

therto unknown." This valuable Monastic History having been rendered remarkably scarce, from an accident, it may be allowable to make a few extracts from it:

1. "It is the vulgar and common notion, that the Abbey was denominated from St. Thomas's *Head*; but it is evident to demonstration, from the very words of the grant of foundation, that it had obtained the appellation of *Beauchief*, before the abbey was founded, and probably before St. Thomas was born. I conceive it took its name from the nature of the place, like Beauchamp, Beaumont, Beaulieu, Beaupré, &c. *chief* here not signifying the head of a person, but a head, or elevated point of land, like the Italian *capo*, and the Spanish *cabo*. In the conery at Beauchief there is an head-land, under which the abbey was situated, [as shewn in the view] where there is a fine and most extensive prospect, so as deservedly to be called *Beauchief*." p. 8.

2. "Robert Fitz-Ranulph, the munificent founder of Beauchief Abbey, does not appear to have been one of Becket's murderers; and consequently there is no room for the supposition that he established this convent by way of atoning for his crime; for it is by all authors agreed, there were but four persons concerned in Becket's murder, Reginald Fitz-Urse, Wm. de Tracey, Hugh de Morevilla, and Richard Brito. Surely a person of Fitz-Ranulph's rank and consideration, a baron, and of the best note amongst them (for the rest were only knights), would certainly have been mentioned had he been present. He infallibly would have been called to account, and punished for the crime equally, or perhaps more severely, than the others, had he been one of the company. It does not appear that he was; on the contrary, we behold him a nobleman of great dignity, opulent, and flourishing. The perpetrators of this tragedy were all ordered immediately out of the kingdom, and their estates would of course be seized and confiscated; so that, if Fitz-Ranulph had been one of their party, he never would have had it in his power to found a monastery." p. 14—16.

3. "The number of canons who composed this little body, amounted to an abbat and twelve brothers, which number was thought to constitute a true and proper convent; and deemed to be complete and full.—It will be thought probable, that these canons were at first all brought from one place, and from Welbeck, the nearest house of the same order. The founder's great charter was

attested by the whole company, the abbat and convent, of that house.—Welbeck was the most opulent and flourishing house of the order in the midland parts of England; and the founder's family appears to have had great connexion with Welbeck.—Though Beauchief was not properly a *cell* to Welbeck, it nevertheless had a great dependence upon that house; and the superintendence of the abbat of Welbeck was grounded, it seems, on some papal bull now lost." pp. 51—55.

"Beauchief is extra-parochial. 'The place where the abbie stands, and about 800 acres of the grounds adjacent and belonging thereto, are still known and called by that one common name of Beauchieffe, and are situated betwixt the lordship of Ecclesbale in Sheffield parish on the North, the hamlet of Dore in Dronfield parish Westward, and the hamlets of Bradway, Greenhill, and Woodseats, upon the South and East, within the parish of Norton *.' There was a park, of about 200 acres, and water sufficient, both for the use of the house, and for supplying the table with fish, a matter to which the monks of all orders were constantly attentive. The House was founded between the years 1172 and 1176, — though I incline to name 1180 for the opening, or even a year or two before that. The house was not sacred solely to St. Thomas, the Virgin Mary being associated with him, as represented on their first seal. However, as St. Thomas eclipsed St. Mary at Canterbury, so here the donations at last were made to St. Thomas the Martyr, exclusively of the Virgin; and even the convent themselves appear to wish to have it understood, that he was their Saint paramount, since in their last seal no notice is taken of her, but a representation is only given of the martyrdom, as they were pleased to call it, of St. Thomas." pp. 39—42.

"As to the chapel, or church, in the case above cited *, it is said, 'Here at Beauchife, together with the abbie, we likewise built up a very spacious church, having a faire chancel, where was an altar; a large steeple, where are five bells; and likewise a *cemeteryum*, or church-yard, where (as also in the church) corps were interred whilst it was an abbie, and since'."

"In 28 Hen. VIII. 1537, the king granted the site of the abbey, with the estate belonging to it, to Sir Nicholas Strelley, of Strelley, co. Nottingham, for the sum of 223*l*.; and the description of the parcels then granted, is 'The house and site of the abbey or monastery De Bell'

* From a MS case at Beauchief, written by Edward Pegge.

Capite... and all the church, belfrey, and churchyard of the same... also all messuages, houses, edifices, barns, stables, dovecotes, gardens, orchards, ponds, parks, land, and soil, within the scite, circuit, and precincts of the late abbey. Also 121 acres of arable land; 65 acres and a half of meadow; and 73 acres of pasture, with the appurtenances in Beauchief aforesaid.... Also all our grange called, Strawbereley, with the appurtenances in Beauchief aforesaid;... and all houses, edifices, lands, meadows, pastures, and commons." pp 203, 4.

"Sir Nicholas Strelley was of a very ancient family. The king calls him his *serjeant*. In the reign of Edw. VI. he was captain of the castle and town of Berwick; had three wives; and died 1560 or 1561. Gertrude Strelley, the great grand-daughter, and at length heiress of Sir Nicholas, married in 1648, Edward Pegge, esq. in whose lineal descendants Beauchief still remains." pp. 204, 205.

"The chapel of the convent was actually restored and fitted up by Edward Pegge*, esq. (the first proprietor of that name), converted into a church, and used as such. It is a donative. The church is now very decently pewed, and well covered." p. 207.

"As the abbey could never have become an habitable mansion (like many other religious houses) the above Edward Pegge, about 1671, began to build a spacious and handsome house on a different site (at some distance from the abbey) upon a gentle descent on the brow at the top of the hanging wood, the *bellum caput* (fine head) or *Beau Chef*, whence the abbey received its name." p. 211.

By the Return to the Population Act in 1811, Beauchief Abbey contained 15 houses and as many families, 9 of whom were employed in agriculture, and 6 in trade, consisting of 46 males and 52 females, total 98.

* "Though this is an history of the abbey, and not an account of the family, I beg leave to add a word or two of myself as the compiler; for I am more than nominally authorized to undertake the work. Gertrude, whom I have purposely specified as one of the children of Edward Pegge, the first proprietor of the abbey, was my maternal grandmother; add to this, that I have had access to all the family documents at Beauchief from time to time; and especially by the indulgence of my late kinsman, the first Strelley Pegge, my grandmother's nephew."

The money raised by the poor-rate in 1803 was £46: 6: 6, at three-pence in the pound. Yours, &c. B. N.

Mr. URBAN, Hackney, March 9.

ALTHOUGH many years have elapsed since the following conversation took place, yet it is full in my recollection. About the close of the American War, when Great Britain was surrounded with a host of foes, all pretending to fight for American Liberty, when not one of the parties knew what genuine Liberty meant; an American observed, "I vow the Old Country is going fast." I replied, "Going where? she will exist after we shall cease to exist." The "Old Country" still lives, holding a commanding front; and the British Union sweeps the surface of the vast Atlantic.

Although the nations of Europe have been encircled within a ring-fence under a tyrannical landlord, Britain refused "to bow the knee to Baal"—when all nations were prostrate before him. Perhaps it may be said, that, of all the Enemies of Great Britain, none has shewn a more malignant or bitter spirit than the Americans: envious of the hand that planted them, jealous of the power that fostered and protected them—violent councils took place of prudent conduct—and bitterness has followed every future proceeding.

Moderation without its twin-sister Prudence is but a weak characteristic of Political conduct. How far we may have been implicated in the charge, may be traced by the conduct of our commanders during the American war, and by the treaties which they have been indulged with since. That energy was once wanting, is evident; for a Chaplain of Congress told me, that when Washington fled through the Jerseys with but a few tattered ill-clothed followers, he put his hand to his throat, and said, "I am not fit for a halter yet."—At that time what was our Commander in chief about? This observation is not now brought forward to provoke discussion; but merely to shew that moderation then was without prudence, and produced that wonderful circumstance even to the Americans themselves—Independence. We might step back a few years, and find that the conquest of

Canada

Canada from the French gave occasion for this very event; the shrewd minister of France observed at the time—"Our possession of Canada was a check on the British colonies, which they will soon know how to avail themselves of when we give it up."

Our moderation again discovered itself in our Treaties;—the boundary line between the United States and our Colonies of Nova Scotia and Canada, as well as our indulgence in promoting their trading and shipping interests even at the expense of our own. As to this latter—it was observed by one of their best legislators, that America ought, if she meant well to herself, to become an agricultural nation, and confine her views to a coasting-trade only; laying a duty on all foreign commerce, and letting them bring goods in their own ships. At the first glance, it will be seen how America would have avoided all bitterness, jealousy, and rivalry, by this system; how she would have escaped the charge of that iniquitous proceeding she has adopted, of encouraging individuals to enter her marine, and become traitors to their country; false certificates of citizenship, and an ear-ring in the ear, made an English seaman an American; and the Yorkshire dialect or the West Country pronunciation would contradict the solemn assertions that they were Americans. "What are you?" said a brave British captain to a fellow with a ring in his ear, as he approached the quarter-deck, "Are you a man, or a woman?" Disgusting as this custom is, it is become general; and it is now noticed, to shew to what contemptible things men will submit, to hide or shelter their base conduct. It is only within these few days, by a letter from Liverpool, dated Feb. 18, I find a glaring attempt made by an American vessel to entice into their service the seamen of an English vessel, captured by them on the coast of Africa; and yet we hear it blazoned abroad of the hardships the Americans labour under by a search for British subjects; and the extreme *sensibility* they affect to feel, that when such are captured, a jury of their country punishes them for the laws they have broken.—With all these circumstances attached, we find that the Americans

had more tonnage in the Bay of Bengal than we ourselves; that in the Mediterranean they furnished every thing to British transports, &c. and received bills upon London, or the Out-ports; and in every port in the Baltic they were indebted to the British Merchant for credit to their bills; and thus, in every way, they found their advantage from British capital, connexions, interest, and moderation.

Permit me now to recall your Readers' attention to the boundaries as fixed by our former Treaties; and let me ask, if we should feel comfortable with blisters on our backs and sides? Because, really, by tracing with your eye the map of North America, we shall find that we have done this to the backs and the sides of our Colonists; and although the "British Negotiator" at that time wept when he discovered his error—(a fact well known), yet it is no justification for his ignorance of these local circumstances, with which he ought to have been well acquainted.

