to quicken the industry of the whole country-side. And, there was soon an enthusiasm among all to be employed about the *cotton-mill*, and to contribute to the success of the manufacture.

THE increase of opulence, the growth of population and the rising activity of industry have, through these means, been astonishingly rapid and powerful. A second large edifice for a cotton-work, has been erected by Messrs Birtwhistle. Another has likewise been built by a Mr M'William. All intended as houses only for the spinning of cotton-yarn. By that machine, named a mule, between forty and fifty pounds of cotton-wool are made into yarn in a week. For, many have been induced to try this manufacture, who could not erect cotton-mills, and were therefore obliged to content themselves with spinning *mules* and *Ginnees*. A maker of these machines has settled here. A Brass-foundry has been also established here, to

supply those articles of wrought brass which are necessary to the construction of the spinning and weaving apparatus. Three hundred pounds of cotton-wool are spun into yarn in the week in the large cotton-work of Messrs Birtwhistle. Three hundred persons are employed in the labour; of whom two hundred are children; and fifty pounds of weekly wages are paid. On the *Ginnees*, a hundred pounds of cotton-wool are spun in the week. This yarn is all sold at Glasgow,—and in the neighbourhood:—For the weaving of cotton-cloth begins to be carried on here with little less earnestness and success than the spinning of cotton-yarn. Nor is the spirit of the cotton-manufacture now confined exclusively to Gatehouse. It spreads fast through the whole country. Every person who can spare money enough to purchase a mule or a Ginnee, and a little raw cotton to begin with; eagerly turns Cotton-Spinner. The country weavers too either purchase yarn and make cotton-cloth for themselves,—for which they find a ready sale,—or are employed by the manufacturers of Glasgow or of Gatehouse, to weave cotton-cloth for them. The ploughman forsakes his plough, the schoolmaster lays down his birch, the tanner deserts his tan-pits, the apothecary turns from the composition of pills, and the mixing of unguents; and all earnestly commence spinners of cotton-yarn or weavers of cotton-cloth.—

THE

THE village of *Gatehouse* has thus been greatly enlarged, within this short time, by the addition of new streets, and the extension of those which had been before begun. Its inhabitants are multiplied to the number of fifteen hundred. It has even been extended to the western side of the river *Fleet*, with which there has been long an open communication by an excellent bridge. A library has been formed here, on the plan of that of *Kirkcudbright*, begun upon a fund of twenty pounds raised by subscription, and to be maintained, and enlarged by the payment of two shillings quarterly, by each proprietor. Here is a mason-lodge, too---for free-masonry is a hobby-horse with some of these people,---to which no fewer than seventy members belong. Provisions are laid in to their labourers by Messrs *Birtwhistles* and Co. The wages are paid once a fortnight. The labourers do not all squander their money, as it is acquired; some of them begin to accumulate property. In their Sunday's array, they are well-dressed. Marriages are frequent. The price of coals has risen considerably here as in other places in this season. The coals are from *White-haven*. Peats are sent in for sale, by the farmers on the contiguous muirs. Garden-stuffs are to be had in abundance from *Cally*. Many more vessels now frequent the harbour.

I

I WISH I could honestly add, that the morals of these good people have been improved with their circumstances. But prostitution and breaches of chastity have lately become frequent here. Tippling houses are wonderfully numerous. I was informed by the intelligent exciseman of the place, that not fewer than an hundred and fifty gallons---of whisky alone---had been consumed here for every week of the last six months. The licentiousness of Gatehouse affords frequent business for the neighbouring Justices. The Clergyman of the parish has found it necessary to act both as a Justice of the Peace and as a Clergyman; and although exceedingly active in the former of these capacities, has yet found it too hard for him to restrain the irregularities of these villagers. An assistant has been employed to aid him in the discharge of his clerical functions. Yet, both the pious assiduities of his assistant, and his own labours, clerical and juridical, have proved insufficient to maintain among the manufacturers of Gatehouse, all that purity of morals and decorum of manners which might be wished. Marriages are indeed so frequent that the clergyman has found it occasionally necessary, for the sake of dispatch, to dispense with the ordinary ceremonies of the church.---A Sunday school has been instituted for the instruction of those children who are employed at the cotton-work through the week:
And

And I am pleased to relate, to the honour of Mr M'William, who is the most considerable cotton-spinner in Gatehouse, after Messrs Birtwhistle, that he pays the teacher for the Sunday instruction of the children of all his own workmen.

As a moralist, I cannot but regret that crowded population, and the prosperity of manufactures should be so invariably attended with the extreme corruption of the lower orders. In this mind I should not wish to see Gatehouse increase greatly above its present population: and I would gladly see some expedients used to restrain the growth of vice, in a village, where, but for vice, want and idleness might be unknown. It has been the great error of the politicians and philosophers of the present age, that, in their care to multiply the numbers, to stimulate the industry, and to increase the opulence of mankind, they have overlooked the important concern of checking their vices, and of encouraging their declining virtues. This concern belongs to the politician, not less than to the Divine and the Moralist. The institution of Sunday schools is almost the only thing that has been done, in the present time, towards preserving a sense of religion and of decent morals among the poor. The lord of the manor and the principal manufacturers about Gatehouse might also use means to enforce a due attendance

dance on public worship among all, whether old or young. They ought to establish a strict police. Men habitually addicted to drunkenness, and women abandoned to prostitution ought to be invariably discharged from employment, and dismissed out of the village. The wages ought not to be paid oftener than monthly. The manufacturers ought to provide for their workmen---the more necessary articles of subsistence; meal, butcher's meat, &c. Some small part of the wages of every labourer should be saved for him, to the end of the year; and interest be paid him upon it. The labourers should be persuaded to establish a common fund, formed by the contributions of all who are in health to labour, and destined to relieve the wants of the sick and the infirm. The use of whisky should be discouraged; and good malt liquors,---ale and porter introduced in its stead. I will even venture to suggest, that the establishment of an Antiburgher or Cammeronian meeting-house might have no bad effect here. I shall add, that it might be better, if Mr Murray, the manufacturers, and the neighbouring gentlemen should be induced rather to encourage the formation of other villages, at the distance of every five or six miles, than to promote the farther increase of Gatehouse.---

THE

THE vale of *Fleet* is beautiful, for a good many miles above Gatehouse. Rough, heath-clad hills rise, indeed, on both sides; but, the lower declivities, and the intermediate plain are fertile, cultivated, and adorned with large tracts of wood. At *Caerstramman*, Mr Murray has a handsome hunting-feat, on the eastern side of the river, and about four or five miles above Gatehouse. On the western side of the *Fleet*, and at nearly an equal distance from the village, is *Rusco*, once a feat of the Viscounts of Kenmure. The house is large, and still habitable. Northwards are a range of wild hills, affording pasture to sheep and goats, and having a few shepherd's huts scattered over them. The Highlands of Scotland have no scenes of higher beauty, than what the vale of *Fleet* displays; and they have hardly any wilder than the hills among which this river takes its rise.

IT should seem that some mineralogist had once examined these and the adjacent hills of *Carsphairn*, in search of precious stones or metals. For, I remember hearing among the old people in the neighbourhood, indistinct tales of a stranger who ranged those mountains, and who, by a simple process, used to convert the stones into gold and silver. They added, that, he proposed to Government to furnish the expence for the maintenance of a regiment; if

he might be permitted to continue his researches and his labours; but could not obtain this permission, and was obliged to leave the country. By their accounts, he was either an alchymist, or a coiner of base money. His name I remember not. The whole tale was indistinct and confused, and was simply a vulgar tradition.

SINGING is the common amusement of the maids in the farm-houses of these pastoral regions, over their sedentary work. I have heard from the old women, some of the best and rarest of the songs in Dr Percy's Collection, and in the collection published by the late Lord Hailes from Bannatyne's manuscript. But, I know of few ancient songs that can be ascertained to be the native productions of Galloway. There is one, named *the Shepherds of Galloway*, celebrating the praises of the country, and commemorating several of the vulgar traditions of its history. *Love Gregory*, *The Earl of Cassilis' Lady*, *Young Beecbom*, *Robene and Makyne*, *Gill Morrice*, *Young Logie*, and some of the satirical pieces of Dunbar, are the chief favourites with the old people. Almost within my remembrance, *Davie Lindsay* was esteemed little less necessary in every family, than the Bible. It was common to have, by memory, great part of his poetry. I neglected to mention, in its proper place, that the *Dee*, near the *Kirk of Tongueland*

Tongueland is said to be alluded to, in the well-known Scottish poem of *the Cherry and the Slae*; and that the author is said to have lived somewhere in the neighbourhood. But the same honours have been claimed to the Tay.

TALES of Ghosts, Brownies, Fairies, Witches, are the frequent entertainment of a winter's evening, among the native peasantry of Kirkcudbright-shire. It is common among them, to fancy that they see, the *Wraiths* of persons dying, which will be visible to one, and not to others present with him. Sometimes, the good and the bad angel of the person are seen contending in the shape of a white and a black dog. Only the ghosts of wicked persons are supposed to return to visit and disturb their old acquaintance. The Brownie was a very obliging spirit, who used to come into houses, by night, and for a dish of cream, to perform lustily any piece of work, that might remain to be done: Sometimes he would work, and sometimes eat, till *he bursted*: If old clothes were laid out for him, he took them in great distress, and never more returned: A Brownie is now very seldom to be heard of, in this country. Within these last twenty years, it was hardly possible to meet with any person who had not seen many *wraiths* and ghosts in the course of his experience. The Fairies are little beings of a

doubtful character, sometimes benevolent, sometimes mischievous: On *Hallowe'en* and on some other evenings, they and the *Gyar-Carlins* are sure to be abroad, and to *stap* those, they meet and are displeased with, *full of butter and beare awns*; In winter-nights, they are heard curling on every sheet of ice: Having a septennial sacrifice of a human being, to make to the devil, they sometimes carry away children, leaving little vixens of their own in the cradle: The diseases of cattle are very commonly attributed to their mischievous operation: Cows are often *elf-shot*. Cattle are also subject to be injured by what is called *an evil eye*; for some persons are supposed to have naturally a blasting power in their eyes with which they injure whatever offends, or is hopelessly desired by them: Witches and warlocks are also much disposed to wreak their malignity on cattle: Charms are the chief remedies applied for their diseases. I have been, myself, acquainted with an Antiburgher-Clergyman in these parts, who actually procured from a person who pretended to skill in these charms, two small pieces of wood, curiously wrought, to be kept in his father's cow-house, as a security for the health of his cows. It is common to bind into a cow's tail, a small piece of mountain-ash,—wood, as a charm against witchcraft. Few old women are now suspected of witchcraft; but many tales are told of the *conventions of*
witches

witches in the Kirks, in former times,—of their pursuit of such as happened, by any accident, to spy their mysteries,—and of such unhappy wights withstanding the pursuers, within a circle, drawn with a sword, in the holy name of God,—till the return of day. The Devil himself sometimes arises, in some human or brutal form, to tempt or affright these good people. His favourite form is that of a sow: Not many years ago, a worthy man mistaking a hog or sow, by night, for the devil, brought out his bible, and set to exorcise the evil spirit with prayer; but unluckily instead of being driven away by his exorcism, the object of his apprehensions accidentally advancing upon him, overthrew him in a trench. But devils, brownies, witches, fairies are becoming every year, less numerous, and less frequent in their appearance, in Kirkcudbright-shire. It is possible, that they may, in time, share the fate of the ancient wild cattle which have been entirely exterminated out of this country.

I SHALL add a few other particulars, before crossing the *Fleet*, concerning the general character and circumstances of the inhabitants of Kirkcudbright-shire.—Potatoes have become almost the chief article of food with the common people. The use of tea is very generally adopted among the farmers. Except an individual or two in every little village; they

they are little addicted to the drinking of intoxicating liquors. It is but of late, that the use of whiskey has been introduced through the country. Rum, and brandy have been less drunk, since the Galloway smugglers have been vigorously checked by the exertions of the Commissioners of Excise. The time was, when the farmers meeting at a market-town, or *clachan*, would sit together for days, and tippie penny-ale. But, punch is now the beverage upon such occasions; and the sitting is never prolonged for so considerable a time.—The clothes worn by the farmers and peasantry are still chiefly of their domestic manufacture. Yet, every young man has commonly a coat of English cloth; and Irish linen is procured, in exchange for old clothes. The young women are no longer satisfied with their stuff and druggie gowns, and blue cloth cloaks: Every servant maid has her cotton gown, her silk cloak, and a smart hat or bonnet. Hats are universally worn by the men; bonnets, although of the manufacture of Kilmarnock in the next county, have been laid aside. The furniture of the houses is not inconvenient. The beds are stuffed with chaff or feathers. Three-footed stools have given place to chairs. The tables, presses, and chests are all decent and commodious enough. The spoons are horn. Plates of earthen ware, with knives and forks are generally used. Forty years ago, a candle-extinguisher might have been

been mistaken by any farmer's wife in the country, for a dram-glass. But, the uses of this and such other little articles of accommodation are now universally known. The houses are now generally built with chimnies; not with a hole called a *lunn* in the middle of the roof, answering to a hearth in the midst of the floor.—Every one is taught reading, writing, and a little arithmetic; whereas, eighty or ninety years ago, it was thought enough to teach the eldest son of a family to read and write.—Carts have now come into general use, instead of the cars and creels which were the carriages formerly employed.—The farm-servants in Kirkcudbright-shire do less work, than those in Ayr-shire and some other counties. They are commonly left idle for the greater part of the winter evenings.—No considerable quantities of butter or cheese are made for exportation, in Kirkcudbright-shire. From the upper parts of this district, indeed, there is some ewe-milk cheese, sold into Ayr-shire, from which it is exported, with the cheese made in that county, under the common name of *Dunlop* cheese.—The butter of Galloway is excellent, and might be exported with great advantage. The language spoken in this shire abounds in broad vowels, and palatine consonants: It seems Saxon, strongly dashed with Danish --with comparatively little remainder of the Celtic.

ONE

ONE thing strikingly expressive of the good sense of the inhabitants of this stewartry forced itself upon my notice. At this time, the efforts of the giddy and the turbulent, who wished to persuade the British Nation to overturn their Constitution, because the French had done so with theirs—At this time, the efforts of those men had begun to be exerted with too successful an efficacy. A variety of books, had been circulated, which were more strongly libellous of the British Constitution, and indeed of all orderly society, than ever the most atrocious calumny was of any private character. They had been circulated with an assiduity partly interested, partly enthusiastic. An impression had been made upon that corrupted mass of the people, which is naturally formed about great towns. These had eagerly diffused the infection. It had spread into almost every quarter. Every idle mechanic, every worthless peasant was eager to become a reformer, a legislator, a ruler. Who indeed could be unwilling to obtain the credit of knowledge which he had not suspected himself to possess; to be invested with sovereign power---that great object of human ambition---; and to have an equal share of the property of those who had acquired or inherited property,—without toiling for it, as they or their father had done? With these temptations to seduce, it was natural for the poor, the ignorant, the giddy, the idle, the credulous, the dissipated, to be every where

where allured to promote a reform, the nature of which they could not understand. The societies of this character which were very generally formed, and the deliberations and resolutions by which these distinguished themselves, shewed plainly that a ferment had been excited through many parts of Scotland. Occasional tumults, and acts of mobbish insolence, if not of insurrection, attended those societies in all their different seats; perhaps, indeed, rather as collateral and related events, than as direct effects. But, in the stewartry of Kirkcudbright, this political frenzy had not begun to rage. The inhabitants of this district were not less informed than the citizens of Glasgow, of Paisley, of Perth, of Kirkintilloch, concerning the general train of public events. The improvement of the condition of the poor, had been less rapid here, than in those places. Yet, no murmurs had begun to rise, no schools of sedition had been instituted, none of its revels had been celebrated in these parts. High and low agreed in thinking it the truest patriotism, to love the British Constitution, to preserve its forms unviolated, and to perpetuate it unaltered, uninjured, to their posterity, as the noblest legacy that one generation of human beings could bequeath to another.—At Gatehouse, although a seat of manufacture, where a good number of the industrious part of the society were assembled, in a

state of considerable independence, no Reform Society had been instituted or suggested. All were content with their political condition, and were ready to attribute chiefly to its advantages, that rapid progress of wealth and industry in which they rejoiced.

From GATEHOUSE of FLEET, to FERRY-TOWN of CREE.

NOT many years since, the road from Gatehouse to Ferry town, led among hills of the most difficult ascent, and was so imperfectly made, as to be often absolutely impassable. The present Marquis of Downshire, travelling at one time, by this way between England and Ireland was, by some accident, owing chiefly to the badness of the road, obliged to spend a stormy night in his carriage, among these hills. Nor is this road only rough and difficult of ascent. The country is, on both hands, wild and dreary; exhibiting only brown heath and bleak rocks.

WITHIN these few last years, therefore, the gentlemen of the county have procured a new road to be led along the coast between these two towns. The country round which the road leads, is not every where adorned and cultivated. But, for a great part of the way, it is both naturally charming, and considerably

ably beautified by the hand of industry. It leads, for the first three or four miles, from one gentleman's pleasure-grounds, into another's.

CROSSING the Fleet by the bridge, the traveller, first passes by a line of new houses which have been hastily *run up* on its western bank, for the accommodation of some new adventurers in the cotton-manufacture.—The ancient castle of *Caerdinefs*, (celebrated by *Camden*, as having been, at the time when he wrote, a fortified place of some consideration on this coast) hangs with a picturesque aspect, over the shore*. It was formerly the seat of the *Maccullochs*, one of the most ancient families in Galloway; and who, as I believe, have been considerable ever since the time of the old Lords of Galloway: A *Macculloch* was Sheriff of Wigton-shire under Edward I. of England, in that short period when Scotland was subject to the English yoke. *Caerdinefs* became afterwards the property of the *Maxwells*,—originally of *Caerlaverock* and *Nithsdale*, when that powerful family extended their possessions, and spread out their cadets over a great part of the southern division of Kirkcudbright-shire. It now gives a denomination to Mr Maxwell of *Caerdinefs* who has a considerable estate in this neighbourhood.

G g 2

The

* I am not sure, that *Camden's* *Caerdinefs* did not stand rather two or three miles south-west from this.

The house, woods, gardens, and lawns of Cally, with the adjacent village are seen to great advantage, as the traveller advances. *Borland* inhabited by Mr *Stuart*: *Airdwall* the seat of Mr *Macculloch*, with woods and well laid out grounds, are seen upon the shore. The hills on the North-West are screened from the eye, with wood. Fertile fields which have not long since begun to be skilfully wrought by agricultural industry, lie at their bases. The inequalities of the rising grounds, with wood scattered over them are every where so varied, and so novel in their aspect, as to present the most interesting scenery to the eye of taste. On *SKY-ARBURN*, a fine romantic glen opens up. Of the wood, there is a great part birch, with pines, oaks, ashes, and other trees here and there intermixed. Hazels, buckthorn, dwarf-willows are the underwood. Abundance of black cattle are seen roaming wherever the woods open into a lawn. The sheep are chiefly confined to the more distant hills.

BARDARROCH, the seat of Mr Maxwell of Caerdi-nefs is beautifully situate nearly upon a point of the coast. The house is handsome, the situation interesting, the gardens and immediate environs, skilfully laid out. The Irish ocean here begins to open wide to the eye; and the island of *MAN* is seen, as it were, floating amidst the waves, to the South-East.

THESE

THERE has long been considerable intercourse between this island and the inhabitants of the coasts of Galloway. *Man* seems to have been originally peopled by the same *Celtic* race, who were the early inhabitants of the contiguous coasts of Galloway and Ireland. It was seized by the Danes, in their piratical descents upon these coasts. It had been before subdued by the Northumbrian Saxons. When the Scottish monarchs had reduced Galloway under entire subjection, they turned their views to *Man*, and received the homage of its princes. It fell afterwards into the hands of the English. Its sovereignty was conferred upon the Stanleys, Earls of Derby. By marriage, it became a possession of the family of Athol. The privileges of *Man* were, by the British Government purchased from that family for the sum of seventy thousand pounds, with the addition of a pension of between two and three thousand pounds on the lives of the then Duke and Duchess. It has been since reclaimed unsuccessfully by the present Duke of Athol.

THE inhabitants of *Man* speak a peculiar language, a mixture of the Gaelic with the Norse or Icelandic. Their manners are not highly civilized. Their island has not been considerably cultivated. Their religion is of the Church of England. Many of them follow a sea-faring life. Their island is still
the

the haunt of smugglers, but was remarkably so before they became subject to the laws of the British Excise and Custom-house. Salt, liquors, teas, and a variety of East India goods, imported by other European nations were then landed in the isle of *Man* and smuggled over into Galloway. This traffic was highly detrimental to the National Revenue. It had also a most pernicious influence on the manners of the islanders and of the inhabitants of the coasts; while it withdrew them from fair traffic, honest industry, and the improvement of such advantages as their country naturally afforded. Upon the purchase of the sovereignty of this island for government, measures were employed to restrain this pernicious traffic. The distress of the smugglers was great. Songs lamenting this event are yet common among the inhabitants of the coasts of Galloway. But, the Gallovidians could not immediately relinquish their favourite employment. They persisted in smuggling although at a greater risk than formerly: and still continued to send their smuggled goods to almost all quarters in the south of Scotland. They were often intercepted by the custom-house cutters, and often by parties of soldiers under the direction of the Excise-officers, after their goods had been landed. Hardly ever a smuggler escaped bankruptcy and ruin, sooner or later. But, still the trade was tempting. The
country

country in general seemed to gain by it. Even some of the landed Gentlemen were occasionally tempted to take a part in it. And companies of smugglers, with considerable capitals, were here and there established. At length, Government and the Commissioners of Excise saw the necessity of checking the smugglers of Galloway, yet more effectually. The Excise-officers were multiplied; considerable parties of soldiers were stationed through the country, to be ready to aid the excise-officers in their seizures; and such vigilance and energy were exerted,---that the capital and the mercantile enterprize of the Gallovidians, are now in general employed in more proper channels.

BUT, to add a few other particulars concerning the isle of *Man*, while I journey on, within view of it: Its soil is not in general, fertile: Its mountains,---the two Barrows, Skeyall, the Watchill of Knockallou, Scafel, Sneafeld or Snawfeldt, are very lofty; the shores of Scotland, Ireland, and Wales being plainly discernible from the two last: Its brooks are numerous. It has vast tracts of peat-earth. Potatoes, barley, oats, flax, and hemp are produced in the arable and fertile parts of the island. The inhabitants have for their domestic animals, black cattle, horses, sheep, goats, hogs---of the last, a small breed called *PURRS*, whose pork and bacon is singularly delicate.

delicate. They have also rabbits and hares in abundance. They have, on their mountains, eagles and hawks. Their rivulets afford salmon, trout, eels, and other fresh-water fishes: On their shores are caught cod, turbot, ling, halibut, herrings, all sorts of shell-fishes,---although the oysters are rather good than plentiful. By the herring-fishery, the inhabitants of Man have sometimes been considerable gainers; but I am not sure, that they continue to prosecute it with sufficient industry and perseverance. ---Beside peats, the bowels of the earth furnish these people with marl, limestone, slate, freestone, ragstone, black marble, lead, iron, copper, and various other fossils.

OF raw products, or manufactures, these islanders have, however, few to export. They supply us with some slates, black marble, lamb's wool, hides, tallow, fish-oil, wax, and honey. There was a time when they used to send not less than twenty thousand barrels of herrings annually to France. Their manufactures, whether linen or woollen might be more advantageously prosecuted, if prosecuted with greater industry.

THEIR principal towns are *Douglas*, or---more properly---*Dufglas*, on the east-side of the island; *Peel* or *Holm*, on the west-side; *Ramsea*, on the north-east;

north-east; and *Castletown*, in which the officers of the government chiefly reside.

THEIR ancient laws are still preserved to them. Their great court of *TINGWALD* is equally their legislature, and their principal body of judicature; and consists of the governor, his council, the two *deemsters*—the judges in civil and criminal affairs,—and the twenty-four *Keys*,—men who are chosen to assist the judge, on account of their supposed knowledge of the laws and customs of the island. The island is divided into six *sheadings*; each of which has its coroner,—an officer equal in authority to our Sheriff.—The ecclesiastical affairs of this island are regulated by a bishop, under the Primacy of the Archbishop of York, an archdeacon, two vicars-general under the bishop, with the clergy of seventeen parishes, two of whom are parsons, the others, vicars. The island has likewise some public schools, in which the elements of classical education are taught.

THE island seems formed for a nursery of seamen. It might be well, if the inhabitants were encouraged to apply themselves chiefly to a sea-faring life. Their minerals might be advantageously dug and exported. Their harbours being large and safe: if

they were duely attentive to their cattle; the island might be a good victualling place for ships.—

TURNING round the jutting coast, where it stretches out, to form a channel at the mouth of the Cree; the house of Kirkdale rises to the eye with a sort of magic effect. It is newly built, of grey granite quarried from the adjacent hills; the edifice stately and spacious; after a most elegant plan by Mr Adams; the granite beautifully polished; the adjacent fields bare, uninclosed, and unadorned,—for, since the house was built, circumstances have arisen, to retard the completion of the noble plan, upon which the adjacent grounds were to have been laid out and planted. It commands a noble prospect of the Irish sea,—of the adjacent country extending up the western bank of the Cree,—of the town of Wigton and its environs on the opposite bank of the same river,—and of the land stretching out, in a sort of promontory, to form *the point of Whitburn*,—the *Candida Casa* of Bede. The house of Kirkdale is among the most advantageously situate in Scotland, for the grandeur and extent of the prospects which it commands. The circumjacent grounds, too, are sufficiently susceptible of every decoration which it would be proper for art to superinduce upon them. In its present state, it has
the

the air of the palace of an Arabian Tale, or of one of the solitary castles which were the seats and fortresses of our martial ancestors.

ON all these mountains, abundance of granite is found, superincumbent in vast masses upon other more regular strata. The bishop of Derry obtained considerable quantities of this granite, a year or two since, to be employed in the structure of architectural ornaments for some churches in Ireland.

WHERE the highway leads along the shore of the Frith, and up the bank of the river, the scenery is picturesque, and wildly beautiful. The sides of the hills rise boldly, incroaching at the same time, far in upon the shore. They are fringed, in many places, with underwood; hazels, furze, and rising oaks, or birches. Sometimes, little insulated mounts rise to break the narrow plain which skirts the bases of the hills. Here and there are farm-houses and cottages, with little gardens of pot-herbs, and little fields of potatoes or corn. In one of these cottages, placed in a sequestered situation among the woods, a young girl was, some years since, barbarously murdered by her lover, by whom she was with child. The country people fancied, that the neighbourhood was disturbed by supernatural noises and apparitions, till after that the murderer had been

H h 2

detected

detected and brought to justice. In the same tract, and upon the coast stands the ancient house of *Caerfluth*, formerly the seat of the *Browns*; a considerable family in these parts. *Cassencarry*, a seat belonging to Mr *Muir-Mackenzie*, is finely situated under the base of the same range of hills; and has, on its front, a plain of some extent, which although unfit for culture, and almost for pasturage, has been more gainful to the proprietor, than if it had fed the fattest cattle, or produced the richest crops of grain. It is one deep bed of shells and sleet, the most valuable of manures. This manure has been beneficially laid upon the proprietor's own lands, and has been sold, with sufficient advantage to farmers who had not access to this or any other such strata of shells without purchase. Along great part of the shore, from the entrance into the Frith, this manure is to be had in great abundance.

THE fishings of the *Cree* are valuable. The proprietors or possessors of the lands along its banks, on both sides, enjoy the rights of the fishery. Salmon, and a variety of other fishes are taken in great abundance. The salmon are esteemed the most delicate in Scotland. This is one of the few rivers into which smelts, or *spurlings* enter, in Spring. These are taken, in large quantities for the few nights during which they are to be found in the *Cree*.

They

They are esteemed a choice delicacy, and are sent, as presents to friends at a distance. Flounders are plentiful in this Frith; and I should suppose, that the fishery alone might afford more than nourishment enough to all the inhabitants, scattered near the mouth of this river. The salmon are exported to *Liverpool*, and perhaps to other places.

FERRYTOWN of CREE;—and to NEWTON-STEWART,
alias—*DOUGLAS.*

THE Ferrytown of Cree is a village of no great antiquity. It owes its origin,---as the name seems to indicate,---to the establishment of a ferry here for the conveyance of passengers to the opposite side of the Cree. The river is here of considerable width. When the tide has ebbed, it may be waded or passed on horseback; although not without difficulty and danger. At other times, the passenger must be ferried over.

As to beauty of situation: this village is less happily placed than Gatehouse. The ground is not level and equal, but varied irregularly. The plan has not been formed, when the village began to be built. But, every feuar seems to have been left,---for a while, to set down his house, as his own fancy suggested. It grew at length into something of
form

form and order. I am inclined to think, that the straggling disposition of some of its houses gives them a more picturesque effect. This effect is aided by the inequalities of the ground, the unequal heights of the houses, the little gardens interspersed, and the trees rising here and there among these. The environs, too, are cultivated; and some handsome houses, among which is the house of Mr *Macculloch* of *Barholm*, are seen here and there.

FERRYTOWN is considerably less than Gatehouse, and does not seem to contain more than half as many inhabitants. It is supported by a coasting trade in lime, coals, salt, grocery goods, liquors, and wood. It is stated in the Custom-house books, as a member of the port of *Wigton*. It produces a good many sailors, and is inhabited chiefly by seafaring people. Its manners take their tone from these. Here are abundance of tippling-houses, but no decent or commodious inn. Dram-drinking is the vice of the place and of the neighbourhood. You see every where through the village, marks of the tarrish roughness and manliness. -I know not that any considerable manufactures have been established here. The genius of the place seems rather to prompt the farther prosecution of trade, and of the fisheries of the friths. Many of these villagers have, with a feued house and garden, a little field
for

for corn and pasture, rented from one or another of the neighbouring landholders. They are tenants of a good part of Mr Macculloch of Bärholm's contiguous estate; not less, I suppose, to his advantage, than to their own. Yet, I must confess, that, in places advantageously situate for trade or manufacture, I should not wish to encourage the labourers and mechanics to divide their cares and their little stocks between occasional agriculture, and their proper employments. It were better to leave it to the neighbouring farmers to supply such articles as can be raised in the neighbourhood, than to make a set of villagers, half farmers, half artificers. But, in situations, unfavourable for trade, and into which manufactures have not yet been introduced, a village cannot be otherwise formed, than by making the villagers petty farmers and half-husbandmen. Even such a village will improve the adjacent lands, and contribute to raise their value. Only, where it can be formed or enriched, upon the principles of trade or of manufacture; it will be wiser to throw agriculture somewhat into the back ground.

FROM Ferrytown of Cree, after taking some refreshment, I proceeded on my way to Newton-Stewart, newly Newton-Douglas. The fertility of the country declines, as it recedes from the sea shore. Yet it is still so considerable, that all the farmers on
the

the grounds lying low on the banks of the river, find agriculture and the feeding of black-cattle the most profitable modes of managing their farms.

ONE of the most interesting tracts in this district, is the *Moss of Cree*; an extent of level ground upon the eastern bank of this river, consisting of many acres, and divided into various farms; of which the whole is almost one continued stratum of peat-earth. Whenever peats are cut in this tract of *moss*, large trunks of trees are found, laid extremely thick, and most of them still undecayed. The origin of this moss is thus plainly discovered. That tract which it occupies, has made a part of a wide forest. By some extraordinary deluge, or hurricane, or convulsion, those trees must have been overthrown, when at their full growth. The country was then, perhaps uninhabited, or occupied only by a few savage hunters, roaming over the hills, or amid the forests. Such an event, if it passed not unnoticed, would necessarily pass unregistered by them. The formation of this moss is known therefore, at this time, only by the appearances which it exhibits. The trees of which the trunks remain here--are of those species common in Scotland; oaks, Scotch pines, birches, and perhaps various others. I know not whether any exuviae of those animals which were the ancient inhabitants of our Scottish forests,

or

or whether any buried specimens of ancient arts and customs have been found in this mofs. I should think it probable, that some such must have been here found.—Agriculture has made some progress in subduing the natural obstinacy of this mossy soil. The mofs has been in some places, cut away, and the clay below it, brought to produce rich crops. In some places, drains have been formed, and pumps set up, for carrying off the water. The mixture of other earths, and of suitable manures has fertilized the peat-earth in some spots. Beans, barley, oats, and perhaps some wheat are raised through this tract. Yet, after all, but a very little has yet been done. The mofs is rendered sufficiently accessible by good roads. Indeed, the highway which runs through some part of it, must have been formed with great labour, and a comparatively enormous expence. I know not, that those expedients which have been so happily employed to recover the arable ground from the vast mosses on the Forth in Stirling shire, have been tried here. Were trenches formed, the mofs cut, and pushed into the torrents which would necessarily pour down the trenches in great rains; the soil might be speedily cleared of the incumbering mofs.—The buildings within the extent of this mofs, except such as have been very lately erected, are all of a very mean and incommodious structure; the cottages having mud-walls, or turfs

VOL. II. I i piled

piled up together, and being covered on the roofs, with thinner turfs.

SEVERAL pleasing prospects open to the North-West, extending up vales divided by various rivulets,—from the highway between Ferrytown and Newton-Douglas. The sloping hills are rough with underwood. Cattle are fed in great numbers on the lawns. And the lowest ground in the vales is in fine cultivation. A river running into Cree, the name of which I have indeed forgotten, but on whose banks I have formerly wandered once or twice, with great delight, presents some charming wild scenes. Its banks are plentifully wooded; the hills rise and open and close in many diversified forms. The stream is sometimes obstructed with rocks, among which it bursts with the greater impetuosity, in consequence of the obstruction. The house of *Bardrocheid* belonging to Mr Lawrie, and *Bargaly*, the property of Mr Hannah, are seated on the banks of this river.

THE hills towering up, between the Fleet and the Dee, have much of an Alpine wildness and grandeur in their aspect. *Cairnsmore* rises above the rest. It seems to derive its name from its superior magnitude. Sheep and goats are fed on these mountains. Some *tumuli* and others of the rude and simple

ple monuments of remote antiquity are scattered over them. Were it not for the wonderful mildness of all the coast of Galloway, these mountains might be liable by their height and bleakness, to be constantly snow-clad. But on all these coasts, spring, summer, and harvest are early; winter late and mild. Snow never lies on the ground for any length of time. The lakes and rivers are seldom long enough frozen, to allow the inhabitants of these parts any satisfactory enjoyment of their favourite diversion of curling on the ice. To the south of Galloway, particularly to the coasts of Kirkcudbright-shire, might the valetudinarian advantageously repair from other parts in Galloway,—were it not that the air is perhaps too moist, and the country, in some parts too marshy. Agues were formerly the frequent diseases of the inhabitants of what is called, in the dialect of the country, the *Laigh Field* of Kirkcudbright-shire. Colds, rheums, and consumptions are the diseases most prevalent in the hilly parts of the country.

THE lead mines of *Mochramore* were once a source of considerable wealth to the inhabitants of these parts, and especially to the landholders, proprietors of the mines. They were wrought with great earnestness. A village rose beside the mines, occupied solely by the miners. The lead was sold at a suffi-

cient price. And nothing could have prevented these mineral stores from continuing to enrich the country and its inhabitants,—had not the veins of ore come to be at length, greatly exhausted, and new veins ceased to be discovered. I rode close by where the miners were at work; and saw various specimens of ore; but none of them so singular as to be worthy of a particular description here. Only an hundred and eighty hands are now employed in working these mines.

THE house of *Mochramore*, the seat of Mr *Dunbar*, lying westward from the highway, but on the eastern bank of the river Cree, is a fine object in the landscape which extends before the traveller near these mines.—Advancing onwards, we passed near by *Kirroch-tree*, the seat of Mr Heron of Heron: a large house, modernized, and repaired, with additions, within these last fifteen or twenty years.—The family of Heron are from the North of England. A *Robert Heron* was comptroller of the kingdom of Scotland, for some time, during its subjection to Edward I. of England. A *Sir Richard Heron* is celebrated in the ballad of Chevy Chase, as one of the warriors who fought on the English side. The ancestors of the present Mr Heron of Heron have long been settled in Galloway. His grandfather was representative of the county in several suc-
cessive

cessive parliaments. He is distinguished as a very worthy and amiable private gentleman.—The environs of Kirrouchtree-house, are not without suitable ornaments, to set off and improve the natural beauties of the scenery; but seem to me susceptible of much more considerable decorations than they have yet received. Below it lies a plain which is said, with great appearance of probability, to have been the scene of some ancient battle. A standing stone and some cairns remain as monuments of that event. Some beautiful fields and parks in this neighbourhood are disgraced by the paltry stone-dykes surrounding them. The prospect of Newton-Douglas, as one approaches, is not unpleasing; yet, less agreeable, than if the back-ground were more boldly terminated by rising hills. I reached this village in the afternoon: And after taking some refreshment in an uncomfortable inn, on the east side of the river, was favoured with the company of Mr Hope, the Surgeon of the village, whose abilities and medical skill are worthy of a more splendid theatre on which they might be displayed.

NEWTON DOUGLAS, and its Environs.

NEWTON-Douglas is, like Castle-Douglas, Gatehouse of Fleet, and Ferrytown of Cree, another thriving

thriving village, of late origin, which owes its rise to the judgment of an enlightened and public-spirited landholder, and to those circumstances which have, within the present century, contributed greatly to the improvement of Galloway, in general, although without operating towards the enlargement of its ancient burghs.

THIS village is situate on the Cree, partly within the parish of Minnigaff lying on the east side of this river, and in part, within Penningham, lying on the west side;—but chiefly and properly within the latter. Like the other villages above mentioned, it lies on the great highway between Dumfries and Portpatrick. To the river, the bridge, the highway, the inclination of the proprietor of the ground to form a village, and the extent of the adjacent country without a market town, does the origin of this village appear to be referable. As in the origin of some other villages, the idle, the giddy, those who hung loose upon society, were the first to flock to it. The advantages of the feus invited some peasants who had accumulated a few pounds. Smuggling did something to promote its advancement. Some money was naturally left in it by travellers,—as a commodious stage on the highway. A decent inn or two soon came to be kept. A few shopkeepers were gathered hither. A few artisans found
this

this a situation where their country-customers would readily enough resort to find them. And through the influence of all these, and various other circumstances, Newton-Stewart, notwithstanding the vicinity of the Clachan of Minnigaff, had risen to be a considerable village, containing perhaps about a thousand inhabitants, before, by the will of the Lord of the Manor, it became Newton-Douglas.