I am now come to the point I aimed at, in the beginning of this letter—*A due attention to future Treaties.* "Old things are passed away;"—present hostilities supersede past moderation, indulgences, and weaknesses; and if *Moderation* is again to be the handmaid of the instruments who negotiate, let her be accompanied with *Prudence*; and let also *Firmness* be admitted to the party, without which we shall be, as we have been, despised, and our moderation called imbecility. New Treaties must therefore embrace new objects, and be correctors of past errors. We must have no more weeping negotiators for past errors, but avoid them by judicious means; by a thorough knowledge of British interest, by attention to those of our Colonies and our Indian allies—men who, like ourselves, have felt American duplicity, and in ancient phraseology, "Punic faith." We must attend to the boundary line as it now stands, to cover Canada and Nova Scotia. And to all these particulars, I call on your readers, who are of so respectable a class of my countrymen, to examine the maps, to acquaint themselves with the worth and value of our colonies—of their produce, their shipping, their usefulness: I beg of them

them to study these general remarks like men who have an interest at stake (and a great one too); and then I entertain hopes that in future treaties the pettifogging tricks of artful men will not outwit the open candid conduct of Englishmen.

AN OLD CORRESPONDENT.

On Biblical Restrictions by the Church of Rome; in Answer to C. B.'s Letters. No. 1.

Mr. URBAN, *Trap's Hill Cottage,*
March 9.

ON journeying towards my rural retreat this evening, I glanced at two Letters in the Gentleman's Magazine for January and February, which a friend had urged me to notice as soon as my professional engagements allowed an opportunity. Those Letters, signed C. B. are manifestly the production of Charles Butler, esq. the author of *Horæ Biblicæ*; to whose literary and legal talents the publick is always disposed to do full justice, and whose opinions, connected with the history of the Romish Church, are likely to gain credit among Protestants in general. But, on perusing his two Letters, the words of John, in the Apocalyptic vision, came forcibly into my mind: "I saw under the altar, the souls of them that were slain for the Word of God." Nor could I avoid recollecting our Saviour's reproof to the Pharisees: "Ye have taken away the key of knowledge; ye enter not in yourselves, and them that were entering in ye hindered." I cannot persuade myself that Protestant Historians (to say nothing of Roman Catholic writers) have been for these three centuries deceiving their readers, and falsely teaching them that the Church of Rome has long been obstructing the free use of the Bible.

The main design of Mr. Butler is, to shew that the Church of Rome has at all times promoted the translation, distribution, and general perusal of the Scriptures! Is this credible? Is so bold a position supported by facts? The evidence adduced by Mr. Butler appears to me, *primâ facie*, quite equivocal and inconclusive. I still think, notwithstanding his statements, that the Biblical regulations, prohibitions, restrictions, and combustions of the

Roman Church, afford satisfactory proof of her settled opposition to the Scriptures; and I am therefore disposed to maintain the very converse of that gentleman's proposition. To enter at large into this subject would be, in reality, composing an HISTORY OF BIBLICAL PERSECUTIONS; a work sufficiently important indeed, but which, I fear, is more than my leisure moments will ever permit me to attempt. Nevertheless, if Mr. Butler's avowed incredulity, and his final perseverance against what I deem the truth, should compel me to make farther researches, it is not improbable that I may at length be able to collect materials for such an history.

The observations in his first Letter are arranged under eight distinct heads, upon each of which I must offer a few cursory remarks. He begins with "*the early discipline of the Church of Rome, in respect to the perusal of the Scriptures by the general body of the laity.*" To elucidate this point, he merely quotes a few passages from a work of the amiable, pious, and truly respected Abp. Fénelon; who demonstrates, that the laity in the primitive churches did enjoy, without limit or restraint, the most entire use of the sacred writings. Roman Catholics, however, have not always conceded this point so fully and fairly: they have sometimes told us, how impossible it was for every Christian to obtain manuscript copies of the sacred books; as if this difficulty proved that any obstacle was placed in their way by the Pastors of the Church; or, as if the labour of writing out the Gospels and Epistles implied that Christians, Jews, or Pagans were not then allowed to do so!

Sir, whoever has read the epistolary fragments which remain of St. Clement, Ignatius, Polycarp, and their immediate successors, must know that manuscript copies of the Holy Books were in common use, and even in the hands of their disciples: so that really the difficulties alluded to were surmounted, by the co-operating zeal of Pastors and people. Instead of this anxiety in Papal Bishops to disseminate the Scriptures, the Church of Rome (*in later ages*) has created difficulties, imposed restraints, and obstructed the full blaz-
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ing of Gospel light among her laity; she has too seldom and cautiously printed the Bible in the vulgar tongues; too often she has egregiously perverted the sacred text by her notes and traditions, or has forced the people to shut their own eyes, while she took credit to herself for having put the Bible in their hands. To avoid prolixity, I must not enlarge on this first head; and, as my time can only be devoted to the present object "by bits and scraps," stolen from other more pressing avocations, I beg leave to postpone entering into the motives assigned by Mr. Butler for the alteration made in the discipline and practice of his Church—which forms his second general topic of discussion.

W. B. L.

Mr. URBAN,

March 3.

I WAS much amused, in common, I believe, with many of your Readers, at the observation of your Correspondent B. O. in the Supplement to vol. LXXXIII. Part i. p. 628, respecting the *moderation and humility* of Cardinal Wolsey. After remarking that "the *elevation* of Bishops to Temporal Peerages seems now peculiar to Ireland," &c.—he says, "even Cardinal Wolsey, in the full pride and plenitude of his power, aspired not to the honours of the Peerage." This *modesty* in a man who named *himself before his King*, it would, in any case, be difficult to credit. The truth is, a *Cardinal's hat* was in those days considered as *superior* to the coronet of any Peer; since it was given by the *Pope*, who was above *all Kings*. Consequently, *ecclesiastical* dignity was held to be *superior* to *temporal* dignity; and *celibacy* made *hereditary* honours unimportant to the Clergy. *Relative rank* depended upon various circumstances of potency, wealth, &c. when the nobles were all "*Pares*," *Lords alike*; and when Henry VIII. settled the Table of Precedence, to prevent disputes, he placed both the *highest* and the *lowest* orders of the *spiritual lords*, as they are called, *above* the *highest* and *lowest* orders of *temporal lords*, though he certainly was not much inclined to favour *ecclesiastical* dignity.

I am unacquainted with the circumstances that led to the two instances mentioned by B. O. of Bishops hav-

ing been made *Temporal Peers*, viz. Odo de Burgh Bishop of Baieux, created *Earl* of Kent in 1067; and Hugh Pudsey Bishop of Durham, created *Earl* of Northumberland in 1189. It is well known an *earldom* was then an *office* as well as an *honour*; and *warlike service* might occasion these appointments. But it is certain that at this period the English Clergy were in general *married* men; *celibacy* not being introduced into England till its deluded Sovereign had surrendered the Regal as well as the Ecclesiastical rights of this kingdom to the Papal power; a circumstance, which, by the way, seems to have been left unnoticed by modern writers in defence of Protestantism against the charge of *novelties* in Religion—though *primitive* Christianity was planted so early in Britain, and preserved so long in Wales.

I am also ignorant of the cause of the *advancement* of Sir John Rawson, knight of Rhodes, and Prior of Kilmainham, to the Peerage in 1541, by the title of Viscount Clancariffe, and have not leisure at present to search farther into the subject. The next instance quoted is so recent as 1777, in the person of the Lord Primate of Ireland, Robinson, created Baron Rokeby; since which date several of the Bishops of the Irish bench have been created *Temporal Peers*.

Now really, Mr. Urban, being neither a Papist nor a Puritan, I cannot see why a sort of stigma should be allowed to *remain* upon the *marriage* of the Prelates of our Church, by the *exclusion* of their wives and families from the privilege of rank, for life at least; or why *merit* in the *highest* and *most important* of the professions should not be rewarded by perpetuating its remembrance by *hereditary* honours—I mean no injudicious comparison; but I believe public opinion will bear me out, when I say, there is *no apparent cause* why the *Irish* bench of Bishops should be favoured, while the *English* bench of Bishops is neglected. PHILLO-JUSTICE.

*** C. BALIOL remarks that, in April 1779, the Church of Chart, in Kent, was destroyed by lightning (Hasted, vol. II. 407), together with all the monuments, brasses, &c. some of them curious; and asks for copies of the inscriptions, which he has searched for unsuccessfully.

Mr.

Mr. URBAN, March 2.

I HAVE been in Orders nearly forty years, in which time I have been very exact in not performing the marriage ceremony before eight in the morning, or after twelve at noon. Nor did I ever know that any of my brethren who deviated from the same rule. You will therefore believe that I felt some surprise in hearing it asserted in conversation the other day, that a marriage by banns might be celebrated at any hour; but one by licence must be only between the hours of eight and twelve. On seeking for information in the Canons, the Marriage Act, and Burn's Ecclesiastical Law, I find nothing that contradicts the assertion; and shall be obliged to some one of your Clerical Correspondents for his opinion upon the subject.

T. R.

Mr. URBAN, Feb. 28.

IN your Magazine for January, (p. 33.) you inserted some observations upon rare books, and an apology for the prevailing disposition to collect and preserve them; but as the arguments there used may probably be pressed into the service of a cause which it was, I doubt not, far from the writer's intention to advocate—I mean, *Picture-dealing*, or the trade in *pretended original paintings of eminent masters*, allow me to suggest the expediency of distinguishing between the respective merits of these two fashionable pursuits, and to enter my caveat against the latter.

There can be no doubt that whatever illustrates the history, or develops the progress of the art of painting, or recalls into view the superior genius of some famous professor of that art, deserves attention; and may be supposed to justify some portion (I do not say how much) of the zeal with which old paintings have been sought after, and of the expence at which they have been obtained.