THROUGH the influence of a variety of causes, many of the estates of Galloway have, within these last thirty years, come into the hands of new proprietors. Among others, the estates of the family of Castle-Stewart, a younger branch of the family of the Stewarts Earls of Galloway, have passed from their former proprietors. They have fallen into the hands of the same respectable merchant who has become the proprietor of the village of Carlinwark in Kirkcudbright-shire—Since these estates and with them the superiorities of Newton-Stewart have been purchased by Mr W. Douglas, its population and industry have continued to advance, as before, but with increasing rapidity proportioned to the more rapid improvement of the rest of Galloway, and of Scotland, in general. The cotton-manufacture has been introduced, since its having succeeded so happily at Gatehouse. Several of those machines for spinning cotton which are commonly

monly named *mules*, have been set up here. Machines for carding the cotton-wool have been likewise introduced. A company under the firm of Douglas, Dale, and M'Call have also joined to erect a large work for the spinning of cotton by mill-machinery, at a small distance up the river above, the village, and upon the western bank. A tannery had been long before established here, and managed with great judgment and sufficient success. The salmon-fishing of the river had likewise been considerably lucrative. A village-lawyer or two had found this a favourable situation to settle in. A small manufacture of coarse carpets had been attempted by a Mr Tannahill, under the patronage of Mr Douglas. A good school was established in the village. A branch of the Paisley bank likewise opened a counting-house. And a multitude of circumstances concurred to promise that Newton-Douglas might under the patronage of its new lord, rise rapidly to be a place of no small consequence. Its present population amounts to about twelve hundred souls.

I WAS much pleased to learn all these facts. Not in one or two places, but round the whole coast is the population and the opulence of Galloway fast improving. The manners of its inhabitants have been improved, with its circumstances. If those
who

who at first resorted to the nascent villages, were rather the giddy, the licentious, and the indolent; the vices of these people have been since checked, and their energy roused by exertion. Bring men together in any situation not exceedingly unfavourable; and you have a powerful engine by the wise management of which--almost any noble purpose may be effected: Only bring them not together too closely, or in too great numbers, unless you intend speedily again to disperse them.

NEAR Newton-Douglafs, but upon the eastern bank of the Cree, stands the ancient village or Clachan of Minnigaff. Its houses are, for the most part, built with a cement in the walls of clay mixed with sand, and have their roofs covered with thatch. This village seems to have owed its rise chiefly to the vicinity of the Kirk. It is seated upon the confluence of a rivulet the name of which I neglected to enquire--with the Cree. Above this village stands the Kirk of Minnigaff in a situation somewhat elevated. The manse which I have repeatedly found the seat of polite and elegant hospitality stands near. The view down the Cree, from the windows of the upper rooms in the manse of Minnigaff, is highly pleasing. The course of the river, an islet dividing its stream, straggling houses on both sides, the village extending to the south-west,

and a green hill, with trees straight south beyond it, are the groupe of objects which make up the landscape. But, in enumeration it is impossible to give to objects in scenery any thing of the effect which they acquire from their natural attitudes and colours. I cannot communicate the impressions which this prospect made upon my mind. If I could, my reader would be sufficiently rewarded by these alone, for the trouble of attending so dull and insipid a traveller, in a rainy season, through the course of this journey.

I HAVE almost forgotten to mention, that a Relief-meeting-house has been built, and a Relief Congregation formed at Newton-Douglas. Although a sincere well-wisher to the church of Scotland; I am however not ill-pleased to see dissenting-meeting-houses arise in growing and populous villages. They have always a happy effect on the morals of the lowest of the people, and they serve, at the same time, to rouse the established clergy to an alert discharge of their official duties.

UNLUCKILY Newton-Douglas had not been begun, like Gatehouse of Fleet, upon any plan previously formed. It is therefore like Ferrytown, a straggling village; the houses built along the highways, and larger or smaller, higher or lower, as
whim,

whim, accident, or convenience suggested to the builders. But, this very irregularity makes the general effect of the whole, more picturesque, and more pleasing to the imagination than it might otherwise be.

From NEWTON-DOUGLAS to GLENLUCE.

IT was late in the forenoon before I renewed my journey, and proceeded onwards from Newton-Douglas to Glenluce. Mr Hope kindly accompanied me for some part of the way. His conversation was indeed necessary to raise my spirits above that depression which they were naturally liable to suffer from the dreariness of the scenery upon which I now entered. It was a wide extent of flat, bleak heath, interrupted, now and then, by a morass out of which peats had been cut, and which perhaps exhibited the verdure of a few water-plants. The road was good; for I was yet on the great highway between London and Portpatrick: and care has been taken to make this highway passable, even where the parish-roads and the cultivation of the country have been neglected. These muirs are a tract of sheep-pasture. They seem not to be wholly unsusceptible of cultivation. The British husbandman, too, has now learned to overcome the obsti-

nacy of the most rugged muirs. Hills, the ascent of which does not easily admit the plough, may be more wisely appropriated to the purposes of pasture. But, the level of such flat tracts as that which lies between Newton-Douglas and Glenluce presents no such obstacle to impede the ditcher, the hedger, or the ploughman. And, of such tracts, therefore, I am willing to hope, that, in the progress of cultivation, they may be all brought to bear rich crops of grain or forage.—The river *Blaidenoch*, near the mouth of which *Wigton* is seated, runs through these muirs. We passed it, by a commodious bridge. Here and there, as we advanced, appeared a farmhouse, having walls carelessly enough built of stone and lime, and the roof—perhaps slated, but more commonly thatched. A few dwarfish trees growing round the kitchen-garden, were in these places, objects of beauty to draw the traveller's fondest attention.—The *Tarff* is another river watering this tract of country. It is inferior in size to the *Blaidenoch*; and displays no higher cultivation on its banks. The house of *Drumbuy*, low, and covered with thatch, caught my attention as I went on. It had about it some marks of having been once the habitation of a higher family than appeared to be then accommodated in it. The garden was surrounded with a thick and high stone-wall. Some foreign shrubs and among these a Balm of Gilead
fir

fir grew in it. The windows of the house were sashed. And, the whole had an air of neatness, and snugness, even rising to elegance, which formed an interesting contrast to the bleakness of the circumjacent scenery, and the plainness of those who seemed its present inhabitants. It was not larger than an ordinary farm-house. Only, it appeared to have been the residence of a gentleman, at a time when farmers were less suitably accommodated than they now are. It was the seat of a Mr M'Kie who, if I am not misinformed, was understood by the country-people, to be a representative of that M'Kie who, with a Murdoch, and a M'Clurg obtained from Robert Bruce a grant of a considerable extent of ground, on the other side of the Cree, for services which he performed to him, in his engagement with the English, near Craig-an-caillie, on the Dee.

THE fields adjacent to the highway are nearly open, They are left so, I believe, in order for the accommodation of the droves of Irish cattle, which have lately been driven in vast numbers from Ireland to England, through Galloway and Dumfries-shire. The drivers and proprietors of these cattle are little disposed to halt by the way, on any other account than for necessary rest and refreshment, or for sale. They are seldom impressed sufficiently with religious restraints, to be awed from proceeding on their journey

journey by any reverence for the sanctity of the sabbath. But, in their progress on this day, they have given great offence to the pious inhabitants of Galloway, in those parts through which the highway runs. The appearance of the cattle on the highway, driven on irregularly, bellowing and straying; their drivers running, hallooing, roaring, swearing:—This appearance alone cannot but be offensive to the piety of such as still respect the Lord's day. But, this is not all. These cattle are to be brought off in the morning from those parks in which they have rested for the preceding night; and the farmer or inn-keeper who has entertained them, is, with his servants, necessarily engaged in the gathering and driving of them off. They are again to halt in evening; and now likewise occasion an indecent bustle, and confusion in which they who receive them are unavoidably concerned. Besides, the people of the country are likely to lose that reverence for the sabbath, which it is highly important to maintain upon their minds; unless any thing like abuse of that day be vigorously checked,—by whatever considerations of convenience it may have been suggested.—Upon these grounds, the Clergy of Galloway have been alarmed by this contemptuous violation of the sabbath. They have attempted to restrain the the Irish drovers from their Sunday's progress. An appeal to the civil courts obtained the
drovers

drovers leave to proceed, except during the time of Divine Service.

WIGTON, lying southward from the muirs which I crossed on my way to *Glenluce*, is a burgh of considerable antiquity. It may be nearly equal in size to *Kirkcudbright*. It is the Chief Town of the County. It has a Custom-house. Its site is upon the mouth of the rivet *Blaidnoch*. It gave a title to the Earls of *Wigton*. Its aspect, when seen from a distance, is sufficiently beautiful. I know not if it be at present in a very flourishing condition. It may hereafter become more flourishing. With *Whithern*, *Stranraer*, and *New Galloway*, it has a vote in the election of a member of parliament.—*Whithern* is situate farther to the south-west. It is supposed to have been a town of the ancient inhabitants of these parts, at the time when the Romans invaded *Galloway*; which *Ptolemy* the Geographer mentions under the name of *Leucophibia*. It is the *Candida Casa* of *Bede*, where the first Bishopric of *Galloway* was established, when the inhabitants of these parts were converted to Christianity by *St Ninian*. It is an inconsiderable burgh, infamous as the haunt of smugglers. Round *Wigton* and *Whithern* there is something of improved agriculture to be seen: And the industry and opulence of the country, if not advancing fast, are at least

least not in a state of decline. A village is rising at *Garlies*. The *Earl of Galloway* has his principal seat near; and is proprietor of a considerable share of the adjacent lands.

THE sheep of the tract of muir over which I was still advancing are esteemed for the fineness of their wool. There was a time when all the sheep in Galloway were believed to bear as fine wool as any in Britain. But, in the progress of opulence and the increase of population in Britain, the flesh has become so much more valuable, that the wool has been neglected. It may be happy if the efforts of the Society for the improvement of British Wool shall prove at least more or less successful. For if the sheep-farmers could be persuaded to direct their attention carefully to two objects at once; they might produce both fine mutton and fine wool at the same time. And in those pastures which are the most remote from markets, it might be wise to encourage an attention rather to the wool than to the mutton; the wool being more convenient for carriage to a distance. The smearing of sheep with tar is unquestionably necessary to protect them from the cold of winter, and from the ruggedness of the heaths over which they stray. But, the tar has been often laid on in such quantity, and the butter so scantily mixed with it, as to injure

injure equally the health and the wool of the animal. More judicious farmers have begun to lay on less tar, and to intermix it with a larger proportion of butter. I have not learned that the practice of sheep farming in these places, is nearly so judicious or profitable, as that of the farmers in Clydesdale, and Tweed-dale.

GIPSY TINKERS often range through these parts; selling horn spoons, smoothing-irons, and kettles; lodging in any barn, stable, or kiln, into which they can find access; purchasing horns; and stealing provisions and clothes of all sorts. William Marshall, a man of the gypsie-gang, a native of the adjacent parish of Minnigaff, died lately at an age considerably above an hundred years. It had not been habitual temperance or purity of manners that had contributed to prolong his life to such a period. From his earliest years, he had lived in all the licentiousness of manners by which these gypsies are distinguished. Hardly could a crime, or a species of dissipation be named, of which he had not, at one time or another been guilty; murder, robbery, incest. He had been repeatedly in the army, from which he had escaped at one time by desertion, at others, in consequence of the regiment being disbanded, in which he had served. In the latter years of his life, he roamed through Galloway at the head of a

gang of tinkers; till he became at last too frail for this; and drew the curiosity of the country so much upon him by his longevity, that he found it more lucrative to travel about, alone, or almost alone, and to call upon such as had a curiosity to see and to converse with old William Marshall. The Countess of Selkirk benevolently allowed him for two or three of his last years, a small annuity which with what he received from others, made his old age sufficiently comfortable. William was famous through the whole country, in the end of his life, for his longevity, as he had before been for his profligacy. There had been always a mixture of generosity and ability with his wickedness which had, even in the midst of it, gained him some share of respect. When he *passed his word* for the safety of the goods of the neighbourhood, in any place where his gang halted for a few days, all was safe. If he could not protect the property of any who had not offended him; he would commonly give the proprietors warning to beware.---If Don Quixote found reason to felicitate himself, on his having been served by great ladies, and courted by princesses, when he first sallied forth, to distinguish himself by exploits of knight-errantry: Old William Marshall might have said, that Parsons had contended for him, and different parishes had claimed the honour of his nativity. In the *account of the present state*,---for I am unwilling to use

use that new fangled word STATISTICAL,---of the parishes of Scotland, compiled by Sir John Sinclair: Old Marshall has been claimed as a native of two different parishes. One clergyman, willing to do his parish all possible honour, took advantage of Marshall's being accidentally in his neighbourhood, and popped him down in his *Account*. When the minister of the parish to which William truly belonged, came to give in his Account to the Compiler, he found it necessary to reclaim the *waif*. I am not sure, however, that any personal contention took place between the two clergymen on account of Mr Marshall.

THE gypsies, to whose number William Marshall belonged, are now less numerous in Galloway and other parts of Scotland, than they once were. They are among those savage animals which increasing population and order expel or exterminate. Their history is one of the most curious objects of research that modern Europe affords. They are spread through all the countries of Europe. In Hungary and in Spain they are very numerous. Their manners, their trade, and their traffic are every where, the same. They keep inns; they deal in horses; and they make household utensils of horn, wood, tin, copper. They devour carrion with wolfish rapacity. They steal poultry, and tear them in pieces

almost raw. Give them but food; and they are little solicitous about its quality, or about the mode in which it has been dressed. Of their dress, they are equally negligent. The intercourse of the sexes among them, is promiscuous, as among the brutes: No laws of marriage are faithfully observed: No relation of affinity or consanguinity imposes any restraints upon lust. They wander commonly about, in considerable bodies, averse to regular labour, and to the habits of settled life. Any shelter sufficient to screen them from the open air, is satisfactory lodging. Their women are eminent in all the arts of fortune-telling. They form a sort of community among themselves, having a king and chiefs. They make excellent soldiers, whenever the habits of military discipline can be sufficiently impressed upon them. They are accustomed to assemble in great bodies from all parts of each particular district, and to meet in an annual assembly in some particular place. They speak among themselves, a language of their own, different from all the languages spoken in all the countries of Europe through which they are dispersed.

THESE peculiarities in the character and manners of this wandering race, have excited a strong curiosity in many, to examine farther into their history

tory. They have been conjectured to be from Hungary, from Egypt, and from various other places. But the probability was long thought to be greatest, in favour of Egypt. Later and more curious enquiry, has, however evinced that Egypt has no better a claim to be considered as the parent country of the gypsies, than Cross-michael to be regarded as the native parish of old William Marshall. The manners of the gypsies have, upon careful comparison, been found to correspond with wonderful exactness, with those of a base and detested cast among the native inhabitants of Hindostan. The language of the Hindoos has been found to correspond with equal exactness to the language of the Gypsies. And after allowance had been made for that corruption which the language of the latter must necessarily have suffered from their roaming through countries in which different languages were spoken, and from their intercourse with the inhabitants of those countries,—after this allowance was made, it appeared undeniably certain, that the gypsies of Europe had brought their language from Hindostan. The period, too, at which as nearly as can be traced, the gypsies made their first appearance in Europe, answers with sufficient exactitude, to the æra of one of the irruptions of the Mahometans from the north-west of Asia, into Hindostan; thus admitting the conclusion,

conclusion, that having fled from the face of the conquerors, the ancestors of our European gypsies came onwards from one country to another, till they found their way into Europe.

I KNOW not, that any of our comic writers have availed themselves of the strongly marked peculiarities of the gypsy character;—or whether such a character might be introduced with a suitable effect upon the stage. But, our novelists have not neglected the gypsies. *Fielding*, that most skilful painter of the interesting peculiarities of low life has amused us with several sketches of the gypsy character. And in two fine pieces of fictitious writing of which the Learned and Elegant Dr W. Thomson has been *accused*, the gypsies are among the most interesting personages introduced on the scene; The Works I allude to, are “The Man of the Moon,”—and “Mammoth, or Human Nature Displayed.”

I HAVE said that the tinkers or gypsies are not at present numerous in Galloway, or the other parts of Scotland. As their numbers declined, however, the Sturdy Beggar, an animal little troublesome, and little less worthless, began to infest these parts. By the use of suitable measures, this nuisance has been also restrained or dismissed. And indeed, the plan on which the Poor are provided for, through
Scotland

Scotland, is such as to render the idle poor as little burthenfome as poffible, to the induftrious. No poor's rates are eſtabliſhed here as in England. They are left dependent on caſual charity. That charity is ever ſufficient for their maintenance, when their wants are not in a very ſhameful degree, the confequences of their vices: While in receiving ſuch charitable ſupport, they have ſuch a tax of ſhame and pride to pay, as renders it dearly enough bought, and deters them from aſking it unleſs they cannot by other honeſt means procure ſubſiſtence. At every pariſh church, on every ſabbath, a *plate* is either ſet at the door, to receive the contributions of the charitable, as they enter;—or *ladles* are carried round by the Elders, after the Service is concluded, and preſented to every one, that he may give for the uſe of the poor, what he thinks proper. This money is diſtributed by the Kirk-ſeſſion, under the occaſional inſpection of the Landholders or *Heritors* of the pariſh. Thoſe who feel themſelves in circumſtances of helpleſs diſtreſs apply to the Kirk-ſeſſion for relief. If ſatiſfied of their want, and that their conduct is not ſo worthleſs as to render them undeſerving of aid; the ſeſſion immediately relieve with ſuch a proportion of the charitable fund under their management, as can be prudently ſpared to them. This aid is continued, while the poor perſon's wants demand, and the fund is adequate
to

to supply it. It sometimes happens, that a person who has received aid from the Kirk-Session, dies possessed of some little property. In this case the poor are, of course, that person's heirs, unless there shall be more than enough to repay all that has been received from the Session. The remainder then falls to the natural heirs.

OF all schemes that political wisdom, or the cares of pious charity have contrived, in order to relieve want, without encouraging vicious idleness, this is perhaps the best. Yet, I must confess, that it often proves inadequate in parishes, which are thinly inhabited, and in those which are very populous. Only in such as are in a middle condition—as to population and wealth, has it been found fully sufficient. In the former parishes,—the thinly inhabited,—it has generally been thought necessary to permit the parish poor to beg from door to door. If they are of fair character, they are received commonly with all the warm kindness of ancient hospitality. In other cases, it has become usual for the Session to require from the Heritors, or Householders or both, such an addition to the fund supplied by spontaneous charity as may be sufficient for the relief of the poor. The charity of some individuals has left bequests to be *mortified* for the *behoof* of the poor. And, in some parishes, these are so considerable as

to require little addition from the charity of the present generation. These are all the charitable provisions that have been yet made for the poor of Scotland. They are of such a nature as neither to tempt the managers of the funds, to abuse or embezzlement, nor to encourage the idleness and other vices of the poor.

- THE *Friendly Societies* to which Government seem ready to give every encouragement, are the only additional means for providing for the poor, that I should wish to see introduced into this country. The poor are thus rendered economical, and independent. The tax falls upon themselves, but with the effect rather of a bounty than of a tax. Wherever these Societies have been formed, they have proved highly useful to the labourer and artizan. There seems to be a spirit in the present age, which promises to carry them farther. If in England, these were modelled into a general form, and employed instead of the present system of poor's Rates; I should think that the poor would be freed from many of their present temptations to vice and idleness, and the community at large of a heavy burthen. Yet, I confess myself to be too much a novice in these matters, to have any right to suggest a change of measures.—

WILLIAM MARSHAL, the gypsies, and the poor; have perhaps detained me too long on the muirs of *Mochrum*.—Only one petty village—and that hardly a village—appeared along this part of the highway. To the south, I observed,—nearly midway, I think,—between Newton-Douglas and Glenluce, the house of *Craighlaw*, at some short distance from the highway, and half-hid among wood. There was somewhat of an air of cultivation in its immediate environs. In some peat-mosses, by the way-side, I perceived abundance of old oaks.

NEAR Glenluce, the aspect of the country began to soften. Several houses seemingly the habitations of men of some fortune appeared here and there. Fatter cattle appeared. And hedges, and green fields, and well-built walls of inclosure caught the eye.

BALCAIL, formerly the residence of *Major Ross* is agreeably situate immediately above Glenluce. Mr Ross was at considerable pains in improving and decorating the grounds lying adjacent to this house. He planted some wood in a glen, and on a hill, south-east from this house. He cultivated his arable grounds on a regular plan of agriculture: and dressed his grass-fields with some care. The consequences have been happy. The scene is charming in its
situation

situation on the edge of a wild muir. The value of the lands has been greatly augmented. The example begins to be imitated.

GLENLUCE—to STRANRAER.

THE aspect which the village of Glenluce presents to the traveller approaching from the north-east, is very pleasing. It is irregularly placed on the lower part of a gentle declivity, on the sea-shore, and at the head of a fine bay. A small stream pours down upon the eastern side. The house of *Balcail* with the adjacent fields and wood are within the scene. The smoke from the houses, the appearance of the villagers, and of their cattle, the trees surrounding their little gardens—are so many interesting objects within the groupe. I was charmed with the village.

THIS village owes its origin partly to its having been the seat of a priory, founded by one of the Old Lords of Galloway,—and partly to the natural advantages of the situation at the head of the bay, and by the side of the stream. It has never risen to be considerable. It seems at present to be growing. Some coasting-shoops belong to it, and come up near to the village, entering the mouth of the little river. The river is the *Luce*. I am not sure

that any manufacture has yet been tried here with any considerable success. The villagers are merchants or shop-keepers, inn and alchouse-keepers, labourers, sailors, and rural artizans. The inn at which I stopped to dine, is not uncomfortable or ill kept. A drove of Irish cattle passed through the village, while I was here. The tract of land interjected between *Glenluce-Bay* and *Loch-ryan*, is that called by Ptolemy the Geographer, *Novantum Chersonesus*: The Novantæ were the rude inhabitants whom the Romans found in these parts.

AFTER resting, and refreshing myself at Glenluce, I continued my journey towards Stranraer. Immediately below the town, and towards the south-east, the country presented a scene of decent farm-houses and cultivated fields. As I went onwards to the south-west, I soon passed near by the seat of Sir Thomas Hay of Park, surrounded with wood, and as I should suppose, agreeably enough situate; although I had not such an opportunity of viewing it, as I could have wished. Immediately beyond the seat of Sir Thomas Hay, the highway entered a tract of flat, sandy ground, which was indeed covered here and there with grass, but which, I should suppose hardly susceptible of cultivation for crops, unless by the intermixture of a vast quantity of clay for manure. Sand is well
known

known to be even a better manure than lime for the fertilizing of clay : and I should think, that clay, if it could be obtained in sufficient quantity, might, in like manner, be used to fertilize a tract of sand.

BUT, the land in this neighbourhood is not invariably barren sand. Much of it has a light, dry, and kindly soil, easily cultivated, and producing abundant crops. The ordinary manures are lime imported from White-haven, and delivered to the farmers at the price of one shilling and two pence for the Carlisle bushel or herring-barrel. Large quantities of sea-weeds are driven by south-winds, upon Balgreggan head, in the bay of Luce : and these, impregnated as they are with salts, afford one of the best species of manure, that can be used. Potatoes, that enriching and pulverizing crop, are raised in large quantities in these parts ; and, with oats and bear, form very considerable articles of export. Flax has, since the American war especially, become a favourite article of crop, in this neighbourhood. I have not been particularly informed what profit any of these crops affords for the acre. But, it should seem that the farmers find agriculture sufficiently lucrative ; for agricultural improvements are prosecuted, every year, with increasing industry and perseverance.—In these parts, as through the rest of Galloway, black cattle are reared

ed and fed in great numbers. These form, through all Galloway, still the principal article of export. Horned cattle from Ireland are introduced into this neighbourhood: but the polled or *cowed* breed of Galloway are still preferred. I think it not a whimsical or capricious preference that is given to these. The growth of horns certainly carries away some juices, which, if not secreted for this use, would go to the improving of the flesh of the animal: and, besides, cattle having horns are commonly more mischievous and less manageable than those without horns. Yet in some parts of Scotland, as I am informed,—in Dumbartonshire especially,---horned cows and bullocks are as eagerly preferred, as the polled in Galloway. Swine are a species of livestock which I was much pleased to find bred and fattened in great numbers, in this neighbourhood. And, what is still better, they are killed and cured here, and the carcases exported to London in hams, or barrelled pork. Upon the sea-coast hardly any sheep are fed for exportation. The mutton however of such as *are* fed there, is peculiarly high flavoured. Geese, hens, rabbits from a warren on the bay of Luce, and a variety of the best articles of animal food are to be obtained here in sufficient numbers, and at no exorbitant price. The price of the different species of labour is in these parts at a rate from one to two shillings for the day. Services,
under

under the denomination of *Baillie-work*--such as cutting peats, and conveying them home, when dried, cutting down corn, and sometimes plowing and harrowing--are commonly performed over the whole county of Wigton by the farmers to their masters.

SALT has been occasionally manufactured on these coasts: and the manufacture might be prosecuted with success, were it not for a smuggling importation of Irish salt. Of the sea-weeds thrown in upon these shores, some part are burnt into kelp, which is commonly exported to Ireland. The flax, raised here, is not exported unwrought, but spun into coarse yarn, for that species of linen cloth, named *Of-naburghs*, and prepared for the West Indian market. Within the parish of Stonykirk are no fewer than four mills for dressing flax, and a bleachfield. In the same parish, an excellent mill has been lately erected for preparing pot or pearl-barley for the Liverpool market. As to the fishery on these coasts; abundance of mackarel are taken, about Lammas, in the bay of Luce. Salmons abound in the little rivers; but of these the fishery has been hitherto in a great measure neglected. Cod are taken in considerable quantities in the Irish channel: and this fishery is pursued through the whole year, with various success.

THE

THE population of these parts, is considerably numerous, being, on an average, at the rate of an individual to every fifteen or, at least, to every seventeen acres.

ON the lands of Garthland in this neighbourhood is a square tower, forty five feet high, and having on its battlements, the date 1274, which is said to have been a feat of the ancient Lords of Galloway. I have reason to believe, that the present Macdowalls of Garthland are descended from the line of those ancient princes. In this neighbourhood too are some mounds or *moats* of a conical form; the original destination of which, as of others of the same appearance through Scotland, seems to have been,---for seats of courts of justice, or for military stations. One is four hundred and sixty feet in circumference at the base, sixty feet in height, and has a curious excavation on its summit.

THE Earl of Selkirk on his estate of Baldowan, Sir William Maxwell of Monreith, Admiral Keith Stewart of Glasserton, and several others of the landholders in these parts, have distinguished themselves by their care to set an example of highly improved agriculture on those parts of their domains in their own immediate possession. The fattening of cattle seems indeed to have been what they had chiefly

chiefly in view, in attempting such improvements. But, while raising green crops, and labouring to procure the richest sward of the most nourishing grass; they have necessarily improved the natural fertility of the soil with considerable culture, have employed labourers numerous in husbandry, and have reaped many fine crops of grain. I am happy to state that these landholders have distinguished themselves by improved agriculture; believing as I do, that experiments in agriculture can never be gainful to those by whom they are first tried, and that the farmers are therefore not to be expected to be the first to begin them. Galloway, once a country noted for wool and horses, has since become, in the progress of industry and improvements, a cattle-country, and seems now likely to be, in a short time remarkable for its agriculture, and its manufactures.

THE road between Glenluce and Stranraer is one of the best I have ever travelled. It leads through a level tract, for its whole extent. The country is generally green, divided, inclosed, and cultivated on all hands. The fences are commonly of turf or *fods*; a species of fence less unpleasing to the eye than the stone dyke; although not equal to the growing haw-thorn hedge. It is indeed bare of wood. But, so near the sea-shore, it may be thought that wood would scarcely thrive; the

lands are more profitable in their present state, than if they were covered with even the best timber; and it is not easy to persuade people to be at an expence by which only their great grand-children, in whose fortunes they can be little interested, are to profit.—Yet, even on the sea-shore, wood will thrive; as appears from the wood with which uninhabited islands are often overgrown: The first, the second, the third, and even the fourth lines of the trees on the shores may partly be withered, and in part dwarfish: But, sacrifice these; and the rest will do well, and will protect the grounds lying within, from any blasting influence of the sea air, and the sea breezes.—I know not that the landholders of Scotland have yet thought to fix any conditions respecting planting, in their leases to their tenants. But, such conditions might well be fixed, without the imposition of any great hardship upon the tenant; and clumps and belts of trees thus scattered around so as to warm the country by shelter, and to operate the same effect as if we were carried a few degrees farther south.

WITHIN a few miles of Stranraer, this road passes through the Earl of Stair's plantations near *Culborn*. These are extensive: the pleasure-grounds are laid out in the Dutch taste: They were formed by that Earl of Stair, who distinguished himself so
eminently

eminently as a general and a statesman. The late Earl of Stair distinguished himself by some valuable little tracts which he published on the state of the National Revenue,—and still more by his care to promote the improvement of the country, and the wealth and comfort of the farmers and peasantry upon his estate. He used to take farm after farm into his own possession, and after inclosing and improving, to let it to tenants.—Lime is imported here from Ireland: And of this his Lordship was not sparing. He encouraged the breed of the polled Galloway cattle. He introduced an excellent rotation of green and white crops. Many acres of his estate were thus improved to bring a rent of fifteen or twenty shillings an acre, for which, in their former condition, no tenant could afford to pay more than six-pence or a shilling an acre.—The present Earl of Stair has been long one of the most respectable diplomatic ministers of the British Government.—Where the highway leads through the Earl of Stair's ornamented grounds, it passes for some length, between fine whin-hedges. These seem to have been long carefully dressed. The whins have risen to a great height. Their appearance is singular and beautiful. Their stalks are straight; their tops green and bushy; but they are too bare and denuded below, to form a sufficient fence. I should suppose that whins intermingled with plants of the floe-or black-thorn might do better.

It was night before we reached Stranraer. With some difficulty, we gained admision into the King's Arms inn, which was then crowded with company.

STRANRAER.

STRANRAER is a burgh of considerable antiquity; seated on the Bay of Loch-Ryan; and rising nearly at the bottom of the bay, on the southern side, on ground the inequalities of which seem to render it a disadvantageous site for such a town. The principal street is of great length, in proportion to the extent of the whole. Many of the houses are of decent appearance. They seem to have been built chiefly about the beginning of the present century. From that period till lately, Stranraer seems to have been enlarged by few additional buildings. But whole streets of new houses have been lately built. No regular plan of arrangement has been observed when the streets of this town were first formed. Even at present, they are still set down in a disorderly and straggling disposition.

STRANRAER is esteemed a port in the Custom-house books. It has a collector and the usual set of officers for the collection of the customs. Portpatrick, on the southern side of the promontory, is a *member* of the port of Stranraer.---This town is understood

flood to contain at present, about two thousand inhabitants: It has some trade,---to the Baltic, to Ireland, to England and perhaps to the West Indies. The Cotton-manufacture has been lately tried here. To the encouragement which this manufacture has given to population, is, the late growth of the town most probably owing. Stranraer unavoidably derives some advantage, from its being a thoroughfare for travellers between Scotland and Ireland. It has several large inns, the best of which were at this time crowded with people of rank waiting for a fair wind by which they might sail over to Donaghadee.

MR TAYLOR, the landlord of the inn which I entered, keeps also a coffee-house for the accommodation of some of the townsmen who have encouraged him by a subscription to procure newspapers, and to fit up one of his rooms for this purpose. He conducted me to read the newspapers in this coffee-house. Some Gentlemen of decent appearance sat in the boxes. I entered insensibly into conversation with one or two of them. They were eagerly and passionately interested about the progress of French Democracy, and the earnestness with which the Roman Catholics of Ireland, aided by the Dissenters, were then preparing to demand the abolition of those laws which placed
them

them in a state of subjection and inferiority—in respect to the Protestants. The vicinity of Ireland appeared to have inflamed in those gentlemen the spirit of national rivalry. They regarded with high indignation the very idea of the Irish papists claiming legal relief from any hardships, from which they might, at any time, escape by professing themselves Protestants. They were no less irritated against the Irish Presbyterians whom they believed to have at this time aided and abetted the Roman Catholics, in the hope of finally dividing Ireland from all connection with great Britain and of forming it into a separate republic. With this revelling spirit of liberty that had arisen in Ireland, they naturally connected in their reflections, the efforts of democracy in France. The latter appeared to have prompted and encouraged the former: And the gentlemen whom I thus met in the coffee-house at Stranraer were consequently hostile in their wishes alike to the *Democrates* of France, and to the Reformers of Britain and Ireland.

A SPIRIT of rivalry prompted by near vicinity, might indeed contribute to inflame the zeal of these gentlemen against the attempts which the Irish, and even not a few of our brethren in Scotland and England seemed then ready to make upon the British Constitution. But their zeal was supported
by

by very just and rational ideas of the happiness of their present condition, of the Evils of Political Change, and of the constant miseries of democratical government. They maintained, that the policy was equally wise and just which had subjected the Roman Catholics in Ireland, to the restraints of which they now complained. They asserted, that the British Legislature had invariably shewn a disposition to cherish and relieve them,---in proportion as they appeared to lay aside those religious and political prejudices, which had made the restrictions to which they were subjected, necessary for the safety of the state. They observed that if the political and civil condition of the Papists in Ireland were all at once greatly changed; the newness of their situation might give a giddiness to their sentiments and opinions, which might render them insolent, factious, and turbulent. The Irish Dissenters they thought still more blameable than the papists, as have nothing but envy of the Established Church, to prompt their clamour of grievances. They seemed to dread, that the artful, perfidious policy of the French might too easily seduce the levity and fickleness of the Irish into traitorous correspondence with them. They were equally afraid, that the same imprudent levity of character, and that ferocity of manners and of temper which is strongly expressed in the propensity of the Irish to duelling,
---might

—might hurry them into open rebellion, before Government could have time to hear their complaints to estimate their grievances, and to grant relief,—if relief were needed.

THEIR indignation seemed to me, to be too violent against the Irish: their fears excessive. I could not agree with them in thinking the Irish likely to be seduced into any treasonable correspondence with the enemies of Britain; nor could I suppose it possible for the British Government to refuse to the Irish Catholics, the redress of every real grievance; or for the Irish Dissenters to plot the destruction of a government under which they were flourishing and happy.—I was led to suggest, that the emigration of such numbers of the French into Britain and other countries,—must give to the countries in to which they were received, an accession of useful population,—of hands which might be happily employed in our manufactures or agriculture. The revocation of the Edict of Nantz, which drove so many thousands of Frenchmen into exile, introduced in other countries various manufactures in which the French then excelled their neighbours, but which have since flourished chiefly in those seats in which they were established by the Protestant Emigrants from France.—

BEING

BEING now nearly on the confine of Ayrshire, I cannot leave Galloway, without reflecting again with pleasure, on the good sense and the virtuous manners of its inhabitants. They are strangers to bigotry in religion, in customs, in political principles. Yet are they equally free of that levity and fickleness which prompts capricious change in these matters. The dissenters in Galloway are, comparatively, few. The progress of their manners and the alteration of their customs, is happily slow, yet not stationary. In their political sentiments, they are the steady friends of Government, yet rationally jealous of their liberties. Some of the landholders in Galloway have been lately disposed to wish a reform in the laws by which the County Elections are regulated. But, the people, in general, have discovered an abhorrence of that atheistical, and democratic spirit which has ravaged France and Flanders, and which has prompted the formation, and governed the measures of our Associations of Friends to the People. Nor is it simple stupidity, want of information concerning public transactions and events, or any sluggishness of character that has preserved the Gallovidians faithful, in these times of turbulence, to their sovereign, and to the British Constitution. They are active, acute, and intelligent; and no less eager than the inhabitants of the other provinces of the British Empire, to acquaint themselves with

the news of the times. But, the steadiness of their temper renders them averse to change. They know themselves to be well: and they prudently fear, that political revolution may not tend to make their circumstances better.—Theft, robbery, and murder are crimes almost unknown in Galloway. Drunkenness, unchastity are---comparatively speaking---rare. The inhabitants of Galloway may appear to be, in some instances, indolent and deficient in inventive ingenuity. But, this is only where circumstances have not yet presented sufficient incitements to stimulate their industry, and rouse their ingenuity. Galloway has long been a breeding country for men, no less than for cattle. No province in Scotland has sent out a greater number of young men into all parts of the world: And these, when placed on scenes where their industry and ingenuity might be successfully exerted, have distinguished themselves so as to prove, that Galloway is no Caffraria, or Bæotia.---As Galloway continues to be opened up by roads and canals: as agriculture makes farther progress through it: as manufactures advance from the coasts through the inland country: the natives of Galloway will come, more and more, to exert at home, that activity, perseverance, acute penetration, and inventive ingenuity, by which they have often already distinguished themselves abroad. The inhabitants of Galloway do not readily

sily enlist in the army. But, such as have gone for soldiers, have commonly been distinguished among their fellows, for bravery, steadiness and decency of manners.

THE burgh of Stranraer is chiefly the property of Lord Stair or at least dependent upon his lordship.—The circumjacent grounds are also, for the greater part, within his lordship's estate. The agriculture is sufficiently improved in some places. In others, it seems in the way of improvement. Lime is imported from England and Ireland. A compost of peat earth, dung, and lime has been used for manure by some of the farmers who are best acquainted with the qualities of the soil. The common round of crops---is---three of oats, six of grass; then oats again.—This whole tract of level country has the appearance of having been under water,---if one may judge by the lowness and equality of level with which it spreads out under the adjacent hills,—by its sandy soil, or by the nature of the strata which are found upon digging downwards, to a great depth,

THE promontory or headland, extending between the bay of Loch-Ryan, and the Irish channel, is called, in the dialect of the country, the *Rinnes of Galloway*. From its northern horn, Fairland Point,

to the Mull of Galloway, its length may be about thirty English miles; its breadth varying from three to six miles: the whole area may be, thus estimated at---from ninety to an hundred square miles. Its products are corn and cattle. Oats are the favourite article of crop. Bear or barley is also raised in considerable abundance. Rye grass and clover are cultivated in preference to the natural sward of grass. Some small quantities of grey-pease and horse-beans are raised, rather for domestic use, than for exportation.---Beside the other manures above mentioned, sea-shells are found in many places, and are laid, with great advantage upon the lands. A soft sea-sand, either taken from within the flood-mark, or dug in lands that have been formerly covered with the sea, is found to answer well as a manure. The agriculture of all these parts is in a state of rapid advancement and improvement. A larger quantity of grain is exported on every succeeding year. Ayr, Greenock, Glasgow are the chief markets. The improvements in husbandry, affording food better in quality, and in greater quantity, have at the same time improved the breed of the cattle, and have enabled the farmers to raise them to a larger size, and to fatten them better. With these improvements, population has been proportionately increased. The district may be about one-tenth part more populous than it was, thirty years ago.