But I think, Mr. Urban, it is high time the admirers of the works of old masters should be apprised that their excessive ardour has a direct tendency to expose them to fraud and imposition; because this consideration will, I persuade myself, beget in the wealthy patrons of the art such a wholesome doubt and delay in striking their bargains for high-priced

old paintings, as may eventually secure them from the machinations of those who practise upon their credulity.

With a view to illustrate this subject, let it be remembered, first, that of the really *undoubted* originals of the great masters (whose names are scattered over the pages of history not quite so thick as the stars in the firmament) the history and present depositories are in general well known; they have been objects of attention from the period of their first execution, and are, for the most part, in catalogued collections; and whatever changes may have taken place in their situations, are matters of record.

Secondly, the works of the most famous painters have ever been, as they still are, used as studies by practitioners in the art, whose copies possess various, and some of them very high degrees of merit, and are far more numerous than the originals. Copies, indeed, not unfrequently possess such close resemblance to the style and manner of the originals as to defy the acumen of the most sagacious critics.

In collecting antient pictures, therefore, the chances of picking up copies instead of originals are exactly in proportion to the number of the former scattered abroad and neglected, compared with the number of the latter in such circumstances, if (which, indeed, I much doubt) any *originals* are yet, or have for a long time past, been left in obscurity to be *picked up*.

Here let me note by the way, that in one important circumstance old paintings differ from old books; *viz.* that while the former may be copied by the labour and ingenuity of an individual *employed in retirement*, the reprint of the latter in any way, particularly in fac-simile, is, and has ever been, an enterprise attended with too much labour and expence to render the attempt practicable for the mere purpose of acquiring profit by deception; added to this, such fac-simile reprints could not be made but by the combined exertion of so many persons employed in the manual labour attending them, as would, by making the transaction public, certainly defeat its object.

The reprints of the Roxburgh Club,

or of Mr. Machell Stace, for instance, are well known, and will be catalogued as such, like any other productions of the press, and the number printed, with their comparative value, will be a point as well ascertained as any other fact in the book trade.

If then ancient *original* paintings really are not, and ought not to be gratuitously supposed to be scattered about in obscure cottages amongst persons ignorant of their value, the honest picture-dealer, who wants such articles for his customers, can have but one resource for a supply of *undoubted originals*, which is to those who are well known to possess, if they were willing to sell them; but the holders of such paintings are, for the most part, noblemen, or men possessed of large fortunes, who are thereby placed above the temptation of money; of course the number occasionally brought to market is small indeed, nor will pictures *known to be genuine throughout Europe* ever be suffered to remain any considerable time without a purchaser at their true value.

Supposing, for instance, (I will mention no name) A. B. or C. or any known proprietors of original pictures, should determine to part with a few out of their choice collections, is it likely that they would *privately* dispose of them at such prices as would enable a picture-dealer to adventure his capital in the purchase? or is it not much more probable, perhaps certain, that they would be *publicly* sold or exchanged, as the only proper way of preserving to them the benefit of that *identity* upon which their superior value is founded?" Admitting the case to stand thus, it is fair to conclude that pictures which suddenly start up in the market as *genuine works of old masters* are *mere copies*: and any thing alleged to the contrary will, in nine cases out of ten, turn out to be the bare assertion of an interested vender. What then becomes of all the *choice collections of undoubted originals*, which are almost *weekly* during the winter season offered to the world, *anonymously as to the history of the pictures, or confidentially*, and with much *ceremony and artifice*, disclosed to the notice of the *unpractised and incautious amateur*? I confess, Mr.

Urban, I see in such offers little more than an intimation that an attempt is about to be made to entrap the unwary, and to cheat the wealthy; the success of which attempts every honest man is called upon to deprecate, and, if possible, to prevent.

It has fallen to my lot to be present at not a few *picture sales*, and to have noted with attention the progress of the performance until the final development of the plot.

Every act of this drama begins with a sort of prologue, a little didactic eloquence. The audience are duly prepared by a liberal portion of *gratuitous assertion* on the part of Mr. Auctioneer, to waive the needless ceremony of investigation into the authority of documents, or even of a critical inspection of the performances, and to receive upon the warranty of his *most honourable word* the whole statement of facts.—*Animal Magnetism*, Mr. Urban, (by so many deemed a delusion, is here, all reality; every power of mind and body is pressed into the service; and the passions of pride, vanity, and emulation, most powerfully assailed. The often rehearsed encomiums are delivered, with all needful animation and pathos—who knows not the power of oratory? A man so much in earnest cannot but be in the right! Observe not less the speaker's superior science—terms of art the most reconcile grace his speech. At every glance he detects new beauties, the tints glow with *divine effulgence*; the figures *live* before him. *The chiar' oscuro is perfect*—the whole picture *speaks the master*. A bidding ensues, 'tis 50, what only 50! impossible! 'twould be given away; 'twould be given away at 500! A better offer is respectfully requested; 'tis made! yes, he perceives the audience begin to awake; but time is short, he has much to get through, he must haste; *Gentlemen*, it is *now or never*. The plot succeeds, the harvest ripens; another, and another, and another bidding evince the *growth of taste* in the company. Oh! such a picture for only 300. *An unrivalled work!*—*nothing in existence* to be compared with it! Competition operates favourably; the sale proceeds, 500 guineas is named: with this important increase, increases also the self-importance of the principal performer.

ers. It demands attention; silence! silence, Gentlemen! Fresh beauties break in upon him; *brilliancy and splendour, and force truly electrifying! Originality, most undoubted originality!* The picture would grace the palace of an Emperor!—Indeed, a palace ought to be built to receive it!—It has for years been held (observe by some unknown possessor, some needy cottager, or inhabitant of an obscure alley) above all price! it was never yet sold!—*A chef d'œuvre of the master!*—a present to his dearest friend! At length the mark is obtained, 700 guineas. What, no more than 700 guineas? and must it go for such a trifle! will no one vindicate its merits? 'Tis pitiful! 'tis wondrous pitiful! it discredits the taste of the age—but alas! there is no reserve—it must be sold—he cannot help it—it is knocked down. Sir, it is yours, *I congratulate you.*

And, after all, what is it? An old picture, it is true; but, in spite of varnish and new gilding, somewhat the worse for wear.—A picture till then never heard of. No one can tell whence it came, or how it was picked up—its originality is mere matter of opinion; there may be, and there are, dissenters; but the purchase is made, the price is fixed, a check is given, and the best thing that can henceforward be done is, fully to credit all Mr. Auctioneer has said.

I consider Artists as more particularly interested in exposing and checking this trade in *scintillous* productions of the *old Schools*, for two reasons. First, because it is reasonable to suppose, that the wealth improvidently dissipated upon such spurious works, and put into the pockets of not very conscientious or honourable persons—of gamblers who live by speculating on the prescience of the wealthy—would have come *honourably* into the hands of some living Professors of the Arts, in payment for their *most undoubted originals*, and have been of no small service in the remuneration of their labour and study, and in the respectable maintenance of their families.

Secondly, because the subsequent detection by men of property, of deceptions practised upon them under the pretence of gratifying their taste for *good paintings*, has a tendency to prejudice the minds of the patrons of

the Arts against those same Arts, from the merely fortuitous circumstance of their being found in alliance with the *black art* of cheating.

It is to be regretted, that neither law nor equity does in this case afford the needful protection against imposture; and that, while the man who buys a horse, a ship, or a time-keeper, or any thing else, under a warranty, may nullify his engagement when he detects imposition, the purchaser of *copies for original paintings* does not enjoy the same advantage; but must pay the price contracted for under such warranty, and thus acquire his knowledge of the styles of different painters in the dearest of all schools, the school of Experience, and there purchase it at her very highest rate of charge, the charge of hundreds, perhaps of thousands.

Peace, so long needed, and now eagerly hoped for by the inhabitants of Europe, has already become the watch-word amongst the gentlemen of this *craft*; and, notwithstanding the Continent has been long since rummaged by amateurs of all nations, who hold original paintings in as high estimation as ourselves, the picture-shops will quickly be filled with *undoubted originals* of every school, just imported from the Continent, with inscriptions in all characters and languages, in frames of every antique pattern, and both pictures and frames fitted to the pockets of purchasers at all *high* prices, from 100 to 5000 guineas.

It is not too much to hope that against such allurements good sense and reflection will interpose a barrier; and that those who may have mansions which they wish to adorn will discover, to their very great advantage, that a man of wealth may purchase 5, 10, or perhaps 50 good pictures, *undoubted originals*, of eminent *modern* artists, value 100 guineas each, for the price of one pretended original of the antients; and that, while the latter is in great danger of being depreciated by subsequent doubt or detection, the former will advance in the estimation of the world, and of course in value, when the hand of the artist is laid in the dust.—It is indeed hard that a man must die before the efforts of his genius can command a price.

As an honest man, a real friend of the Arts, and a lover of my Country, I have ventured to offer these observations, which I trust will not be thought ill-timed.—Certainly, if any well-intentioned English gentleman should be induced to relinquish the vain pursuit of what is not attainable, and apply himself to the encouragement of living merit, these remarks will not prove useless. T. F.

MR. URBAN, *Westminster, March 15.*
MR. Henry Ellis, in the preface to his valuable edition of Hardyng's Chronicle, observes, that, in the Continuation of that Chronicle, the Lives of King Edward the Fifth, and King Richard the Third, usually ascribed to Sir Thomas More, made their first appearance. It is clear, however, that there was some earlier copy; for in that reprinted by Mr. Ellis, the death of the murderer Dighton is noticed (p. 521.); but Holinshed, transcribing from More, says, "Dighton, indeed, yet walketh on alive in good possibilitie to be hanged yer hodie," (late edit. vol. III. p. 402.) Stow in his Annals (p. 460. edit. 1631.) has followed Holinshed. I have not the Latin copy of More's History before me; but neither in Kennett's translation, nor in Hall's Chronicle, is the passage to be found, as given by Holinshed. The latter Historian must certainly have seen a copy of More's work prior to that published with Hardyng's Chronicle; and the passage itself affords ground perhaps for strengthening Mr. Ellis's belief that the *English* copy was the work not of More, but of Morton. Dighton, might indeed, have been living in 1513, when More is said to have written his History; but the contrary supposition is more probable. Buck's assertion that Morton's manuscript was in existence in his time, is certainly entitled to credit; for, as the vindicator of Richard, it would clearly have been to Buck's advantage to diminish the authority of the work, by representing it to have proceeded from a later pen than Morton's, even though Morton was Richard's enemy.