Villages

Villages arise, here and there, from time to time.-- The shores afford abundance of fish, of all kinds: Near the Star-point, in the peninsula of Kirkcolm parish, is, a fine bank of excellent oysters. On the same coast, and formed partly by the shores of Kirkcolm is a beautiful basin called the *Wig*, large enough to afford a safe retreat to almost any number of the small coasting vessels. The bay of Lochryan is a noble and convenient harbour,---affording sufficient depth of water for ships of any burthen; good, anchoring grounds, or a soft beach; and having no shoals or sunken rocks near its mouth, to obstruct the entrance: Perhaps the whole coast between the two headlands of Galloway and Cantire affords no more commodious harbour.

From STRANRAER to BALLANTRAY.

ATTER spending a night in Stranraer, I proceeded, on a Sunday morning, rainy and uncomfortable, towards Ballantray. I had accidentally met with a young gentleman from Ireland, whom I had formerly known in Edinburgh. He was now proceeding to study in Glasgow, and became the companion of my journey between Stranraer, and the intended scene of his studies.

OUR

OUR way now led along the North-West shore of the Bay of Loch-ryan. The coast is bare of wood. The agriculture seems not to be very perfect. But, the country was not destitute of verdure; and the fluctuating waters of the bay,—the appearance of Stranraer at its bottom, and the *Rinnes* bounding it on the south-west, presented a grand and interesting prospect, which to me, had at the same time something novel and peculiar in it, by which my attention was powerfully arrested, and my mind amused. Parcels of sea-ware lay, here and there upon the shore. I was informed by people of the country, whom we met on their way to church, that the sea-ware was used for manure wherever it could be obtained on these shores, and was preferred to every other species of manure which they had occasion to try. Here and there were farm-houses and hamlets along this shore. Near a place called *Under-Meffeu* is the seat of a woollen-manufacture. The cotton-manufacture begins, also to be tried in these parts.

As we proceed onwards, the country on our right hand became more and more rough and bleak in its aspect. The *Rinnes*, on the opposite side of the bay, seemed, however, rather to assume a more agreeable appearance towards its extremity.

AT

AT the distance of a few miles from Stranraer, we found a village, named *Cairn*, having near it a landing-place for small vessels, at which several vessels then lay. One had just come in with cattle from the port of *Bangor*, on the Irish coast. The villagers were almost all employed either in assisting at the landing of the cattle, or in seeing them come on shore. The bustle which this business occasioned, seemed highly unsuitable to the sanctity of the day. But, it was necessary to bring them on shore, since they had been shipped so late on the preceding day, as to leave it impossible for them to reach the bay of Lochryan sooner than on the sabbath morning.—The troublesome confusion and indecency, attending the landing of cattle on a Sunday, cannot but be extremely disagreeable to the pious inhabitants of these shores. The clergy must be particularly shocked at it. To them will the people naturally look for exertions to check it. But, wanting civil authority, what can they do? I cannot sufficiently applaud the wisdom and spirit with which Mr Mackenzie, the worthy, ingenious, and eloquent minister of Portpatrick, has applied himself to check this profanation of the sabbath, within his own parish. Finding it vain to insist on the sanctification of the Lord's day, if the dealers in Irish cattle were permitted to profane it, at their pleasure; and sensible, at the same time, that he had
not

not civil authority to restrain them:—Mr Mackenzie gave notice to his congregation, that he, their pastor, highly disapproved of that practice by which the sabbath was so wantonly profaned,---that he earnestly wished them to discountenance it,---and that if any of them should in future, lend assistance at the bringing of cattle on shore, on the sabbath, he would immediately proceed against them with ecclesiastical censures, and with every ecclesiastical punishment which it was competent for him to inflict,---making an exception only in favour of that case, when the owners of the cattle should make oath before the nearest magistrate, that they had left the Irish shore at such a time, upon the preceeding day, that they might have reached the Scottish shore on the evening of Saturday, had they not been unexpectedly retarded on their passage by contrary winds. This bold and well-intended exertion was as successful as Mr Mackenzie desired. His parishioners have ever since refused their assistance to the drivers of Irish cattle, on the sabbath; and those men presume not to land their cattle in his parish, on this day, unless in the case of necessity. I wish, the same measure were used by all parochial clergymen, to check such indecent violations of the sanctity of the sabbath!--I took occasion to hold some conversation with the owner of those cattle; and was informed, that he had purchased them in Ireland, for---be-
tween

tween four pounds, ten shillings,---and five pounds a head in Ireland,---and expected to sell them at Gatehouse of Fleet, and Dumfries, for six pounds, a head.

THE inn at *Cairn* is not very large, nor exceedingly commodious; but we found it occupied by very civil people. We were to breakfast and corn our horses here. While breakfast was prepared, we walked through an adjacent park, into the uninhabited house of Mrs Dunlop of Cairn. It stands within half a furlong of the shore; close by the base of a rugged, precipitous, schistous hill; which where the rocks are not bare, is brown over, with heath. Around this house are some straight avenues, walks, and hedges in the Dutch fashion. In these, some beautiful evergreens are intermixed. Some rising ashes, elms, and pines are scattered on the contiguous part of the declivity of the hill above. This house was built, an hundred years ago. For these last forty years, it has been uninhabited. It contains some spacious rooms. Several fine paintings have been left to fade and moulder away, on the stair-case. It has been by degrees disfurnished of almost every thing else. The partitions still remain: and the roof, although ruinous, is not yet entirely destroyed: but, the lapse of a few years will leave nothing but the bare walls. This house,

not being of remote antiquity, seems to bespeak by its decay, either the misfortunes or neglect of its proprietors. Yet, its situation on Lochryan-bay sheltered by wild romantic hills, and commanding a wide and singular prospect, on its front,—is—one of those, to which above all others, one might delight to retire occasionally, from the luxury and refinement of great towns, and from the ordinary and familiar beauties of more populous and cultivated scenes in the country. On the side of the hill above this house, is a slate-quarry which has been wrought for these many years. There is no probability of its being suddenly exhausted: For it is not wrought with any great earnestness, or to any great extent: and the strata are, comparatively, immense.

IN the parks into which the narrow plain between the base of the hills, and the shore of the bay was subdivided, I observed black-cattle of the Galloway breed; and swine of a small prick-eared species. Of the flesh of the latter, we had some slices of delicate bacon at breakfast. Some corn-fields appeared here and there. The corn was cut, but still in the shock.

WE continued our journey along the bay. The prospects were to me the most interesting I had yet seen. The bay; the opening channel; the peninsula of the *Rinnes* of Galloway; the rocks rising in
singular

Angular forms on the right hand; the fragments, sometimes smaller, sometimes greater, which having fallen from them, were scattered, often in strangely picturesque dispositions, over the plain; the paltry cottages; and the simple air and garb of the peasants,—all rendered the prospect sufficiently interesting.

THE favourite Scottish song, “Open to me, Love Gregory!”—or, “The Lads of the Lochryans,” alludes to the scenery of this bay. The date of the song I cannot trace. But, it is probably founded on a real incident. Gregory may have been an Irishman, a Manksman, or a Highlander from the coast of Argyle-shire; and may have first seduced, and then deserted some lovely maid of rank in this part of Galloway, whose distress and death afterwards so moved his pity and remorse, as to make him follow her to the grave. I think this one of the finest of our old love-ballads. The air, as sung by *Urbani*, is charming. I have often heard it affectingly sung by old women, in Galloway. The ballad of “Lord Thomas and Fair Annet,” differs very little from “Love Gregory,” I suppose them to have been both founded on the same events, and to be only variations of the same song.

WE at length reached the confine between Galloway and Ayr-shire. A small rivulet, named the *March-burn*, marks the limit. Pouring down where the hills rise with a steep declivity, it falls, immediately above the highway, in a fine cascade. It is covered where it crosses the highway, with an handsome bridge. The *braes* are rough with hazels, black and white thorns, briars and other brambles. The sheep on the hills above, are the small Galloway breed; and such also are the black cattle. The wool is of middling quality, and is manufactured in the country. The mutton is uncommonly excellent.

STILL as we went on, the scenery was to me new, strange, wild, and often sublime. The hills still towered up loftier and wilder above. The expanse of the sea opened wider before us. The road winded among broken rocks, and insulated mounts. Rivulets poured here and there down the sides of the hills, in every variety of descent and course.

AT length, the highway, turning from the sea-shore, conducted us up the vale of *Glen-nap*, towards *Ballinray*. The river *Nap* or *Glen-nap* divides this vale. A range of high hills shelters it on each side. It is of moderate width. Farm-houses are scattered through it. In length it extends several miles. On the north-west quarter of this vale, the foil

foil seems to be not deficient in fertility. The houses are chiefly low, awkward, thatched cottages. Whins grow here and there over the fields. The vale affords but little hay. We observed the cattle in several places in folds. The houses of *Glenlee* and of *Whinnard* are handsomer than the rest. The river runs with a meandering course; and the road often crosses it. This road has long been infamous as one of the worst in Scotland. The difficulty of this whole way between Stranraer and *Maybole* was indeed long such as almost to cut off Galloway from all intercourse with Ayr-shire, on this side. A great part of it has been lately improved: And a turnpike has been established near the head of *Glen-nap*; at which is levied a toll, to be expended in repairing this road.

THE country opened wide before us, as we ascended the hill which shelters *Glen-nap* on the north-east. All was dark-brown heath, sometimes broken by an extent of morasses,—sometimes spreading over a tract of dry, level ground, *plated* over with a thin layer of peat-earth,—and sometimes rising over lofty *cloud-capped* hills. Of these hills, the loftiest are *Caerlock* and *Ben-y-raird*, which tower up with all the grandeur of the Highland mountains. The vale of *Glen-nap* would produce a charmingly romantic effect amidst the circumjacent scenery,—if some nobleman

nobleman or gentleman of large fortune, should build a stately house somewhere in the vale, and should cultivate and ornament the whole with all the care and taste that the Genius of Agriculture, and of Ornamental Gardening might suggest.

WHILE my eye ranged over these wild *heaths*, I was led to reflect on the various uses for which our simple ancestors employed this plant. It covered their huts. It served them for fuel. And if tradition may be trusted, they brewed from it a beverage which they drank as ale. They had then little or no grain, and none of those fruits from which an intoxicating juice is pressed. From *beather*,—perhaps with an intermixture of *bog-gall*,—they might prepare a weak, exhilarating, and intoxicating liquor. It is a common tradition among the peasantry through almost all parts of Scotland, that the *Pechts* brewed from heath, a liquor greatly superior to our common ale. They point out tracts of level or nearly level heath, from which the stones appear to have been carefully gathered away,—as fields which the *Pechts* mowed, and carried the crop of heath---to prepare their ale from it, by decoction. The Gaelic words, too, for *drinking* are *ol elmi*, and *lusadb*, the latter of a derivation which certainly implies the liquor drunk to have been a decoction of
herbs.

herbs. It might be worth while for some curious Antiquarian to make a *broust* of *beather* ale.

ADVANCING towards Ballan-tray down the opposite side of the hill which we had ascended from *Glen-nap*;—we passed by the farm of *Auchencrofs*, and observed near the farm-house, one of those moats which I have already often noticed, as being frequent through Scotland, and as having been originally intended either as places of burial for the dead, or,—more probably—-as the seats for courts of judicature.

In these parts, and in various others, through Scotland, are occasionally found what are called *Elf-stones* or *Elf-arrows*, and are believed to be used by the elves, in inflicting invisible wounds upon cattle. These are evidently the heads of the arrows used by our remote ancestors before the use of iron was yet known in Scotland. In those times, the Scottish warrior was armed with a bow of tough wood; a string which he formed of the *gut* of some animal: His arrows were pointed with flint or carnelian: His long lance was pointed in the same manner: His hatchet for domestic uses, was equally of stone: Cannal-coal, horns, bones, shells were the materials of which his other utensils were formed.—

W_x

WE were soon again upon the sea-shore, and crossed the head of a narrow, but beautiful and fertile plain, lying immediately before Ball-an-tray. On this plain I observed a regular circle of upright stones, at certain distances: one of the most perfect of those called Druidical circles, that I had yet seen. The river of *Ard-Stinchar* pours down on the farther side of this plain; dividing it from the village of Ball-an-tray. The soil of the narrow stripes of arable ground lying along these shores appears to be abundantly fertile. The banks of the *Stinchar* are adorned by no trees or underwood. A commodious bridge carries the highway across this river. Formerly, the only road led through the town of Ball-an-tray, and along the windings of the shore, to *Girvan*. But, as this was equally dangerous and difficult, a new road has been lately formed, which leads up the bank of the *Stinchar*, and across the country, to *Girvan*.

FROM this station, the sea appears landlocked, so as to present a spacious bay, about thirty leagues in diameter. The coasts of Galloway and Ayr-shire, ---of Down and Antrim in Ireland,---the east coast of Argyle-shire, and a part of Dumbarton-shire---form the boundaries within which the sea appears to be confined. On these shores are four light-houses; one at the newly constructed harbour of
 Portpatrick,

Portpatrick,—another at Donaghadee,—a third on the Mull of Cantire,—and a fourth on the isle of Cumbray. When the day is fair, and the air pure of mist, a spectator, may, with high enjoyment, view this wide range of prospect from the side or summit of any of the adjacent hills. The isles of Sana, Arran, Lamnah, Bute, the two Cumbrays, and the *conic rock* of Ailfa appear amidst the waters.

THIS district, where the highway has hardly yet been made tolerable, cannot be supposed to be well opened up by cross-roads. It is almost appropriated to the purposes of pasturage. Only on the verge of the coast does the hand of agricultural industry appear to have been yet exerted. The soil is there commonly a light, dry, hazel-coloured mould, upon a gravel bottom. As the hills recede from the shore, they are diversified by many inequalities. The heath with which they are chiefly covered, has intermixed with it, a species of thin, long grass, called by the people of the country *Ling*. On the shores is abundance of broad-leaved sea-weeds forming excellent manure for the lands;—for in this neighbourhood, they are not, in any considerable quantity, burnt into kelp.

THE fishery of salmons at the foot of the river Stinchar, affords to the proprietor, an annual rent

VOL. II.

Q 9

of

of eighty pounds sterling. About twenty years since, shoals of excellent herrings commonly came upon this coast in the end of harvest and the beginning of winter : these now appear only in spring. Great quantities of haddocks and whittings were formerly taken in the same season. Cod, skate, and ling are now more frequently caught. Sail-fishes come upon this coast, on the first or second week of June. The villagers of Ballantray kill them with harpoons. And the liver of one of the best of these fishes yields from forty to fifty gallons of oil. They remain only three or four weeks on the coast.

THE town of Ball-an-tray is of considerable antiquity. In ballads, it is distinguished by the name of *old Ballantray*. I am inclined to suspect that it may be the *Rerigonium* or *Berigonium* of Ptolemy, the Geographer. That town must undoubtedly have stood upon either the *Stinchar* or the *Girvan*. The vicinity of the above-mentioned Druidical circle seems to confirm the conjecture, that here might be an ancient settlement of the first inhabitants of Carrick. Here are the remains of a castle which has been spacious, stately and strong. Its walls are built of schistous, shorlaceous, and sand-stones. It stands almost close over the river ; and that part of the walls which stands contiguous to the river is the most perfect. Concerning the ancient condition and the

the original possessors of this castle, I have, in vain sought satisfactory information. I suppose its name to have been *The Castle of Ard-Stinchar*: and it may have been the feat of the Kennedies of *Ard-Stinchar*. Being situate in a narrow pass, and commanding two passages through Carrick,—that along the shore,—and that which leads up the river Stinchar;—it must have been of great importance in the turbulent, military times of Scotland: While its situation on the coast would render it equally important as a place of security,—where the neighbouring inhabitants might find protection when alarmed by the piratical incursions of the Irish.

BALLANTRAY, although ancient, is, however, only a petty village. The dwelling-houses in the village, are, most of them paltry huts. It has been long notable as a nest of smugglers. Some new houses are rising in the village. The harvest seemed to have been no less backward here, than in other places of the country. The pot-herbs in the little gardens had a stunted, unthriving aspect. Here is an inn, large enough indeed for the situation, but not well kept. We refreshed ourselves hastily in this inn. Wishing to make some enquiries of the landlord, I desired by a civil message to be favoured for a few minutes with his company. But, this favour Mr *M'Kissock* did not chuse to

Q 9 2

grant

grant me. Pleased as I am with the success with which the iron-works of the Carron-Company have for these many years been conducted,---and fond of that furniture which gives a room an air of comfortable snugness,---I was glad to see one of the Cast Carron grates in the parlour of this inn,---which was otherwise, neither comfortable nor well furnished.----The inscriptions on the windows of inns are commonly base effusions of folly and obscenity. Here, however, I found an exception. On the window of this parlour was a name inscribed, which I could not read :---After the name followed these incidents in the inscriber's history,---That he was from Antigua, and had spent ten years in the West Indies; concluding with the pathetic exclamation, happily introduced,---*Ab fata! aspera fata!* He might make this quotation with feeling, who had, in early youth perhaps torn himself from the society which might be endeared to him by every tender tie; had gone in voluntary exile, into a distant climate, and had perhaps engaged in a disagreeable employment, to earn some little fortune, which before he could acquire, perhaps his health and constitution might be wasted. But what if, after acquiring this competency, the hapless exile might return to his native country, and there find parents, brothers, sisters, friends, mistresses,---all whom he had fondly longed to meet again,---and of whom the
remembrance

remembrance had given an inexpressible charm to the idea of his native country,——what if he had found all these dead, dispersed or estranged from him, at his return!—What if circumstances obliged him again to tear himself from them!——While I read this inscription, my fancy naturally awaked to this train of melancholy sentiments and images; my heart sympathised with the feelings of the writer: my eyes were filled with tears.

Well, alas! ^{my} I, too, take up the same exclamation, *Ah, fata! aspera fata!* Divided almost in infancy from my father's family; pursuing literature, of which I have been ever fond, through many difficulties, and with little success: often deceived in friendships which I have been ever ready to form with a simple, open heart; suffering often for candour as for weakness, and for sincerity as for malice; abused, at times, for the errors of no ungenerous passions, and for the mistakes of no criminal inadvertency, as if debased by meanness, by stupidity, by guilt; seeing the companions of my early days, some gone to that country *from whose bourne no traveller returns*,—others scattered through distant climes, dead to candid virtue, and to the tenderness of genuine friendship,—alive only to the calls of narrow selfishness, to the bustling employments, and the noisy, insipid pleasures of the world!—Ah, *fata! aspera fata!*——But, perhaps the excellence
 most

most worthy of being aspired at, is a wisdom too remote from cunning, a virtue, though mild, yet too unaccommodating, a sensibility too tremblingly alive for the crooked paths, the rude rencounters, the dreary prospects of this weary life! There is a pleasure in contemplating human life with cordial benignity, and in guarding the heart against the gradual encroachments of selfishness. The eye and the hand of a beneficent providence is over all. This life is but a short passage to a better. Happy they who can cheerfully exclaim with the poet—

I care not, fortune, what you me deny :
 You cannot rob me of free nature's grace ;
 You cannot veil the beauties of the sky,
 Thro' which Aurora shews her brightening face ;
 You cannot bar my constant feet to trace
 The woods and lawns, by living streams, at eve :
 Let health my nerves and finer fibres brace,
 And I their toys to the great Children leave
 Of fancy, reason, virtue, nought can me bereave.

BALLANTRAY being still frequented by smugglers; soldiers are frequently stationed here. I found no fewer than twenty two in it, as I passed. Several of them must certainly have been very ill lodged. The ordinary inhabitants of the village are about three hundred in number.—The climate is mild, favourable alike to the health and the labours of man, and to the rearing and feeding of cattle.—

BALLANTRAY

BALLANTRAY—to GIRVAN.

OUR stay at the inn in Ballantray was short. We continued our journey along the shore. Before we had advanced far, we entered upon the sea-beach, and had a fine ride along the sands for a mile or two. The rocks rose above us, on one hand, in various fanciful shapes. The sea roared on the other. On the top of a low hill, near Ballantray, I observed the ruins of an old windmill. There was a time when windmills were more common in Scotland, than mills driven by water. The ruins of such mills are still to be seen on various heights. They stand lonely and desolate, as if overthrown in the combat with some Don Quixote, and dismantled by the victor.

At length, the beach became again rocky; and the highway turned from the shore, up the steep side of a rocky hill. The rocks in which this hill terminated, on the shore, looked, with a bold and frowning projection, over the waves. Under the south-eastern edge, is a cave, the retreat of smugglers. We rode up to it. I entered. It extends a good way backward, but without having any interior recesses. All the adjacent rocks are porphyry,

or

nearly of the character of porphyry : clay and iron, intermixed with siliceous earth. I picked up and brought away several specimens. We turned, and with difficulty ascended the hill. It was broken into ridges. The road was, in one place carried in a line by which a small segment, of a curiously picturesque form, was cut off from the extremity of the hill. Looking round, we remarked on the plain behind, towards Ballantray, some large fragments of rocks, which seemed to have been artificially brought together,---for what purpose I could not guess. The wind now blew violently. The waves dashed with violence on the beach, and against the rocks. Numbers of sea-fowls floated before the billows; diving sometimes to suffer them to pass over. The shore presented itself, as we went on, in many a strange aspect. In one place a pit was curiously scooped out; and within that pit a conic rock or pile of sand rose up, as if artificially reared. ---The road sometimes approached the edge of the rocks, where they towered with the loftiest elevation over the billows. The wind blew with violence. A storm of hail battered our faces. Hardly could we sit on our horses, or hold our hats upon our heads. Night was beginning to fall, and the air darkening. The rock of Ailsa appeared, at a distance; rising up black and frowning, like the terrific Genius of the Cape, so nobly conceived, and so impressively

impressively pictured by Camoens. This imagery was awful and elevating. As it returns upon my imagination, I feel my heart partly tremble for terror, and partly swell with the conception of sublimity. Those parts of the West Highlands which I visited, had nothing equally interesting.

THE isle or rock of *Ailfa* lies about four or five leagues north-west from Ballantray. Its figure is conical, its top covered with heath and grass. Goats, rabbits, and sea-fowls in countless numbers, are its only inhabitants. It is rented from the Earl of Cassilis, the proprietor, at five and twenty pounds a year; and this rent is paid from the feathers of the sea-fowls, from the solan geese, and from the skins of the rabbits. It has on it a ruinous castle, built by the direction of Philip II. of Spain, about the time when he had hopes to add the British islands to the dominions of Spain.

WE continued our journey towards Girvan, sometimes over the projecting angles of hills, and sometimes along stripes of level ground intervening between the bases of the hills, and the sea-shore. Those stripes of level ground commonly displayed a black rich soil, seemingly of great fertility. Abundance of sea-weeds lay on the shore, which might form a most fertilizing manure.—Before the dark-

nets of night had altogether veiled the prospect, we observed, at some distance, north-east from the highway, and on the side of a hill,—the ruins of *Garleton-castle*, the property of Sir Andrew Cathcart. Nearer Girvan, the hills recede from the shore: the plain spreads beautifully out: and although it appears not to have received any great share of ornamental cultivation; yet it seems to be industriously enough wrought for the common purposes of agriculture. The small but neat house of *Ardmillan* stands near the highway, at two or three miles distance south-west from Girvan. It was dark ere we reached this village; and in the darkness, we wandered off from the highway, for a mile or two along the shore. Suspicious that we had gone astray, we turned across the fields, towards the light of a farm-house. The kindness of the family soon conducted us back to the highway.

GIRVAN—to KIRK-OSWALD.

GIRVAN is a small village, a burgh of barony, situate near the mouth of the *water of Girvan*. I have been told that it is of great antiquity. The houses are huts more miserable than those of Ballantray. They are so low as to seem, at the south end of the village, rather caves dug in the earth, than houses
built

built upon it. On the north-west side, and close upon the banks of the river, are, indeed, some more decent and commodious houses. The highway passing the village, is raised above the doors of many of the cottages of which it consists. I should suppose these cottages to have been built before this highway was improved to its present condition; and the highway to have been raised above their doors by the accumulation of fresh strata of earth in the successive reparations which it must have undergone.

GIRVAN is, I think, inhabited chiefly by weavers. If I am not misinformed, some woollen stuffs have been long manufactured here. I learned, upon enquiry, that the manufacture of cotton-stuffs had lately begun to be tried by these weavers. All parts of Scotland seem to have caught the enthusiasm for the cotton-manufacture. But, I should rather wish the weavers of Girvan to stick to their woollens. As so extensive a tract of the adjacent country, is, by its nature, exclusively appropriated to the purposes of sheep-walks; wool is one of the natural commodities produced here in the greatest abundance. This wool it were better to continue to work up, before exporting it, than to export it raw.

BEANS are raised in large quantities, in the neighbourhood of Girvan. And indeed agriculture seems

to be here a favourite branch of industry. Abundance of lime-stone is to be procured at no great distance; and sea-ware may be brought from the shore. The ordinary round of crops—is—two crops of oats,—then barley,—then beans or peas.

SALMONS are caught in the river of Girvan, as in the Stinchar; and not only in the river, but commonly within the sea-mark. Haddocks, whittings, skate, and cod are caught by fishermen on the coast.

THE inn at which we were directed to stop, in Girvan, was a most miserable one. We could not obtain accommodation for the night. Hardly could we procure refreshments for ourselves and our horses. Some whisky was brought us which tasted strongly of turpentine: and some pease-bannock too tough to be eaten. Yet, the people of the house were sufficiently civil and attentive, and seemed willing enough to entertain us with their best. Dark as it was, and we ignorant of the road; we were obliged again to mount our horses, and to continue our journey towards Kirk-Oswald. As we rode out of town, we were met by a soldier who, with great kindness, directed us on our way. When I enquired whether many soldiers were in the town, he answered briskly, “Serjeant Copland, with twelve
privates,

privates, stationed here, to intercept smugglers." I conjectured that he might be the Serjeant himself, with whom I had the honour of conversing. The best part of the town lies upon the river. As I crossed it by the bridge, I thought, I could distinguish, through the darkness, some good houses, on its northern bank.

AT no great distance north-west from *Girvan* stand the remains of the ancient castle of *Turnbury*. This castle is, by some supposed to have been built nearly on the situation of the ancient town of *Rerigonium* or *Berigonium*, mentioned by Ptolemy, the Geographer,—as a town of the ancient inhabitants whom the Romans found in these parts. I am inclined to believe, that this town must have stood somewhere, near the mouth either of the *Girvan*, or of *Stinchar*. But between the two rivers, I shall not presume to decide.

BE this as it may, of the castle of *Turnbury*, little more than the lower vaults and cellars now remains. At what period in the history of *Carrick* it might be erected, I am not Antiquarian enough to have ascertained. It was one of the castles of the old Gaelic Lords of *Galloway*. When, upon the division of the dominions of the independent princes of *Galloway*, *Carrick* fell to one branch
of

of the princely line of Galloway---Galloway to the other: Turnbury-castle seems to have become the principal feat of the Earls of Carrick. I should suppose Ard-Stinchar to have been another of their castles. Balloch-castle, within the lake of the Doon, was certainly a castle belonging to those ancient Earls. The remains of all these castles are fully adequate to the ideas of rude magnificence which the records of the manners of the feudal ages lead us to conceive. They had stately halls and battlements. Numerous trains of knights and squires might be received in them. The feast, the dance, the song, the tournament, the minstrel's tale might amuse the lords and ladies by whom they were inhabited.

THE line of the ancient lords of Carrick, like the collateral line of the lords of Galloway, ended in an heiress. She was the only child of Duncan, the last of the ancient Earls of Carrick. Her father left her young and unmarried. She continued to live single among her vassals and dependents, but in the wardship of the Scottish King;—till, in hunting, she happened to meet young Robert Bruce, son to the Lord of Annandale. She was charmed, at first sight, with the figure, the air, and manners of the young nobleman. She fondly invited him to her own castle of Turnbury. Ere he had spent many days here, a marriage was consummated between them.

them. The King's consent was afterwards necessarily obtained.

ROBERT BRUCE, King of Scotland, was descended from this marriage. The Bruces were originally from Normandy. They obtained possessions in Yorkshire. They became afterwards Lords of Annandale. Then Earls of Carrick. Then Kings of Scotland. In the wars with the English, concerning the succession to the Scottish throne, Turnbury was occupied by one of the Piercys of Northumberland. He was forced by Bruce, to retire to *Ayr*. I suppose this castle and the domains belonging to it, to have been afterwards granted to the Kennedys. I am not sure whether it be not now within the possessions of *Hamilton of Bargeny*.

Camden conjectures, from the similarity of the names, that the ancient *Rerigonium*, or rather *Berigonium*, as the other editions of Ptolemy have it,--- must have been the same as the modern *Bargeny*. But, Etymology is a very uncertain guide in topographical researches. However, the grounds round *Girvan* are the property of Mr *Hamilton of Bargeny*. They have been improved by his care. The farmers on the estate of *Bargeny* owe much to the wisdom and the kindness of their landlord.

The

The husbandmen have been more easily persuaded to improvements, than the shepherds.

THE Kennedies and the Hamiltons are among the most considerable families on the confine between *Carrick* and *Kyle*. The Kennedies are a very ancient family, originally, I believe, of Irish descent. In the reigns of the earlier monarchs of the house of *Stewart*, they appear to have been lords of almost all *Carrick*, and of the more northern parts of *Galloway*. They were humbled and depressed by their neighbours, the *Boys* of *Kyle*, at the period of the extraordinary but short-lived grandeur of that family. They were first Lords Kennedy, and afterwards Earls of *Cassilis*. Sir Hugh Kennedy of *Ard-Stinchar*, of this family, was one of the bravest warriors, Scotland has produced.—*Kennedy*, the poet, whose *flyting* with William Dunbar, is preserved in *Bannatyne's* Collection, was of the Kennedies of *Carrick*. That fine old Scottish song intituled the “*Earl of Cassilis' Lady*,” has this neighbourhood for its scene; and the principal persons whose adventures it celebrates, are of the ancestors of the family of *Cassilis*.—The late Earl of *Cassilis* lived much, during the latter years of his life at *Culzean*, in this neighbourhood. He was beloved and esteemed by his tenants and neighbours.——

THROUGH

THROUGH all these parts are many handsome, modern houses, the seats of men of family and fortune; and many remains of old castles and palaces which prove Ayr-shire to have been anciently no less considerable than it is at present, among the provinces of Scotland. The upper banks of the Stinchar, the banks of the Girvan, but still more those of the Doon, are adorned with much beautiful scenery, and with many gentlemen's seats. The landholders in these parts have long applied with wonderful assiduity, to adorn and enrich their lands with all the improvements of husbandry. None more successfully than Sir *Adam Ferguson of Kilkerran*; who is universally esteemed as a virtuous and enlightened patriot, and an amiable man.

THE mountains which occupy the greater part of Carrick, especially on the north-west, seem to be merely a continuation of that great ridge which extends from the confines of England, through Selkirk-shire, Peebles-shire, Lanerk-shire, Dumfriesshire, and meets the Western Sea, on the boundary between Carrick and Kyle. Galloway, in its ancient extent, seems to have had this ridge for its landward barrier, on all quarters on which it was not bounded by the sea. From this ridge spring almost all the considerable rivers in the south of Scotland.

land: the Tweed, the Esk, the Annan, the Nith, the Urr, the Ken, the Dee, the Fleet, the Cree, the Blaidenoch, the Stinchar, the Girvan, the Doon, the Ayr. Several of these last rivers rise just upon the boundary between Galloway and Carrick; so that these two districts seem to meet nearly at the height of the country.

RIDING by night between Girvan and *Kirk-Oswald*, I lost the sight of a most agreeable tract of country; that which here forms the line of separation between ornamented cultivation,—and native wildness almost wholly unsoftened and unsubdued. I should have been pleased to see the one melt insensibly into the other, like the changing colours in a fine painting, the mingled light and darkness of twilight, or the rose and the lily on the cheek of virgin-beauty.

KIRK-OSWALD,---and to Ayr.

IT was late in the evening, when we reached *Kirk-Oswald*. We were not a little pleased to find a clean and commodious inn, good stables, and a careful, attentive landlord. The comfort and the refreshments which we here obtained, were doubly agreeable, after so long a ride, along a wild and difficult road,

road, in a season not the most favourable for travelling,—and by night. Labour and rest, ease and difficulty, danger and security must be intermingled, to give human life its most exquisite enjoyments.

AFTER supper, I invited the landlord of the inn Mr M^rR——, to spend a few minutes with us, and drink two or three glasses of rum-punch. He was a farmer and cattle-dealer, as well as an innkeeper. In his manners, I found him wonderfully smooth and plausible. He had been often in Ireland, and had visited various distant parts of Scotland. By degrees, I engaged him in conversation, and suggested enquires concerning the circumstances of the country. He was ready with answers to every question which I could put. But, I soon discovered that his care was rather to answer, than to inform. He represented Kirk-Oswald as lying within Galloway; Galloway as comprehending almost all the South of Scotland, and as extending to the border of England; its inhabitants as numerous, wise, beautiful, and brave above every other people; its cattle as a breed peculiar to itself, and excellent above all others; its horses as more valuable than the famed horses of Arabia; its sheep as a race for mutton and for wool, more precious than the goats of *Angora*, or the sheep of *Thibet*; its dogs as fleet-

er far than the roe, and more sagacious than the elephant; its swine, as fat as porpoises, delicate as ortolans, and learned all, as the celebrated *Pig of Knowledge*. Its mountains were, by his account, richer in mineral treasures, than the mountains of Peru. On its heaths and wilds grew abundance of plants, possessing virtues to cure every disease. Galloway, he would willingly have persuaded us, was anciently the seat of empire, and the capital district of Britain. Its ancient inhabitants, under the old, independent lords, were not a rude and simple race, but polished, enlightened, great and happy far above the present race of men. He seemed uncertain whether Galloway might not have been the paradise of our first parents, but rather inclined to think, that it had been so.—

I WAS expecting.—with *Marlow* of old *Hardcastle*, in the play,—that he would next come home, upon himself, and tell us, how that “his uncle was a Colonel, and his mother a Justice of the Peace;” —when he took up the theme of *Ayr-shire*, and with such an air and manner, as he seemed to threaten, that what he had said of Galloway was only an humble prelude to the mighty things which he had to tell of *Ayr-shire*. But, the bowl was, by this time exhausted; and not even the hopes of the praises of *Ayr-shire* could encourage us to replenish it.

it. He paused, therefore, and with seeming reluctance, wished us good-night; appearing to retire in the full persuasion, that we cordially believed every syllable he had said. I know not how he had acquired his skill in *romancing*: but he certainly could scarce have excelled more in this way, although he had, every week since his childhood, and every day in the week, studied *Lithgow's Travels*, and the *Arabian Night's Entertainments*.

ON the morning, we continued our journey to *Ayr*. We found that we had left the sea-shore, and travelled across the country from Girvan to Kirk-Oswald. We saw around us, a country highly cultivated and populous. Kirk-Oswald is a village of some magnitude. The houses are neat and apparently commodious, built chiefly of sandstone, and covered with slate. The circumjacent fields are inclosed with well-built walls, and often subdivided with thriving hedges. The corn was cut down, but stood still in the fields. Numerous roads appeared running through the country in all directions. They were thronged with carts, with riders, and with foot-passengers. It was a market or fair day: And numbers of the peasantry, males and females, were hastening, in their best clothes, to the town.

STILL

STILL as we advanced, a more pleasing prospect opened before us: Abundance of wood in every variety of arrangement regular or irregular, appeared over the face of the country. Even the farm-houses and the grounds about them, exhibited a degree of taste and of elegant ornament such as might grace many a gentleman's seat, in other parts of the country. The lofty steeple of *Maybole*, the ruinous abbey of *Cross-Ragwell*; and the equally ruinous castle of *Balterfan* soon appeared within sight.

THE abbey of *Cross-Ragwell* is an ancient, and was a very opulent foundation. It is situate on a broad ridge of ground, which rises considerably above the level of the sea, but in a part on that ridge, which sinks under the level of the immediate environs. The ground is marshy about it. The quadrangle of which the buildings of this abbey, have consisted, is of considerable extent. The walls have in many places crumbled down. It is almost wholly unroofed. It still presents however, a stately front towards the highway passing, at some short distance, on the West-side. The famous George Buchanan obtained a pension out of the yearly rents of this abbey; from which circumstance he was accustomed to denominate himself pensioner of *Cross-Ragwell*. I believe, that, on the dissolution of the religious

gious houses in Scotland, a great part of the revenues of this monastery came into the possession of the family of *Cassilis*. The house of *Balterfan*, standing near, I should suppose to have been a palace for the abbots of *Cross-Ragwell*. I think, the tradition of the country represents it as such.

SURVEYING the ruins of this religious house, I was led into various reflections on the influence of religion on social life, and the fate of the ministers of religion, at different periods in the progress of society. Religion no sooner takes a body and form in rude society, than its ministers become men of consequence. The doubts, the wishes, the hopes, the fears of the human heart, are all so many ready engines with which they may work their purposes. They have usually the power to give to savage life, something of the order of civility: If the form of religion or superstition which they profess, have arisen among savages; it will ever retain in its character, somewhat of their barbarism and ferocity. If it have arisen among a polished, enlightened people; something of barbarism, and of the absurdity of ignorance may indeed be superinduced upon it; but its leading features will ever be marked with benignity and beneficence. In either case, the clergy, so long as they are the best instructed order in the society, will necessarily have great influence, and will

will acquire a large share of the wealth and honours of the state. *Druidism*, and the superstition of the followers of *Mahomet*, seem to have arrested civilization and refinement in their progress. *Christianity*, the offspring of knowledge, of civilization, of philosophy, was indeed degraded in its character, and debased in its spirit, in the dark ages of Europe: But, it prevented barbarism and ignorance from settling over Europe, in all their darkness and gloom. In both these instances, the Clergy have acquired great wealth and great consideration in civil life. In both instances, their influence has been, in the whole friendly to the dignity and the happiness of mankind. But in the Christian Establishment it has been much more so, than under any other.

WHEN we review the history, or survey the monuments of the dark ages of Europe, we are apt to exclaim against the Romish Clergy, as having debased and corrupted the religion of Jesus for the purposes of worldly policy and of sensual gratification. Was it for the Clergy, we are apt to say, to lord it over kings; to appropriate to themselves the *fat of the land*; to build stately palaces, while the people of their flocks inhabited huts inexpressibly wretched; to profess poverty and accumulate treasures; to profess abstinence, yet solace themselves with the most generous wines and the most beautiful women?

men? Was it for them to draw ambitiously all power into their own hands,—and to study nothing but the invention of new engines from time to time, by which they might depress and pillage the people? —The Clergy of the Church of Rome, if they engrossed an undue share of property in the dark ages of modern Europe, if they enjoyed a greater share of the luxuries and conveniencies of life than the laity,—were however well intitled to these advantages. They not only preached religion, but propagated the arts of life. The gardening, the agriculture, the architecture of our forefathers originated with the Clergy. The forms of law, and the decencies of public assemblies were regulated by them. Their immunities and privileges and opulence were liberally shared with the laity who resorted to their protection and charity. The hierarchy of Rome formed, as it were, an empire within the empires and kingdoms through which its clergy were established; and that empire was an establishment of refinement and knowledge, in the midst of barbarism, simplicity and ignorance. When I survey the remains of the noble abbies and cathedrals which were formerly occupied by Roman Catholic Clergy; when I trace the appearance of superior cultivation in the fields which were possessed by them; when I visit their orchards, and examine their cellars; I feel no temptation to exclaim against

the luxury of the Clergy, or the horrors of Romish superstition: No, I am proud to see, that among the antiquities of my country, there are monuments nobler than the circle of rude pillars, the cairn, the barrow, the mote, the turreted castle, the barn-like meeting-house of our dissenters.—I allow that the Romish Clergy became the grossest of sensualists: that their opulence and their peculiar institutions had together a tendency destructive to their morality: that, with all its ceremonies, all its artifices, and all its absurdities of doctrine; the Romish superstition is unfit for the religion of a polished people and an enlightened age. But, I must at the same time maintain, that no form of superstition was ever better calculated to bring savages under the restraints of order, or to teach the more improved arts of life.

Soon after viewing the remains of the abbey of *Cross-Ragwell*, we passed close to the town of *May* or *Minni-bole*. It is a place of considerable antiquity; is finely situate on rising ground; has in it a number of good houses; and may contain a good many hundreds of inhabitants. The woollen manufacture has been long prosecuted in this country. *Plaiding* and coarse flannels are the stuffs chiefly wrought. The wool and yarn come from the upper parts of *Galloway*, and from the southern district of *Carrick*. The stuffs manufactured, are sold through the adjacent

jaçant country, and some part of them, I believe, exported into Ireland. Maybole has likewise a good school, which was once conducted by a very eminent man, a Dr Doig. Dr Macknight, author of the Harmony of the Evangelists, and of other Learned and valuable works in Theology, was, I think, once minister here.

THE morning was fair; and we had no unpleasant journey to Ayr. The Doon winded westward before us. This river has its rise from Loch Doon on the confines between Galloway and Carrick. Running on in a northern direction, it passes the ancient village of *Dalmellington*; near which is one of the most beautiful green notes I have seen. The environs of the Doon are here for the greater part, either unsusceptible of cultivation, or uncultivated. As the river advances, it takes a north-west direction. The country assumes still a fairer and a fairer aspect before it. Near Ayr, where we now saw it, all around is cultivation and ornament.

WE crossed this river by a decent bridge. At a distance, on the south-west, and close upon the sea-shore, appeared the ancient castle of *Greenand*, the history of which is unknown to me. Before coming fully within sight of this castle, we had passed within view of the house of Mr *Hutchison*, seated on a low

T t 2

rising

rising ground, and having an agreeable aspect. This man is eminent through the country for integrity singularly scrupulous and honourable. He had dealt in cattle; and through unavoidable misfortunes had become unable to discharge his debts. His creditors accepted a composition. He was enabled to renew his transactions with better success. He soon acquired enough to make him easy for life. But, instead of using this money as his own, and considering himself as free from all future claims on the part of his creditors, he called them together in Ayr, and with the manly dignity of honesty, paid every one the whole sum of his debt, principal and interest, that remained due. Honesty proved in this instance, excellent policy. He continued his transactions with the general esteem and favour of the county, and with that success with which we rejoice to see honesty always attended.

THE corn was still in the fields, over these environs; part of it indeed was in neat stacks in the barn-yards: the fields all around were green or white: peasants were busy, burning whins, leading lime, digging marle, plowing up potatoes, or laying their corn out to dry, if not carrying it in. The low stone-dykes of Galloway were no longer to be seen. But, the fields were beautifully intersected with living hedges. Here and there, they appeared
green

green with springing wheat. Every thing concurred to prove, that we were now within the country of lime and free-stone.

Ayr, and its Environs.

AYR is a city of great antiquity, and of considerable extent. Its form is an imperfect quadrangle. On the west-side it extends for the length of a mile and a half, and is bounded by the sea. On the north, it extends, with the parish, for three miles, along the river Ayr. The principal street is spacious, and has on each side a line of decent houses. Many of these seem to have been anciently such as, —considering the state of the arts—would appear much more splendid and stately, than, although new-built, they would now appear, in comparison with the circumjacent country. There was a time when Ayr had a great trade; and a time when it was distinguished no less for its military strength. When the English over-ran Scotland under Edward I. one of their principal garrisons, intended to command all the adjacent country, was fixed at Ayr. The heroic exploits of William Wallace were begun here. This was a favourite place of resort to King Robert Bruce. In the progress of our national history, Ayr became a considerable trading and sea-port town.

town. The merchants of Ayr were, about two hundred years since, greatly enriched by the importation of French wines. The number of its inhabitants appears to have been, several hundred years since, between two and three thousand. These numbers were thinned by a plague. Various causes arose to thwart the prosperity of this city. The rising trade of Glasgow must have been greatly prejudicial to that of Ayr. The immediate consequences of the Revolution and of the Union were hurtful to all the trading towns in Scotland. In the year 1745 the population of Ayr, and of that part of its suburbs and of the environs which is included within the parish, was estimated at two thousand. In the year 1755, they were found to amount nearly to three thousand. Trade about this period began to revive. The herring fishery was eagerly and successfully tried. The adjacent country began to be improved. A bank was afterwards established here. Various other circumstances have co-operated to increase the population of Ayr, by a continual progression, within these last thirty years. And the population of the town alone is now between three and four thousand souls.

THE DOUGLAS AND HERON BANK, established at *Ayr*, although ruinous to the proprietors, seems to have contributed greatly to promote the prosperity of

of this city, and the improvement of the adjacent country. The projectors of that Bank seem to me to have had three purposes in view; to form an engine by which the elections of Parliamentary Representatives for the West of Scotland, might be subjected to the controul of a certain interest;—to give the country more of the advantage of the money transactions of the landholders;—and to make it easier for the landed gentlemen to obtain what money might be necessary for the improvement of their estates. The spirit of Banking, had but just then found its way into Scotland; and the charm of novelty, with those wild hopes and wishes which are readily enough conceived concerning a mode of trade or industry yet untried,—were naturally excited by the project. The gentlemen who were the leaders in it, had been little accustomed to the minute toils of accountantship, or to the calculations of stock jobbing.

It was therefore a project hastily conceived, and eagerly entered into. The proprietors were obliged to abandon almost every thing to the conduct of the directors: and the directors, I believe, necessarily left too much to the servants of the Company. Many of the subscribers were little able to pay up, in due time, the shares for which they had subscribed. Instead of thinking of the obligations they had

had come under, to answer the demands for their shares; they thought only of the command of credit and of paper-money which they had thus obtained: Considering it as an addition to their fortunes which might enable them to lavish any expence they should chuse, on projects of trade or of improvement of lands, or on splendour and extravagance of luxury in their style of living. The directors and servants of the Bank, in the mean time, employed their money and credit in various foolish, ill-conducted, and unsuccessful *speculations*. When the proprietors failed to pay up their shares, money was to be borrowed on the most disadvantageous terms, to support the credit of the Bank. The accountants and other servants of the Bank thought it necessary to live, as if they had already acquired prodigious fortunes. I have heard that, by the knavery of the same servants, a great part of the notes issued by the Bank, were twice debited for once that they were credited in its accounts. In short, by a train of knavery, folly, and mismanagement, the bustle, and the extravagant promises of this Bank terminated in Bankruptcy. It turned out a bubble, like that of the Mississippi Company in France, and of the South Sea Company in England.

But,

BUT, the immense debts contracted by the Bank were to be discharged. The estates of all the partners were liable for them. Many of these were already insolvent. And what could not be discharged by them, fell to be paid by the rest. The affairs of the Company, in consequence, devolved into the hands of Trustees and Factors. Many litigations arose, in defence against claims, and in prosecution for the recovery of debts. Call after call, came upon the unfortunate proprietors. And each successive call brought many estates to the market, and produced many new failures. A general distress was spread through Ayr-shire and Galloway, and even into other parts of Scotland. And a very great part of the lands in those provinces have been by the failure of this Banking Adventure, alienated from the old proprietors.

YET to the improvement of Ayr-shire, at least, —if not of Galloway, the establishment and the career of this bank have been friendly. The abundance of wealth which it fallaciously seemed to pour into the hands of the proprietors; and the ready command of money which it gave—set all the gentlemen round the seat of the Bank, to the building of new houses; the formation of gardens and ornamented grounds; the inclosure and the expensive cultivation of their estates. Clumps of wood were scatter-

red over the knolls; belts were stretched along the edges of the lawns; the water was taught here to stagnate into pools, and there to wind with an artificially meandering course. The strata of limestone were quarried and burnt: the beds of coals were opened up: skilful farmers were invited hither from Berwickshire and from England. *Kyle* and *Cunningham* were opened up by roads in every direction. And the middle and the northern districts of Ayrshire soon came to exhibit nothing but one continued series of towns, villages, ornamented farm-houses, villas, and palaces,—divided by fields upon which taste had superinduced almost every suitable ornament;—while enlightened industry had called forth all their fertility. When some of the old proprietors found it necessary to bring their estates to sale, the purchasers were chiefly men who had acquired vast fortunes in India. These entered upon the possession of their new estates, with abundance of money, to adorn and to improve them: And hence the improvement of the country seems to have been rather promoted by the transference of property which took place in it.

THE progress and improvement of the town have been favourably effected by the same causes which have been so beneficial to the circumjacent country. However celebrated by Ptolemy, under the appellation

tion of *Vidogara*;—However flourishing in commerce under the reign of our JAMESES;—However benefited, in the more advantageous direction given to the industry of its inhabitants, by the soldiers settled here by *Cromwell*:—However improved by the acts of Parliament procured in its favour between the periods of the Revolution and the Union:—The city of Ayr may now look back on every former period of its history, as less splendid than its present condition. Being the principal city in the county of Ayr, it is, by consequence, the seat of the Sheriff's court, and the scene of all the political meetings of the gentlemen of the County. *Ayr* races are famous through Scotland. *Ayr* is one of the seats of the Court of Justiciary. It has excellent schools to which children are sent for education from all the surrounding country. It constitutes only one parochial charge which is served by two ministers, men beloved by their congregations, and respectable among the Clergy of the Church of Scotland; Dr Macgill and Dr Dalrymple. Its manufactures are yet inconsiderable; but I should expect, that they may increase with its trade. I had almost forgotten to mention, that, beside its ministers of the established church, it has two Moravian preachers, an Episcopal Clergyman, and a Methodist. It is a favourite seat of the officers of the law, procurators, agents, notaries, and messengers. It has some

U u 2

annual

annual fairs which are frequented by crowds from Galloway, and from all the more immediately adjacent country. Its trade is to the Baltic, to the Mediterranean, with Ireland, and with places on the coasts. It has a good many of those merchants who being half-retailers, half-wholesale-dealers, supply the country dealers and shop-keepers with goods which they themselves equally retail from their shops in the town. Here are some tanneries; and I have understood, that the cotton-manufacture begins to be tried here. Here are two large, clean, well-furnished, and well-kept inns,---by *Dunn* in the old, and by *Simpson*, in the New Town. Over the river *Doon* running into the Frith, at a short distance south from *Ayr*, is a bridge of a single arch, ninety feet in length.

THE intercourse between *Ayr* and the northern counties of Ireland is so considerable, that many of the genteeler families in *Ayr* are of Irish origin. Not a few of them are from Galloway. The country shop-keepers in the upper parts of Galloway commonly receive their supplies of goods from *Ayr*. The inhabitants of *Ayr* in their character resemble more those of Dumfries and Edinburgh, than those of Perth or Glasgow. It is the character of the shewy gentleman, not that of the luxurious although

though *ostensibly* frugal and simple citizen, which predominates here.

BUT, the ancient borough of Ayr lies entirely on the south side of the river Ayr. On the north-side is the New Town of Ayr; a burgh, with a considerable domain; having within that domain baronial jurisdiction, but without parliamentary representation; and being governed by a magistracy, elected by the burgeses possessing *freedoms*. This baronial burgh is of ancient erection, owing its possessions and privileges to Robert Bruce; who having resided here while he was ill of a leprosy,---a disease, in those days common through Europe,---was induced to establish a Lazar-house here, and to confer considerable honours on the New Town of Ayr, and on the village of *Priestwick*, lying at two or three miles distance, on the way towards *Irvine*. In the New Town of *Ayr* are a good many houses and inhabitants; and it seems increasing. As I rode through it, I thought, it had much the air of a place in which there was a cheerful and rising spirit of industry.

ON the banks of the rivers of Kyle, the *Doon*, the *Ayr*, the *Luggar*, the scenery is so varied and so beautiful, and the elegant feats are so numerous, that it were vain for me to attempt the description

scription of the one, or even the bare enumeration of the other. *Achencruive*, the seat of Mr *Oswald*, is a spacious and elegant house, and the grounds lying immediately around it, have been laid out at a great expence, and in the best taste of English Gardening.

THE families anciently honourable in Ayr-shire, are still considerable here, although their honours and fortunes may have been increased, or impaired by various vicissitudes in the course of time. The Kennedies; the Cunninghams; the Montgomeries; the Campbells; the Dalrymples are still numerous and eminent. The Wallaces are not extinct. The *Boys* at one period, the most considerable family not only in this county, but in Scotland, have now few, if any representatives in Ayrshire. The *Stewarts* are almost equally extinct. The world are well-informed both of the ancient honours of the family of *Boswell*,---and who is its present representative.

AMUSED and instructed as I have been by the writings of Mr *Boswell* of *Auchinleck*, I cannot content myself with merely alluding to---, or naming--- him, *en passant*. The sprightliness, the volatility, and the convivial turn of his genius may have rendered

dered him less respectable than he might otherwise have been : but, he is certainly an agreeable writer, and, by all accounts, a no less agreeable companion. He seems to have been one of those early geniuses that bud and blossom prematurely. His promising parts seem to have too early distinguished him in company, and among his comrades. The notice thus obtained, naturally encouraged an ambition for the honours of wit, and of superior talents for convivial conversation ; with this, too, an emulation to excel, not in deep erudition or obscure science,—of which the praise was to be laboriously earned, and seldom reaped,—but in general literature, which requires little more than lively parts, and that superficial knowledge which the ordinary course of liberal education necessarily gives to every young man, not absolutely a dunce. In these several objects of youthful ambition easily excelling his cotemporaries, he seems to have disregarded those studies and that business which required a more plodding application, as unworthy of the care of a man of genius. About the time when he was finishing his education, the delicacies of English literature had just begun to be eagerly and generally cultivated in Scotland. The more promising of the Scottish youth were infected with something of that fondness for them, with which the Roman youth once crowded to hear the philosophical

sophical lectures of the ambassadors of Greece,—so as to provoke the reprehension of Cato. None seems to have felt this enthusiasm more warmly than Mr Boswell. It seduced him from the rugged paths of the Law. It made him early an author. It attached him to Dr Samuel Johnson, with the deference of extravagant admiration, and the humble obsequiousness of a disciple, ready on all occasions *jurare in verba magistri*.—I think it unfortunate for any man of genius to be thus fervently the follower, the imitator, the humble admirer of any other man, however exalted his abilities, however profound in science, however deep his erudition. Servitude so abject, the conscious dignity of genius ought ever to disdain. Yet, it has been fortunate for the public, that Mr Boswell valued himself on attending Dr Johnson, with the same constancy with which the *titling* pursues the *cuckoo*. We have few books more diverting than *Boswell's* memoirs of his *Tour* with Johnson to the Hebrides: and seldom has a real character been more fully delineated, or with a more discriminating pencil---than the character of Johnson by Boswell in his “Account of his Life.” Such works, while they amuse, enlarge our knowledge of human nature, greatly more than those more elaborate histories which relate none but general facts, and exhibit men only in groupes, distinguished by general characteristics. Nor is it so injurious

as seems to be generally imagined, to the memory of any great man,—to have his character exhibited to those whose eyes have been turned upon him, with all the marks of humanity about it. Such information concerning his life and character brings us into intimacy with the man whom we admire: an intimacy which, without diminishing our admiration, attaches us to him with the fondness of friendship. The Memoirs of Xenophon, and the Dialogues of Plato have contributed more to render Socrates a favourite with every subsequent age, than if his philosophy had been made known to us, only in a formal treatise of his own composition. Should I have liked Cicero half so well, if I had known him only as a philosopher and an orator; without being informed in his Letters, in what manner, the duplicity of the statesman, the bold public spirit of the patriot, the vanity of the rhetorician, the timidity of the recluse scholar, honest integrity, and unscrupulous selfishness were mingled together in his character? I am not sure that the Letters of the Younger Pliny have not procured him greater favour among Classical Scholars,—than the Elder Pliny gains by that noble Treasure of Natural Knowledge which he has bequeathed to us,—or Tacitus by that wonderful combination of profound philosophic remark, with picturesque description, which adorns his Annals and his History

of the the Roman Empire. Would Pope and Swift yet retain their influence on our manners and literature, if their characters were not, in their own writings and by the care of their cotemporaries, pictured out to us, at full length, in the forms, the attitudes, and the colours of nature, with lights and shades mingling in a just proportion around them?—If there has been a descent from becoming dignity in Mr Boswell's making himself the humble follower of Dr Johnson, and the historian of all his petty habits: our lively countryman has been sufficiently punished by the ridicule which that has drawn upon him. It is impossible not to laugh with *Peter Pindar*, when he enthrones *Sir John Hawkins* in the chair of Justice, and engages *Bozzy* and *Piozzi*, in the contention of Pastoral Dialogue, before the Knight;—or when, in a Heroic Epistle, he congratulates Mr Boswell on his Northern Adventures with Dr Johnson,

KENNEDY whose *flyting* with *Dunbar*, is preserved in *Ramsay's Evergreen*, is not the only Poet that Ayr-shire has produced. The Poems of *ROBERT BURNS*, a native of the parish of *Mauchlin* in Kyle, are in every person's hands. Burns had received only that education in reading, writing, and arithmetic which the children of the peasantry throughout Scotland, commonly obtain at the parish-schools.

But

But the circumstances of his early youth had given a tone of lively sensibility to his feelings, had strengthened his judgment to solid thought, had sharpened his penetration, to discern the lights and shades of the human character, and had given a bold, excurfive energy to his imagination. By one accident or another, he had contracted a taste for reading. Books of Scottish and of English Poetry had fallen into his hands. "He was smit with the love Poesy and of Song." He began to write verses. And, at first, no doubt, would produce verses more remarkable for fancy and for sentiment, than for rich poetic phrase, or for melodious versification. Practice seems to have soon given him the powers and the skill of a master in the use of the language and measures of poetry. As he came to use these with greater facility, he would more boldly and more frequently express his fancies and sentiments in verse. He soon became distinguished in his neighbourhood, as a poet. His poetical talents drew upon him the notice of some gentlemen of taste. He was encouraged to publish a collection of his Poems. I have witnessed the passionate eagerness with which they were received and read by all, from the parson to the plowman,—from the gentleman and lady in the parlour, to the cinder-wench, kneeling to read them before the kitchen-fire.—By the kindness—chiefly of the late, amiable and inge-

X x 2

nious

nious DR BLACKLOCK, he was invited to Edinburgh, and encouraged to publish a second edition of his Poems,—for the first had been printed, I think, at *Kilmarnock*. He was eagerly caressed by all ranks; by the rich and the poor; by the learned and the gay; by young and old; by men and women. Every one was earnest to have the honour of subscribing for his book. At every table his company was courted. In every party of pleasure, he was earnestly solicited to make one. On this new scene, amidst these flattering, trying circumstances, sufficient to turn the head of any young man who was not endowed with a more than ordinary portion of sound sense and moderation of mind;---BURNS conducted himself with wonderful prudence and propriety. He was neither elated to folly by the notice of his superiors; nor awed into stillness in their presence. He conversed with decent and manly freedom of speech and of sentiment; without discovering any thing of that silly vanity of his poetry which to one in his circumstances might have been easily pardoned. It was said, in my hearing, by one of the greatest men in this, or perhaps in any age,* that he had never met with a man who discovered, in conversation greater energy of mind, than *Burns*. His manners, too, soon shewed enough of the ease of a gentleman, to prove, that, “wherever there is strength of cultivated

* Who, alas! is now no more.

mind,

mind, the exterior polish may be easily superinduced."

THE Poems which thus brought Mr Burns into fashion,---for a winter, have all considerable merit. Some of them I think the first pieces of their kind in ours, or in any language with which I am acquainted. *The Cotter's Saturday Night*, which is really a faithful description from the life, proves, that the manners of our rustics can afford subjects for pastoral poetry more elevated and more amiable than those which are exhibited in *Gay's Shepherd's Week*;---that Pastoral Poetry needs not to employ itself upon fictitious manners and modes of life, but may, with higher poetical advantages, paint the humble virtues, the simple pleasures, the inartificial manners of our peasantry, such as they actually exist. The Poem on the rustic rites and festivity of *Hallowe'en* is finely fanciful, and most divertingly comic; but, the subject was indeed rich in materials for the man of fancy, and humour. A later composition of Mr Burns's, a Tale, intituled *Alloway Kirk*, in which the vulgar ideas concerning witchcraft are happily introduced, has very high merit of the same cast as that of *Hallowe'en*. As a Tale, it wants indeed, the inimitable, arch simplicity of the Tales of Fontaine. But, it has beauties of a higher kind. I have been more entertained
by

by it than by any of Prior's. Burns seems to have thought, with Boccace and Prior, that some share of indelicacy was a necessary ingredient in a Tale. Pity that he should have debased so fine a piece, by any thing, having even the remotest relation to obscenity! Many of his other poems are perhaps superior to these in merit; although these be my favourites. In all of them we find that originality of sentiment and of imagery which none can display, but he who looks around, on nature and on life, with the eye of a man of genius.

I KNOW not if the transition be very natural or easy from poetry to theology. By the differences of theological opinion, said to divide the Divines of Ayrshire,—I am, however, tempted to try. Many of the most remarkable heresies which have arisen in the Christian Church have related to the Persons of the Holy Trinity. Among these, I know not that any has been, in different ages of Christianity, more remarkable than *Socinianism*, which in its several modifications, denies or extenuates the Divinity of the Son of God. To superficial thought, this notion seems more agreeable to reason; and to superficial erudition, more consonant to what is taught in the Sacred Scriptures, and to the opinions of the first Christians,—than the received doctrine. Many pious and well-meaning men have been led to em-
brace

brace it. In England, it has been zealously propagated by the celebrated Dr Priestley; that Proteus in Literature; that hardy broacher of novelties, and reviver of exploded absurdities, no less in politics and philosophy, than in theology. It has found its way into Scotland. UNITARIAN Congregations have been formed at Montrose, at Dundee, in Edinburgh. And an Unitarian Missionary wanders about, among us; labouring to make converts, with all the zeal of a Jesuit. It is long since a Mr Simpson of Glasgow was deposed from the functions of the ministry, for teaching doctrines in which the Divinity of the Son of God was extenuated. The late, amiable Dr Leechman of Glasgow was accused of a predilection for the same opinion. And, one party of the Clergy in Ayr-shire and the adjacent counties of Dumbarton and Renfrew seem rather inclined to accuse the other of entertaining Dr Leechman's ideas concerning the Divinity and the vicarious satisfaction of Christ; and even of carrying them so much farther than their master, as to differ but little from Dr Priestley and the Unitarians. This has divided these Clergy and the people of the country into parties of *New* and *Old Light*-men. It has produced a contention, which, although it have seldom been prosecuted with great acrimony, has, however, been for a while stoutly kept up. Such disputes at once serve and injure the cause of religi-

ON

on and good morals. They degrade religion in the eyes of its enemies; and they turn to embittered asperity, the spirit of mutual charity in the minds of its professors. But, they at the same time excite a mutual emulation in piety and virtue among the contending sects, which renders both better than they might otherwise have been. It is natural to maintain, that "a tree is known by its fruits;" and both the learned and the unlearned in religious sects are, at all times, willing enough to eke out argument by the proud ostentation of virtue, or by the bitter reproach of vice. Even, in the contention of Deism, or rather Atheism against all revealed religion, this Emulation of Virtue has been displayed. What but this spirit could have made the unfeeling, the selfish, the unprincipled *Voltaire*, an avenger to the *Calas*, a protector to the *Sirvans*, a father to the poor, and the guardian of helpless, orphan innocence?—How admirable is the good providence of God, which thus constantly educes good from evil, and makes even the folly and the wrath of men to praise him!—As to the doctrines of Socinianism or Unitarianism; it seems to me that they must have taken their origin from superficial reasoning and superficial learning. Unitarianism especially, appears to involve in its doctrines, absurdities not less gross, however they may be, at first sight, less striking than those of Atheism.—

BUT,

But, let me beware. I may perhaps hear the charge of atheism brought against myself; while I strive to divest myself of the prejudices equally of the priest and of the freethinker; remarking only such facts in the state of religion as serve remarkably to illustrate the manners and the general character of the age and the country; and endeavouring to speak of all with equal candour and impartiality. It is not impossible that such a charge may be brought against me: for he who would be candid and impartial to all, seldom fails to provoke all. But my heart abhors and disclaims the guilt, and my judgment the absurdity of Heresy, or of Atheism. Educated as I have been in the belief of the doctrines of the Holy Scriptures, nearly as they are explained and arranged by the Illustrious Calvin; every research, whether philosophical or theological, which I have had occasion to make in maturer years, has only served to confirm me in this belief. But, however I may hold fast the sound and salutary truths of the gospel; I would not willingly pollute my soul with the *odia* or the interested artifices of Theologians. While I can discern their Divine Forms, the Sanctity of Truth, and the Majesty of unprejudiced Reason, shall never be wilfully violated by my hand.

AYR to IRVINE.

ALTHOUGH I have thus looked round, from the city of Ayr, as from a station of prospect, on the adjacent country; yet, at this time, I only stopped here so long as to breakfast in Dunn's. I had several times before been in this fine county which strangers from the wilds of Galloway, sometimes denominate the garden of Scotland.

OUR way led through the New Town of Ayr; in which the new houses, the neat sashed windows, the clean dressed women, and the chearful air of manufacturing industry—very agreeably engaged our notice. As the road advanced beyond the town, it led through a sandy plain, along the sea-shore. It is in the best condition; and finding it so, we very cheerfully paid the toll-dues at the frequent bars erected upon it. This sandy plain spreads for a considerable extent both towards the shore, and from the road into the inland country. As the eye turns to the north and south-east, the elevation of the country rises from the shore; its cultivation is rich; hardly any but green fences, and walls of stone and lime appear; the farm-houses and cottages have a neat aspect; the villas are and elegant: Trees are scattered profuse-

ly

ly over the country in every variety of arrangement.

WE passed near by the house of *Orangefield*, which should seem by the neglected state of the grounds, not to be constantly inhabited by the proprietor. At no great distance from *Ayr*, is the ancient village of *Priestwick*, which, upon the same occasion as the New Town of *Ayr*, was honoured by King Robert Bruce with considerable privileges, and enriched with a grant of lands.—It is to be remembered, that as Bruce's patrimonial estates lay chiefly in *Carriick*,—he would very naturally have occasion to reside, at times, in this vicinity. It was indeed, in *St John Baptist's Church* in *Ayr*, afterwards converted by *Oliver Cromwell* into an armoury, that the parliament of Scotland met to confirm Bruce's title to the throne. At a subsequent time probably did Bruce retire, under the affliction of the leprosy, either to *Priestwick* or to the New Town of *Ayr*. On this occasion were his grants in favour of these two places executed. The leprosy had been introduced from the east, whether before, or in consequence of—the *Crusades*, I know not. It was then common through Europe.—Passing by *Priestwick* on a former occasion, I remember to have remarked among a pile of stones brought from the shore for building, one mass of indurated clay, all

filled with the *exuvia* of *mussels* and other shell-fish, or exhibiting holes in which these had been contained till they had wasted away. The specimen was curious. I would gladly have carried it off with me,—had it been smaller.—

THE village of *Mountain*, through which we next passed, is an handsome, small manufacturing village. The houses are disposed upon an orderly plan. The walls are well-built, and round the doors and windows, fronted with polished free-stone. The windows are sashed. The roofs neatly covered with thatch. I was much pleased with the aspect of this little place. This village and the adjacent lands are, if I have not been misinformed, the property of Colonel *Fullarton* of *Rosemount*. And it should seem, that he has spared no pains or expence to improve the environs, and to make them the seat of a numerous, happy, and industrious population.—Nearly above this village, rises a hill, round, green, of no very lofty elevation, and beautifully adorned with wood.

THE fields being now nearly bare of corn, and the weather fair; this was the sportman's season for shooting partridges. We met, on our way, some gentlemen in a hunting-dress, and a lady talking eagerly of horses and hounds,—who seemed to be
just

Just leaving the fields on which they had, for the morning, pursued this amusement.

THIS whole road from Ayr to Irvine lies on the sea-coast, at no great distance from the shore. We had within our view, the same bay and the same coasts along which we had travelled for the day or two immediately preceding. As the day was fair, we enjoyed an agreeable, and widely extended prospect. The most conspicuous island within the Frith, was *Arran*.

THE isle of ARRAN, which was, by the Romans termed *Glotta*, lies in the mouth of the Frith of Clyde, which---from the name of this isle probably ---was, by the same people denominated *Glotta Æstuarium*. It lies at about eight leagues of distance from Ayr, in a north-west direction; and about fifteen leagues, equally north-west from Loch-Ryan, in Galloway. Its form is, in some degree, oval. Its length, from north to south, is about twenty four miles; its greatest breadth from east to west, fourteen. The sea encroaches, here and there, so as to indent its coasts. On the south-east quarter of the isle is the beautiful harbour of *Lamlash*; a sort of circular haven, nine miles in circumference, and covered by the islet of Lamlash, about three quarters of a mile in length. Five hundred ships may conveniently
enough

enough lie together, in this haven. The islet at its mouth forms a double inlet, and a double outlet; so that ships may enter or sail out, with almost any wind. Five leagues northward from Lamfash, is Loch *Ranfa*; another spacious harbour, but inferior in extent and in convenience, to the former. The face of the country, through this isle, is rugged and mountainous. *Goat-field*, the highest mountain in the isle, lies nearly in the centre. In a clear day, Scotland, England, Ireland, and the Isle of Man are visible from its summit. The *Cock of Arran*, towards its northern extremity, is a famous sea-mark. The air of this island is cold, but pure. The Springs are earlier, the Summers warmer, the Winters colder, than on the adjacent continent. The weather is extremely variable; gusts of wind are frequent; winter is commonly attended with large falls of rain and snow. The island has four or five fresh water lakes, with innumerable springs, by which it is abundantly watered. Out of one of the lakes, *Loch-Yersa*, issues a fine river. The loftier parts of the island are either bare rocks, or are covered only by heath or ferns, and are fit only for pasture to sheep or goats. In the vales, on the borders of the lakes, on the banks of the streams, but especially on the coasts, is the ground susceptible of cultivation, and in various places, tolerably well cultivated. Bear, oats, peas, potatoes, and pot-herbs, with

with some share of flax and hemp are the ordinary crops. Much underwood grows through the island: and in one place, large pines. Limestone, freestone, and coal, and various other valuable fossils are found here in considerable abundance. More than a thousand black-cattle are annually exported from Arran. Here too are sheep, goats, swine, and rabbits, in great plenty. On the hills are wild deer. In the lakes are salmon, and other fresh-water fish. On the coasts are caught cod, ling, whittings, and herrings. The castle of *Broadwick*, belonging to the Duke of Hamilton, is the most considerable edifice in this island. It must have been anciently a strong castle, and a sumptuous palace. Here are also various remains of many ancient fortresses: and caves remarkable equally for size and for situation. Here are many monuments referable to the druidical superstition. From *Mona* or *Anglesey* the Druids are well-known to have retired to *Man*: from *Man*, they might resort to *Arran*.—Here are various streams fit for moving mill-machinery. Yet, I know not, that the cotton-manufacture has yet been introduced into Arran. The sea-ware on the shores is burnt into kelp: and, no doubt, these islanders will gradually have motives which may rouse them to industry, and dispose them to avail themselves of all the natural advantages of their situation. People from England have been accustomed

to

to cut and burn the ferns in the island, and to carry away the ashes. But, the natives begin to see that they themselves may with almost equal advantage, burn their ferns, as well as their sea-ware.

NORTH-EAST from *Arran* lies the isle of *Bute*; about eighteen miles in length, from north to south, and in breadth—where it is broadest—five miles. It is hilly in the general character of its surface; and towards *Cowal*, the hills rise—although not to the elevation of the mountains of *Cowal*. At *Rothefay* this isle has a large harbour. It is watered by six or eight lakes of fresh water; the largest of which, *Loch Fad*, is a mile in length: four have rivers issuing from them. The town of *Rothefay* contains between two and three thousand inhabitants, and seems to have been anciently—perhaps more populous than at present. This is understood to have been a settlement occupied by the Scots under the Renda, as they advanced from Ireland into Argyle-shire. Since the reign of Robert III. the heir apparent of the Scottish crown has been the Duke of *Rothefay*. The castle of *Rothefay* is now ruinous, but was inhabited by the family of *Bute*, till it was burnt during the troubles in the year 1785. Herrings, in their season, come in great abundance, on the coast of *Bute*: and the herring-fishery is the favourite employment of the young men. All the ambition of a farmer's son is first to obtain

obtain a share in a herring-buss, and at length to become solely master of one. Bute has thus become a nursery for seamen: it furnished many, during the American war to the Royal Navy.—Yet, Bute is a seat of thriving agriculture. The soil is light and sandy. A considerable part of the isle is inclosed and subdivided with ditches and hedges. Barley, oats, turnips, rye-grass and clover are raised in great abundance. The barley is consumed in the island, in the distillation of whisky. Of the oats a considerable share is exported. Cattle are also a principal article of export with these islanders. They have abundance of lime. Coal they have hitherto sought for in vain. The Gaelic was the language of the last generation of the inhabitants: Among the present, the ordinary dialect of the Lowland Scots is commonly spoken.—To the parish of *Rothsay* alone, belong from twelve to twenty open boats, and from eighty to an hundred decked vessels, of between fifteen and an hundred tons burthen.—The isle is divided into the two parishes of *Rothsay* and *Kingarth*. It has several schools for the education of youth. The number of the inhabitants amounts nearly to five thousand; being nearly seventy to the square mile: No contemptible population. These people have been roused from that indolence by which they were once prevented from availing themselves of the natural advantages

of their situation : and the industry, wealth, and population of the island advance, hand in hand. A custom-house established in the town of Rothesay, in the year 1765 : the encouragement given by government to the herring-fishery ; and the introduction of the cotton manufacture about a dozen years since, are among the chief causes to which the late increase of the population of this island has been ascribed. With the increase of wealth and population, the price of provisions has also risen. The vicinity of Greenock, the market of which is one of the *dearest* in Scotland has no doubt contributed to raise the price of every article in the markets of Bute.—The inhabitants of Bute desire earnestly to be relieved from the duty on sea-borne coal.—Bute was anciently the favourite place of meeting between the Highlanders and the Lowlanders of the West of Scotland. In those days, the manners of our ancestors were rude, and their spirits fierce and disorderly. Law was imperfect. Civil jurisdiction, weak. The Highlanders and the Lowlanders were mutually diffident of each other. Yet, was mutual intercourse convenient and necessary. They chose therefore a place for meeting and for traffic, where both parties might have like advantages of security and of force. The port of Rothesay became their common emporium. Here are remains of several fortresses which were occupied as places of
strength

Strength and security by the ancient inhabitants of the island: On the western side are *Dun Ouil*, and *Dun Allin*. The royal castle of Rothesay already mentioned, stands by the town of Rothesay on the east-side, and was once the largest castle in the Western isles. Since 1685, it has been unfit for habitation. On the east shore stands also *Mount Stuart*, the seat of the Earl of Bute, which gives to his eldest son, the title of Lord Mount-Stewart. Bute is a county, with Arran, Ailsa, and the islets of *Cumbra-more*, *Cumbra-beg*, and *Inch-Marnock*;—situate, the two former, east off Bute,—the latter half a league west from it. *Kumbra-more* is between eight and nine miles in circumference; fertile and cultivated as Bute; forming a separate parish; and peopled with some hundreds of inhabitants. *Kumbra-beg*, or Kumbra the less, is little more than a mile in circumference, and swarms with rabbits—*Inch-Marnock* is somewhat larger than *Kumbra-beg*; beautiful and cultivated: it was anciently the solitary recess of a small society of *Culdees*.