While I am on the subject of Richard the Third (a subject now rendered peculiarly interesting to the publick by Mr. Kean's successful representation of the dramatic Tyrant, and by the laudable emulation of the Sister

Theatre); permit me to add a word or two respecting Buck, Richard's first apologist. Until Mr. Malone asserted the contrary, the "History of the Life and Itigne of Richard the Third" was generally ascribed to Sir George Buc, who died more than 20 years prior to the publication of that work in 1646. (See Chalmers's Biographical Dictionary, vol. VII. p. 217.) Mr. Malone's statement will receive full confirmation by a reference to the Dedication of Buck's History, in which (though the first sentence may be thought rather ambiguous) there is abundant proof that the Dedicator was himself the Author of the work; and the Dedication proves its date, by noticing Sir Thos. Browne's "*Religio Medici*," a book not published till 1643. Were this proof wanting, still no good reason could be assigned for the omission of Sir George Buc's rank of Knighthood in the title-page, more than forty years after it had been conferred upon him.

On the subject of the controversy respecting Richard, Buck's honest zeal and industry, and Horace Walpole's ingenuity, have failed to eradicate my early hatred of More's and Shakspeare's crook-backed Tyrant. If any of your Correspondents, however, should be able to suggest any additional arguments in Richard's favour*, they would deserve thanks for their attempts to illustrate a period of history which is certainly involved in some obscurity. A. T.

MR. URBAN, *March 7.*

AS you continue to encourage the *reminiscences* of age, I have such a fellow-feeling with your pleasing correspondent from Northiam, (p. 118.), that I must request your admitting another *Amator*, if not also *Laudator*,

"Temporis acti,

Se Puero"—

who, as a retired rural reader, finds much occasional entertainment, as well as useful information, in your pages, fully justifying your motto—"prodesse & delectare." You will

* We beg to refer our Correspondent to Mr. Hutton's interesting and well-drawn "Life of Richard III. till he assumed the Regal power," prefixed to his "Battle of Bosworth Field;" which sets Richard's character in a somewhat amiable point of view. EDIT.

give me credit for my taste in looking back, if I tell you that I purchased two quarto volumes, published by Mrs. Piozzi, for the sake of their title, "*Retrospection*;" of which I think the portrait of the writer is the best part; and I remember that the British Critic gently scouted her learned remark, that Buonaparte's Christian name, Napoleon, said to be given him by his godfather *Paoli*, was a corruption of the Greek name for the "Destroyer"—"*Apollyon*," as prophetic of his character and conduct; whereas, in fact, it is the name of the Romish saint on whose day he was supposed to be born. I think the conceit of a friend of mine, which was then new, at least to myself, was at least as good, that "Nap" deserved the other title of "A-bad-one."—I remember too, that in another work, of Letters and Anecdotes of Dr. Johnson, she tells us, that in their visit in Wales, she recommended to him, as a great rarity at table, some peas, late in the year, which were of a sort newly introduced in England, very large, yet tender; I think, imported from America, as I once had the taste of a few. She asked him, "if he did not think them very good?"—He answered, after swallowing half the small sample, and mistaking them for common marrow-fats, that "they might be so for a hog." But she suppressed the remarkably spirited and justly deserved return of her aunt; who, from the head of her table, (as, when in Wales, I was assured from good authority) addressed him, "*Then, pray Sir, let me send you the other half.*"

From the same tempting title too I purchased another single quarto, not thicker than the five shilling Supplement to some Quarto Memoirs I had before purchased, and which were in part retailed again in metre, there, with very little new matter; part of which, in defiance of the Author's own motto to the (*at length avowed*) "Letter to the Right Rev. Lord Bishop of O——d," published in 1767—"*Jam parce sepulto*," was a gross insult on the memory of a late learned and worthy Lawyer, whose name, as well as rank in his profession, he gave at full length, whilst he sunk that of his learned friend (whom he was flattering at the expence of his Majesty's Ancient Serjeant at Law)

under initials; I suppose, to spare living modesty. As this was a half-guinea work, I was disappointed in not receiving another copy of the portrait, which is an improvement on that to which Garrick objected, as unappropriate to one whom the "Gods had made poetical," and which latter I have often seen in its rusticated position at the house of a late most amiable neighbour in one of the "midland counties." The versified edition should surely have been decorated with the loose studying-robe, and the "Poet's eye in a fine frenzy rolling;" whilst the blue coat, and red cape, would have been not unsuitable to Biographical Prose.

Yours, &c.

E. J.

Mr. URBAN, *London, Feb. 3.*

SO far am I like Mr. Farey, that I too have listened with delight to the perfect harmony produced with Mr. Liston's patent organ at Flight and Robson's; I too can bear testimony to Mr. Liston's politeness, ingenuity, and theoretical knowledge of the musical scale, and to the ease with which the pedals may be employed to alter the pitch of the sounds during performance, by performers too who have less skilful hands and feet than Mr. Samuel Wesley. But I differ from Mr. Farey in thinking that Mr. Liston did wrong, when composing his Essay on perfect Intonation, to omit using Mr. F.'s notation of intervals—"the notation which I have discovered"—these artificial commas of mine," as Mr. Farey says. This notation indeed seems to be his *Dulcinea del Toboso*, and he himself the devoted enemy of wolves and temperaments, and the champion of perfect harmony against all the dull block-heads who contend that it is better to choose tempered instruments at their present price, than to go to the expence of perfection. As nobody can object to perfection, it must have been, I presume, from considering the expence, the bulk of such an organ, or the difficulty of keeping it in tune, that your Reviewer thought it would remain merely a curiosity, and not come into general use. In my opinion, a large organ on this plan, having all the usual stops, would not keep in perfect tune throughout for a single week: I should be pleased, however,

however, to have proof of the contrary. In return for Mr. Farey's questions, I will ask him, *are there any music-schools, or places for study among us, "where the practising of correct singing" may be better aided and more safely guided by this kind of instrument? In a concert of voices and "perfect instruments," are all the intervals performed as they would be on one of these organs, in respect of pitch? Will a singer, or performer on the violoncello, having a long holding-note, vary the pitch of "the same" according to the modulation of the other parts, according to the progression of the harmony, as, in some instances, it is varied on the organ in question? It would be desirable to have a statement from the makers, of the bulk and expence of organs on Mr. Liston's plan, having a certain number of stops. I think those exhibited contained only three stops, and the pipes were of metal.*

A. BODÓRGAN.

"Quoth Sidrophel, it is no part
Of prudence to cry down an art,
And what I may perform deny,
Because you understand not why."

MR. URBAN,

Feb. 3.

THE extensive sale of Moore's Almanack is a proof that, notwithstanding the disrepute into which astrologers have fallen, many persons still place confidence in astrological predictions. If we deeply consider the striking effects of the sun and moon on the earth and the sea, and all that in them is; if we regard the daily miracle of magnetism, and study the nature of gravity and the mysterious properties of its opponents, light and caloric, by which we are connected with all the celestial bodies; it is not wonderful that some men should imagine, with the celebrated Cardan, that "the dispositions of men are produced, and all moral affairs are directed, by the influence of the stars." They ask, have not the principles of astrology, like those of astronomy, been founded on ages of observation? Can you prove them to be deceptive but by experience? Time has falsified many predictions: but were their authors sufficiently skilled in the science? were they good astronomers, and acquainted with the most difficult calculations in spherical trigonometry? -- Many more

puzzling questions will these "true believers" ask such blockheads as myself. By way of experiment, I had my nativity calculated by a notorious, if not a learned astrologer. Here it is, Mr. Urban, and I think you will give it a place, as a *literary curiosity*. The hand-writing very well corresponds with the author's style, and skill in orthography.

"To be left atteld cold fur By
Mr. Wm. Jones.

"Born at 23 h. on a sundy. Lat. 51 & 32. 24 h. this hear is the nativitey, (I leave out the figure) or plan of the heavenes, at the Bearth of this Blessed Childe, Borne at a leven of Clock in the morning, at which time i found the Sun in aquaries and aries asending, ass Gives a tall Sliem Groud pearson, dark Broun hair, rathur pale of Complexion, But fair, proud, lofley Spierit, pashonate, But sune ofer, with Giving his way or in deavering tow please him, or a bleaige him, But not to force him, for mars being with Vennus do give the Same. Jupiter shews inheritances of houses and land posesions, and maney worldly profits in young years. Mars an Venus Gives ass you may Be a lover of woomen, and in dainger of the petecoot feaver, and a love childe, and loses of susstenance. The Sun Gives Great learning and the power of wordes, and inginuity, and maney journeyes, and mercury maney friends. the moon and venus Gives you a Wif, and earley marriage, but a littel Crosed in love,—and richies and maney frends, for the sun do promes, and the 11th hous of the heavns the same.—now of marriage and at what time, and what pearson,—it Signifies a well groud and composed Body, neatly compakted, rather tall of statur, brown hair, a fresh colour in the face, dimpels, proud and dreassy, a lover of mearth and reackerashon, and a good wif. marrag at 22 or Sunder, children 7, four boys and 3 girless, and berey on of each, and mercury dow give 2 abortments. los of Realachons and frends, but you may travel a Good deal, and you will be in great power. There is lasutes for you severel times, But no in prisonment, But sum small dainger at 25 years. no Brocken bones. hurt By a hors, fear, and cut of aiorn in Sterimienment, and liable to out Strive your Self. You will have hard rubs, but after the years of 22, Great in creas tell 32, and more after it. Gives on wif, not a strainger, and legacies with the same. Sicknes young, small pox, itcb, gowt and cramp, and Rumatism. But you will be fortunate in cattell,

castell, wif, and richies. Sick at 25, 29, 45, great. But your childern tourdeley to you, your ould ag will be happy. You may be hurt by a gun or fear."

A pretty futurity for your humble servant,
WM. JONES.