SUCH, with its appendages, is the isle that gave a title to him who had a considerable share in directing the early education of our Excellent Sovereign, and who was, for some short while, at the Head of the British Administration, in the beginning of the present reign. Few monarchs have ever done high

er honour, by the tenor of their life,---to their early education ;---than George III. of Britain. And, if in the biography of any great or good man, it be thought injustice to conceal the names of the instructors and guardians of his youth: the British Nation cannot rejoice that the best of Princes sits on their Throne, without gratefully remembering Lord Bute, as the Friend and Tutor of his early days. They were not personal vices and follies; they were not blunders in administration, or abuses of power that inflamed the English against his ministry. It was the opposition of the great Whig families; the popularity of a Whig ministry who were to give place to Lord Bute and his friends, upon the Accession of his Royal Pupil. The benevolent policy, too, of uniting all parties, of annihilating all invidious, national distinctions, of making of the whole inhabitants of the British Empire, but one people, unanimous in loyalty to the House of Hanover, and in attachment to the British Constitution---was shocking to the prejudices of many of our southern brethren; who, with a not ungenerous pride, imagined, that in loyalty, in honour, in every illustrious public virtue, none could, none ought to vie with themselves. The termination of a successful war in peace, without prosecuting it to the utter ruin of a humbled enemy, was another heinous offence by which Lord Bute
disobliged

disobliged the English Nation.---But, in all the fury of opposition that was excited against him, I know not that his personal character was ever successfully attacked. The disloyalty, the poverty, the cunning, the duplicity of Scotchmen in general, were the favourite themes of Churchill and of Wilkes. The constancy of Scotchmen, where they have formed an attachment, was held up in an invidious light. The ancient prejudices with which the English had viewed the Scotch, before the Union of Scotland and England under one Sovereign, were powerfully addressed. But, even the piercing, soul-searching vehemence and acute malignity of *Junius*, respected the private character of the Earl of Bute. From his discernment, the genius and learning of *Johnson* obtained that encouragement, which *Chesterfield* had first ostentatiously offered, and then meanly withheld. By his dignified candour were the quackery and frivolity of *Hill* overlooked, and that botanical skill which he actually possessed, munificently patronized. The Murrays, the Wedderburnes, the Homes, the Macphersons, all the Scottish names, whether in business or in literature, which were distinguished by his care, are the ornaments of this age, and might well adorn any æra in history. In his long retirement from public business, the rancour of political prejudice ceased to be directed against him. In the cultivation of those

virtues

virtues which adorned his character, and of those studies in which he delighted, it should seem, that he found an happiness in retirement which he had unsuccessfully sought on the heights of ambition. Happier in this, than Sir Robert Walpole, of whom it is related, that, after he had reluctantly retired from Public Office, a friend, one day entered his library-room at *Houghton*, while the Ex-Minister was busy at the shelves; His friend entered unobserved, and continued so, for some minutes, till he had seen Sir Robert * take down volume after volume, look into each, but without reading, immediately return it into its place: At length, the old man threw himself down upon a seat, and burst into tears: His friend then addressing him, he lamented, that having so long neglected literature, amid the cares of Public Business, he had now lost so entirely all relish for books, that they could afford him no recreation in his listless solitude. But, in the enjoyments of classical literature, in the duties of religion, and in the cultivation of his favourite Botany, Lord Bute is said to have spent his latter years in calm happiness. I doubt not that his merits, as a man and a politician, will be more candidly judged of, by those who shall review them in the next century.

BUT, I had almost forgotten, that I am only on the highway between Ayr and Irvine, and that the

* Then Lord Oxford.

immediate

immediate vicinity of that highway presents enough of interesting objects. Near *Hillhouse*, a gentleman's seat, within sight or almost within sight of Irvine, we saw two lovely women walking in a field adjoining to the highway. The road before Irvine soon presented to our view, a grove of masts, and awaked all those agreeable thoughts which are connected with the idea of active, and adventurous commerce. Coals, lime, rivers, sea-ports require nothing but men, awake to the pursuits of luxury and ambition—and nature and mankind will both soon appear in the fairest aspects they can possibly assume.—We proceeded; and soon saw, on the north-west edge of the same hill on which Hill-house is seated, the old castle of *Dundonald*, making just such a figure as one of the highest houses on either side of the High Street of Edinburgh would necessarily make, if it stood alone. Near it, but under the height of the hill, stands the seat of the Countess-Dowager of Eglinton. The grounds lying immediately around, were still beautifully green. Below was a wide plain, sandy, and uncultivated; indeed the idea of cultivation seemed to have been here given up, as hopeless. Of all soils, indeed, a sandy soil is perhaps the most obstinately barren. But, if sand be an useful manure for clay; why may not clay prove equally a manure for sand? If this plain were fortified by a dyke towards the sea; laid with clay,—which is sufficiently plentiful

plentiful in Ayr-shire,---and ploughed up ; it might certainly be brought to bear crops of grain and of useful grasses which would render it much more valuable than it can be, in its present state. Along the way-side, where it leads through this plain, I observed a great variety of pudding-stones.

At length, we entered a suburb of Irvine, on the south-side of the river Irvine. The highway passes through it, to the bridge. The inhabitants are weavers employed in the cotton and linen manufactures. The houses are neat ; and all who appeared in the street, or at the doors and windows, discovered that decency and cleanliness of dress which, wherever they distinguish the common people, shew them to be, in easy circumstances.

IRVINE, KILMARNOCK, and the Environs.

THE Irvine which rises on the borders of Lanarkshire, has increased to a considerable body, when it enters the Frith of Clyde, by the town of Irvine. Like Ayr, Irvine is an ancient burgh, and has long been one of the principal sea-port towns on the western coast of Scotland. In the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, its trade appears to have been flourishing. But, the *barr* of sand formed at the mouth of the
harbour

harbour, has long rendered it less convenient than it otherwise might have been, for shipping. It has more shipping at present however, by all appearance, than the port of Ayr. As Ayr stands nearly on the boundary between Carrick and Kyle; 'so the river Irvine, on which the town of the same name stands, is the limit between Kyle and Cunningham.—The extent of the city of Irvine is considerable. Many of the buildings have an ancient aspect: the walls thick and strong: the windows small: the houses narrow in proportion to their height; and the rooms low. As to trade; one considerable branch of the trade consists in the exportation of coals to Ireland: Its inhabitants take a share, too, in the herring-fishery in the Frith of Clyde: They have intercourse with many of the other sea-ports in Britain and Ireland: They trade to the *Baltic*; and even take a share with the merchants of Glasgow, in the trade to America; and our West-Indies: I know not, whether they trade to the ports of the Mediterranean. The streets were thronged with carts, and with people walking eagerly about, with an air of business. It was easy to see by the dress and air of the people, that the seafaring part of the inhabitants are the most numerous and opulent. They seem to give a tone to the manners of the rest. Irvine abounds not in good inns. The house and offices of the inn in which we stopped to dine were

VOL. II.

A a a

not

not commodious. But, the people were civil, and their charge moderate. Irvine seems to partake in those advantages which have, of late, so greatly promoted the general prosperity of Ayrshire. The addition of manufactures to its traffic will, no doubt greatly promote the farther increase of this city.

KILMARNOCK stands at some distance, inland from from the town of Irvine, and equally upon the river of the same name. It is supposed to derive its own name from a *St Marnock*---perhaps the same whose name has been also imposed on the little isle of *Inch-Marnock* before mentioned. In the year 1591, it was erected into a burgh of barony, by a charter granted in favour of Thomas, Lord Boyd. In 1672, a second charter was obtained, and ratified by the Scottish Parliament. In 1700, the magistrates obtained from the Earl of Kilmarnock, a grant of all the privileges and taxes which they enjoyed, as superior of the burgh; the benefits of which grant, the town has ever since possessed. It is governed by two Bailies, and a Council of seventeen burghesses. It has increased gradually since its erection, and especially since its emancipation from the power of the noble family in whom the superiority was originally vested,---till it has at length arisen to be one of the most considerable manufacturing towns in the West of Scotland. The number of its present inhabitants amounts

amounts nearly to six thousand. Nearly an hundred thousand pounds worth of goods are annually manufactured in it. Carpets alone bring to Kilmarnock an annual return of near two and twenty thousand pounds. The shoes and boots made here afford almost an equal sum. Duffles, coverlets, blankets, plaidings, ferges, bonnets, caps and mitts, with stockings knit on needles are so many articles of woollen manufacture prepared here to a large annual amount. The other articles manufactured in Kilmarnock, are various, and of a great yearly value. The markets of the town are very plentifully supplied from the circumjacent country: almost every article is cheaper here than in the markets of Glasgow and Paisley: and from this neighbourhood all sorts of provisions are carried for sale to those more populous and opulent, manufacturing cities. The butcher-meat exposed to sale in the flesh-market of Kilmarnock, is reckoned so excellent, that many families in Glasgow, at the distance of one and twenty miles, send hither for their butcher-meat. Among other articles of provision, good in quality, and at a reasonable price, which are to be obtained here, is the best cheese which Scotland affords, well-known by the name of *Dunlop* cheese. The cheese made in the parish of Dunlop was originally the best in Ayrshire, and was sought for, with a preference, at all the markets where it was

offered to sale. But, the success of the cheese-makers of Dunlop soon tempted the emulation of their neighbours. The name of Dunlop cheeses came to be transferred to all the cream cheeses made in Ayrshire, and equally to cream-cheeses brought from the adjacent parts of Galloway into Ayrshire, for sale. In the markets of Glasgow and Paisley, all cheese brought from the country lying westward from these towns is sold and bought, as Dunlop-cheese.

THE *coal* of Ayrshire is one capital source of its wealth. In all the districts of this county coal is to be found. The strata are almost every where wrought. From the immediate neighbourhood of Kilmarnock about three thousand and three hundred tons, of a species called Blind Coal, are annually exported to different places in Ireland; Cork, Dublin, Belfast, Drogheda, Larn, Donaghadee, Sligo. To the Highland isles too, it is also exported for the purposes of drying malt and corn, and of burning limestone. In Ireland, indeed, the importation of coals is peculiarly necessary. The want of this important article is perhaps the greatest disadvantage to which that fertile and populous island is naturally subjected. Not that Ireland is absolutely without strata of coals; but, so few of these have yet been discovered; and the coal which they afford, is so inferior in quality; that the Irish find a very great importation necessary

ery to answer their demands. They prefer the English coal to that of Ayr-shire. If they shall ever find England and Scotland too much exhausted to supply them with pit-coal, I would advise them then to have recourse to Newfoundland: For in Newfoundland are strata of coal lying for some extent close upon the shore where it is most accessible to shipping---and sufficient to supply not only the British isles, but all Europe, with this valuable article of fuel. All the coal at present exported from the neighbourhood of Kilmarnock, is carried by land to the sea-port of Irvine. A canal has however been proposed, along which, this and other articles of export, may be conveyed by water, from Kilmarnock. It is highly probable that this project may, sooner or later, be accomplished. Friendly as I am to canals, I should wish to see Scotland more generally intersected by them, even than those counties in England where they are most numerous. I wish it were possible to unite Ayr and Kirkcudbright by a canal carried between them. If the civilization of Britain shall ever again be overwhelmed in barbarism; our canals will remain monuments of our arts, if not more splendid, yet bespeaking more enlightened ingenuity, than the aqueducts of ancient Rome.

How

How pleasing is it to wander through a country occupied by a numerous population of civilized, ingenious, industrious men! How pleasing to behold men, at once improve the beauties and the riches of nature,---and at the same time exalt their own dignity and felicity! Such is the prospect which I have hitherto beheld, in the course of this excursion through part of my native country. Setting out from a great town in which society seems too much crowded; in which if some virtues, and some generous energies of the mind be reared as in a hot-bed; many more vices are fostered with a no less extraordinary influence; I naturally expected to find, in the country, a great diversity of manners; to see vice less outrageous and dissolute, and the ordinary virtues more generally cultivated. But, I have already seen much more than I had hoped. The ingenuity of my countrymen is much more considerable and more happily directed than I had imagined. In their virtues, the gentleness of refinement, is more happily blended with the energy of ruder life, than I had, in my inexperience, conceived. The poor are less savage; and the great less frivolous than I had feared. The middle ranks exhibit more distinctly the virtues of those above, and of those below them, than the common-place praises of the middle state of life had prevailed with me to suppose that they might.---The poor are
happy,

happy, wherever they are sober and industrious. The proprietors of the lands have no longer vassals whom they may beat, sell, and pillage with impunity. The farmer is not depressed. The merchant is not despised. The enjoyments of life are not withheld, either by pride or avarice, from the labouring poor. It is not by mutually cruciating each other, but by a generous emulation in generous and useful arts, that the different ranks maintain, each its peculiar privileges and peculiar distinctions. The great have, by the progress of our Laws and Constitution, been deprived of almost all their power to injure their dependents and inferiors; but, their power to do good has by the same means been rather enlarged than diminished. In the peasant, and in the artisan, where accidental circumstances have not depraved their hearts and corrupted their manners, I can perceive a force of mind united with a delicacy of sentiment which I should otherwise have thought inconsistent, and absolutely incompatible with their condition in life.---It is pleasing to observe the progress of industry in these counties. Our national character gives to our exertions the energetic vigour of an Englishman, with somewhat of the patient perseverance of a Hindoo. Those inventions by which ingenuity has abridged labour have been as frequent and as successful among us, as among our brethren of England: and to them, if

I

I mistake not, does Great Britain owe the liberal encouragement which we can give our labourers, while we at the same time underfell our rivals in almost every market. Examining the distribution of our taxes, I am pleased to see, that they are in general so imposed and levied as to discourage those branches of traffic, of industry, of luxury, which although they may at first sight, seem to be lucrative, and to afford high gratification, are, in truth disadvantageous, and corrupt, instead of yielding rational enjoyment. I am happy to see that our country is neither oppressed by a tyrannical government, nor distracted by civil disorder. The former looks not round with an eye of benevolence on the whole community, nor does it look forward even upon its own future interests: Private passions and temporary interests are all that it strives to accommodate. The latter sacrifices to the love of power, and to an enthusiasm without reason, without object, every amiable affection, every honourable passion, every virtue and every enjoyment, all that dignifies, and all that adorns civil life.---Tracing the course of our rivers, traversing our plains, climbing our mountains; I rejoice to see the fisherman cheerfully and successfully busy in the waters, and to view the sails of commerce crowd every frith and navigable stream;—to see the plain crowded with cattle, rich with crops, or busily occupied and subdued by
that

that tillage which is to be rewarded with rich crops; to see that the mountain is no longer occupied thinly by deer, or other wild animals, destined to fall by the hand of man, without having previously experienced any thing of his attentive care; —but by creatures, which having been domesticated, if they are at last to die by the hand of man, and to feed his gluttonous rapacity, are first tended, and sheltered, and fed by him with a degree of anxious and tender concern. The deep forest, the boundless waste, the cloud-capped hill are noble, awful objects; But, gloomy is the prospect, cheerless the scene, where if nature appears invested in terrific grandeur; man is seen in a state of meanness and of wretchedness. No: Give me the scenes where the dignity of human Genius and of human Art appears almost to rival the great works of Nature: where the city rises on the river; where hamlets are scattered over the plain: where the elegant villa is seen in the open lawn, or in the sweet sequestered vale; where the stately palace crowns the mount which without towering aloft so as to detach itself from the contiguous scenes, yet rises so as to command them. I delight to survey that mixture of labour and enjoyment, of the rich and the poor, of refinement and simplicity, which my country exhibits.

UNFRIENDLY to great Towns: I rejoice to see the country eagerly divided by roads and canals, in almost every direction. The intercourse which these promote, has a tendency to diffuse population equally over the country. It virtually brings the inhabitants of different districts and different cities more nearly together. A country sufficiently opened up by these channels for communication, becomes, in fact, one great city. Its inhabitants wherever situated enjoy together the conveniencies of a city, with the advantages of a rural life. Persons living in the country can so readily procure every convenience and all intelligence which the town affords, that they find it not necessary to repair frequently thither, or to linger there long. Trade or manufacture are not necessarily confined to those situations in which they have at first accidentally fixed: but can easily remove to new seats, wherever advantages for sale, or convenience for the processes of labour, or the low price of labour or provisions may invite. Thus is the increase of great towns, and of the vices which spring up in them, as in hot-beds, necessarily retarded, and the corruption of the morals of the community checked. When, to this consideration, is added the advantage which a whole country gains by the same mean, in point of improvement; I would willingly hope that political œconomy must continue to direct its attention daily more and more

to

to objects so important, as roads, canals, and posts. The whole inhabitants of every district of this country seem to be fully sensible of their importance. If I have dwelt too long, on these subjects, and have returned upon them too often; it has been, in consequence of my being deeply impressed with the idea of their utility.

It is pleasing, that in Scotland, though much has indeed been done, yet much still remains to be done. So far from being exhausted; the energies whether of Nature or of Human Genius have not been either called forth or exerted nearly to the utmost. It may be true that these, after they have been cultivated to a certain pitch must necessarily decline. But, that decline we need not fear; for we are far from having reached the previous perfection. In *Fife-shire*, I have seen a district populous, indeed, and flourishing, but where the care of its mineral treasures, and the advantages which its peninsulated situation afford to a sea-faring life seem to have not a little retarded the progress of enlightened agriculture; and where I suspect, that the fondness of the gentlemen for the pleasures of the chase may have rendered them more careless than they otherwise might have been of the inclosure and the decoration of their grounds. In *Kinross-shire* I have seen a tract which possessing some of the benefits of manu-
B b b 2
facturing

facturing industry, having something of decent agriculture, and deriving some advantages from the rearing and feeding of sheep and black-cattle; yet exhibits none of these modes of the œconomy of industry prosecuted with great eagerness, upon a large scale, or with very extraordinary success. In *Perthshire* I have beheld population in one quarter crowded; industry enlightened and active; trade ingenious and adventurous; man roused to exert himself to the utmost, and to call forth all the latent energies of nature. But this was only the fore-ground. In other parts of the same county, nature appears in the rudest and most unimproved wildness; population is scanty; and man wretched and indolent. In *Argyleshire* I have seen the continuation of the wilder parts of *Perthshire*: In both however, nature although rugged and wild, presents nothing of wildness and ruggedness sufficient to baffle the ingenuity and industry of man. In *Dumbartonshire* I again returned to scenes of which the natural advantages seem to have invited the cares of human art and industry; and where trade and manufacture appear to have seated themselves in triumph. In the shire of *Lanerk* stands the fairest seat which trade and industry have yet established for themselves in North-Britain. On the confines of the same shire, I saw the shepherd in his most comfortable condition, in consequence of his being there peculiarly skilful in
the

the management of his flocks. In *Dumfries-shire* I have seen what the advantages of pasturage and agriculture, cultivated with only tolerable care and skill, can do, without the aid of manufactures, and enlivened by but a little trade. In *Galloway*, I have seen the influence of rising manufactures, the happy effects of advancing agriculture, the miserable disadvantage which a people suffer when sequestered at a remote distance from the scenes of busy and gainful industry, and cut off in a great measure from communication with these, by the want of roads and canals. In *Ayr-shire*, I see a better mixture of the Arts and of the various species of human industry than in other counties: Here are shepherds and a wide range of sheep-pastures; meadows, grass-fields, and black-cattle fattened for the shambles; barley, wheat, and oats in large abundance; fossils—free-stone, lime and coal—affording rich resources to the industry of the inhabitants; good harbours and a thriving trade; manufactures which not only work up the raw produce of the country, but require even an importation of materials. Such is *Ayr-shire*! fortunately, its idlers live more at home, than those of many other counties: More of that income which the proprietors of the *Lands* and of the *Moneyed* or other *personal Stocks* draw from the labourers by which these are turned to use, is thus returned into the hands

hands of those very labourers than in many other places. That emulation in improvements and in the decoration of their respective domains which seems to prevail among the landholders of Ayrshire, has, in its effects been already greatly beneficial to the interests of the county in general. It is the most generous emulation which can prevail in a peaceful age, among the nobility or gentry of any country. It was that assemblage of the advantages of the rude and the cultivated districts which struck me as distinguishing Ayrshire,—that has insensibly led me to look back from the confine between Kyle and Cunningham, upon the other counties which I had immediately before traversed. I proceed.

From IRVINE to KILBARCHAN.

I WAS now in the bailiwick of Cunningham; which is said to have been anciently infested by the Danes, and to have received from them its name. The highway by which we continued our journey across the country, led near by a seat of Lord Eglington's towards *Kilwinning*. We crossed the river Garnock by a commodious bridge. *Kilwinning*, anciently the seat of an opulent abbacy, still displays various remains of its former state. The walls which surrounded the orchard of the Monks, are still

still partly standing. Various stately fruit-trees yet appear within. Some parts of the buildings which those Clergy inhabited, are also standing. The situation was well-chosen. I think it more like to those situations which the moderns prefer to build on, than the sites of most of the other old abbies which I have seen. A considerable village has risen near. Several large cotton-works have been lately erected beside it. The erection of these works has been attended with a proportionate enlargement of the village. Its inhabitants are almost wholly weavers and cotton-spinners. Such is the change of manners which the progress of society has here produced. The ancient seat of monkish indolence is now the flourishing scene of manufacturing industry. The ornaments which it derives from its present occupiers, although less dignified and august, perhaps,—are however much more pleasing and interesting, than those more pompous ones which might be superinduced by its ancient possessors.

THE days are past, in which the wealth and power of Scotland were chiefly possessed by the Clergy. Happier days have succeeded; although they might not immediately succeed. The lands have passed into the hands of men who have many more motives arising from their multiplied connections in society, to improve them. The labourer, the farmer,

mer, the artisan, the manufacturer, the merchant, the lawyer, the physician have now obtained a very large share of that property which was once engrossed almost exclusively by the military and the clerical orders. Yet, I know not if these latter orders have been, in all instances, losers. The half is sometimes more than the whole. I know some landholders who having sold large portions of their estates, have however, gained so successfully, by the progress of improvements in the country, that their rentals are now higher than ever. Something similar seems to have happened in the case of some of those whom I have been here speaking.—It must be acknowledged, that, in the dark ages of Europe, the Clergy both secular and regular, of the Romish Church, were the leaders in all improvements. Not only did they keep alive the half-extinguished fires of Science and Literature: But, the arts of life were introduced by them. Whatever, our ancestors had of agriculture, of architecture, and of all those arts which provide the ordinary accommodations of life, —was taught and practised chiefly by the clergy. That rude, awkward, listless industry which Europe had, before the emancipation of the burghs, was practised solely, or at least in its perfection, about the abbies and monasteries; under the direction or by the hands of the monks. But the burghs were emancipated, and industry and order began

to

to prevail among the laity. The monastic clergy became more and more useless. They sank into indolence, and into all the vices connected with luxury destitute of refinement. They became now burthens upon those districts where they were established. Yet still it must be granted, that, as they were fixed in their monasteries, they necessarily returned through the country in charity and in wages, a great part of that wealth which they drew from it. But after all, the dissolution of the monastic houses has been eventually, highly beneficial to all those countries in which it has been accomplished.—I am not so sure, that the spoiling of all the secular clergy has been equally good policy. I think it of advantage to a country—and especially to a country in which the trading and manufacturing orders are numerous and powerful,—that there should be Estates in it, the succession to which may be Elective in some measure,—And to the acquisition of which, decency of morals, a considerable share of knowledge, and an attachment to present establishments must be necessary qualifications. In an age of dissipation, like the present, I think it of the highest consequence for the general welfare of the community, that there be at least a few men of fortune, whose decency of manners may be always sure.

WE here turned away from the coast, and crossed over through the interior country by a road leading from Kilwinning, to the north-east. As we advanced, the country, although apparently not less susceptible of ornament and cultivation, yet seemed to be less carefully decorated and cultivated, than the tract lying between Ayr and Irvine, and the immediate environs of the latter of these cities. What ornaments the country here has, seem to arise rather from the improvements of industry, than from the decorating care of taste. Around some houses near the highway, I observed trees which by their size and antique aspect, seemed to bespeak the antiquity of the seats which they had been planted to shelter or adorn. East or nearly East from the way by which we travelled, appeared the seat of *Blair of Blair*; one of the most ancient families in Ayrshire: There was long a contest for precedence between the representatives of this family, and of the family of *Blair of Balthayock*. King James VI, decided, that, he of the representatives of these two families who happened to be the oldest, should in future take the precedence of the other.

WE had not proceeded many miles beyond Kilwinning, when we entered the village of Dalry, finely situate on a rising ground. The houses are neat. The villagers, industrious and decent in
their

their appearance. Here too, the cotton manufacture is established. And here, as elsewhere, industry makes the people rich and happy. This village does not seem to contain more than a few hundred inhabitants. It is just of that size of which I should wish to see all the seats of manufacture; and in one of those situations in which I should think, that manufacturing villages may be most agreeably placed. No lofty hills rise in these parts of Cunningham. The ground swells here and there gently to a considerable elevation; but is all over, easily enough accessible to the plough. In the vales, where they subside sufficiently, a stream, larger or smaller, usually runs. Sometimes they contain small tracts of morafs. The roads are numerous and good. A larger proportion of the ground appears to be plowed and sown for crops of grain, than is left in grass. The cattle are large and in good condition. Few are reared here; as I should suppose; for the rearing of cattle would be little profitable where cheese, milk, butter, and young calves may be so advantageously and so readily sold.

SOME small distance from Dalry, and towards Beith, I was struck with the sight of a Chinese Bridge, and of some gardens curiously furrounded with hedges of boxwood. A small cluster of cottages stood near. I was prompted to make some en-

C C C 2

quiries

quiries concerning both; and learned that they were works of a miller, whom his neighbours, and he himself, no doubt, regarded as a man of taste and curiosity in such matters. The name either of the hamlet, or of the stream covered by the Chinese bridge was *Di-garvan*. Pit-coal is still plentiful through all this country. East and south-east from the roads by which we travelled, I saw a good many gentlemen's seats, the names of which I had not opportunity to learn. Amidst the general cultivation of the country, I could here and there remark neglected spots. I was tempted to wish that there had been more wood; and was mortified to see the disfiguring dry stone-dyke occur so often. The stones were schistous or shorlaceous, but chiefly shorlaceous.

At length, we drew near to *Beith*; a considerable, manufacturing village; having as we approached it, passed within sight of the lake of *Kilbirnie*; on the borders of which we could discern the ruins of some ancient castle; and near it, a considerable coal-work. As we lost sight of the lake of *Kilbirnie*, and its environs, we came within view of *Loch-ribinnock*. This is a beautiful lake: Its environs are highly cultivated. The extent of the lake has been contracted by a drain; which carrying off a considerable quantity of its waters, has thus saved for the purposes of pasture and tillage, many acres that were before inundated.

This

This lake lies immediately below Beith. Beith rises on the hill-side. Loch-whinnoch covers a part of the vale below. The village of Loch-whinnoch, inhabited chiefly by weavers, lies beyond the lake. The house of Castle-Sempill, the seat of Mr Macdowall, the representative of the ancient family of the Macdowalls of Garthland in Galloway, stands at a very small distance east or north-east from the lake. The hills rise softly above. All the adjacent country is cultivated and occupied by an abundant population. The prospect is charming—in any season.

BEITH—to KILBARCHAN.

BEITH seems to be a place of some antiquity. Its streets are in that arrangement, and its better houses in that fashion of building which seem to have been common in the beginning of the present century. It is a large village. The linen-manufacture has long employed the greater number of its inhabitants. The cotton-manufacture is now added to that of linen, here as through the adjacent country. Some considerable manufacturers reside in Beith. The petty dealers find in Paisley and Glasgow, a ready market for their yarn or webs. With weavers are necessarily in Beith a certain proportion of tradesmen

tradesmen practising the other mechanic arts. It is a seat of smugglers who bringing contraband goods from the coasts of Galloway and Ayrshire, sell them here, in the neighbouring villages, and at Kilbarchan, Paisley, and Glasgow. A company of strolling players, lately acting at Paisley, presented, among other things an Entertainment under the name of the "Smugglers of Beith."—Dr Leechman, lately Principal of the University of Glasgow; some of whose Theological Opinions I have already had occasion to hint at; and who is known in the Literary World, by his Life of Dr Hutcheson, the Moral Philosopher, and by some sermons,—was, in the beginning of his Theological career, minister of Beith. The School-house of Beith is large; and, I hope, in good hands.

HARDLY stopping to take some slight refreshment in Beith, we continued our journey through a fine vale, to Kilbarchan. At the bottom of the vale, upon the edge of Mr Macdowall's pleasure-grounds, and near a bridge which carries the highway over the stream falling into Loch-whinnoch, we found some cotton-works, with a hamlet which might contain a good many inhabitants.

THE road rises over a hill, green and of no great height, as it passes from this hamlet in the hollow
of

of the vale, to Kilbarchan. I know not whence it comes; but, the cultivators of the ground seem to be here worse accommodated with the conveniences of life, than the artizans, and the labourers of the manufactures. Near Kilbarchan, the dykes dividing the fields, are such as are hardly worthy of Galloway: The houses are almost universally covered with thatch: Nor is it unusual for the farmer's family and his cattle to come in and go out, both at the same door, and to lie under the same roof; only at different ends of the house. These farmers too seem to take a pride in obstinately preserving the old modes of life,—sticking to old fashions and old customs. I would willingly account for this, if I could. But, the task is not easy. Is it because the lower classes are in these places so predominant in numbers, that the farmers naturally take the tone of their manners from them, rather than, as they would otherwise do, from the higher ranks? Other circumstances contribute to the same effect. These lands are parcelled out for the most part among petty farmers whose stock and income may possibly not encourage them to aspire often to any of the elegancies of life. They dispose of the produce of their farms too in small quantities, just as it is raised: and thus, not being accustomed to *pass* large sums of money through their hands, conceive
none

none of those wild ideas of expence which the occasional possession of much money naturally suggests:

As one approaches the village of Kilbarchan, the eye is delighted with a rich prospect. The country seems all one straggling village, onward as far as the eye can reach. And what is still more agreeable, it seems all in motion. The roads are thronged with carts and other carriages. The fields are full of active, busy animation. Moving columns of smoke issue from numerous coal-works. And around all the villages,—and the cotton-works—*the nunneries and monasteries of manufacture*,—all is crowded, alive, and active. Here and there are bleaching greens, which display scenes of cheerful industry not less agreeable or interesting, than the hay-makers on the meadow; or the reapers on the corn-field. Various gentlemen's houses appear, within these environs: but, on so rich, so cultivated, so populous, so busy a scene, these can make no very remarkable figure:

KILBARCHAN, and to PAISLEY.

AT Kilbarchan I experienced the hospitality of Mr Maxwell, the Clergyman of the Parish; whose good sense, liberal sentiments, and amiable manners are an honour to the clerical profession.

KILBARCHAN

KILBARCHAN is a manufacturing village of some antiquity. It seems to contain between twelve and fifteen hundred inhabitants. It stands in a hollow, between two eminences of no considerable height. Its inhabitants are almost wholly weavers. It has a small bleachfield naturally connected with the manufacture of cloth. Joiners, shoemakers, smiths, tailors, butchers, and bakers, as necessary to provide accommodation for the weavers, are necessarily among the inhabitants of this village. But, a still more considerable class are the keepers of tippling-houses: and these seem to be the most thriving people in the village. In the morning, at mid-day, in the evening,—whenever there is a penny in the purse, these people eagerly repair to the *dram shop*. With the œconomy of the poor inhabitants of the remote Highlands, or of the wilds of Galloway,—these labourers in manufacture might soon become rich, and all extensive manufacturers themselves. Yet are they commonly poorer, than those cottagers who receive not perhaps more than a tenth part of their annual income.

THEY are not uninformed. Newspapers and other periodical publications circulate among them, and are eagerly read. But, whatever appears in a printed book or paper, derives the highest consequence in their eyes, from the circumstance of its being

printed. It is easy to propagate any opinion among them : But introduce it ; and it will make its way, —just as a conflagration spreading from bush to bush, through a field of dry heath or whins. Or, if it should be difficult to propagate one opinion with sufficient success ;—oppose it with some other : and the two will most probably divide the whole village.

AMID their labour, their conviviality, and their attention to public events, these good people have not a little of religious zeal. Within the parish of Kilbarchan are no fewer than two places of worship for Dissenters ; one of which, a meeting-house of the Cameronians, stands at the distance of, I think, two miles, from the village ; the other, a Relief-meeting-house is within the village. has been lately built, and is indeed very decently fitted. Yet, the last Clergyman of the parish of Kilbarchan was one of the most eminent clergymen in the Church of Scotland : and the present is a man generally esteemed, and every day more and more acceptable among them.

THE bleachfield is not extensive, nor are the apparatus of very ingenious contrivance. I did not find, that they had adopted the use of the oxigenated muriatic acid. Lawns, cambrics, and muslins
are

are the cloths which they manufacture: and I saw, on the bleachfield some pieces of the most beautiful muslin I have ever yet seen.

THERE is an occasional intercourse between Ireland and this neighbourhood. I had fancied, that the linen-manufacture of Ireland was of older origin than that of Scotland; and that whether older or not, it was, however, in all its parts certainly more perfect. But, here I learned that to Ireland, overflowing as it is with population, bleachers and various other operations in the linen-manufacture, —men and women,—had been within these few years invited from Kilbarchan by the offer of higher wages than are given even in these places where the price of labour of all kinds seems excessive.

I KNOW not whence it comes. But, this village of Kilbarchan is not increasing with the increase of population through the neighbouring country. Depending chiefly on the linen-manufacture, it may perhaps have become stationary since that manufacture has ceased to be prosecuted as the staple manufacture of North Britain. For the cotton-manufacture, it possesses no peculiar, local advantages. And the growth of Paisley, rapid as it has been, may have served to dwarf an inferior manufacturing place like Kilbarchan,

D d d 2

BUT,

BUT, if the village of Kilbarchan have been little enlarged for these last twenty or thirty years; population has been rapidly multiplied in the neighbourhood. The village of *Johnstone*, where at the distance of sixteen or seventeen years backward, I remember to have seen only two or three houses, has now risen to a populous village, little less than Kilbarchan: within a mile of which it stands. This village has been raised partly by the cotton-manufacture, and in part by coal-works, in the neighbourhood, the property of Mr Houston, which are wrought with the greatest industry and success. *Johnstone* is a neat village. A Relief meeting-house is rising among its buildings. It has one very large, cotton work: and I saw others rapidly rising near. The walls of that large cotton-work which is already of some years standing here,—how soon after their erection I know not,—had begun to decline to one side, and had even fallen considerably from the right angle with the ground. While they were thus slowly falling, ropes were applied, and they again pulled back to the perpendicular,---without any breaking of the walls, or any derangement of the house within; a new wall was then raised to support them against any future lapse. I cannot help setting down another remarkable fact of a different nature which was here related to me: A hen-egg was found fresh in a dunghill, in which it was
certainly

certainly known to have lain for many months, if not for some years. In my inattention to matters of this kind, I should have supposed such a fact impossible: But some persons to whom I have mentioned it, seemed to think that it might easily and naturally enough happen. The seat of Mr Napier of Milliken stands near to these villages of Kilbarchan and Johnstone. The house is large and handsome. In the park are some of the stateliest pines I have seen. Above it rises a hill, of great height indeed, but consisting of columnar rocks. At a mile's distance on the opposite side of the vale, with Johnstone and Kilbarchan between, rises another columnar hill: and immediately above Kilbarchan, with the house of Mr H. Barbour, beautifully seated upon it, stands a third hill, which appears to be equally formed of an assemblage of columnar rocks.

As we continued our journey towards Paisley, we were still charmed with the aspect of the country. Far as the eye could reach, nothing appeared, but one scene of beautiful cultivation. Seeming at the same time, in a manner, all alive, so as to remind one of an ant-hill; it pleased me little less, than I could have expected even in the gayest days of summer, or opening autumn. By the highway-side were green fences or well-built walls. And at short

short intervals, villages and clusters of houses, resounding with *the busy hum of men*.

WE passed near by *Elderslie*, which is said to have been the family-seat of Sir *William Wallace*, that celebrated and disinterested champion for the independence of Scotland! We turned not aside from the highway to visit the oak which is connected in the traditions of the vulgar with some of the adventures of their favourite hero. *Wallace*, were his real history somewhat more hid in the darkness of antiquity, would certainly furnish one of the fittest characters that can be contemplated for the hero of an Epic Poem. His deeds have been celebrated in verse and disguised, as it should seem, in fable, by *Blind Harry*, but with little of that poetical power which consecrates the rudest language, and gives deathless renown to every object honoured with its notice. Yet, even the strains of *Blind Harry* have given *Wallace* that celebrity which his name enjoys among the vulgar. What a pity, that among so many great and noble families, rising from stems illustrious, yet less than this hero's, there should be no Duke, no Earl, no Lord, who might tell with pride, that the titles and honours of his family began with Sir *William Wallace*!

AT

AT length, we drew near to Paisley. But, its suburbs have so spread themselves over the environs, that I had fancied, that we had actually entered Paisley, a considerable time before we were, properly speaking, within it.

PAISLEY, and the Country to GLASGOW.

PAISLEY was anciently the seat of a monastery. The Cathedral pertaining to that abbey still stands, and is one of the finest remains of Gothic Architecture in Scotland. The vassals of the Clergy occupying the Abbey; others who venerated their sanctity; some who in times of turbulence might seek their protection; and artificans who might be needed to provide the accommodations of life for the rest, would naturally resort hither, in the days of the monasterial splendour of Paisley.

UPON the dissolution of the Religious Orders in Scotland, and the alienation of their possessions; the Abbey of Paisley fell into the hands of a son of the noble house of Hamilton,---and the founder, I think, of the family of Abercorn.

BUT Paisley seems to have continued a petty village, not more considerable, perhaps less so than
Renfrew

Renfrew, Kilfyth, or Kirkintilloch, till the linen manufacture came to be encouraged, and earnestly prosecuted in these parts. It was introduced at Paisley; and Paisley soon began to increase rapidly. No wonder; since it is seated in the middle of a country where provisions and fuel have been long plentiful and cheap.

WHEN the proprietors of the silk-manufactures of Spittalfields found the price of them immoderately high: and their labourers become ungovernable through that sloth and dissipation in which they were encouraged by the greatness of their wages, and by seeing themselves so necessary to their employers:—Those manufacturers, I have formerly mentioned, chose to retire, many of them, to different situations over the kingdom; to *Halifax*, to *Huddersfield*, and to Paisley.

THE establishment of the silk-manufacture in Paisley contributed much to its advancement. It was chiefly, I think, silk-gause that was made here. It afforded large wages to the workmen, and considerable profits to the traders. Ribbons were another branch of silk manufacture established here about same time, and, I believe, with still better success. Linens, lawns, cambricks,—especially lawns, were, however,

however, at that time, the staple manufacture of Paisley.

At length, the cotton-manufacture began to become an object of general attention through Britain. Like the silk-manufacture it found its way to Paisley. When there was yet but little cotton-yarn spun in Scotland; and before the late Sir Richard Arkwright had made those inventions by which the labour of spinning cotton-yarn was so greatly abridged; muslins had begun to be manufactured here. But, after the erection of mill-machinery for the spinning of cotton-yarn; it was brought in great abundance to the seats of weaving in Scotland. And after the expiration of the term for which the property of Arkwright's invention had been by patent secured to himself, when *cotton-mills* began to be eagerly erected upon almost every stream to which there was access, and which could furnish water to drive them; the manufacture of cotton-cloth of every variety of fabric came to be prosecuted at Paisley with yet increasing enterprise and success. With this spirit, is it here prosecuted at present. Every week, new manufacturers begin business, new work-houses are filled up, new *cotton-mills* are erected. Cotton yarn is spun in very large quantities through the neighbourhood; but this not being enough, it is imported in very large quantities

tities from England, and from those different quarters in Scotland where cotton yarn is made.—Thus flourishing has Paisley been for a number of years. Its inhabitants are weavers and spinners of all different denominations from the manufacturer who deals annually to the extent of many thousands, to the boy or girl who by spinning or weaving ribbons, earns only a very few shillings weekly: Joiners and smiths, who prepare all the wrought wood and iron necessary for the apparatus of manufacture; Masons and building-undertakers, who become daily more numerous, in consequence of the rapid increase of population, and the prevailing taste for more roomy accommodation in our houses, than our fathers were content with;—Reedmakers, shoemakers, taylors, alehousekeepers, grocers and petty shopkeepers of all classes; writers; bankers; excisemen; and that undecribable rabble which compose the idle and dissolute part of the inhabitants of great towns. It is long since the population of Paisley was commonly estimated at twelve thousand souls. Now, as I should suppose, it may be safely supposed to amount to two and twenty, or three and twenty thousand.