Mr. URBAN, *London, March 16.*
SOME time since, a gentleman of Oxford published a book, in which he showed the Reviewers, how they would have tutored Milton, if he had been so happy as to have lived in the days wherem they flourish. The best illustration of this, that I have seen, is the review of Lord Thurlow's *Moonlight*, in the last *British Critic*: and, in particular, there is one passage so excellent, that I cannot help quoting it:

Thus the Poet;
"What soul that lives, from off this upper stage

Has down descended to the gate of woe,
Where Cerberus, the cruel worm of Death, [throat
Keeps watchful guard, and with his iron
Affrights the spirits in their pale sojourn?"

Thus the Critic,

"The idea of descending to the infernal regions through a trap-door, at the sound of the Prompter's bell, is happily conceived, and would form an appropriate conclusion to Shakspeare's seven ages of life. But the most extraordinary discovery in Mythology remains to be discussed, that Cerberus is a worm, not a dog. This will hereafter puzzle many a dull commentator on the beauties of English literature. Till a better comment be produced, we shall venture an elucidation of his Lordship's meaning, and shall suggest, that he has, after all, only used the well-known figure of *pars pro toto*, the worm to be found under the puppy's tongue, for the entire animal; and we defy Professor Heyne himself to have invented a more ingenious or probable explanation."

Has this man ever read Dante? In the *Inferno*, Canto VI. are these lines:

"Quando ci scorse Cerbero il gran vermo,

La boche aperse, e mostrocci le sanne:
Non avea membro, che tenesse fermo."

The sense of which is thus given in the noble and worthy translation of Mr. Cary:

"When that great worm
Descried us, savage Cerberus, he op'd
His jaws, and the fangs show'd us; not
a limb
Of him but trembled."

For the more edification of the Critic, I will transcribe the note of

Mr. Cary on this passage:

"*Il gran vermo*] So in Canto xxxiv.
Lucifer is called

—verme reo che 'l mondo fora.

Ariosto has imitated Dante:

Ch' al gran verme infernal mette la
briglia,

E che di lui come a lei par dispone.

Orl. Fur. c. xlv. st. 76.

Shakspeare, Milton, and Cowper, who well understood that the most common words are often the most impressive and sublime, have used the synonymous term in our language with the best effect."

So far Mr. Cary. By this time, perhaps, the Critic begins to think, that flippancy is not wisdom; and that there is something more required, than what he possesses, to enable him to declare an opinion of a Writer of just Poetry.

CRITO.

Mr. URBAN, *Hartford, Sept. 8, 1813.*

IN the "Life of Sir Thomas More," it is said that "on St. Thomas's Eve, and the *utav* of his special patron St. Peter, for whose supremacy he suffered, early in the morning came Sir Thomas Pope, his singular friend, with a message from the King and his Council." Not understanding what is meant by the word *utav*, I shall be thankful for an explanation*. I have met with the word before in the *Rolls of Parliament*, and in the *Second Part of Shakspeare's Henry IV. Act ii.* where it is spelt *utis*. The commentator tells us it means a merry festival, from the French *huit, octo*, or *octava festi alicujus*: but this by no means explains the use of the word in either of the passages I have quoted. Baily spells the word *utav*, and Johnson *utis*, though both give it the same interpretation. W. BURDON.

Mr. URBAN, *Westfelton, Feb. 13.*

THE late very severe weather broke a very large arm from a favourite old ACACIA, which so disfigured the tree, that I shall fell it.—I have in several instances observed that this tree, when but little advanced in years, has a tendency to decay all round the root, just at the surface of the ground; which is the reason that it is so liable to be blown down. But Nature, ever solicitous to preservation, causes small strings, like roots, to sprout from the body,

* Literally the *Octaves*, or within *eight days*, of St. Peter. EDIT.

sometimes

sometimes several feet from the ground, descending through the chinks of the old decayed bark, and fastening in the earth; at which time they tighten, and separate from the trunk, touching it only at each end, in the manner of strings on a musical instrument. These speedily encrease to a great thickness, much resembling thick hazle-rods, and support their decaying parent with strength and nourishment. I have observed this in some other trees, particularly in an old Yew in the churchyard of Blodwell, in North Wales. But the most extraordinary I ever heard or read of, was a seedling Ash that grew in the crevice of an old wall of a castle, and, having exhausted all the earth it could there obtain, pined and looked sickly for several years; till at length, making a great effort, it threw out a root down the side of the wall, which fastening in the earth, became the principal trunk, and in time detached the original root from the wall. This is an actual instance of a tree transplanting itself.—But to return to the *Acacia*.—A very intelligent friend informs me that he has seen it strongly recommended in some Rural Tracts to plant extensively for timber the *Gleditsia triacanthos* (commonly known as the small-leaved *Acacia*.) Before such plantations are adopted to any extent, it would be well to observe, whether it has the tendency to decay so common in the above tree (the *pseudacacia*). Though a strong friend to our native forest trees, because growing so healthily they are far more beautiful; yet I have little doubt but that several foreigners may be denized with great success. As ornamental trees, indeed, few can exceed in beauty the *Acacia*: its rich light feathery foliage, its fair pensile blossoms, and the sensible repose of its leaves closing at nightfall, render it highly worthy a place in the pleasure-ground. But gentlemen having large ones growing near valuable and rare shrubs, would do well occasionally to inspect their roots, and arms; lest, crashed by a sudden storm, they cause irreparable havoc among their humble neighbours. Having suffered much in this way, I give this friendly notice to all admirers of the shrubbery.—Perhaps, Mr. Urban, some of your correspondents can inform me to what purpose

this timber is most adaptable: it appears to me to be exceedingly hard, close-grained, and of unusual weight: very full of heart, and in colour resembling that of the large and old-grown Laburnum; of which, I once saw made in a turner's shop in London, beautiful flutes, dice-boxes, and backgammon-men; it being nearly as hard and compact as box.—It is my intention to have this tree sawn, for its immense size, and probably converted to some sort of ornamental furniture; by which means I may be enabled to give that information, I now wish to obtain. JOHN F. M. DOVASTON.

With regard to the questions addressed to me by your Correspondent E. concerning *ghosts*; I should have answered them at the time with real pleasure, had I been able; and had not another, better-informed, judiciously anticipated me.—I have only to add that almost every cottage in this country (Shropshire) has a horse-shoe nailed to some part of it, generally on the sill, or over the door, to “keep out the old witch.”—As the gentleman has not answered why *ghosts* are laid *most infallibly* in the sea, I just take the liberty to suggest that it *might* have originated from the evil spirits imploring Jesus Christ not to lay them in the sea, “for they feared the deep.”—Many of our popular superstitions may be traced to the New and Old Testaments.

Yours, &c.

J. F. M. D.

Mr. URBAN, March 14.

IN your Account of the Hard Frosts in your last Magazine, I was surprised to find the frost of 1784-5, omitted, as it was supposed to be the longest frost ever known in England. As to the degree of cold, I have no memorandum, not being then in possession of a thermometer. Happening to begin that very year to keep a general account of the weather for my amusement, I am able to send you a history of it from my own observation, if you should think it worth insertion in your Miscellany. It seems very much to resemble the present season: whether this will last as long, remains to be proved, but there is no appearance of change at the present (March 14). The frost of 1784, was preceded by sharp frosts, Nov. 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 30, and Dec. 1, but did not set in seriously

ously till Dec. 5, when storms of snow fell for the three or four first days. It continued to the end of the month with only two short frosts, on the 18th, 19th, and 29th, 30th. Snow fell in this month the 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 16th, and 21st.—Jan. 1785 frost 1st and 2d. On the 2d snow fell, and rain. A frost followed to the 6th, when the frost returned. Frost again, 9th, 10th, and again 15th, which lasted to the 28th. This was the longest interval, but the weather was so cold, that the frost was not out of the ground. On the 28th snow fell, and the frost set in again sharp. Snow fell, 2d, 13th, 28th, 29th, and 31st.—Feb: the frost continued sharp through the whole month, except frosts on the 10th, 14th, 15th, 16th, and 24th. Snow fell 3d, 6th, 10th, 17th, 18th, 21st deep, and 26th. March: frost through the whole of it, except from the 15th to the 21st. Snow fell the 2d, 22d, 24th, and 27th. April: frost hard the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 7th, 9th, and 10th. On the 11th it ceased, having lasted from Dec. 5, 18 weeks, with the interval of rather more than one week in January.

Yours, &c.

T. R.

METEOROLOGICAL REMARKS.

SUNDAY, January 9, was an exceedingly cold day, though the sun shone unclouded the greater part of it. There were at times very thin strata of misty rime within eight or ten feet of the earth's surface; in some instances these strata were intercepted by hedges or banks, and it was curious to observe the rime flowing in a stream from the upper part to the lower, when the connection was broken; some of the strata were not above six or eight yards broad, and half a yard thick; some of them could be avoided by stooping under them as I rode along, and some prevented from reaching my mouth by rising in the stirrups: though the wind was perfectly calm, it was curious to observe the great rapidity with which the strata crossed the roads; even two of the nearest (perhaps 150 yards apart) would cross the road in opposite directions; the rime was universally found the coldest part of the atmosphere; it continued much the same during the night. On Monday, Jan. 10, at seven I laid a Fahrenheit's thermometer, made by Fayer, in a

chair: it soon sunk to 9°. It was afterwards removed into the garden, near a door fronting the North, and the door left open—the rime passed through the door way, and the thermometer for a very small space of time, sunk to 0° about 9 o'clock; I suspect it had been a very little lower, as the surface of the mercury was, when I saw it, convex; in about five minutes after it rose to 3°. where it continued a quarter of an hour, and after that kept gradually rising to 24°, when I ceased to observe it.

Such are the particulars of my observation of the cold: I was greatly surprised to think we were at the greatest cold Fahrenheit observed in Iceland. I have been particular to mention Fahrenheit, to avoid all error arising from the kind of thermometer.

Yours, &c. MICHAEL WARD.

Mr. URBAN, Sidmouth, Feb. 10.

I SEND you for insertion Meteorological Tables for 1813. In that for Sidmouth, a plan has been followed which admits of comparison with other Registers of the Thermometer: the mean of nine and two, for instance, may be compared with the observations made at the Royal Society; but, as the Register Thermometer is not noticed at Somerset-House, the extremes cannot be known. The mean of the temperature here for the six winter months, January, February, March, October, November, December, is 46°, which is 7 degrees higher than Derby: the mean of the remaining six months is 60°, which is also seven degrees higher than Derby, although the thermometer was not above 72° here, whilst at Derby it was in July 80°. This certainly shows a more steady temperature.

The dense fog which enveloped London for eight days, from the 27th of December to the 3d of January, did not reach Sidmouth; during these days the atmosphere was perfectly clear.

During the very severe weather last month, the thermometer in the night of the 9th stood at 19°, and at nine in the morning of the 10th at 20°: but the lowest temperature was from the 21st to the 22d, when Six's thermometer registered 18°: the mean temperature for the month was 33°.

Yours, &c. JAMES CLARKE.

ANNUAL

ANNUAL METEOROLOGICAL TABLE FOR SIDMOUTH, DEVON, 50° 41' N. Lat. 3° 13' W. Long. By Dr. CLARKE.

1813.	Thermometer, Northerly exposed.												Barometer.						Weather.				Winds.				Rain.									
	Months.	Highest by Six's Register.	Day.	Wind.	Lowest by Six's Register.	Day.	Wind.	Mean of the highest.	Mean of the lowest.	Mean of the two.	Mean at 9 Morning.	Mean at 2 Afternoon.	Mean of 9 a. m. and 2 p. m.	Mean at 11 at Night.	Mean of 9 a. m. 2 p. m. & 11 p. m.	Greatest Variation in 24 Hours.	Day.	Highest.	Wind.	Day.	Lowest.	Wind.	Mean for the Month.	Greatest Range in 24 Hours.	Fine.	Cloudy.		Wet.	North and North-East.	East and South-East.	South and South-West.	West and North-West.	In. Dec.			
Jan.	49	6	S. W.	25	28	N.	37	41	34	38	36	41	39	34	37	13	31	30	59	N.	8	29	40	N.	30	14	41	14	12	5	15	5	4	9	0	00
Feb.	51	28	N. W.	31	10	W.	41	47	39	43	44	47	45	41	44	15	28	30	57	N. W.	14	29	22	S. W.	29	93	43	8	2	18	6	15	10	3	00	
March.	58	29	W.	28	12	N. E.	43	51	38	45	48	51	50	41	47	16	7	30	62	N.	20	29	74	S.	30	26	46	21	1	9	3	6	14	0	85	
April.	59	13	S. W.	31	2	N. W.	45	57	39	45	50	51	50	40	47	10	10	30	69	E.	1	29	33	S. W.	30	16	58	20	0	10	7	4	9	13	1	75
May.	65	29	N.	40	26	N. W.	53	59	47	53	57	59	58	50	56	11	31	30	26	S. W.	14	29	49	S. W.	29	86	43	14	5	12	2	10	13	2	75	
June.	72	28	S.	42	17	S. W.	57	62	48	55	61	62	61	49	57	23	26	30	34	N. E.	9	29	61	S. E.	30	08	30	18	1	11	7	14	2	1	29	
July.	70	31	N. W.	42	7	S. E.	56	66	48	57	62	66	64	48	59	8	4	30	39	N.	25	29	63	S. W.	30	02	40	18	1	12	4	8	15	2	96	
Aug.	71	2	S. W.	40	23	W.	56	67	48	57	63	67	65	—	—	8	24	30	42	S. W.	5	29	65	W.	30	20	45	23	1	7	5	8	12	0	85	
Sept.	69	17	S. W.	40	7	S. W.	55	62	49	56	59	62	61	53	58	13	17	30	40	S. W.	6	29	38	S. W.	30	08	35	18	4	8	7	11	8	1	70	
Oct.	65	5	S. W.	30	29	N. E.	48	56	46	51	52	56	54	49	53	20	26	30	23	N. E.	17	28	84	S. W.	29	72	79	13	—	18	8	2	16	5	80	
Nov.	56	13	N. W.	32	3	N.	44	49	41	45	45	49	47	43	45	14	4	30	44	N.	17	29	46	N. E.	29	87	50	11	9	10	3	6	12	2	38	
Dec.	52	18	S.	25	13	N. E.	39	43	36	40	40	43	42	40	41	15	27	30	52	S. E.	2	29	14	S. E.	29	87	52	20	3	8	12	4	8	1	35	

ANNUAL METEOROLOGICAL TABLE FOR DERBY, 52° 58' N. Lat. 1° 30' W. Long. By Mr. SWANWICK.

1813.	Months.	Register Thermometer, N. exposed.										Barometer, 170 ft. above the level of the Sea.										Weather	Winds.	Rain.			
		Day.	Highest in the Day.	Wind.	Day.	Lowest in the Night.	Wind.	Mean for the Day.	Mean for the Night.	Mean for the Month.	Greatest Variation in 24 Hours.	Day.	Highest.	Wind.	Day.	Lowest.	Wind.	Mean for the Month.	Greatest Range in 24 Hours.	Fair.	Wet.				North and North-East.	East and South-East.	South and South-West.
	January	6	50	S.	29	17	N.W.	37	31	34	13	25	30	E.	14	29	N.E.	30	00	41	20	11	5	10	6	0	30
	February	21	54	S.	4	31	W.	46	36	41	10	3	30	N.	14	29	S.	29	73	50	9	19	1	0	17	2	14
	March	28	60	W.	31	30	S.W.	49	35	42	13	26	30	N.W.	21	29	S.	30	14	41	23	8	5	0	9	0	72
	April	12	70	W.	3	29	S.W.	54	38	46	14	13	30	S.	1	29	W.	29	91	70	22	8	8	3	9	0	59
	May	30	72	S.	1	38	N.E.	58	44	51	19	30	30	S.	21	29	S.W.	29	70	45	10	21	6	3	13	3	25
	June	2	76	N.E.	23	38	W.	65	46	55	12	22	30	N.	9	29	S.W.	30	09	55	19	11	14	5	6	1	17
	July	30	79	S.	9	44	W.	67	48	58	14	6	30	S.	20	29	S.W.	29	78	79	19	12	3	1	12	1	93
	August	11	72	N.E.	25	37	N.E.	63	47	55	11	26	30	N.	6	29	S.E.	30	02	30	23	8	8	1	6	0	56
	September	17	66	S.	10	36	S.	59	45	52	13	17	30	S.	6	29	S.	30	00	50	18	12	9	5	12	1	42
	October	5	62	W.	19	26	E.	50	41	46	14	23	30	N.E.	17	28	N.	29	81	80	15	16	12	4	8	5	24
	November	20	52	S.	30	26	S.E.	44	34	39	9	4	30	N.	17	29	N.W.	29	90	50	16	14	4	10	12	1	62
	December	18	48	S.W.	30	22	W.	38	32	35	9	11	30	E.	18	29	S.W.	29	83	42	21	10	9	3	11	1	83

ANNUAL RESULTS AT SIDMOUTH.

<i>Thermometer.</i>	<i>°</i>	<i>'</i>	<i>Wind.</i>	<i>Barometer.</i>	<i>Winds.</i>
Highest June 28th	72	0	S.	Highest April 10th.	30 . 69 E.
Lowest January 28th	25	0	N.	Lowest Oct. 17th 28 . 84 S.W.	
Mean of the extremes.....	48	0		Greatest range Oct. 17, 18.. 79 . 00 S.W.	
Mean of the highest.....	54	5		Mean 30 . 01	
Mean of the lowest.....	42	5			
Mean of the two.....	48	5			
Mean at 9 Morning	51	5		<i>Wind Times.</i>	<i>Wind Times.</i>
Mean at 2 Afternoon.....	54	5		N. } 87	S. }
Mean of 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. 53 0				N.E. }	S.W. }
Mean at 11 Night	44	5		E. }	W. }
Mean of 9 a.m. 2 p.m. & 11 p.m. 49 5				S.E. }	N.W. }
Greatest Var. June 5th & 6th 23 0					
				<hr/> 145 <hr/>	<hr/> 231 <hr/>
					145
Rain for 11 Months	In.	Dec.			
	22 . 61				376

ANNUAL RESULTS AT DERBY.

<i>Thermometer.</i>	°	<i>Wind.</i>	<i>Barometer.</i>	<i>Wind.</i>
Highest July 30th	80 0	S.	Highest November 4th ...	30 . 51 E.
Lowest January 29th	27 0	S.W.	Lowest October 17th	28 . 93 N.
Greatest Var. May 28—29...	19 0		Greatest range October ..	. 80
Mean for the Day	52 6		Annual Mean.....	29 . 91
Mean for the Night.....	39 8			
Annual Mean	46 3			
			<i>Wind.</i>	
			North and North-East... ..	84 Times.
			East and South-East	39
			South and South-West	193
			West and North-West	119
<i>Weather.</i>				
Fair	215	Days		
Wet	150			
	365			365
Rain			20 in. 34 dec.	

Mr. URBAN, March 15.
WHEN I reserved to myself, in my letter inserted in your Magazine for January last, a right of replying in case of any inaccurate state of facts by Mr. Carter, I had a view to the probability of the event which has since taken place. Mr. Carter, in his letter in your Magazine for February, has misrepresented what I have said. He has erroneously related some facts, and omitted others of importance, and of others, he has changed the natural order and succession to favour his own purposes, which, when placed correctly, they will be found not to support, but contradict. I shall therefore avail myself of the right I reserved, by stating fully and correctly, in contradiction to his representations, the particulars of my acquaintance and connexion with him.