BUT, manufactures are a fluctuating, uncertain source of opulence. Paisley has experienced many vicissitudes. At times, the demand has ceased for
its

its manufactures: the workmen have been disbanded: all has been want and distress among them: fathers of families have been glad to enlist for soldiers that they might no longer hear their children cry for bread which they had not to give. And the mother with her babes has wandered about, begging an handful of meal or a crust of bread. And should any circumstances arise, as it cannot be hoped that there will not, to occasion a temporary stagnation in the disposal of those goods which they at present manufacture. When this shall again happen, distress similar to what they have on former occasions experienced, must again overtake them.—And I humbly apprehend, that the best precautions which can be used to prevent such distresses in a commercial and manufacturing country, are—To watch over the morals of the Labouring Part of the Community;—To form them to regular industry, not to that which works by fits and starts;—To teach them frugality by laying taxes which may amount to a prohibition, on those articles of luxury which they are most liable to abuse;—To encourage them to form Friendly Societies, and to prepare in this manner a public fund against the day of want and distress;—But, above all things, to spread them equally over the country, not heap them together in great towns.—I will even be bold enough to say, without any disposition either to flatter the em-

ployers or insult or injure the workmen, that, it is often of disadvantage to the latter, to receive too high wages; it renders them less regularly industrious, less frugal, less sober-minded.

BUT, this is not all. Since in a manufacturing country, the labourers in the manufactures form a very considerable part of the subjects of the state; their welfare ought to be made a first object in its general policy: And on their account means should be employed to prevent the Traders on whom they depend from engaging too deeply in that *blind, gambling speculation* which in its failure is attended with certain ruin, and in its success is—in my estimation—hardly fair or honourable.

ONE shocking circumstance which, in spite of every means that can be used to prevent it, results unavoidably from the present management of our manufactures, is, the almost total ruin of the rising generation. Where left unemployed, the children of the Labourers in manufactures are,—as I have observed,—very generally left uneducated; such being almost always the state of the children of the poor about great towns. Where they are even in infancy sent to earn their sustenance by their labour, it is hardly better with them: they are cramped in their growth; their health is wasted by confinement; their morals are
corrupted,

corrupted, in consequence of their being crowded so much together; they become independent of parents at an age when they are unfit to judge for themselves: if such children live to the age of thirty or forty, they are commonly the most dissipated, idle, unthinking, improvident, helpless creatures in the world.---But, if their labour cannot be wanted, ---yet why should their strength and life be prematurely consumed for all the little labour of which they are capable? Alas: we do with them as did the boy with his goose that laid him golden eggs: he was in a haste to receive all that she had to lay: he killed his goose: the eggs were yet in embryo: Thus do we, in our haste to render the rising generation useful to the Community, anticipate in infancy all the services of youth, of manhood, of age,---nipping in the bud, the flowers of humanity. When obliged to labour, before the age of twelve or fourteen, children should never be confined for more than four, or at most, six hours in the day: This, if at employment within doors for not more than four days in the week: The other two being set apart for their education. The parents are base, who spending in eating, in drinking, in clothing, those earnings, which they might employ to give their children the enjoyment of that sportive freedom in which the innocence of youth delights,---to procure them instruction in religion, and in the
other

other ordinary branches of education.---sending the poor creatures prematurely into all the toils and miseries of life.---Yet, I say not, that in great towns, it is better for the children of the poor to be idle than to be employed : If there be a choice between two such evils, I would rather employ them, work them to death, than send them wandering about the streets, as blackguard boys and infant-strumpets.

From PAISLEY to GLASGOW, &c.

FROM Paisley, we continued our journey to Glasgow along a crowded highway. On either hand appeared a cultivated country : Villas, gardens, and decorated fields covering its whole face ; with hardly a cottage to be seen. Those fields were nearly, but not entirely bare of their crops. The larger divisions of the fields were formed, for the most part, by well-built walls of stone and lime ; the subdivisions, by ditches and hedges,

THIS was in ancient times, too, one of the most cultivated districts in Scotland. Were it not, that the monuments of antiquity are commonly destroyed and effaced, whenever they happen to be seated in scenes, where the rising arts of posterity are afterwards fixed ; there might possibly be many such,

to attract the Traveller's notice in these parts. The famous castle of *Cruickstane* or rather, I believe, *Croeston*, was pointed out to me. This was a favourite seat of *Darnley's* in the period of his courtship of Queen Mary, and of the fairer days of their wedded life. Here did their few months of mutually happy love *fly over* the royal pair, *with wings of down*. A yew-tree which still stands, I think,—— witnessed their fond endearments. Mary, when her love for Darnley intermingled itself in all her thoughts, had the figure of this yew impressed upon her coins.——

NEAR *Glasgow*, a cotton-work was pointed out to me, the machinery of which is wrought by steam. It is impossible to conjecture how far human ingenuity may yet advance in appropriating the powers of inanimate nature, no less than in taming the ferocity and instructing the stupidity of the inferior animals!

GLASGOW being situate on a high-lying plain, does not afford such a comprehensive prospect of its extent from any place in the immediate neighbourhood,—as if it were seated either in a low vale, or on a rising hill. The traveller approaching this city, beholds before him, nothing but spires, buildings, and smoke, spreading out, without any definite limits

mits. Yet, is the prospect grand and interesting: It suggests naturally to the recollection, all that dignity and those honours which man derives from the most splendid exertions of Art, and the happiest social union.

GLASGOW is one of the most ancient towns in Scotland. It owes its rise to a *St Mungo*, or *Kentigern*, who first preached christianity to the rude inhabitants of the neighbourhood; took up his residence here, made this a seat for the celebration of religious worship, and drew about him a few converts, who resorted to receive his instructions, to contemplate his life, and to enjoy the protection of his sanctity. Glasgow became, in consequence a Bishop's See. Kentigern's seat was filled by a regular series of successors. The piety of kings and of nobles enriched this See with successive endowments: When Christianity was established through Scotland; Scotland united into one monarchy; And the Scottish Church emancipated from its dependence on the See of York; Glasgow then became the second of the two Archbishopricks of Scotland, inferior only to *St Andrews*.

AMID this progress of its Episcopal greatness, the population of Glasgow increased, and its buildings became numerous. The heath-thatched chapel of
Kentigern

Kentigern gave place to a noble and spacious cathedral. Provision was made for a numerous body of Clergy, who might here celebrate the rites of the Romish worship in all their splendour. Many of the vassals of the Clergy were assembled about them. The inferior clergy with many of the gentry naturally resorted from the neighbourhood, to the bishop's court. Artisans and merchants were invited hither. Glasgow thus grew to some magnitude; and assumed no mean rank among the rising cities of Scotland.

At length, an University was established here. The numbers of students who resorted hither for instruction, increased the population, at the same time while the buildings of the university enlarged the extent of this city. Not only students, but parents with their families would naturally come higher for the advantages of the university: while additional merchants and artisans became necessary to furnish the accommodations of life to the increasing numbers of the idle and the studious.

SITuated in the middle of one of the richest districts in Scotland; a district inhabited, too, by many noble families, and having in it a number of religious houses: Glasgow having once attained to some dignity as a city, became a common centre,—a

market, and a place of meeting to the inhabitants of the circumjacent country ; and as that was so populous, derived from this circumstance, great additional advantages, favourable to its progress.

AND to these advantages, that it was nobly situated on a navigable river. The city of Dumbarton stands indeed nearer to the mouth of the frith. And it might have been supposed that Dumbarton, the ancient capital of the Britons of Strath-Clyde, and having still a castle, might have, much more readily than Glasgow, become the first mercantile city in the West of Scotland. But, the residence of a garrison could give few advantages,—in comparison with the residence of an arch-bishop and a legion of clergy. Dumbarton, as a place of military strength, was liable to suffer from all the ravages of war, at a time when peace was hardly known in Scotland: While Glasgow was secure under the sacred protection of religion. Glasgow had risen to a superiority above all the towns by which it might possibly have been rivalled in trade or manufacture, before trade or manufacture had begun to enrich any of the towns of Scotland: When those began to be cultivated ; Glasgow had population and wealth, and an inland trade which the others wanted ; and was at the same time little behind them in the possession

cession of all the other advantages for industry and traffic.

WHEN the citizens of Glasgow began then, to turn their attention to trade; Dumbarton first,—and afterwards Greenock and Port-Glasgow became harbours for their shipping, and places of store for their goods. Adding a foreign to an inland trade, they rose thus gradually to a condition more and more thriving. At the time when the fishery of the Scottish coasts, and of the northern seas was prosecuted with the greatest success by Scotchmen, Glasgow had its share in that fishery, and derived from it no inconsiderable accession of wealth. Even after that fishery was won from us, by the Dutch, and after the decline of Catholicism in Europe, and the increasing preference for fresh provisions had lessened the demand for salted fish: Glasgow continued to avail itself of those shoals of herrings which frequent the mouth of the Clyde.

In the course of the last century, Glasgow, with the rest of Scotland continued to languish, without advancing in trade or opulence, above that height which it had reached before the accession of James VI. to the throne of England. The citizens of Glasgow and its neighbourhood acted the part of zealous, and puritanical Presbyterians, in the religious dissensions

F f f 2

which

which in the last century prevailed in Scotland. They had equally distinguished themselves by reforming zeal at the overthrow of Popery. It was indeed natural for them to do so: They had seen the Popish Clergy in all their wealth, in all their pomp, in all their luxury: And the influence of their University must have rendered them more quick-sighted than many others in the detection of errors.

THE *Revolution* first,—and afterwards the *Union* awakened anew the energies of Trade among the inhabitants of Glasgow. They began to establish manufactures, and to extend their commerce to all quarters of the world. The manufactures of carpets and other woollen-stuffs,—of linens of all different fabrics,—of leather,—of iron,—of earthenware,—of soap,—of glass,—and of various other articles were established among them. The linen-manufacture became their staple manufacture. Meanwhile, our Colonies in North-America were advancing fast. Glasgow opened a trade with them. It was enlarged to a vast extent. All articles of the produce or manufacture of the adjacent parts of Scotland, all that they could import with such advantage as to render them fit for re-exportation,—were eagerly carried out by the merchants of Glasgow to supply the wants of America. Tobacco, again, tar, logs, and the other products of America were

were as eagerly imported, and either dispersed through the country, or re-exported to various quarters. Crowds of young men resorting from all the West of Scotland, sailed from Glasgow, to settle in America. Many of the merchants of Glasgow had warehouses in the towns of America, managed by a brother, a cousin, a clerk, or a partner. The trade with the West Indies was equally a branch of the Commerce of Glasgow: and there was the same intimacy of connection between the merchants of Glasgow and the merchants and planters in our West Indies.—From the termination of the War by the Peace of 1763, especially, had the trade of Glasgow been amazingly increased. Our Colonies became much more flourishing after that event than they had ever before been: and with their prosperity was that of Glasgow most essentially connected.

THE American War was a dreadful stroke to Glasgow. Long credits had been always given to America. Consequently, when the War broke out, many American debts are well-known to have remained unpaid. The stock and the means of employing it were taken away at once. Many a failure ensued in Glasgow: and the advancement of this city was thus for a while arrested. Even then however, the merchants of Glasgow are said not to have been universally losers by the American War. All the artifices

artifices of traffic were naturally tried to recover losses and to prolong the trade. At the conclusion of the War, they had hopes to renew a commerce which they regarded as their best hope. It was renewed. But, they renewed it with such eagerness, and carried out quantities of goods so much larger than the Americans needed, or at least had money to pay for, that they were again losers. Their trade with America is now much less considerable than it was before the American war.

FINDING their trade cramped, they have, since the American War, turned their chief attention to their manufactures. All their former manufactures have been enlarged,---and that of cotton in all its branches has been introduced among them, and prosecuted with the most enterprising earnestness. The merchants and manufacturers of Glasgow are proprietors of most of the cotton works through Scotland. This is the centre from which the spirit, the energies of manufacture are spread out over the whole kingdom. Hence is the whole of Renfrewshire and a great part of Lanerkshire in some sort one large straggling manufacturing town. With their manufactures, the providers of the raw materials, and the exporters of the manufactured goods have necessarily increased. The numbers of those who have acquired fortunes have increased with the numbers

numbers of those who are busy in the acquisition. The artificans who furnish the necessaries of life; the ministers of elegance and of luxury have all become more numerous. The buildings have been amazingly enlarged. The modes of life have become more luxurious: and Glasgow has increased to be one of the largest towns in Britain, and one of the most elegant in Europe.

I AM not sure, that the University of Glasgow has continued to advance, with the advancement of the city. It has had a succession, however, of men of learning and abilities for Professors, since the days at least of *Baillie*, of *Burnet*, and of *Sinclair*,---that professor of moral philosophy in Glasgow, who distinguished himself by the composition and the publication of *Satan's Invisible World Discovered*. The merits of that eminent moral philosopher, *Dr Hutcheson*, are universally known. He was a follower of *Shafsbury*, more clear, more precise, more eloquent than his master. He is said to have been amiable in his manners, as that Benevolence into which he wished to resolve all the modifications of virtue. Like the *Peripatetics* of old, he was accustomed to walk about while he discoursed to his pupils. If he succeeded not in his attempts to ascertain the most general facts concerning the nature and the origin of our sentiments
of

of virtue ; those who have come after him, have not been more successful than he ; *The task remains yet to be performed.*---*Lecbman*, the friend and biographer of Hutcheson, and amiable and respectable as he, was another ornament of the University of Glasgow. Here too flourished *Dunlop* and *Moore* eminent in Greek ; and *Ross* praised by *Melmoth* for his annotations on some parts of Cicero's works. The late Dr *Adam Smith* the friend of Hume, and distinguished through Europe chiefly for his eminence in commercial philosophy, with the present age, one of the most favourite branches, of science, received his early education at the university of Glasgow ; went from Glasgow, an exhibitor, to study at Oxford ; and after his return became Professor of Moral Philosophy here. After teaching this science for some time, with high reputation in this University ; he was invited to travel with the Duke of Buccleugh. He spent his latter years in Edinburgh, in the office of a Commissioner of the Customs. His *Theory of Moral Sentiments* is a very beautiful composition. Like the Theories of Hutcheson, it is illustrated by many fine, particular ethical truths : But as little is *Sympathy* as that *Benevolence* of which it is a modification, the most general principle on which our perception of Morality depends : the human heart knows not in its moral exertions, those turnings and doublings which he
has

has ascribed to it; Sympathy is but one of many rills descending from the great spring of all our moral sentiments. In his *Wealth of Nations*, the metaphysics of commerce have been, for the first time skilfully taught. His Friends speak in terms of admiration of his genius, his taste, and his knowledge, which seem to convey still higher ideas of his character,—than do his works, although surely among the most perfect of human compositions. *Smith* was succeeded, in the chair of *Moral Philosophy* by *Reid*, the great and successful opponent of the Ideal Philosophy. While in *Aberdeen*, Dr *Reid* had published his *Enquiry* concerning the Senses, in which the sceptical metaphysics of *Hume* and *Berkeley* were refuted with more of philosophical precision, than by any other of that legion of adversaries whose opposition *Hume* roused against himself. After continuing long to oppose *Hume's* principles from the professor's chair, *Reid* has in his old age, given to the world two quarto volumes on the *Intellectual* and the *Active Power of Man*; in which he has certainly proved, that the unaccountable absurdities and inconsistencies of the Ideal Philosophy have generally originated in a strangely unthinking ascription,---without evidence, and indeed against all appearances---of the qualities of Matter to Mind; and from the very incorrect application of language and allusions appropriated to the description of material objects,

in speaking of mind. Dr *Wilson*, professor of Astronomy in this University, is equally eminent as a Philosopher and as a Type-Founder; in the latter character, he is perhaps without an equal in Europe. The Critical and the Poetical works of Mr *Richardson*, professor of Humanity here, are very generally read and admired. Although Glasgow be the seat of no Supreme Court of Justice; yet has it become famous, above almost every other place in Britain as a school for Law; Mr *Millar*, the professor of the science of Law, in this University, is well-known by his work on the Distinctions of Ranks, and by his *Historical Essay* on the English Constitution. It is to hear his Lectures on the first Elements of Jurisprudence and Government,---on the Roman or Civil,---on the Scotch,---and on the English Law, that students resort hither from all quarters of Britain. Glasgow is, in short, famous as a school for Law, as Edinburgh as a school for medicine.

THE exertions which were made by two private traders, the late *Robert and Andrew Foulis*, to establish here an Academy for Painting, are not unknown to the world. The undertaking bespoke a degree of taste, of patriotism, of enterprize, which certainly merited royal or national encouragement. It met with no such encouragement; and failed of success. The editions of the Greek, the Roman,
and

and the English classics which were published by the *Foulises* are known and admired through all Europe: The lustre is not faint, which these men have reflected on their country. More learned editions of the classics have indeed issued from the presses of the English Universities: but none more beautiful or more correct, than those which the *Foulises* have sent into the world from the press of the University of Glasgow.

HERE is a good *Grammar-School*, under excellent management; and were it not, that the Scotch universally allot too short a time for the initiation of their youth in the principles of classical learning,--- and that the exercises are injudicious which we have been long accustomed to prescribe in our schools; No seminary could be better calculated for the earlier education of youth in this important branch of liberal education.

THAT political ferment which had begun to be felt in Glasgow when I had passed through it into Galloway, had by this time risen high. Many an Association of Friends of the People had been formed in Glasgow; the works of Master Thomas Paine were universally read: and to assist the political studies of the poor, abridgements and excerpts of the works of this Great Reformer of Nations were

G g g 2 assiduously

assiduously circulated. A young man who had studied law, and had, some years before, begun to practise, but with little success, at the Scottish Bar, had taken it upon him to act as the great apostle of Reform in this neighbourhood. Many of the manufacturers were ignorant enough of their own true interests, to promote the cry of reform, and to stir up a political bustle in their work-shops. When the labourer received his weekly wages, and went to the alehouse or dram-shop; the wickedness and worthlessness of the great; the importance of the poor; the equalization of ranks, and the new division of property were most seductive themes which gave a richer relish to his ale, and new powers of intoxication to his whisky. It was charming, when his wages were exhausted, and not a drop of more liquor could be obtained,—to curse the constitution which kept him poor. And when obliged to return unwillingly to labour, it gave him some satisfaction, to pray for damnation on kings, ministers, peers, and pensioners. Seeing that the laws of our country leave to every individual very extensive liberty of word and action; the party calling themselves *Friends of the People* seemed willing to try whether they could not overstep those bounds, extensive as they might be.——

IT

It would have been difficult to persuade the men of trade and property who were leaders in the bustle of reform, that they were, with their own hands, working out mischief to themselves;—or to persuade the poor that all this would end not in making them rich and great, but in bringing distress on themselves, while it might involve in embarrassments those superiors whom they envied. But, while I have prepared to lay before the public, these notes of observations which I made in my harvest-journey: such consequences have actually followed from that *French Disease* with which the inhabitants of Britain were, in the end of last year, infected.—The first consequence, was, that the work-men in the manufactures, having much of that time which they had formerly spent in industry, consumed amid their political cares, began to demand higher wages from their employers, and to require those wages, before they were due. Their employers, meanwhile, obtaining less labour from them than formerly, were distressed for want of hands, to enable them to answer their orders. But, from these circumstances, little mischief resulted; for, as we manufactured at that time for all the continent; we could insist on our own prices, and—to a certain length—take our own time. But, when the labourers in those manufactures, of which the products were, for the most part exported, required

quired higher wages; the prices of the necessaries and conveniencies of life were, at the same time, raised upon them: The colliers required additional wages: The servants of the farmers thought that their masters might well give them higher wages, and might think themselves happily off that their ploughmen and threshers did not demand equal shares in their stock. The taylor, the shoemaker, the baker, in short every artisan, and all who had any thing to sell, demanded higher prices and higher wages. Thus far all went wonderfully well. The employers and the buyers were generally obliged to yield. The workmen exulted in their success: and the *Friends of the People* claimed their thanks. But, a storm was brewing.

OUR good neighbours, the French, were, by some means or other, particularly informed concerning all these little matters. Some say that among other means used to inform them, our unprincipled newspapers, the insects of a day, which began about that time to be published, and have since disappeared, were carefully transmitted to certain members of the French National Assembly, who were proprietors and editors of French Newspapers, --and sent hither, in return, among other things, copies of their own Papers. In those Newspapers of ours, the most disagreeable facts were inflamed;
of

of purpose, it is said, to raise the importance of the Publishers with their French Friends. However these things may be; the French were flushed with the hope of sharing with the Friends of the People, in the plunder of Britain. Full of this hope, they no longer strove to conciliate the favour of the British Government. They ceased to confess that Britain had preceded them in the career of Freedom, and that the pattern of British Law and Liberty was the best they could imitate. Our Allies were no longer respected; our esteem was no longer courted. All the wish and hope of those republican knaves or enthusiasts, was to find some pretence of declaring war against us, without offending those British Admirers whom they fancied ready to join them, and to draw the nation after them. In vain did our Government strive to maintain peace, without forfeiting the national honour, or risking our national existence. The French believed all Britain impatient to be *fraternized*, and to receive them into a community of gods. *Holland* was invaded. Our humanity was insulted. Our *Friends to the People* named the day when *Dumourier* was to raise his banner in triumph, on the battlements of our proudest citadels.

WHAT part remained for our Government to act? Either to oppose those robbers of the Nations, who

who ravaged the earth, under the mask of political enthusiasm, or to give up the State to dissolution, and the island to plunder. Wise and vigorous measures were immediately taken. To the astonishment and utter confusion of the French and their correspondents, every wise and virtuous subject earnestly strengthened the hands of Government. Troops have been levied and sent to the aid of our allies: Our fleets have been equipped, and sent out, to annoy our enemies, to guard our coasts, and to protect our Trade. Deprived of the resources which they had found in their commercial intercourse with Britain; the French have been reduced to extremities of hunger and nakedness. Their attempts on Holland have miserably misgiven. They have retreated in disgrace from the ravaged Netherlands. Ruin hovers over them; as the vulture over the field of carnage. Our arms are crowned with glory,---as when *Anne commanded, and when Marlborough fought.* We recover that vigour of character, which was beginning to be relaxed and dissolved by the influence of Peace, and of that Trade and those Arts which Peace naturally fostered. But, what of all this? —Alas! what domestic distress have we not in the mean time suffered?—

SUPPLYING that *specie* which is necessary to defray our foreign expences in the war; the Bank of
 England

England have been obliged to withdraw in part their support from our merchants and manufacturers. The restrictions which war necessarily lays on Trade, by enhancing its expences and increasing its risk, however moderated by circumstances, must always be greatly injurious to a commercial Nation like the British. But, the Correspondence carried on between Britain and France had been of such a peculiar nature, and the conduct of the French so singularly insidious; that extraordinary exertions became necessary to check all such correspondence, and to prevent the French from combatting us with our own wealth and our own strength. Hence were the merchant's goods left in his hands; and the opportunity of bringing them to the market cut off. His bills could not be honoured, since he had not been able to transfer his goods. Bankruptcy necessarily ensued wherever the merchant's stock was not in ready cash. It was not enough for him to be rich in goods or in bills granted by another merchant. Experience of these disadvantages in one or two instances, dread of them in others, and a sense of the inconvenience of the circumstances to the influence of which trade was now subjected, produced a general alarm through the kingdom. If Public Credit remained secure; Private Credit was, however for a time shaken. Nothing but anxiety, doubt, and distress, was to be seen through all the com-

mercial towns of Britain. The rich, if manufacturers or merchants were in distress. And how then, must the poor have been who depended upon them?

ALL these events have happened, in consequence of that political frenzy which was weakly or wickedly stirred up among us, by the admirers or adherents of the French. The bustle made by the *Friends of the People* fixed the minds of the labouring and the trading part of the community with ideas of their political importance and of their skill in Legislation and Government, which raised them above assiduous application to labour or the negotiations of business: The labourers were, in consequence, obliged to demand higher wages for that little labour which they feckily performed: and the traders, amid the difficulties to which they were subjected by the turbulence and indolence of the labourers were obliged to support their trade by ruinous exertions of credit, and to trade with the balance on the wrong side in their books: The French were encouraged by these appearances, and these alone, to commence hostilities against us: Our necessary opposition to the progress of their arms has fettered our trade: The temporary expedients of our traders have been at the same time exhausted; and the next events in the chain have been Bankruptcies, the
 dismissal

dismission of workmen, the shutting up of workshops, hunger, nakedness, beggary, and among the poor, all the distresses of want.

FORTUNATELY the exertions of the wiser and more virtuous part of the community have stilled the bray of civil dissension; while our Legislature and our Government have interfered, to support our tottering commercial credit. The alarm is now over. Industry returns by degrees to its former channel. Even amid the inconveniencies of war, our trade is again likely to advance in a career of prosperity. But, till the evils of a war in which we have been thus mischievously involved by pretended patriots, shall terminate; our trade and manufactures cannot regain that flourishing condition in which we lately beheld them. Thus, to use an apposite Ironicism, have our People *gained a loss* by the officious services of their pretended Friends. Yet, let us rejoice that they have been checked in the career of Reform, before they could hurry to that pitch of Reformation which their Admired French have attained. Glasgow has not yet been reduced to the desolation and the despair of Lyons. Shops and warehouses have not been pillaged, now by the mob maddened by want; and now by the tax-gatherers of an anarchical Government. The produce of our harvests has not been left to rot, un-

H h h 2

reaped

reaped in the fields. The farmer has not been robbed of that little grain which he had reserved for bread to his family, and for seed against the returning Spring.

REVIEWING the notes which I had jotted down concerning the state of Glasgow, when I visited it in October and November last; and comparing them with the events of the winter; I have been insensibly led into these reflections. I have indulged in them the more readily; because I think that the chain of unhappy events which I have here traced, — have taken their first origin, in a good measure, — *from the NECESSARY CHARACTER AND MANNERS of the Manufacturing Poor, crowded together in Great Towns, not distributed over the country;—From the IMPERFECT EDUCATION, and the EARLY HABITS OF PROFLIGACY, which indeed our Youth in general, but especially the children of the manufacturing poor, inhabitants of great towns, acquire;—From the MANIFEST DECLINE of RELIGION, of GOOD MORALS, and DECENCY OF MANNERS IN THE LAND.* Our Clergy, friendly ever to the union of Order and Freedom, have distinguished themselves by an active opposition to the late efforts of sedition. But, let me neither be laughed at, as assuming the character of a *Censor morum*, without due attention to Time and Circumstances, — nor reproached and frowned upon,

as

as petulantly impertinent,—If I here adjure them, by the sincerity of their religious professions, by that master in whose name, and under whose authority they preach,—To lay the axe to the root of the tree, and to bestow that earnest watchfulness over the manners of their people, which was once thought the first duty of a minister of the Gospel. There was a time when a clergyman of the Church of Scotland used to visit the families in his parish one after another,—observing carefully the manners and enquiring into the religious belief and knowledge of each individual in every family,—round after round,—without intermission; when he was ever ready to draw the curtain of the bed of sickness, and to listen with soothing sympathy to the tale of sorrow; regarded even the meanest individuals in his flock, as his children, and was regarded by them with filial affection, and with more than filial veneration. Alas! is that time now no more? Are the ties dissolved which once united the Pastor with his flock? The progress of refinement may be in part the cause. But, it is a pernicious refinement which produces such effects. If the circumstances of Great Towns render it impossible for their clergy to keep there so watchful an eye over the conduct of their people; I ask no better proof that Great Towns are destructive to the virtue, and by consequence to the civil and political existence of every
state

state in which they are suffered to increase to such an unhappy magnitude.—What might not be accomplished upon the minds of the people, by the liberality of the present clergy of the Church of Scotland, cooperating with the zeal, and the unwearied assiduity which distinguished the clergy of the same Church in a former period? It is not wonderful, that Established Religion should begin to be held unnecessary to the well-being of a State, when our Established Clergy are insensibly surrendering that authority over the sentiments and manners of their people which hearty and unremitting industry in all the duties of their office never fails to establish them in. I may be blamed for throwing out these hints. But, I were the basest of Traitors, if after once presuming to speak of the Good and Evil of my country; I should not speak out to the best of my judgment, of the first causes upon which these depend.

From GLASGOW to STIRLING.

FROM Glasgow I proceeded to Kirkintilloch; meaning to return to Edinburgh, by the way of Stirling and Perth. It was the evening before some cattle-market: and the way by which I passed out of the City, was crowded with cattle and their drivers. I was once or twice pressed to make a purchase

purchase of cattle; as I happened to look upon them with an eye which seemed to the grivers to bespeak an intention to ask the price. With one, I entered into conversation, and learned that he brought his cattle from the Mackenzie's country in the North Highlands. By conversing with another traveller, with whom I fell into company, I learned what seemed to me an odd and ridiculous enough anecdote concerning a late schism among the Baptists in Glasgow. My informer was himself of that Society, had sufficient access to know the truth of the fact, and did not tell it as a subject for either wonder or laughter: so that I made no difficulty of believing him. A lady who was to be baptised upon entering into this Baptist communion, being so tender, that, without danger to her health, she could not be dipped in cold water: The water for her use in this ceremony, was therefore made lukewarm: But, such a heinous violation of the rules of Baptism did this warming of the water appear to a number in the Baptist society, that they would no longer hold communion with those who had consented to it: A schism ensued, and a new congregation was formed. Thus do the Imagination and the Passions of the human heart magnify *trifles light as air* to weight and magnitude.

NEAR

NEAR *Kirkintilloch* I overtook two of the inhabitants of that village, on their way home from Glasgow. I was glad to join them: for it was dark, and I was now alone. Asking their news, I was answered, that their chief news, was the hope of the new division of property to be obtained by the exertions of the *Friends of the People*. They were readier in quoting Paine's writings, than I should possibly have found them in their Bible. They spoke with exultation of a Society of *Friends to the People* which had been formed in their town.

KIRKINTILLOCH is a Burgh of Barony of ancient erection. The lands belonging to the burgh, under the name and character of Burgh-roods are far from inconsiderable. It may contain some hundreds of inhabitants. Weaving is one of the chief employments of these townsmen. I suppose that they are chiefly weavers employed by the manufacturers of Glasgow, not master-manufacturers, who reside here. The women of the town and the circumjacent country earn not a little by spinning. A cotton-work was some time since tried, but, through what causes I know not, proved unsuccessful, and was given up. The grounds round Kirkintilloch are under more careful cultivation, than I should have expected, in a neighbourhood where access to good markets is so easy.

THE

THIS town is situate on the river Kelvin, and nearly, I think, on a Roman station. The Roman wall, extending between *Abercorn* on the Frith of Forth, and *Dunglafs* on the *Clyde*, near *Dunbarton*; and forming the northern boundary of the province of *Valentia*, passed this way, and is still distinctly traced in the vicinity of *Kirkintilloch*. The present policy of this island requires not walls to divide the inhabitants of one part from those of another, but channels of intercourse, by which they may be virtually brought nearer together. The canal between the Forth and the Clyde runs, in some parts of its length, in a parallel line with the Roman wall; in others, encroaches upon, or breaks through it. This canal has been much an object of Public Attention for these good many years bypast, and has been too often described, to leave me reason to suppose that any description which I could here give of it, might prove interesting to my reader. The utilities likely to result from such a junction of our east and west coasts were sufficiently evident, before the undertaking was begun. The industry of the whole country was animated by its progress. Although not yet long finished; it begins already to afford liberal returns to those at whose expence it was executed. And when Trade shall once have accustomed itself to this channel; I doubt not that the Proprietors may come to divide their twenty, thir-

ty, or forty per cent. on the Forth and Clyde Navigation;—just as well as do the sharers in the profits of many of the canals in England.—

SINCE I returned from my little journey,—in the end of the last, and in the beginning of the present year; another canal has been projected,—to be carried between Edinburgh, and these vast strata of pit-coal in Lanerkshire. For, the colliers, infected with the same frenzy which has lately predominated among our other workmen, insisted, like the others, on an augmentation of wages. The coal-masters availed themselves of the pretence, to demand an increased price for their coals, not simply equivalent to the additional wages which they were obliged to pay to their workmen, but such as, at the same time, greatly to enlarge their own gains. Fuel is, in these cold regions, among the prime necessaries of human life. The rising price of fuel may well be remembered to have produced among us, in our towns especially, and in the seats of manufacture, general alarm and distress. Those mechanics who had, almost riotously insisted upon an augmentation of their own wages, clamoured grievously at that increased price for fuel which they were obliged to pay, in consequence of the colliers having succeeded in the same demand. Extraordinary expedients were employed for the relief of the poor.

Among

Among other means suggested to the inhabitants of Edinburgh, to enable them to obtain coals at a more moderate price, was, that of cutting this canal, on which coals might be imported cheap from Lanerkshire. The idea was at first eagerly embraced. A subscription was opened, and seemed likely to be speedily filled up. But, the distress which suggested the scheme has come to be less sensibly felt; and I have not for some time heard any noise about this new canal. Yet, I suppose that measures have begun to be taken for its accomplishment.

NOT far beyond *Kirkintilloch*, I found *Kilsyth*, a village similar in size, inhabited chiefly by labourers in the cotton and linen manufacture, and pleasantly enough situate.

CONTINUING my journey towards Stirling, I was directed to take a very indifferent road which leads up a height and across a wide and very wild muir. This is the old road: Had I been fortunate enough to be better directed, I should have travelled round the base of the hill, along a level and well-made road. From the height I enjoyed an extensive prospect of the country lying below, to the south and the southwest. The sight of *Falkirk* with its environs beginning to assume an aspect of rich cultivation, was not uninteresting. The wild over which I continu-

ed my journey had an air of bleakness which struck me more than the heaths and hills of Galloway and the west Highlands. Perhaps the impressions which remained on my mind after the scenes of cultivation which I had so lately left, might render this heath more dreary to my imagination than I should otherwise have found it. Black cattle and sheep here and there animated its solitude. At times, as I rode on, I could see no human habitation all around. I had then leisure to reflect, that on these scenes had the Romans shone in arms: Here had some of those battles been most probably fought, which have been celebrated in the songs of Ossian and his contemporary bards; Here I had to pass the river *Carron*, one of the most poetical streams in Scotland: And on it stood the famous *Dunipace*, represented by *Buchanan*, as the hills of peace,—by the late Sir *James Foulis*, with a better shew of probability named *Dunabas*, the hills of death. Beside these ideas formed to work upon the fancy, and to awaken those sentiments of fond veneration with which we regard the characters, the manners, the imagery of antiquity; other considerations were suggested to my mind, by the appearance of the iron-stone which I saw in great plenty scattered upon different parts of this *muir*. I reflected, that the iron-works of Carron were not far distant; and was pleased to think that human industry is capable of converting to use, even the rudest

dest materials that nature furnishes. Had I not been hastening,—and by this time, with no small impatience, to the end of my journey; I should have certainly been induced to visit the seat of a manufacture which does so much honour to the ingenuity of our country, and which contributes such a multitude of articles to the ordinary accommodation of life.

I WAS at length, upon the north east side of this extensive *muir* which some travellers whom I passed, named to me *Tak me down hill*. As I advanced into the plain below, the country around and before me presented an aspect still more and more pleasing. The *Forth*; the interesting objects on its northern banks; the spires of *Stirling*; the village of *St Ninians*; the famed field of *Bannockburn*; and a multitude of other objects, any two or three of which might sufficiently adorn a scene of moderate extent,—rose all together to my view. The agriculture of the lands through which I here passed, seemed to be improving; Yet, improvements did not appear to have been very long tried upon it. I observed some limestone quarries. A stone on the highway side, where it crosses the field of *Bannockburn*, is said to have supported the standard of the Scottish army on the day of the eventful battle, which here finally defeated the schemes of the English Edwards for uniting

uniting the whole island by conquest, under their sovereignty. The anecdote of the stone seems to be generally credited in the country,—on what grounds I know not.

ST NINIAN'S is a village of some antiquity. It owed its origin, I think, to religion. Its church and spire were destroyed by the Rebels in the year 1745. The peasantry of the neighbourhood relate, with satisfaction—as if they believed, that Heaven had concerned itself to avenge the cause of their church,—that the rebels were constantly unfortunate after this sacrilegious act.

STIRLING—and to PERTH.

STIRLING is one of the most ancient cities of Scotland. In the earliest parts of its history, it seems to have been held of great importance, as a strength, commanding the pass between the Highlands and the south of Scotland. It must have come into the hands of the *Picts* at a very early period after the retreat of the Romans out of Britain. I know not certainly whether it was ever in the hands of the Anglo-Saxons of Northumberland. When, after the union of the Scots and Picts under the name of the former; these people incroached upon the

the

the *Angles*, on one side, while the Danes harrassed them on another ; and they were driven from the south and the west of Scotland, and even considerably within the present border of England ; Stirling then fell of course into the hands of the Scotch. It became, for a time, the capital of Scotland. Its castle, naturally strong, was farther fortified with all the art of those rude times ; and was, by consequence, a fit seat for royalty, at a time, when our kings found it necessary to consult security no less than magnificence. Before the reign of James I. indeed *Edinburgh* does not appear to have been the favourite seat of any of our Scottish monarchs. Their more northern seats had been *Dunnolly* or *Dunstaffnage*, *Inverness*, *Scone*, *Forfeviot*,—and Robert III. had a castle near *Logierait*, where he spent much of the latter part of his life. The Pictish princes had resided at *Abernethy*, and at *Kinross* ; but I have not found, that the Scottish princes ever resided in the former of these places, or for any length of time in the latter. *Dunfermline*, *Stirling*, *Linlithgow* were the favourite seats of the Scottish Courts between the establishment of the *Normans* in England, and the return of James I. from his captivity.

WHEN the English and the Scots contended, the former for the sovereignty of Scotland, and the latter for liberty ;

liberty; Stirling was the scene of various contests. Beside the battle of Bannockburn fought in its vicinity, another, at an earlier period in the same contest, in which William Wallace commanded, was fought upon the northern side of the Forth, and partly upon the bridge which was broken down upon the occasion: But of this action the circumstances and the event are more doubtful than those of the battle of Bannockburn.