From the time of my father's removal to Westminster, about the year 1777, he, as a lover of music, was accustomed very frequently to resort to Westminster Abbey, for the purpose of hearing the anthem; and,

as an admirer of Gothic architecture, to examine with great care, time, and attention, the different parts of the building. The history of this foundation he understood better than most men of his time, and for its illustration had made considerable collections, some of which were, together with his house, destroyed by fire in the month of February 1785. As I was in general, and most frequently of all our family, his walking companion, I was often with him on these occasions; and on one of them, some time in or about the year 1781, Mr. Catlin, the Prebendaries' Verger, told my father that a person of the name of Carter, who lived in Woodstreet, Westminster, had made some drawings from subjects in the Abbey, and would, he was certain, be glad to shew them to any gentleman fond of such pursuits. One day not long after, when I had not been with him, my father, on his return from his walk to dinner, told me in the hearing of the rest of our family, some of whom, besides myself, are still living, that he had that day seen Mr. Carter.

Carter, and I think he said, it was at the Abbey. He informed me further, at the same time, that he found Mr. C. was engaged in the publication of an antiquarian work; that he had recommended to him to take, as one of his subjects, the freeze in Edward the Confessor's chapel; and that, if Mr. C. did insert that subject, he, my father, had engaged me to write the letter-press, as knowing, as was the case, that I also had made considerable collections as to the history of Westminster Abbey. This engagement of me was, as I understood from my father, made in answer to an objection started by Mr. C. against taking the subject, because it would require a letter-press explanation, and he had nobody in view to write it. In consequence of this, I undertook the office, on condition that my father would read over the papers before they went to press, which he from time to time did. In a few days after this, my father and myself called on Mr. C. in Wood-street, where I first became acquainted with him; and after that my father and myself, sometimes separately, and sometimes together, were frequently in the habit of calling on him; my separate visits were wholly regulated by the progress of his work and the necessity thence arising of our frequently seeing each other; and sometimes, for the same reason, he also called on me.

When the drawing from the freeze had been made (for Mr. C. decided on taking that subject, as recommended by my father), and when Mr. C.'s first plate of that subject was in sufficient forwardness, I prepared and furnished him with the manuscript of the letter-press to explain it; and on delivering it to him to be carried to the printer, I requested to be furnished with an impression of the plate and letter-press when they were printed, because I wished to place them among my other collections relating to Westminster Abbey. He told me, his intention was to give me two copies of each number in which my papers appeared. This he accordingly from time to time did; and to these he also added a copy of the first number, which had already been published before I became acquainted with him, in order to make one of the sets a complete book.

Very early in our acquaintance, he

complained to me most grievously of the slow progress of his Printer; and he particularly requested me to write for him the draught of a letter, which he might copy and send to Mr. --- to quicken his pace: This I accordingly did, and delivered the draught to him. Whether Mr. C. ever sent any such letter, I know not; but this I know, and remember well, that, subsequently to this, I have heard him complain heavily, and more than once, to my father and myself, of his Printer's delay. In consequence of these complaints, for I was present at the time, my father said, "if Mr. --- had so much other business that he could not sufficiently attend to Mr. C.'s book, and if Mr. C. was dissatisfied with Mr. ---, as he seemed to be, he, my father, could recommend a man who was both a Printer and Woodcutter, who had executed the wood-cuts for his *History of Music*, and who, as having less business, could give the necessary attention to Mr. C.'s book. My father then named Mr. Thomas Hodgson, who lived in George's-court, which runs from the lower end of Red-ion-street, Clerkenwell, into St. John's-lane; and to him with Mr. C. (at Mr. C.'s own request) I afterwards went. This is the correct fact. Mr. Hodgson was not mentioned by me, but my father. It was on the occasion and in the manner stated above. There was no declaration, or even intimation, either from my father or myself, that my continuance to assist Mr. C. in any way depended on the circumstance of his employing Mr. Hodgson; nor was any such intended. But Mr. H. was only named to relieve Mr. C. from what he seemed to consider as an embarrassing situation. Had my father's or my intention been, as Mr. C. represents it, to forward the interest of our own Printer, surely my father, when he first promised my assistance, would have made the employment of Mr. Hodgson a previous condition, or I should at least have done so when I declared to Mr. Carter my readiness to help him.

Although I stood engaged to Mr. C. neither as to time nor number of subjects, any further than to the extent of that of the freeze; I continued to furnish him with letter-press for every one which he took from Westminster Abbey, and sometimes two in each number, during the years

1782, 1783, and down to the month of April 1784, as will appear from the book, and the dates of the plates. The only exception was the postponement of the letter-press for the illustration of the first three compartments of the figures on the sides of the monument of Henry VII. to the subsequent number, when the whole appeared together. Some of my papers consisted of two folio pages each, and some of more; and they appeared once in three months, as Mr. C. published his numbers quarterly. In the interval, I employed myself in collecting materials, and when I knew from Mr. C. what subjects from Westminster Abbey he intended for his next number, to those of course my attention was more particularly directed.

Till my father had recommended to Mr. C. the freeze in Edward the Confessor's chapel, his work, as may be seen from the book itself, had not assumed the appearance of respectability. The subjects of his first number were some of them mutilated fragments, so injured, that they were wholly useless; and, from the meager account which accompanies them, it appears that the ages of none of them could be ascertained; and that they were wholly destitute of importance, either as to the history of this country, to that of the buildings to which they belonged, or to that of the art of sculpture in general. The freeze in Edward the Confessor's chapel was, on the contrary, of value and consequence in all these points. It had a few years before been in danger of destruction from an intended removal, to afford over the altar a view of the shrine of Edward the Confessor; which, however, fortunately did not take place; and the subjects represented on it had never been explained, or attempted to be explained in print.

A considerable time after I had been thus employed for Mr. C. and I think from circumstances, it must have been some time in the spring or summer of the year 1783—but before the month of June, for a reason which will be mentioned hereafter; my father and myself had frequently, when we called on him, seen him employed on a drawing which might perhaps have measured 18 inches high, by 15 wide, or somewhere

thereabouts. It represented the South side of the Arch over the way up to Henry the VIIIth's Chapel in Westminster Abbey. It was then in considerable forwardness, but not finished, and consequently it had not been exhibited at Somerset-house. One day about that time, when I had been from home all the morning, and had not been with him when he took his walk, my father, when our family all met at dinner, told us in conversation, that he really thought the assistance I had already given Mr. C. and what I intended to give him for the explanation of the remainder of the freeze, of which, one plate, I think, still remained to be inserted, and which was afterwards published on the first of June 1783; considering too that by that the character of his work had been fixed; entitled me, in justice, to some drawing from him, as an acknowledgment for my assistance. He added further, that he had called upon Mr. C. and told him what were his sentiments; that Mr. C. had readily acquiesced in the proposal of making me a handsome drawing from Westminster Abbey, in return for what I had done for him; and that it only remained for me to see Mr. C. and to settle with him what should be the subject. These circumstances were wholly unknown to me till they were thus mentioned by my father. I soon after called on Mr. C. for the purpose of choosing the subject. I related to him what my father had told me, which he confirmed in every particular; nor did he contradict it in any single instance, as he surely would have done had it been incorrect; but, on the contrary, he suffered me to make my choice, without making one single objection, or shewing any reluctance to performing his promise to my father. Neither did he deny that he had made that or any such promise; but, on the contrary, by an answer which he made to me on a subsequent occasion, as will be seen in an ensuing part of this letter, he distinctly admitted he conceived himself bound to perform it. Although I should much rather have preferred a subject which had shewn more of the building, and particularly its columns and arches, yet I decided that the drawing should be a copy of that above-mentioned, because I thought that a copy would be less trouble to him than

than to take and finish a fresh original drawing on the spot, were it even of smaller dimensions; and that he could work on this copy at home, in an evening, when he could not, for want of having the object before him, proceed with the original drawing, or when the weather was too bad to permit him to go out. To this choice of the subject Mr. C. agreed without any hesitation, and it was settled that it was to be done at Mr. C.'s leisure.

Of this original drawing, Mr. C. has said, that it occupied the space of two years at intervals; but if it is recollected, as was the fact, that all this while Mr. C.'s own work was also proceeding, each number of which was published quarterly, or thereabouts, and contained four plates; and that his plates, with very few if any exceptions, were wholly engraven by himself, it is evident that nearly, if not quite, 30 plates, or rather more, were also produced in the time, and consequently the apparent time occupied in this drawing becomes considerably reduced. A drawing finished on the spot would, of course, also require considerably more time than a copy from it, which latter might, in all probability, have been completed in one half the time of the former. Though it is not here intended to undervalue the drawing, or represent it as less laborious than it was, it is but justice to myself to mention these particulars, in order that it may not be overrated, and that no erroneous opinion may be entertained.

††† The extreme length of Mr. Hawkins's Letter reluctantly compels us to defer the remainder of it to another opportunity. EDIT.

ARCHITECTURAL INNOVATION.

No. CLXXXII.

Progress of Architecture in ENGLAND in the Reign of JAMES II. (Continued from p. 142.)

ST. JAMES's Church, Piccadilly. (Surveyed March 1814.)—Sir Christopher Wren Architect; erected 1685, under the patronage of Thomas Lord Jermin (see vol. LXXXIII. p. 563); and, as a compliment to King James, was dedicated to the Saint of that name. The edifice is capacious, partakes of all the relative proportions in regard to plan and elevations;

preserves the religious arrangement in entrances West, North, and South, and altar-end due East. However we have had frequent occasion to censure Sir Christopher's hostility manifested towards old St. Paul's, it is but justice to remark, that in all his ecclesiastical works he never lost sight of the obligatory disposal of the holy table; no—that departure from sacred custom was reserved for the church and chapel professional jobbers of our times, who on these occasions pick out any point of the compass but that from whence the Star of Redemption arose, man's hope, his salvation!

Plan: An oblong of five divisions, made by piers, windows, &c. West, a tower, with three entrances combined; North and South entrances, centre and side aisles, and altar at the East end.

West front: Tower central, and divisions right and left, making out the width of the building. The tower in four stories, divided by strings, and capped with a plain cornice. 1st story: Circular-headed doorway, Tuscan pilasters, plain architrave and key-stone topped with a second ditto of rich work. 2d story: window with kneed architrave and arched head, plain key-stone. 3d story: Circular window, plain architrave. 4th story: Window with plain pilasters, arched head, balustrade parapet. In succession rises a plain pedestal for clock dial, and preparatory, by being splayed at the upper part of the angles, to the support of the spire, which spire commences with a second pedestal of an octangular form, and perforated into eight small arched openings: at the base of spire (octangular) scrolls: appropriate vane. The height of the whole is of a desired dimension, so much so, that our surprise was excited to see, some forty years past, a man, by a dexterous exertion of his arm, throw a switch over the immediate point of the vane. This missive artist was then in the common practice of thus exhibiting his talent here, and at other lofty structures. The decorations of the tower repeated on its sides North and South; and in the divisions right and left, inferior entrances, and over them large oval windows; rustic quoins.