EVEN during the reigns of the *Jameses*, the court often resided at Stirling. Here was the Earl of Douglas stabbed by *James II!* *James V.* who like some other great monarchs, sometimes rambled through his dominions in disguise, used, on such occasions, to take the name of *Goodman of Ballochgeich*; a name taken from a part of the hill on which the castle of *Stirling* stands. Here was *James VI.* christened. Here did he occasionally reside; while he continued in Scotland; and here was his eldest son *Henry* likewise christened. Through the troubles of the last century, and during the repeated rebellions in which Scotland has been unfortunately involved in the present century; *Stirling* has been a scene of contest, and has been always regarded as a place of importance.

LIKE

LIKE *Edinburgh*, *Stirling* has its principal street winding up a hill. But this hill rises with a less gentle declivity than that on which the High-Street of *Edinburgh* stands. The houses appear to be, for the greater part, old, or at least such as if they have been rebuilt within these last hundred years, have, however been rebuilt nearly in their primitive fashion. Many of them seem to have been anciently appropriated to purposes of higher dignity and magnificence, than those for which they are now occupied. Those in which different noble families had been accustomed to reside, were pointed out to me. The old palace of the *Argyle* family has still an august, although desolate appearance. *Marr's* palace remains unfinished, as it was left by the Regent, but has not been demolished. The walls of the castle still inclose a number of stately buildings; which, if not disfurnished, and fallen into a state of disrepair, both within and without, might still afford not inelegant accommodation. Of these edifices some were built by the third and fourth of the *Jameses*; others, in a better style of Architecture, by *James V.* and a chapel was hastily reared by *James VI.* for the baptism of his son *Henry*. Carpenters were busy, converting the ancient state rooms into barracks for the reception of soldiers,—at the time when I was within the walls of this castle. On the southern part of the plain below, appear the remains of the

ancient royal gardens: in which are observable; spots which seem to have been artificially prepared for the celebration of various sports. On the northern side is an eminence from which attempts were at one time ineffectually made by the Rebels to cannonade the castle. The prospects of the adjacent country from the battlements of *Stirling-Castle* are on all sides extensive and interesting. Looking towards the *north-west*, you see the *Forth* and the *Tweed* advancing from gloomy hills and a wide extent of level heath; winding as they approach, through a tract highly rich and cultivated: and meeting near the station from which you take your view: The *Allan*, too, a stream celebrated in some of our Scottish songs brings its waters to join them. The house of *Craigforth* appears on a little insulated mount, in one of the windings of the *Forth*, and starting, with an highly picturesque effect from the level plain in which it stands. At some remote period, the vast heath-covered and morassy plain which here opens with somewhat of a sublime effect upon the eye, has probably been one extensive forest. The soil is almost every where covered with peat-earth, to a considerable depth. It was formerly occupied solely for pasture for sheep and black-cattle. But, the late *Lord KAIMES* set a noble example on the estate of *Blair-Drummond* of improving it to the happiest purposes of agriculture. Where the
peat-

peat-earth had been cut away for fuel; beneath it, was every where found a rich and deep stratum of a strong clayey soil, on which it seemed probable that the richest crops might be raised, if the *moss* or peat earth could only be cut away from any considerable tract. His Lordship had *drains* accordingly cut, and directed the farmers to clear away the *moss*, and to place it in heaps, so that when rains fell, and *speats* were raised; it might be carried into the drains or trenches, and from them into the river; leaving the soil which it had covered, clear, and ready to receive the plough. The experiment succeeded. The enlightened suggester was consequently induced to invite a number of families from the remoter Highlands; to let them leases of this *moss*-covered ground for rents at first very small, but to rise at stated periods in the progress of each lease. These families were settled here and there in the *moss*, as so many colonists among the woods of America. The same process of clearing the soil was requisite here as in America. Roads were to be cut through the morafs, just as if it had been a forest. And many of the same circumstances seemed to attend the clearing of the soil from wood covering it in this state of decay, as must have attended the clearing away of the wood, if it had been fresh and growing. Every thing however, had a reasonable success. Luxuriant crops were raised on ground

that had been once thought unsusceptible of cultivation. The indolence of the Highlanders was roused by the prospect of wealth which opened to them : For it is remarkable that although the Highlanders be indolent at home ; yet they possess such energy of character, and such vigour of constitution, that if you place them, where there are objects to rouse desire, and where industry can avail them ; they never fail to exert themselves with a degree of activity and ingenuity and commonly with success, such as few others are capable of. The other Landholders and their tenants readily imitated so encouraging an example ; however lightly they might at first think of it. Mr Home, his lordship's son, the present proprietor of the Estate of *Blair-Drummond* is said to have followed out his father's views in this line, and even to have improved upon them, with the most encouraging success.

ONE can hardly have occasion to remember the late Lord *Kaimes*, without being at the same time led to reflect, how much his country has been indebted to him !—Many are the improvements in agriculture, the first of all our arts, which he either suggested to his friends ;—or exemplified himself, on his own estates, —or as one of the Trustees for fisheries and improvements, was principally active in suggesting to be encouraged through the country,

or

or in trying on the forfeited estates. His *Collections* respecting the municipal law of Scotland, his *Principles of Equity*, and other writings on the Philosophy of Law, sufficiently bespeak his learning and abilities as a lawyer. His *Elements of Criticism* give at once entertaining elegance to metaphysics, and precision to criticism. His *Sketches of the History of Man* teach Society to know itself by reviewing its varied character in the different stages of its progress. His *Culture of the Heart* cannot but represent him in the most amiable light to those who think, that it was the work of his old age, and that old age is commonly indifferent to all cares, but that of lengthening out the discoloured thread of life, and looks with contempt and peevishness on the feelings of youth and childhood.—Surely, while there are in this country, liberality of sentiment, and public or private virtue, the memory of such a man cannot cease to be held in veneration!

TURNING northward, you behold the ruins of the famous abbey of *Cambuskenneth*; the *Abbey-craig*, a ledge of columnar rocks rising near the remains of the abbey; the *Ochil* hills extending to the north east; the opening into *Strathallen*; and beyond, the summits of some of the loftier hills in *Perthshire*. But, the eye is most delighted to trace the winding progress of the *Forth*, where it advances
towards

towards the Frith. It seems to linger fondly in the fine vale immediately below Stirling; meandering in its course, with so many turnings and windings, that,—to sail down the river to *Alloa*, on the opposite side, is a passage of twenty, I think, or four and twenty miles; whereas the direct distance of the same place, by land, is not more than six miles. *Stirling* has some foreign and coasting trade, and vessels of more or less burthen, come up the *Forth*, almost close to this city. These also join to make the scene more interesting. And still as the eye extends its view down the river, towards the verge of the horizon, the prospect is richer, more animated, and more beautiful. To particularize the numerous objects which enter into it,—were an endless task. —In the times when this country was frequently ravaged either, in consequence of feuds among its native inhabitants, or by the incursions of enemies; the peasantry of the circumjacent country depended for their protection, upon the Governor or Constable, and the garrison of Stirling castle. For this protection, they paid a certain annual tax. They no longer have occasion to flee within the bounds of the Castle, or to call upon the garrison for their defence: but, the tax or duty continues still, agreeably to the ordinary laws of inheritance, to be levied; and serves as a memorial of the unsettled manners, and the insecure condition of our ancestors.

I HAVE already mentioned that Stirling has some trade. It has also some rising manufactures; and I see nothing in its circumstances that does not promise to promote the advancement both of its industry and its trade. It will be better, however, for the country, that such cities as *Stirling* do not increase considerably in size, but villages be scattered through their environs. As a garrisoned town; *Stirling* is well situated,—nearly in the middle of the way between *Edinburgh* and *Glasgow*, yet not too far from *Perth* and *Dundee*. It is situated, too, so as to command one of the easiest and most natural lines of communication between the Highlands and the Lowlands of Scotland. Here was once, if I be rightly informed, a considerable manufacture of tartans for the use of the Highlanders: I am not sure whether blue bonnets have ever been wrought here. I have already mentioned, that the western Highlanders receive from the neighbourhood of *Stirling*, large supplies of whisky.—The church is an ancient Cathedral, divested of its original splendour. Wheat, barley, and oats are the grains raised in the carse of *Stirling*.

FROM *Stirling*, I continued my journey up *Strathallan* to *Dumblane*. This strath divided by the river *Allan*, is through the greater part of its extent, rich and cultivated. Here and there are gentlemen's houses, with clumps of wood, seated on the sides of
the

the rising hills. The houses of more than one gentleman of the name of Stirling were pointed out to me. The Allan is not a large river; but its banks are not uninteresting.

I REACHED *Dumblane* in the evening. It was the seat of a Bishop, in the Popish and Episcopal days of Scotland. It is an inconsiderable town; with little trade or industry; and exhibiting some ruinous monuments of its ancient splendour. A good inn has been not many years since established here. It is kept by people whose civility is very agreeable to the traveller. The cathedral of *Dumblane* is not yet entirely dilapidated. The Bishop's palace is also to be seen. Several of the nobility had formerly houses here. Being so near Stirling; *Dumblane* was a situation from which they could readily enough repair to the court at Stirling, and where they might yet live remote from *its* confusion and bustle. The distance between Stirling and *Dumblane* is only six miles. Here is a manufacture of some coarse woollen stuffs, which are usually exposed to sale at Perth, on Tuesdays and Fridays. The extent of Perthshire renders it necessary that the Sheriff-Depute of this shire have a Substitute in *Dumblane*, as well as at Perth. North-east from *Dumblane* is *Inchaffray* where was anciently an abbey; and where there is at present a library for the use
of

of the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, established and supported upon a foundation which I cannot at present refer to its proper author. Crieff, another town of considerable antiquity, stands in the same neighbourhood. Many handsome, gentleman's seats are scattered through this tract of country. Near *Crieff* have the people of the neighbourhood been by some means persuaded that the bones of Ossian were entombed. I should be glad to know at what particular period this tradition took its rise.

FROM Dumblane I set out on a frosty morning for Perth. The country began now to appear wilder around me. The corn was still to be seen here and there, in the fields. The agriculture seems to be more imperfect than in Stirlingshire. The fields are inclosed with dry stone walls. And on either hand, bleak hills fill up the back-ground. They are the Ochill-hills which intervene between this part of Strathallan and the *Forth*. And, on the north-side of the most western of these hills is *Sheriffmuir* the celebrated field of a battle in which the Royal Forces, commanded by John, Duke of Argyll, obtained a dubious victory over the rebels, in the rebellion of the year 1715.

As we rode on into the upper part of Strathern, we came within sight of ARDQCH, the celebrated

scene of an encampment where Agricola remained for a winter, with his forces, when he pushed the Roman conquests through North Britain. As Ardoch has already been accurately described, and its history illustrated by a variety of writers; I shall not here repeat what they have said. The Roman remains are carefully preserved by Sir William Stirling of Ardoch. The houses of *Braco*, and of *Arthul-Grame* are seen within the same landscape as Ardoch.

SOME of the estates in upper Strathern, through which we now passed, had been, in consequence of forfeiture, under the management of the Trustees for Fisheries, Improvements, &c. By their care, plantations of trees were scattered over them: *Invalid* soldiers were settled in various parts: and every rational expedient was tried, to render those estates more valuable to the community, than they had before been. Some of the means used, were successful. Others failed of success. The plantations now adorn the estates on which they have been formed. The old soldiers proved mostly incapable of the sober habits and of the regular industry of husbandmen, after the dissipation and idleness of the military life. The forfeited estates have been since restored to their original proprietors. And I should suppose that the possessors must be ready to acknowledge

ledge, that they could not have been more judiciously improved, if they had never been in other hands than their own.

As we approached *Auchterarder*, we passed through the village of *Blackford*, which with *Auchterarder*, and other places in this neighbourhood was burnt down in the rebellion of 1715, to deprive the Royal Forces of a convenient post which these places might have otherwise afforded them. The seat of *Haldane* of *Glencagle*, an ancient and respectable family, was seen in a glen extending southward among the Ochil hills. We saw also the old castle of *Kingcairn*, the ancient seat of the Ducal family of *Montrose*; which was ruined, I think, by the *Campbells* in the last century, when the crafty Earl of *Argyle* and the gallant and loyal Marquis of *Montrose* mutually ruined each other's vassals, and laid each the other's Estates waste.

WE breakfasted at an incommodious and dirty inn in *Auchterarder*. This is a large, straggling village: situate in Upper Strathern, just where it begins to shew its most fertile soil and most judicious agriculture. *Auchterarder* was burnt with *Blackford*, as above-mentioned. Such accidents have contributed greatly to beautify and enlarge some of the principal cities in Europe. But whether

ther Auchterarder may have been a gainer in the same manner, I know not. I doubt not, but that as cultivation spreads more entirely over Strathern, Auchterarder may become yet more considerable. I have, in the narrative of some late traveller, seen the Clergy of the Presbytery of Auchterarder represented as remarkable for priestly prejudices, for austerities of manners, and for the eager severity with which they are ever ready to enforce ecclesiastical discipline. But, I have not learned, that the clergy of this district are less enlightened or less liberal in their sentiments than those of Scotland in general. The morals and manners of the clergy cannot well be too pure or austere, unless they be such as to withdraw them from society which is the proper sphere of their usefulness, or to drive society from about them. The Church of Scotland has too little power of punishment left in its hands, to be capable of inflicting any considerable distress on those liable to its censures, even by the utmost severity in which these can be pronounced. I would therefore willingly persuade myself, that the accusation at which I have hinted, has been too hastily brought against the Presbytery of Auchterarder: and would wish that, if censures must be dropped against any of these things, we should rather censure the prevalent relaxation,—than the severity of Ecclesiastical Discipline.

As

As we continued our journey from Auchterarder, onwards to Perth, the country seemed to improve before us. A larger proportion of the vale was cultivated. That cultivation seemed to become more and more ornamental. The farm-houses were more snug and decent. And the barnyards better filled. We passed by *Brevan*, where is the burial-place of the Dukes of Montrose; a monument of their former residence in Strathern. On the northern hills which cover this rich vale appeared several handsome houses. In the vale, not far above the bridge of Dalreoch, is the old castle of *Gask*; and not far distant the modern house, the seat of Mr Oliphant of *Gask*. The *Oliphants* were anciently a great family in these parts: *Dupplin-Castle* was the principal seat of the Lord Oliphant.—The roads were every where, as we proceeded, deep and miry: qualities which they owed not more to the lateness of the Season, than to the depth and richness of the soil. A Roman road is still to be traced along this tract, from *Ardoch*, onwards to the vicinity of Perth.

PASSING over the Erne by Dalreoch Bridge, the highway conducted us in a north-east direction, up a hill, towards *Dupplin*. The high-lying flat which seems to have been the scene of the famous battle of *Dupplin* unfortunate in its issue to the Scots,—is now covered, for the greater part with fine, thriving plantations

plantations of firs. We had soon a beautiful view of the Erne and the Tay running into the wide Frith formed by their united waters,—of the coasts of the shires of Angus, Perth, and Fife,—of seats of manufactures,—of rising heights and subsiding vales,—of a noble city,—of villages,—and of elegant seats of gentlemen and noblemen,—the most interesting series of objects, all together, that the eye can well behold, in one landscape. These I had before seen, but not from the same point of view, nor, although in a fairer season, to the same advantage. Perth arose to the view suddenly, and with an agreeably striking effect. As we drew near, I recognized the scenery which I had not long before surveyed with delight, and with minute examination.

PERTH, SCONE, and to EDINBURGH, by KINGHORN,

PERTH had been a scene of festivity, since I had been last in it. The annual races had been celebrated: and balls and carousals had accompanied the races. Some rising riots had been easily quieted by the prudence of the magistrates, and of the gentlemen whose presence seemed to provoke them,—and, it is but fair to add,—through the good temper and good sense of the People in general. The festivities of the occasion went on, uninterrupted: and
had

had been terminated in general harmony among all who had assisted in them.

To what I have formerly said concerning the history and circumstances of Perth, I shall not here make any additions. But, having in my former volume neglected to say any thing of *Scone*; although I had not neglected either to visit it or to make some enquiries into its history; I should be inexcusable to pass it unnoticed. Before the foundation of the abbey of *Scone*; this seems to have been a seat of the Pictish monarchs. The Culdee Clergy, the disciples of St Columba, seem to have had an establishment here in those early times. It was not till after the union of the Scots and Picts under the same monarch, that the Clergy of the Communion of the Church of Rome obtained an establishment in Scotland, and here, as elsewhere, supplanted the Culdees. In consequence of this event, an abbey was founded here for Regular Clergy of the Romish Communion, by Alexander the First, in the beginning of the twelfth century. The Royal Palace still standing, seems to have been of almost as early origin, but has been altered, repaired and enlarged by the care of successive monarchs. The passages, the narrow, arch-roofed gallery, the carvings, the gildings, the paintings, the bas-reliefs, the antique form and furniture, and the
awkward

awkward disposition of the rooms, all bespeak the antiquity of the present palace of *Scone*. Here used the Courts of our Scottish monarchs to reside occasionally, till their accession to the English throne. This palace was visited by Charles the First; and here was Charles the Second crowned; as had been his Royal Ancestors, through a long series of successions. From *Scone*, Edward the First carried away to England, some of the most valuable monuments of the ancient honours of Scotland. Antiquarian curiosity may yet discover here many remains referable to important periods and transactions in our history. The *Mutebill* of *Scone* is said to have been formed of parcels of earth brought hither from the estates of all the Scottish Barons, at the Coronation of Robert Bruce, and accumulated here, before the Sovereign, in testimony of homage to him. The stone chair in which the Scottish monarchs used to sit, while they were crowned, was carried by Edward to Westminster; where it is still shewn as a curiosity. The abbey was burnt down, at the period of the Reformation, by the zeal of the New Converts assembled in Perth. The Convent was dissolved: And the endowments of the Foundation erected into a temporal Lordship by King James the Sixth, in favour of Sir David Murray of Gospetrie. His descendants have continued to enjoy his estates and honours, and have augmented

mented both. The late Earl Mansfield was a younger son of this family. He has been lately succeeded in the Earldom of Mansfield by his nephew, Lord Viscount Stormont, its hereditary representative, and Heretable Keeper, at the same time, of the palace of *Scone*. This palace, like the other old royal palaces of Scotland, had become ruinous; but by the liberal care of the present Heretable Keeper, was not many years since repaired; yet its antique ornaments not spoiled by modernizing embellishments.

From PERTH to EDINBURGH.

I LEFT Perth on an afternoon, and proceeded across Fifeshire, to Edinburgh. At the bridge over *Erne* in this road, a cotton-manufacture has begun to be tried, and may probably raise a village in a situation in which it seems surprising, that a village has not been before this time formed.

As evening came on, a number of fires kindled here and there over the country, for the purpose of burning down whins and furze before the plough, —enlivened and illuminated the face of the country. The times are, fortunately, now long past, in which such fires would have spread the alarm of war.

I TRAVELLED down Erne-side, at some distance south from the river, towards *Abernethy*; the ancient capital of the Pictish kingdom. The foundations of the houses of the ancient town are yet to be traced in the adjacent cornfields. The present houses have the appearance of having been built about the beginning of the present century. The only considerable monument of the Pictish honours of Abernethy, which now remains, is a round tower, in which the town-bell is hung. This round tower has most probably been an appendage of a sacred Pictish edifice. Similar towers remain in various other parts of Scotland, and in Ireland. It is the conjecture of an ingenious Antiquary, that these were imitated from the sacred edifices of the east; which in the christian times of those countries which now groan under the yoke of Mahometism, were, upon some account or another accommodated with similar towers. Others assert that the round towers of Scotland originated with the Picts, and with those colonists from the north of the European continent, who, in times prior to date of our earliest historical records, entered Scotland; that, the round form being as natural as the square, those towers were the first considerable buildings which those rude people attempted; that their form was imitated from that of the denuded trunks of trees,—the only objects of considerable strength

strength and height which those people had occasion to contemplate; that they were originally intended as places of defence which no enemy might be able to scale,—and at the same time as watch-towers from the height of which the approach of an enemy might be descried: and that in rude state of Pictish Architecture, they were naturally added as pieces of ornamental building to the most august of the churches built for the followers of St Columba. I presume not to decide between these different opinions.—Abernethy has declined in the course of the present century. It is now a very inconsiderable village. It is inhabited chiefly by weavers, who work for the manufacturers of Perth, Dundee, and Kirkcaldy. Not far from Abernethy is Newburgh, another manufacturing village, more flourishing than Abernethy. These places swarm with Seceders, and with Independents of various descriptions. Here are Baptists among others. An Unitarian Missionary coming not long since, to propagate his faith in these parts, addressed himself to some Baptists, who had been for some peccadilloes rejected from the society of their brethren, and earnestly laboured to convert them to Unitarianism. They were struck with his preaching, but insisted that the conversion should be mutual. The Unitarian Missionary was accordingly *dipped*; and the ejected Baptists professed themselves Unitarians.

THE whole of the northern and the north east shores of Fife, are covered with villages, with royal burghs, and with scenes distinguished in the history of our country. *Lindores* was anciently the seat of a convent, and now gives a title to a Scottish peer. The life, estate, and honours of Lord *Balmerino* were forfeited by the part which he took in the rebellion of 1745. *Cupar* is considered as the county town of *Fife*. *St Andrew's* is the famous seat of the primate of Scotland from the time when the *Culdee* clergy gave place to the Roman, untill the final abolition of Episcopacy in Scotland. Since the institution of the University of Edinburgh so near, that of *St Andrews* seems to have gradually declined, till within the present century, when the increasing population of the country seems to co-operate with the learning and abilities of the Professors to restore, in a considerable degree the literary honours of this seminary. Its splendid buildings will be less easily restored. The great street of *St Andrew's* presents on either hand a melancholy scene of stately houses either falling down and dilapidated, or degraded to meaner purposes than those, for which they were originally designed. The buildings of its colleges too are greatly decayed; some of them ruinous. One of the colleges is wholly deserted. The remains of the cathedral are stately and impress the mind with awful ideas of the former religious magnificence

ficence of St Andrew's. The ruins of the Archbishop's palace are still considerable enough to attract notice. St Andrew's has little trade; little manufacture; and no commodious inn. Yet, its situation, its literature, and various other circumstances about it, are such as might render it an agreeable place of retirement, to a man of a moderate fortune, weary of the great world, yet not willing to bury himself in absolute solitude. A few more WATSONS would raise its name to eminence in the the republic of letters.

FROM St Andrew's and Fifeness, the whole east coast of this county—is edged with a range of small burghs, at short intervals from each other. They depend upon the fishery, upon a coasting trade with coals and other products of the county,—and upon some manufactures of coarse linens, and lately of of cottons. They form an excellent *nursery of seamen*: and their municipal privileges bestowed by James VI. will long remain *a monument of his sagacity and political discernment*—greater both, than they are commonly represented to have been.

ALMOST all the intermediate country between Abernethy and the East Nook of Fife, is cultivated and populous. Near St Andrew's, indeed, the *muir* on which Archbishop Sharp was murdered remains

mains wild, uninclosed, and untilled, probably, as at the time when the murder was committed. Distilleries, coal-works, various manufactures, are scattered over the rest of this tract. *Auchtermuchty* celebrated in ---perhaps the finest comic ballad that was ever written, is a thriving manufacturing town. Checks, and coarse linens are made in it: the cotton-manufacture was unsuccessfully tried either in Auchtermuchty, or in its immediate neighbourhood.—The ballad to which I have alluded, is the *Gudewife of Auchtermuchty*. It is a comic pastoral. The labours, the joys, the griefs of rustics are the subject. But the indolence which produces discontent, is so finely marked in the character of the *Gudeman*; the awkwardness of such indolence amid tasks to which it is unaccustomed; the happier artifices of which woman is capable; and the manners and employments of the peasantry of Scotland two or three hundred years ago—very little altered even yet in more remote parts of the country, and among the lower peasantry in Fife—are so strikingly delineated, as to make the whole extremely interesting. Without that play of passion, however, which is kept up through the whole,—anxious, yet without any pressure of serious misfortune---its other merits would be insufficient to render this fine ballad so interesting as it is universally allowed to be.—

It

It was on a former occasion, that I had travelled round the north-east, and the east coast of Fife. At this time, I turned across the country up the glen of Abernethy. It was night, when I entered the northern end of this glen: It is long and dreary; and the road imperfectly made. The fancy of the neighbouring peasantry has peopled it with ghosts, witches, fairies; and it has indeed very much the air of having been prepared for the reception of such nocturnal assemblies. I travelled on, however, not without feeling my spirits affected with solemn and awful impressions. Having so often travelled, in the course of this excursion, under the darkness of night; I should surely have met with some ghosts or devils,—or should have spied some fairy gambols,—or should perhaps have discovered the mysteries of some nightly assembly of witches; if it were true that such beings roam at large, and meet, and consult, and make merry together by night. But, as neither ghosts, witches, nor fairies have yet discovered themselves to my observation; my experience rather tends to make me sceptical, if not as to their existence, yet as to the frequency of their interference in the course of human affairs. At length, I had passed through the glen of Abernethy, and drew near to *Strathmiglo*; a small village, seated on the banks of the little river *Miglo*.

AT

AT Strathmiglo, I found very comfortable entertainment for the night, in *Gardiner's* inn. It is inhabited chiefly by weavers who prepare green linens for the Dundee market. The best land in the immediate neighbourhood of Strathmiglo, is let commonly at the rent of from two pounds to three pounds ten shillings, an acre. The situation of this village is agreeable,---under a hill, and on the side of an extensive and cultivated plain.

FROM Strathmiglo, I rode on the next morning, to breakfast at *Falkland*. Falkland is a small burgh beautifully situate under the *Lomond* hills. Here was anciently a seat of the Earls of Fife. It became afterwards a hunting-seat of the Kings of Scotland. I know not which of the Jameses it was who built the stately palace of which very considerable remains still stand, inclosed the gardens, and planted the trees which yet give a venerable air to Falkland. This palace, at the time when it was compleated, must have afforded accommodation neither incommodious nor inelegant to our Scottish monarchs. The style of the architecture is no unfavourable specimen of the taste of the times. I wandered among the ruins, gazed on the defaced ornaments, and thought of those times when Scotland had a Court, to encourage the arts, and set the fashion in matters of taste, and diffuse civility through the land. Several

veral other old houses in the town were the habitations of the King's principal servants and attendants. To encourage the settlement of the necessary artificers here, Falkland was dignified with the honours of a Royal Burgh. But, as the right and the obligation of attendance in Parliament were regarded as a burthensome service, not as a privilege,—to favour the burgeses of Falkland, they were by their prince's kindness exempted from all service in Parliament; and they are not now, like other royal burghs directly represented. Their burgh-lands are extensive. The Lomond hills, once covered over with wood, and a royal forest, are theirs. These lands form the town-common, which it has been lately proposed to divide among those who share the use of it. But this division of the common has not been agreed to unanimously by those concerned; so that I know not whether it may take placé.----It is to be lamented, that when our monarchs left Scotland; their palaces were not either converted to some important public uses, or, if granted to Heretable Keepers, granted under the condition that they should still be furnished, inhabited, and from time to time repaired as they suffered by the dilapidations of time.

FROM Falkland, I continued my journey through a country, on all hands rich, fertile, and populous :

VOL. II.

N n n

abounding

abounding in coal-works, and in manufactures—chiefly of coarse linens. The grounds round the house of *Balbirnie* are laid out in a good taste; Some pleasing walks are seen from the highway, to wind through the woods. The village of *Markinch* too is seen on one hand, that of *Lesly* on another, as one advances.

At length, I drew near to *Kirkcaldy*, an ancient and not inconsiderable burgh. The villages of *Gal-latin* and *Path-head*, lengthen it out to a great extent. It was a flourishing sea-port town in those times when the Scots enriched themselves by their fisheries. Coals are now exported in large quantities from *Kirkcaldy*, and the neighbouring but smaller burgh of *Dysart*. *Kirkcaldy* has also some trade to the *Baltic*, and to the *West Indies*. Checks have been long manufactured here in large quantities. To this manufacture, that of cotton stuffs has been lately added. Both the trade and the manufactures of *Kirkcaldy* are thriving; and their prosperity is accompanied with a proportionate increase of the population, and extension of the buildings of the town. Near *Kirkcaldy* stands the house of *Dun-keir*, the elegant seat of Mr Oswald. From *Kirkcaldy*, the distance is short to *Kinghorn*. On either side of the highway stand several old buildings; some yet inhabited, others ruinous and desolate. I believe

believe some one or other of these houses to have belonged to the famous *Kirkcaldy of Grange*. I know not whether it be that which still bears the name of *King's Grange*. *Kirkcaldy* was certainly one of the most energetic and heroic characters that Scotland has yet produced.

KINGHORN has, like *Kirkcaldy*, some manufactures; and the other principal employment of its inhabitants, is a seafaring life. It is a royal burgh; and its burghesses no doubt derive some advantages from their share in the election of a member of Parliament. The town is a nursery for seamen, and a place of retreat for them in advanced age. It derives some advantages too from the *Ferry* by which passengers are conveyed from the harbour of *Petty cur*,--- which was formed at the expence of the burgh of *Kinghorn*,---to *Leith*. After a tedious passage, prolonged by the boisterousness of the wind, and the consequent roughness of the sea in the Frith, I landed at *Leith*, on the afternoon of the day on which I had left *Strathmiglo*,---and in the middle of November.

 EDINBURGH.

WISHING these *Observations* to afford a sort of Sketch of the present state of Society in SCOTLAND;

I cannot conclude them, without adding a few things concerning *Edinburgh*, its capital. The antiquities of *Edinburgh* are well explained in *Maitland's History of Edinburgh*: In *Arnot's*, these are connected with the national history, and the progress of the city ably deduced to the period, when *Arnot* wrote: In some lively, and elegant letters lately addressed by *Mr Creech* to *Sir John Sinclair*, and published in a volume of the *Statistical Account of Scotland*, a very curious comparison is instituted between the state of Arts and Manners in *Edinburgh*, -- respectively in the years 1763--and 1783, and prosecuted through a great number of interesting and authentic particulars. I shall therefore only set down here a very few general facts,---which form together a sort of miniature view of the first city in Scotland; not presuming to detail at length what has been already given to the Public, in works deservedly much more popular, than any thing that I can produce is ever likely to be.

EDINDURGH most probably owes its origin to the Anglo-Saxons of Northumberland. It may have derived its name from *Edwin*, the sixth sovereign of *Bernicia*; who extended the limits of the Anglo-Saxon territories farther than had been done by any of his predecessors; through *Galloway*, *Ayrshire*, the *Western* isles, and part of *Argyleshire*,—
and

and on the other side, at least to the banks of the *Forth*, and almost to the *Frith* of *Clyde*.

THE situation of the rock on which the castle of Edinburgh stands,---upon the sea-shore, and at the same time in the vicinity of a great river which forms one of the boundaries of the ancient *Caledonia*,---was such, as to recommend it early as a fit station for a military Strength. Having been advantageously occupied as such, for some time, during the contentions of the Anglo-Saxons, with the Picts and Scots; these latter people eagerly fortified it for themselves, when they succeeded in driving the Anglo-Saxons southward.

A FORTRESS of such importance was not to be slenderly garrisoned. In times of such continual hostility, the helpless and the unarmed resorted to the security of an inaccessible rock, and the protection of a garrison. Whether the *Danes* landing in the frith, ravaged and plundered the coasts; or the *Saxons* made an occasional inroad into territories which they had once possessed: Edinburgh-Castle was still a temporary retreat to the weakness of the Scots, if they were overpowered; or a station from which they could watch the advancing enemy, and fall out, to oppose their progress.

AT

AT length, when the princes of *Galloway* were subjected, the English territories confined within the northern boundaries of the present *Cumberland* and *Northumberland*, and almost all the Roman province of *Valentia* added to the ancient *Caledonia*; the Scottish monarchs were induced to bring their court south-ward, and to fix their residence occasionally at Edinburgh. Here they could, more conveniently than in any more northern or western situation, watch the motions of their most formidable neighbour, to whose invasion, they were most exposed. And this situation was more favourable to their correspondence with Foreign Courts, than any of the others which they had been accustomed to occupy.

THE neighbourhood of one of the strongest and most considerable castles in the kingdom, occasionally honoured with the presence of the court, could not be long without an *Establishment of the Clergy*. The abbey of *Halyrude*---house was formed. Chapels, and other convents sprung up after it.

ALMOST all those places to which *municipal* privileges were imparted, at the æra of the rise of commercial and mechanical industry in Europe, had previously begun to attract an assemblage of inhabitants from the adjacent parts,---either by the natural or the accidental advantages of their situation. Protected

ted by its castle, and consecrated by the sanctity of religion; Edinburgh must have appeared worthy of municipal honours, even if it had not been so happily situate near the mouth of a great river, and in the most fertile part of the kingdom, or had not been distinguished by the occasional presence of the court.

STILL, as the Scottish Court became more refined, Edinburgh became more and more its favourite seat. In the reigns of the Jameses, it became a considerable city. Its other advantages had already given it some share of trade and industry. The frequent presence of the court contributed to enrich it with wealth from all the rest of the kingdom. Many of the nobility built themselves houses in it. By means of their harbour of Leith, its citizens shared in the profits of the fishery by which Scotland was once greatly enriched. The Monks spent here in luxury, the income of the large possessions which they had acquired in different parts of the kingdom. Such was Edinburgh in the days of James IV. and his son James V.---The court of the latter of these princes was a gay one. It was composed chiefly of young nobles whose fathers had perished on the unfortunate field of *Flowden*. Among these, and the inferior attendants on the court, were many Wits and Poets. Sir *David Lindsay* was the monarch's preceptor,

tor, *Dunbar*, *Stewart*, *Kennedy*, and others who cultivated poetry, were followers of his court. *Gawin Douglas* went in exile, into England, in consequence of the disturbances which took place in his minority.

THE circumstances which first enabled Edinburgh to eclipse the other chief cities of Scotland, were the permanent establishment of the King's courts of Justice and Revenue, in it,---and after some time, also, of the High Court of Parliament. In the Regency of *Mary of Guise*, *Leith* was already a considerable place. Had her daughter *Mary* lived to enjoy her kingdom for a length of years; it seems probable, that Edinburgh might have flourished and advanced rapidly under her patronage.

YET, perhaps the exertions of the lower orders of the people in accomplishing the Reformation, and that conscious energy, which was roused into action among them by the troubles which followed, might contribute more than almost any other circumstances could, to the subsequent prosperity of the Free Towns of Scotland. The turbulence of the citizens of Edinburgh prompted by their clergy, gave no small trouble to *James VI.* The prosperity of the Town seems to have suffered a temporary check by the vengeance which he exacted for the
insults

insults which they had offered him.—The PEOPLE of Scotland, with a Clergy at their head who gloried equally in poverty and in power, stood, at this period, in a great measure, independent of both the King and the Nobles. Sometimes they were emulously courted by the one of these, in opposition to the other, and at times, both united to soothe, or to repress them.

I AM rather inclined to think, that Edinburgh lost little by the departure of James with his court to England. It lost indeed, by this event, the presence of the court, and by consequence those peculiar advantages by which Refinement of Arts and of Manners is promoted by a court. But, it became now the fixed seat of the Government, and the Supreme Courts of Justice, more exclusively than it had before been. The intercourse between London and Edinburgh was less inconvenient, than if any other of the principal cities of Scotland had been preferred for the seat of Government.

I AM here tempted to leave, for a few moments, the review of the progress of Edinburgh, that I may expose the futility of a prevalent opinion concerning the influence which the removal of the court to England, is supposed to have had on our language. The Scottish dialect of the Saxon is ob-

served to have been, at the æra of that event, not less copious or analogical than the English; and it is inferred, that if Scotland had continued to have a separate court, it must have had a standard of analogy and phraseology peculiar to itself, and not less perfect than that of England. But, this opinion has been too hastily taken up. The two dialects were, even at that period, *too much the same*, not to be considered *as one language*. Considered as one language, they must have been both reduced to the same standard of Grammar; when Grammatical Science began to be applied to them. That which was most copious, most elegant, most analogical, would be the Language; the other simply the Dialect. Had there been originally a more marked distinction between them; they might have become different Languages. But, while so *essentially* the same; the most imperfect could never have been otherwise regarded than as the bastard-brother of the other.

It is easy to see, that the progress of languages must ever follow that of Refinement, of Opulence, of Knowledge, of the Polite Arts. The wider extent of the English dominions, and the greater wealth of the English must necessarily have continued to render the English court more splendid than the Scottish. In all the seats of trade and art, similar effects

effects must have been produced. Thus would the arts have advanced more rapidly in England than in Scotland. Art strikes out those scintillations which kindle up the light of science. Taste next appears. As the accommodations of life were multiplied; as new abstractions were conceived; as more of the relations of things were discovered; the copiousness of the language would, in proportion, have increased. As taste was refined; its analogy would have been reformed. In England, then, the natural course of events would have formed a polished, copious, and regular language sooner than in Scotland; although Scotland had continued the seat of a Royal Court. The language of England would have been the *language*, that of Scotland, *the dialect*. The only difference would have been, that we should have had, in the compass of this dialect, a series of more courtly phraseology, than it at present possesses. But, all our writers, as soon as it became fashionable to compose in the vernacular language, would assuredly have striven to emulate the best English writers, in pure Anglicism. The Genevese do not pique themselves upon writing a peculiar dialect of the French, but study the purest style of the Parisian Academicians. The elegant writers of Italy aspire to the purity of Tuscan phraseology. Nay, even in the reigns of our own *Jamies*, the English seems to have been considered as the

standard language. James I. had been bred at the English court, and is the only writer of his time, whose compositions have come down to us; and his style must have been English. *William Dunbar*, one of the best poets in the court of James V. was valued for writing pure *English*. He was a native of Salton in east Lothian; and esteeming himself an Anglo-Saxon by birth, looked with contempt on those who were *born without the English pale*. He professed to imitate the English poets *Chaucer*, *Gower*, and *Lydgate*; in apostrophe to the former of whom he says:

Was thou nocht of our Inglis all the licht
 Surmounting every tounge terrestrial,
 As far as Mayis morrow dois midnight,
 And to the two latter,
 Your angelic mouth most mellissuat,
 Our rude language has cleir illumynat.

Thus it surely appears,—at least that the language of England would have been enriched above the copiousness of the Scotch, and would have been sooner polished and reduced to order; in consequence of which, it must have become the standard language; even although the two kingdoms had continued to be governed by two different monarchs. But, to return from words to things.

AFTER

AFTER Edinburgh had become confessedly the capital of the kingdom; it necessarily advanced, declined, or remained in a stationary condition,—just as Scotland fluctuated between prosperity and ruin. Yet, being the seat of the sanguinary Scottish Administration of *Charles II.* and of *James VII.* it was perhaps enriched by their expences, and enlivened by their gaiety, at a time when desolation and mourning prevailed through the rest of the kingdom. That liberty and security which were restored to the whole island by the *Revolution*, were happily felt in the capital of Scotland. Edinburgh was the centre from which the reviving spirit of Trade and Industry continued to spread its influence through the kingdom between the two æras of the *Revolution* and the *Union*. The *Canongate* was then in its greatest splendour; its best old houses were, at that time built; and all its avenues extended into the country.

THE UNION was finally fatal to the courtly splendour of Edinburgh. It was now no longer the seat of the Legislature and Government of Scotland; and was thus degraded into a Provincial Town. Yet the courts of Revenue and of Justice still remaining here, rendered Edinburgh still, in some measure, a common centre of intercourse for the inhabitants of Scotland. It was still a subordinate

dinate seat of Government; and as such, had greater intercourse with England. than any other city in Scotland. The reverence which it had formerly commanded, could not be all at once laid aside. The accommodations which had been here provided for the noble and the great who were now allured away to England, invited hither, the secondary gentry to enjoy, at a cheaper rate, gratifications of shew, of dignity, and of society to which they had not before aspired. Thus Edinburgh yet continued to dictate, in matters of fashion and of taste to the rest of North Britain.

Its citizens, in the mean time, began to open their eyes to the advantages of trade. Their port of *Leith* was favourably enough situate for the reception of shipping. Their trade had, for a while, been confined chiefly to intercourse with England, and with the manufacturing and trading ports of Scotland. With France, too, they had formerly maintained a commercial intercourse. They now began to become acquainted with the trade to the Mediterranean and the Baltic. Although little was at first done by them: Yet their efforts were exerted in a direction in which they have since proved advantageous and successful.

THE

THE consequences of the illegal execution of Captain *Porteous* were at first hurtful to the progress of Edinburgh. The immediate consequences of the rebellion in 1745 might be at the time rather injurious, but seem to have been, in the end, beneficial to it.

THE *Union* began, at length, to prove beneficial to Scotland. The arts and the wealth of England found their way through North Britain. There was every where an evident progress of industry, of taste, of liberal knowledge; and a proportionate increase of wealth. These were particularly felt in Edinburgh. Its buildings were enlarged; and projects of improvement were conceived.

As the seat of the noble, the wealthy, and the luxurious; Edinburgh was naturally a promising field for medical practitioners. The eminent physicians in Edinburgh joining their exertions to those of the magistrates, at length accomplished the establishment of a medical school, in addition to the other institutions for literary and scientific instruction in the University of Edinburgh. This was the first proof that Science had begun to advance, in Scotland, with the increase of its wealth, and advancing improvement in the arts of life. This medical school was hardly sooner established than it began to attract students, in preference to all the
other

other similar institutions in the other Universities of Scotland. *The pool was now troubled.* An impulse had been given. It was felt through the whole University. A generous emulation arose among the different Professors; the secret emotions of which seem to have prompted most of them to strive, who should best distinguish himself by scientific discoveries, by assiduous, diligent, and interesting instruction. Students crowded from all quarters, to Edinburgh, rather than to our other Scottish Universities. The scientific and literary fame of the professors spread into England and over the continent of Europe. Thus was opened one abundant source of wealth and credit to the city of Edinburgh.

IN the mean time, the citizens of our northern metropolis began to conceive new ideas of convenient accommodation in houses and furniture, and of architectural elegance. Edinburgh had not hitherto had more than one good street. That was, and still is, a noble one; running between the Castle and the abbey of *Halyrude*-house; august alike by its length, its breadth, and the awful, but inconvenient height of the houses on each side. Partly the inconvenience of the ground, and in part, the imitation of the *Castle*-fashion, had dictated the plan of the thick walls, the narrow windows, the ceilings, the towering loftiness of the old buildings
in

in Edinburgh. It is a curious fact, for which I know not at present, how to account, but undeniably certain, that many of the most considerable separate buildings erected about Edinburgh, and through the rest of Scotland,—and I suppose, also in England, in the last forty years of the last century, and for the first twenty of the present, bear a remarkable resemblance to the Moorish buildings yet remaining in Spain—*externally only*,—for we have nothing yet to exceed the interior magnificence of the Moorish *Alhambra* and *Albayzin* in Granada. The inconveniencies attending the old fashion of building in Edinburgh were among the chief causes of that nastiness whose reign in the Scottish metropolis the English delighted to celebrate. And, nothing could be more painful to a Scottish ear, than to hear the the English represent all Edinburgh, as one temple sacred to Cloacina. A new town was therefore projected. The North Loch was drained away. A stately bridge was reared across its emptied basin. And whole streets of little palaces were gradually extended in the most beautiful order, along its northern side. One noble public building, the Infirmary, had been some time before erected. It was extended on the south, as well as on the north side. And the old houses began at the same time to be pulled down and rebuilt, or at least to be repaired in a newer and more elegant taste.

It was about the beginning of his present Majesty's reign, that increasing opulence, and improving taste began to push on the advancement of Edinburgh thus rapidly. The sight was pleasing to every Scotchman; for the progress of a capital or its decline can never depend on circumstances merely local; Edinburgh can be improved—only with the improvement of Scotland in general; and when it shall again decline, Scotland will most probably decline with it.

SINCE that period, the progress of this city has been almost inconceivably rapid. Its seminaries for education have been multiplied and enlarged. Its public amusements have been greatly diversified and increased. The whole œconomy of life has, with the middle and the higher ranks, been altered. Many more mercantile houses have been opened: Many more shops have been decked out, to allure the passengers in the streets. Building has become a very capital branch of business. Many branches of manufacture have been attempted which were before unknown in Scotland; and others which had been before tried, have been improved to astonishing perfection. The number of the inhabitants of Edinburgh, has been proportionately augmented; and their opulence and the productive power of their industry have been at the same time

fo

so increased; that, while the expences of almost every individual in every rank, are doubled; the stock of all who possess property is at least one-third greater at an average, than was, fifty years ago, the stock of persons holding respectively, in this city, the same places in society.

SUCH, as it appears to me, has been the progress of the city of Edinburgh. I am sorry that I have here had room for nothing but an extremely meagre outline of its history. I shall conclude with a very brief sketch of its present state.

I. THE FIRST class of circumstances on which its existence and prosperity appear to depend, are, Its *Municipal Privileges*,—Its *Ancient and Metropolitan Honours*,—*The Quantity of Wealth* which has been, in the course of time accumulated here, and which cannot, without almost total waste, be removed,—with the *Local Attachments*,—the *amor patriæ*,—of its citizens, and of such as are bred and educated in it. These are the primary causes, on which the existence and prosperity of all cities depend. By the manner and the degree in which they possess these, are their splendour and stability most surely to be estimated. In its *municipal privileges* I know not that it enjoys any advantages over the other royal burghs of Scotland. By the prosperity, however, which it has enjoyed

under these. Whenever their influence was not counteracted by circumstances, not necessarily connected with them;—The Constitution of our Royal Burghs appears to be well calculated to promote Trade and the Arts in all their various modifications; and to give dignity and comfort to those employed in the prosecution of them. To possess revenues, as a corporate body; To have for Administrators and Governors, magistrates chosen from among themselves; To have a share in the election of the members of the Legislature; To enjoy those exclusive advantages of Trade, the conferring of which was originally necessary for the encouragement of the arts, and which as they are now communicated for money, constitute a fund for the use of the community:—These are the chief municipal privileges of our Royal Burghs. All these Edinburgh at present possesses in their full force; and from every one of them appears to derive nothing but advantages. Its sources of Revenue are largely productive. The Revenue, in the administration of it, is directed, with wisdom and integrity universally acknowledged and applauded,—to the advancement of the common interests of the city. Nor are the Magistracy less honourably and popularly distinguished as Inspectors of the police and Distributors of justice. Look back for almost any length of years; and you will find that the chief magistrates nearly without
exception

exception, have distinguished themselves by a degree of Enlightened Public Spirit, such as you will not easily find to have been so uniformly exhibited by any other series, so long, of Public Office-Bearers. Of late, especially, every successive Chief Magistrate seems with generous emulation to strive to make his name eminent by accomplishing some Public Work which may be permanently beneficial to the city.—The *ancient* and *metropolitan* honours of Edinburgh are also considerable; Its name is connected with the memory of many of the most remarkable events in our history: Within its limits, or in its immediate vicinity are the scenes of many memorable transactions: Its castle, its churches, its hospitals, its palaces are, most of them dignified by relations to the national history: And as Scotland becomes every day more civilized, more wealthy, more populous, in the same proportion must its *metropolis* become more illustrious: Even at present, it is distinguished among the secondary capitals of Europe. These circumstances draw, upon it, in such a degree, the respect of mankind, that they, in this way contribute greatly to the stability of its existence.—The *Quantity of Wealth* accumulated here, consists in houses, furniture, gardens, public-works, &c. These are all of such a nature, that they cannot be removed, without entire waste. They must therefore remain and be used where they are placed; thus

thus serving as pledges by which the enjoyments and exertions of the citizens are attached to the fate of the city. These are all as valuable as they well can be, in a city not more extensive; they are more gainful to their proprietors, for the greater part, than they could be, in any other city of Scotland: and they could hardly be all together better adapted for the accommodation of life.—The *Local Attachments*, depending upon these, and upon all those other circumstances which are connected in forming the character and in maintaining the existence of the city, are stronger, I would willingly hope, in the minds of the citizens of Edinburgh, than with the inhabitants of many other great cities. But, in truth, a city-life is unfavourable beyond any thing else, except perhaps unprincipled profligacy, to local attachments, and to the *amor patriæ*.

II. THE SECOND cause on which the existence and prosperity of Edinburgh appear to depend, and by which its character is formed,—is, its being the Seat of the Supreme *Courts of Revenue*, and of *Justice* for Scotland: The Courts of Session, and of Exchequer; the Boards of Customs, of Excise, and of Trustees for Improvements, &c.—and besides these, the general Assembly of the Church of Scotland. Thus a great part of the expence by which
 Government

Government supports those Establishments is laid out here: Much wealth is brought into Edinburgh by those who refer thither to attend these Courts and public Offices: All the classes of practitioners and candidates for practice in the law are attracted hither: and the spoils of the whole country are poured into their hands, as expences of litigation. All these sources of wealth and population supply both at present, to this city more copiously than at any former period. The public Revenue is increased, and with it the expences of managing its collection, by the general increase of industry, trade, and opulence through Scotland. As to the Courts of Law; these are very perfect *thermometers* of the state of the country; and by the proportion of the business before them; the wealth and industry of the whole kingdom may be at all times correctly estimated: For, men's disposition to contention at law, is, in the ordinary state of human virtue, in the compound ratio of their wealth and their activity in business. Now, since Scotland has for these many years been rapidly increasing in wealth, in industry, and in trade: the business before the Courts of Law, the profits of the lawyers, and their numbers have necessarily been increased at the same time. Lawyers therefore, of all denominations, were never more numerous, and never drew so much wealth, as at present, from all quarters of the country, into Edinburgh.

III.

III. THE TRADE and MANUFACTURES of Edinburgh, are, what it seems, next, to depend chiefly upon. In these, it has long been advancing, but was never so flourishing as at present. The most considerable branch of its trade, is that *retail-trade* which it possesses as the seat of fashion, and the common centre of intercourse for Scotland. Hence those splendid shops which line its streets. Hence is it, that many of its richest and most respectable citizens are simply shopkeepers. What vast quantities of cottons, of linens, of silks, of woollen-stuffs are retailed here! What abundance of liquors, and of grocery goods of all kinds! Building has become a capital branch of trade and industry, and promises, as it should seem, to be an unfailing one. The cabinet-maker earns very large sums. The taylor is among the most considerable gainers.—The materials for this retail-trade are supplied by a very large importation. From the circumjacent country are brought grain, whiskey, sheep, beeves, swine, poultry, wild-fowl, fish, cheese, butter, milk, eggs, and indeed all articles of fresh provisions, with a heterogeneous variety of other things which it would be difficult accurately to enumerate; Yet, one other considerable set of articles which the neighbourhood affords, are, the ruder materials for building. From England come an innumerable variety of articles, partly its raw produce, partly of its manufacture,

factures, and in part imported by the English from Foreign Countries. Happily we can now provide muslins for our own use. But, a large quantity of Irish Linens are still annually imported into Edinburgh. From France, many articles of the consumption of our metropolis have, till very lately, been directly imported. Timber, iron, leather, and coarse linens are brought hither from Russia. From the countries on the Mediterranean, too, are large imports brought into the port of Leith. For our West India goods we begin to be less dependent, than we once were on Glasgow and on London. If the exports from Edinburgh and Leith be small in comparison with the imports; it is to be remembered that the imports are not consumed in Edinburgh, but are circulated through all Scotland; and that therefore they must be considered as answering to a part of those exports which we send out from the other parts of Scotland.—This trade is accompanied with the usual subdivisions of Trade and Manufacture, which the commercial Philosophers have shewn to contribute in the most powerful manner, to the improvement of both: Here are bankers, insurers, brokers. Here are two Banking Companies who have been incorporated by Royal Charters; and the stock of both is now valued at a very high rate per cent. *Leith* being the port of Edinburgh, a great share of the wholesale, mercantile business of

Edinburgh is conducted at Leith. One of the most capital of all the manufactures of this place, is, that of glass at Leith. Thus, a great trade, in one form or another, is carried on at Edinburgh. It seems not to decrease, but to be daily enlarged; and affords much to maintain and to augment the wealth and population of this city.—The late check which it suffered, was,—to use a homely similitude,—just as when a horse, walking carelessly, happens to stumble; he instantly recovers himself; and then proceeds with quicker and firmer steps than before.

IV. THE next thing of importance to the prosperity of this city, is, its INSTITUTIONS FOR EDUCATION. The University not only contributes greatly to give a liberal enlightened tone to the opinions and manners of the inhabitants of Edinburgh in general: It is also a source of no inconsiderable income to them; and it seems to reflect on the city perhaps little less glory than all its civil, its martial, and its political honours. It was as a medical School, that the University of Edinburgh first became famous; and this, I think, within these last fifty years. Since that period, a second succession of eminent Medical Teachers have succeeded those who first gained to Edinburgh the character of an excellent medical school. These have surpassed the fame of their predecessors. The establishment has also been enlarged
by

by the institution of new professorships. The Infirmary has proved an excellent theatre for medical, but more especially for surgical practice. Many new discoveries in the science of medicine have been made here. Various theories have also been produced, which, if not more susceptible of satisfactory demonstration, than those which were exploded to make room for them, have at least displayed higher beauty and ingenuity. In the construction of these theories, however, many valuable, subordinate truths have been ascertained, which might otherwise have remained doubtful or unknown. Concerning the STRUCTURE and OECONOMY of the HUMAN BODY, as of the HUMAN MIND, the MOST GENERAL TRUTHS remain yet to be discovered. But, I doubt not that, in the progress of Science, the *Ultimate* truths which respect both, will be fully investigated and established; that Medicine will no longer fluctuate from theory to theory, but will be settled on the sure basis of General Principles. How would *Galen* be astonished were he to attend a course of *MONRO's* Lectures and Demonstrations; to see so many of the finer parts of the human frame displayed, which his dissection could not distinguish; so many beautiful relations, nice connexions, and strong dependencies explained, where he could see nothing but confusion and disorder, almost sufficient to urge him into *Atheism*! How would the arrogant vanity of *Paracelsus*

celfus be confounded, could he hear the scientific Lectures, could he assist at the experiments, could he learn the discoveries and inventions of BLACK! How would his self-sufficiency be abased, before the modest dignity of Science! Chemistry is no longer the mere *labour* of the Mechanic, the *dream* of the Enthusiast, the *pretence* of the Empiric; but the most exalted and comprehensive of Sciences! Would not *Hippocrates* himself respect that astonishingly accurate and extensive knowledge of the habits of the human Body, of the influences to which it is subject, and of the modifications of Disease, infinitely varied as they are, in all its different stages,—which is unfolded in the works of CULLEN, and in the Lectures of a GREGORY and a DUNCAN! The fame of Edinburgh, as a school for medicine is every year extended, and on each successive year, unless when some extraordinary circumstances, such as a war, arise to prevent it, increasing numbers of Students come hither to study Medicine!——

NOR is it for *Medicine* alone that this University is deservedly distinguished. Even that succession of eminent moral philosophers with which the University of Glasgow has been honoured, have not rendered it a better school for the Science of the Human Mind, than Edinburgh. The eloquent *Essay on Civil Society*, of Dr FERGUSON is known and admired

mired through Europe; with equal eloquence of composition, with an elocution which did it adequate justice, and with a clearness and precision which enlightened the obscurity, and seemed to fix the subtlety of the most abstract moral truths, did he teach the Science of Ethics in all its branches, when I had the honour of studying under him. His Lectures have been lately published: and I cannot doubt but all students of Moral Philosophy must be wise enough to read them. Fortunately for the University, he has been succeeded, in the *Ethical Chair*, by Mr STEWART, whose eloquence, dignified, pathetic, winning, soothing, animating, irresistibly interesting, continues to allure our Youth to the study of Morals;—whatever the profession to which they are destined,—or although they be destined to no profession at all. Since no Science hath a more direct influence on the conduct of life than Ethics; every one must rejoice with me, that this Science has so long been, and is long likely to be eagerly studied in the University of Edinburgh.—Mr Bruce had the boldness to set the example to almost all other Teachers of the *Science of Reasoning*, in rejecting the *Dialectics* of Aristotle, and the quibbling *Logic* and *Metaphysics* of the *Schoolmen*, for the *Laws of Experimental Philosophy* established by Bacon, and happily obeyed by Newton, and by most of our Natural Philosophers, and not less fitted to be successfully

cessfully applied to the Philosophy of the mind. Before he could improve his plan to all that perfection, and reduce it to that order, of which it was sufficiently susceptible, and which he was well qualified to give it;—he was succeeded by Mr FINLAYSON, whose Lectures do full justice to the importance of the Science as a branch of Liberal Education, and to the extraordinary and increasing numbers of Students, that crowd his Class-Room.—*Mathematics* have long been taught, with the most distinguished ability in this University. The works and the fame of *Maclaurin*, the friend of Sir Isaac Newton, will long survive: The most eminent Mathematicians on the Continent have confessed the eminence of Dr *Mathew Stewart*, in the difficult researches of this Science; None of the valuable papers in the volumes of the Philosophical Transactions of Edinburgh, have been oftener quoted, or with higher applause than that fine specimen of mathematical reasoning applied to Physics, which Mr PLAYFAIR has exhibited in his Paper on the *Measurement of Heights and Distances by the Barometer*, or that skilful mixture of Mathematics and Fine Writing which he has displayed in his Essay on the *Indian Astronomy*; A science, in which his genius can make important discoveries, and in which his accuracy enables him to confirm the discoveries, or to explode the fallacious theories of others, seems to be no less indebted to him for his successful efforts

as a Teacher, to render it more popular than it has yet been among our Scottish youth: Indeed, I am sorry to think that I should have reason for believing the Science of Mathematics to have been hitherto less popular than its very high importance deserves, among the Countrymen of the Great NAPIER. I am persuaded that *Mr Playfair* will be no less pleased than I am, to hope that the objections which seem to arise from the History of Indian Astronomy,---against the Chronology of the Sacred Scriptures, may be removed by the erudition and scientific penetration of *Mr Maurice*.---I know not that any Professor of *Rhetoric and Criticism* ever contributed more to the Reformation of Taste in a Nation than DR BLAIR has done. At the time when he began to read his Lectures, Taste in Composition was confined almost exclusively to those very few among us who deserved the appellation of Classical Scholars: We knew in general little of Regularity, and still less of Delicacy of Composition; All the Writings of Scotchmen residing in Scotland, ---except perhaps half a dozen, or hardly so many, ---were, properly speaking, written in the Scottish dialect; We admired the best English authors, we sometimes tried to imitate, but we dared not emulate them. But, under him has a School of Taste and Eloquence been formed, which has diffused a skill in elegant composition and Taste to re-

lish

lish it, through all Scotland. His Sermons have wonderfully aided the influence of his Lectures. It could not but give great additional weight to the instructions of a Teacher of Eloquence, when it was considered, that he himself was confessedly the First Composer for the Pulpit in Europe. Nor can I help observing, that, however high the praise of reforming the taste of a whole People, and teaching them to invest truth in those unaffected, yet elegant and graceful ornaments which best become her; Yet, much higher is the praise, and a much sweeter secret satisfaction must the Consciousness give,---of having taught wisdom to the thoughtless, and useful seriousness to the Gay,---of having reinforced, with more pointed arrows, the quiver from which the bow of Truth is armed against vice,---of arraying religion in a bewitching dress, which while it becomes the gravity and the simplicity of her character, renders her at the same time, the admiration and the delight of the Fashionable circle,---in short of rendering religious truth more persuasive, of making piety more amiable, and of "bringing many to righteousness!" In Mr GREENFIELD, *Dr Blair* has fortunately obtained an assistant of Taste and Genius congenial to his own.—But, the University of Edinburgh has just lost one of its most illustrious ornaments, and Europe, one of its most splendid Literary Lights. The fame of its Principal has long contributed highly

ly to attract students to the University of Edinburgh. It was, with reason, believed abroad, that the seminary of Education, in which the Historian of Mary, of Charles V. of Columbus presided, could not be a mean one. Unity of design; order and proportion of parts; the skilful preservation of historic dignity; interesting animation of narrative; justness, liberality, pertinency of the philosophy necessarily intermingled; the judicious selection of the private transactions best adapted to illustrate the progress of policy, arts, and manners; skill in working all up together; a noble spirit breathed through the whole; and colouring rich, yet not gaudy, diffused over it;—These are the distinguishing characteristics of the late DR ROBERTSON'S Historical Works; and they are at the same time the qualities which give to History, almost all the perfection of which it is susceptible. Some other Historians may excel in one or two of these qualities; and some may exhibit the whole assemblage in an inferior degree; but I will venture to assert, with confidence, that no Historian, ancient or modern, has ever yet displayed them all together in such perfection. But, there is one quality of history yet more important than any of these; TRUTH. This quality, the historian can by no other means communicate to his work, than by an honest and discerning care, to relate no fact, unless upon the most satisfactory evidence.

And in a careful attention to *original authorities*, and a discerning *preference* among these, as different circumstances appear to render them *more or less worthy of credit*. Dr Robertson has undeniably left all other historians far behind. His style is elaborate, yet unassumed; dignified, but not turgid; energetic, without obscurity or stiffness. Hardly can the philosophy or Literature of modern times boast of another character in which *Liberality of Sentiment free from bigotry or dogmatism, is so eminently united with steadiness of principles remote from levity or scepticism*. It was natural then, that the lustre of *Dr Robertson's* character should advantageously be reflected upon his University. His name will long be one of its dearest ornaments.---Only within these few years has Edinburgh begun to be distinguished by possessing in its University, an excellent school for those branches of Learning which are more peculiarly connected with the profession of Law. But, the abilities of a *Tytler*, a *Hume*, a *Wilde*, a *Macconochie* have now begun to raise this University to the same illustrious eminence in the *Legal* as in the *Medical* studies. The mild piety of a *HUNTER*, the philosophic erudition of a *HARDY*, the eloquence and various knowledge of both are earnestly employed to instruct the minds, and form the manners of those young men who prepare to offer themselves candidates for the *ministry* of religion.---The winning manners, the patient af-

fidity

fidelity, the gentleness superior to provocation, the singular erudition, and the amiable enthusiasm for a language, a philosophy, and a literature formed above all others, to excite the enthusiasm of an ingenuous mind; These qualities, so well known to distinguish MR DALZIELL's character render him wonderfully successful in restoring in our own country, a taste for Grecian learning: His pupils commonly catch a portion of his own enthusiasm for the Greek; and seldom discontinue their attendance at his Class till obliged by the œconomy of their other studies. Nor is *Roman Literature* less advantageously intrusted to the care of DR HILL. The abilities and exertions of the Professors of *Natural Philosophy* and *Natural History* are highly worthy of the Sciences which they teach. The munificence of *Mr Pulteney* has lately provided a salary for a Professor of Agriculture in this University; and he has happily found in Dr COVENTRY, a professor qualified to do honour to his Foundation.---It appears somewhat surprizing, that in a Commercial Age, and especially among a Nation, the foundations of whose strength and happiness are established upon their Manufactures and Commerce, no less than upon their agriculture; there should be no particular institution for the instruction of Youth in the Elements of *Commerce*. Forming but a slender part among the numberless modifications of Human Exertion; its *rise and progress*

gress cannot be very particularly detailed in a course of General History. For the same reason, its *relations* can never be very fully explained in a series of Lectures on the principles of Political Œconomy. The Arithmetician and the Accountant teach but a very small part of the actual practice of Trade, and that but, very imperfectly. But, if when detached from each other, the several parts of Commercial Knowledge may make but an inconsiderable figure; if they cannot be separately taught, in their full extent, among the other branches of Knowledge; Taken all together, however, they appear to be of great magnitude and importance; And they might be very beautifully connected into a distinct system of Study. In such a system, the HISTORY; the PHILOSOPHY; and the ŒCONOMY of Commerce might be successively explained.—By the *Philosophy of Commerce* I mean the investigation of its relations to climate, laws, manners, internal industry, religion, national virtue, power of defence, national revenue, local situation, &c. By its œconomy, I understand all its transactions, from gifts in the expectation of gifts, and the barter of commodities among savage tribes,—to the most complex negociations of the most ingenious trading nations in Europe;—comprehending all the details of retail-trade, of banking, of Insurance, of Exchange, of Stock-Jobbing, &c.—Surely such an institution

Institution for thus improving and extending Commercial Knowledge were worthy of the Legislature and Government of a great Trading Nation;— Of the patronage of merchants and manufacturers in a country where they form so very opulent and so very respectable an order in the community, ---and are so much distinguished by liberality of sentiments and of manners;---and of an University, the most deservedly celebrated in Europe, and which seems to want only this additional institution, to render its provisions for literary and scientific instruction most admirably compleat!

THE patrons of the University of Edinburgh deserve very high praise for that judicious care with which they have long laboured to promote its rising celebrity, and make it beneficial to the City and to the Nation. To their attention, next after the *natural* progress of Knowledge and Opulence,---and the *accidental* appearance here, of some of the greatest Literary Characters that any Age or Country has produced,---are the advancement and the fame of of this University to be ascribed. The Professorships are happily no inviting stalls for the indolent and the dull. And the Patrons, sensible of what importance the University is to the city, have been careful to suffer candidates to be introduced into its offices, by no recommendations, but those of Science, Abilities,

Abilities, and becoming Gravity of Manners. This care implies a degree of Public Virtue far from common in the present age; but the fact is not, for this, the less certain. Upon this care does the Prosperity and Usefulness of the University essentially depend. Whenever it shall cease to be exerted,---from that moment must the University be gradually deserted, till nothing shall remain, but the mere *nominis umbra*. The importance of the University in a commercial point of view to the Citizens of Edinburgh, will appear from these facts: The number of the annual students has for many years been not under a thousand,---reckoning at an average; These again, one with one another, spend not less than thirty pounds each for every Session: Here is a sum of thirty thousand pounds expended in Edinburgh, as a seat of an University, for the space of seven or eight months in every year: The manner in which this money is laid out, is highly beneficial; It is for the greater part distributed in small sums among the industrious poor, who perform the necessary services for the students, and provide them with the means of subsistence.

SINCE the University is so beneficial in a commercial point of view; since it reflects so much glory upon Scotland and its capital; and since architectural improvements have been, of late, so earnestly
and

and successfully cultivated in Edinburgh; it was natural, that the Patrons of the University, and the Administrators of the Public Affairs of the City should desire to accommodate Science and Literature with mansions more worthy of them, than those which they had here originally occupied. The Old Buildings of the University were not unsuitable to the modes of living, in the Country at the time, when they were erected, and certainly did honour to the Taste and munificence of the Citizens of Edinburgh in the days of James VI. But, our modes of life have been so much varied, since that period; our Architecture has been so much improved; our taste for domestic accommodation has become so much more nice; and the Foundations of the University have been so greatly enlarged; that the necessity of new Edifices for the Public purposes of this University had become sufficiently apparent. An opportunity seemed to arise, through which Edinburgh might be distinguished by the architecture no less than by the Science of Athens. One noble public building, the REGISTER-OFFICE had been just finished. And, the patriotism of Scotchmen could not bear, that their private houses should be palaces hardly equalled in Europe; their temples of Taste and Science, comparatively mean and Smoky huts. The design of a NEW COLLEGE was therefore formed. A plan for the building

building was procured from Mr Adams. A subscription was opened. It has drawn many generous contributions from various quarters. It has been honoured with the munificent encouragement of a Sovereign who has ever been the generous and discerning patron of Learning and of the Fine Arts. From the East and from the West Indies, the Pupils of the University of Edinburgh have emulously sent contributions to promote the accommodation and the august dignity of their *Alma Mater*. But, so considerable a Work, which must prove a permanent monument to the honour of the age, of the country, of the city in which it is reared, cannot be completed, without a fund much more considerable, than has yet been acquired for it. A mean or paltry set of buildings would have been less worthy of the Establishment of the University; than the old Edifices which had a venerable and dignified air by their antiquity. But the patriotism and the Taste of Scotchmen, and indeed the veneration of the seat of Learning and Science will not leave this noble fabric long unfinished. And, if, amidst the vicissitudes of Human Things, barbarism should ever again spread ruin and desolation through those regions; levelling our palaces and public buildings with the temples and porticoes of *Athens* and *Palmyra*, or with our own old Abbies and Cathedrals; Then shall the enthusiastic votary of Taste
and

and Science repair hither in devout pilgrimage, from the Wilds of Siberia perhaps, or from the remotest corners of North America, and weep over the broken columns, and kneel to kiss the thresholds of the dismantled and desolated temple which the Citizens of Edinburgh now fondly rear to Learning*.

THE GRAMMAR School of Edinburgh, under the management of four masters and a Rector, is not less flourishing than the University. I have formerly mentioned my objections against the form of the Exercises commonly prescribed in the course of a Classical Education, and against the shortness of the period commonly appropriated in Scotland, to the study of Classical Learning. But, if I were even more confident than I am of being right in my opinions on these matters; and more earnest than I dare presume to be, in the censure of the practices of which I disapprove;—I should still allow, that these respectable men are well entitled to adopt the words of Hector;

Si Pergama dextra

Defendi possent, etiam hac defensa fuissent.

VOL. II.

S f s

THE

* See a Letter of Abbe de Lille's, in Choiseul-Gouffier's VOYAGE PITTORESQUE DE LA GRECE.

THE schools for English are numerous, and taught by men well qualified for the employment. In the same situation are the schools for writing and arithmetic, and other concomitant branches of Education. We have swarms of Frenchmen who are sufficiently assiduous to initiate our Youth in the Language of Politeness and of Liberty.

BUT, I must again observe, that instruction in the Principles of Religion enters too little into the plans of almost all these provisions for Education. Unless in some of the English schools, religious instruction is never thought of. The parents trust it to the masters; and the masters to the parents; and between the two, the children escape the trouble of thinking about, who made them or who redeemed them. We seem to be afraid of instilling religious prejudices into the minds of youth, before they grow up to chuse a religion for themselves. But, I should think, the religious knowledge of our youth ought to be anxiously cared for, both at our schools, and in the first classes in the University. I would willingly hope, that what I have here said, is not true in all its extent. But, I have not reason to think that it is not. And, as the matter appears to me to be of the utmost importance, I have chosen to speak out. But, I shall rejoice to be corrected.

V.

V. ALL the other circumstances which concur to maintain this city, or to form and mark the character of its inhabitants may be included, in so rapid a sketch as this, under the common Head of MANNERS. The influence of *Religion* has always a powerful share in forming the manners of a People. In great towns the influence of Religion is almost always weaker than elsewhere. Yet, whatever the ministry of a pious and enlightened Clergy can do to maintain the influence of religion, is here exerted; and not without success; for the decencies of religion are yet revered here by all classes; and I would willingly hope, that its secret incitements and restraints are powerfully felt by many. A strict *Police* preserves Edinburgh more secure from riots and robberies than almost any other city equally large. As the Opulent and the Educated are more numerous here, in proportion to the poor and the uninstructed, than in almost any other town in Scotland; the labouring poor and the ignorant seem to take from them, the tone of their manners. The *public amusements* in Edinburgh are not yet too numerous, or too seductive to operate with a very corrupting influence on the manners. The *Theatre* is occasionally crowded, but is regularly attended with eagerness. *Pantomime* and *tricks of horsemanship* have unsuccessfully tried their fortune here, as public amusements.—Persuaded as I am that all the Dramatic

S f f 2

entertainments

entertainments of modern times have been pernicious to the morals of those among whom they have prevailed; Yet, at the same time, satisfied that such entertainments are beneficial to the progress of refinement, and to the improvement of the Sister Fine Arts,—may are even indispensibly necessary among a People arrived at that pitch of luxurious refinement at which we and the Nations of Europe have attained; I anxiously wish, that some means could be devised by which the Theatre might be rendered truly a School of Virtue. When the Tragedies of Eschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides were represented on the Athenian stage; Virtue was taught on it little less correctly, and perhaps more successfully than from our pulpits. The causes seem to have been, 1st That the *representations were occasional* not continual; 2dly They were *great national acts*; 3dly The *merits*, and especially the *moral effects* of the pieces to be acted, were previously estimated with care, by judges appointed by the state; 4thly The Actors were *few*, and there were no *Actresses* intermingled with them; 5thly *Virtuous Morals* were required as a sort of Professional Qualification in them; And 6thly, Because they were among the most respectable characters in the republic. Now the circumstances of Edinburgh differ so much from those of Athens, that I can have no hopes of seeing our stage corrected by the same restraints or dignified by the same

same advantages. But, if our Legislature shall ever find time to make the virtue of the Nation more particularly an object of their care than they have lately made it; I conceive it to be possible enough to place the stage under such regulations, that it shall be, at least less the pander of vice and profligacy, than at present. In the mean time, it is astonishing to me, that the citizens of Edinburgh do not use means to have their Dramatic Entertainments regulated in the same manner as their musical. The patent might be to the Town-Council, and to two or three of the most respectable Incorporated Bodies. These might annually appoint *Directors of the Theatre*; The Directors might hire for annual salaries, a depute manager, and a Company of Players: Decent Morals should be required in the Actor and Actresses not less than in the Divine, the Lawyer, and the Physician. The Directors might meet weekly, to select the pieces to be acted for the week subsequent: and the moral tendency of these pieces ought to be always the first consideration: and the Deputy-manager should be required to exclude from the theatre the drunken and the disorderly, and to institute an immediate prosecution against the riotous: The Directors should be men, the most distinguished for rank, for piety, for virtue, for sound judgment, for good taste, in the whole city. But, it is in vain to talk thus.

Take

Take away the licentiousness; and too many would think the entertainment also taken away. *Sic vivitur Romæ!*—As to the *musical entertainments* of Edinburgh; I do not see how a *Concert* could be managed on a better plan; It is supported by a subscription of the most respectable lovers of music in Edinburgh: The performers are retained at stated salaries: Directors appointed by the subscribers, hire or dismiss the performers, regulate the music, and manage the money and the accounts of the subscription: They grant also, at their pleasure, and upon proper application, tickets of admission to such gentlemen and ladies,—strangers or others, as may not have it in their power to be subscribers. The performers are also gratified with benefit-concerts. Through these means these amusements are conducted with great decorum, and with happy effects. The company at the ordinary concerts, is at once select and varied. By the benefit-concerts, the musical taste of the whole town is gratified. *Dancing-Assemblies* are held regularly through the winter, in two elegant *suites* of rooms in George's Street, and in George's Square. Those of George's Square are the most select, and at the same time the best attended. *Private dances* in Taverns have certainly become much too fashionable among all ranks. They should be discouraged by those who have influence to regulate the public taste in these matters. Between
December

December and *April*, Edinburgh is crowded with the studious, the busy, and the gay. In *July* again, the *Races of Leith* render Edinburgh for a week or ten days, a scene of festivity and pleasure.

EDINBURGH has been filled for a few months about the end of the last year, and the beginning of the present, with the noise of those who called themselves, FRIENDS OF THE PEOPLE. But, it was *VOX, ET PRÆTEREA NIHIL*. Wherever two or three simple People could be brought together by the turbulent, they were named an *Association*; and Declarations framed for them, and published in their names; as if they had been multitudes of those whose virtue, intelligence and property gave them the highest interest in the welfare of their country. No sooner was the eye of the Public fairly opened upon them than they vanished like so many shadows.

THESE are all the material Observations concerning the present state of Scotland, with which I can at this time, presume to trouble the Public. I may have been often mistaken. But, I have not wilfully misrepresented any facts: and I used pains to obtain correct information. I have anxiously avoided setting down any thing that might give offence. But, as in a work of this nature, it is hardly possible, that
nobody

nobody should be offended by some or other of the facts related: I think it necessary to mention, that if I have set down any thing, however true, that may seem to give reasonable offence, I am ready to make every proper apology; still more,—if I have any where undesignedly made a misrepresentation, to wound any person's feelings: I shall readily ask pardon of the offended party, and adopt any means that may be suggested to correct my fault. I have no enmities to gratify. I have no desire to provoke enmity. Why then should I give offence?—

I HAVE also to offer an apology to those whom I may perhaps have disgusted by my impertinent praise; I am far from being disposed to set myself up for any body's panegyrist. But, as it was my intention to exhibit a sort of general sketch, in these observations,—of the state of society,—of industry, arts, and manners in my country; I could not well do this, without connecting with my account, the names of some of those respectable men who do the greatest honour to our country by their abilities and their virtues. On this score, therefore, I hope to be forgiven for presuming to mention the names of men who may well disdain praise so mean and awkward as mine.

It

It has been my wish to drop nothing but what, —if noticed at all,—might tend to promote the welfare of my Country, and the interest of Knowledge, of Virtue, of pure Religion. Even in this too I may have failed. If I have unfortunately set down any thing having a contrary tendency; I pray God to forgive; and intreat the reader to impute it not to ill intention, but to ignorance or oversight.

F I N' I S.

ADVERTISEMENT.

AS this volume has swelled, to what my Publishers think, an unreasonable size; I am obliged to refer the reader to Sir Robert Douglas's Account of the MACGREGORS, for a vindication of that Clan from some of the aspersions which, in consequence of their misfortunes, have been thrown upon them,—instead of examining their history in an Appendix, as proposed.

THE Table of Imports and Exports of Perth, intended to be inserted here, is also omitted, as a committee of merchants, manufacturers, &c. are now employed in making up this Table with the utmost possible accuracy. It will be published in Sir John Sinclair's Statistical Account of Scotland, and a copy of it delivered GRATIS to the purchasers of this Work.