North front: Two stories of windows in five divisions. 1st story: Doorway in centre with arched head and side grounds rusticated: square kneer

kneed architrave windows with segmented arched heads, plain key-stone; plain string. 2d story: Lofty kneed architrave windows, arched heads, scroll key-stones; centre ditto cherub's head. General cornice with Corinthian modillions, and detached lions' heads in upper mouldings: dripping eaves roof: rustic quoins.

South front: Similar to the North ditto, excepting the door of entrance, which is on a grand scale, square, opening with an architrave enclosing a tablet, supported by Cherubim's heads: on each side, compartments and scrolls. Ionick columns in continuation right and left: entablature; in its frieze, festoons of fruit and flowers, between them half-moons and stars: these devices, so introduced, are not well understood: some friend may give their explanation.

East front: In three divisions; centre ditto, two Venetian windows in the height; lower window, Corinthian columns and pilasters, square head, entablature plain: upper window, Composite columns and pilasters, arched head, modillions in the cornice. Divisions right and left, large oval windows. General cornice from side fronts run into a pediment, agreeably to the pitch of the roof at this point; rustic quoins.

Materials: walls brick; dressings stone; clock pedestals and spire, wood.

Innovations, 1804, when this church was "repaired and beautified." Three entrances in first story of tower stopped up; oval windows, West and East fronts, stopped up; doorway, North, destroyed, and the opening filled up. General cornice destroyed, and a plain string and common brick parapet substituted; the termination of East elevation modernized in like manner. Communication into church at West end done in the common mode of occasional covered avenues to houses on rout nights, and assembly rooms. There were stone piers with niches for entrance on the North side of the cemetery, but destroyed, and plain piers set up in lieu thereof.

In the cemetery has been raised a long room (tea-garden fashion) 1812, but for what purpose we are not prepared to say.

Interior. Spacious and grand. The three entrances under the tower formed a kind of vestibule; they are now pewed into a reading room for burial

service (not in use). Centre and side aisles in five divisions, the latter aisles portioned off by Doric piers for support of galleries over them, which galleries sweep round at West end: the entablature to the galleries has three members enriched. Corinthian columns rise on the above piers; their entablature plain, and is confined to their uprights, and is run back to the windows; (lines of several windows run with a plain edge:) arches spring from the columns for the divisions; no architraves: arched or wagon-head ceiling, running from West to East with compartments: 1st tier of ditto contains festoons of drapery, and of fruit and flowers alternately; 2d tier plain; 3d tier centered with large roses. At the West end of the church, the organ, on which is inscribed, "This organ was the gift of her most excellent Majesty Queen Mary, A. D. 1691." Work of the organ-case rather plain, though accompanied with large statues of angels and angel-children.

We are induced to believe that the case of this organ, not alone from its irrelevant design to the surrounding objects, but from the existing politicks of the period, was not set up by Sir Christopher: he had long been a faithful servant to his late Royal Masters, Charles and James; he enjoying the particular patronage of the latter Monarch; therefore, at the change of circumstances, a new Master or Mistress, it is most probable, would not encourage him whose heart naturally bowed in another direction.

The gallery belonging to the organ is plain, and sustained by Doric columns. East end of the church in three tiers: 1st tier, Altar screen, lines in continuation from work of the side-galleries, with the addition of compartments for the Belief, Ten Commandments, and the Lord's Prayer. Most exuberant and richly-carved festoons, in alto-relievo, of fruit and flowers, &c. fill the centre space of the screen, when directly over the altar-table is a pelican feeding her young, crowned by a most superlative and beautiful combination of foliage, among which are two doves with olive-branches. Referring to the description of Durham Cathedral, composed previous to the Dissolution, we thus read: "Within the said quire, over the high altar, hung a rich and most

most sumptuous canopy, for the blessed Sacrament to hang within it, which had two irons fastened in the French Pierre (altar screen) very finely gilt, which held the canopy over the midst of the said high altar that the Pix hung in, that it could not move nor stir; whereon stood a pelican all of silver, upon the height of the said canopy, very finely gilt, giving her blood to her young ones, in token that Christ gave his blood for the sins of the world." Why Sir Christopher chose this pelican allusion must be attributed to his faith leaning towards the devotion of former times, as hinted in our survey of his St. Paul's. The altar-fence is of white marble, and filled with elaborate foliage. 2d and 3d tiers, repetition of the two Venetian windows, as described in the East front. Font: white marble, and of a circular form; a curious intention of the kind—the stem or support of the bason is the tree of good and evil: Adam and Eve are receiving the forbidden fruit from the serpent, which is wound round the body of the tree. On the bason, three basso-relievos: 1st, Noah's ark; 2d, St. John baptizing our Lord; 3d, Philip baptizing the Eunuch. This font had a rich canopy of wood, whereon were drops of fruit and flowers, borne up by a suspended angel and cherubim's heads. The canopy destroyed, and the font is now nearly hid by pews. The font, with the carvings at the altar, was the work of Gibbons, a celebrated artist of the seventeenth century.

There are many mural monuments disposed about the church. The pews, reading-desk, and pulpit new (1804), the originals having been destroyed; and, remarkable to relate, considering the present prevailing method of placing the pulpit directly before the altar, such decoration, in the present instance, is disposed in its appropriate situation on the South side of the centre aisle. All the original wood-work has been painted, either white or oak hues; two chimney-pieces have also been placed, *one on each side of the altar*. In regard to the new work here cited, not the least regard has been paid to the first decorations of the interior; but a marked intent, either to shew the present surveyors' improvements as done in a *better style*, or to evince an economical restriction in the needful supply in such case

made and provided. For instance, the reading-desk a plain fence or box, and the pulpit a plain term-supported box also; each deficient in requisite adornment, by device, or symbolical allusion. The square Corinthian pillar for support of the sounding board, it is conjectured, is a part of Sir Christopher's pulpit.

Upon the whole, carrying our attention back to the genuine lines of the interior, there are many elevated ideas conspicuous, nothing too lavish, nothing too plain; every object is appropriate and useful, even such as the mode of church service demands.

Interior of the Vestry-room: Two windows each end, circular-headed Westwards, and square ditto Eastwards. On this latter point, an architrave, chimney-piece, and attendant chimney framed glass, enriched and gilt; above it, a large carving of the Royal arms (James II.) in full relief, with the Royal supporters, crest, and surrounding foliage. In truth, nothing can more determine the decorative manner of the day than this Eastern end; it may be called a real curiosity, both in fact and style. Here is a series of the portraits of the dignified Guardians of St. James's church: Tenison, Wake, Trimnell, Clarke, Tyrwhitt, Secker, Nicols, Moss, and Parker.

We now take our leave of Sir Christopher and his labours, the principal part of which has come in illustrative aid of this our Progress; and if, through a perverted bias, arising from the fashionable way of thinking in his hour, that Roman and Grecian architecture were alone to be admired and imitated, and that his native Pointed styles were to be despised and destroyed, he has evinced the greatest aptitude thereunto; still he maintained the antient religious arrangements of his forefathers. In one word, his genius was sublime, though his practice took a wrong turn—one was Nature's fixing; the other arose from the Follies of the day.

AN ARCHITECT.

* * * What Flower do Spenser and M. Drayton mean to designate by "*Sops in Wine?*" I well remember an old Florist, who has been dead perhaps 50 years, who used that name for either a Carnation or Daisy. H. H. L. & M. D.

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A succinct Statement of the important Advantages of the Author's practice of preparing MODELS for intended Buildings, in preference to Plans, Elevations, and Sections. By Mr. BUSBY, Architect.

The whole of the valuable Library of EARL MORA, including many extremely scarce Oriental works, was destroyed by the late conflagration at the Custom-house.

At the sale of the Library of the late Rev. S. PALMER, the Pulpit-Bible of the celebrated BUNYAN was purchased for Mr. Whitbread at the price of 20 guineas.

REVIEW OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

22. *The Predestined Thief: or a Dialogue between a Calvinistic Preacher and a Thief condemned to the Gallows: in which is represented, in a Copy drawn as it were from the Life, the Influence of Calvinistic Principles in producing Crimes and Impieties of every Sort, and the Impediments placed by those Principles in the way of the Sinner's Repentance, and Amendment of Life. With an Application to the recent Case of Robert Kendall, who was executed at Northampton, August 13, 1813.* Translated from the original Latin; published, London, 1851. (Without either the Author's or Printer's name. Nichols, Son, and Bentley. 8vo, pp. 65.

23. *Fur Prædestinatus; sive Dialogismus inter quendam Ordinis Prædicantium Calvinistam et Furem ad Laqueum damnatum habitus, &c.* 1651. — *Editio Nova*, 1813. C. Sharpe. 8vo. pp. 64.

THE Republication of this curious Latin Tract of Abp. Sancroft, first printed in London during the prevalence of Calvinism in 1651, has induced a hearty Well-wisher to our Ecclesiastical Establishment to put it into an English dress, with a view of opposing the present progress of Calvinism in this Country, by shewing in the Life of the Thief its immoral effects; which purpose it is very well calculated to serve, as it condenses into a focus all the essence of Calvinism; referring in the Notes to the Doctors, maintainers of absolute Predestination, from whose Writings the Sentiments are extracted.---But the following Address by the Archbishop will best explain its object.

“ *The Author to the Reader.*

“ CHRISTIAN READER!

“ The Dialogue which I now send forth to the Publick, will, perhaps, excite disgust, and appear extremely insolent to those who are unused to consider the principles urged in it. For these principles here defended and maintained by the Thief are not to be considered by any as if such perverse doctrine could be derived from the holy fount of Scripture: God forbid! But what is here brought forward is consonant with itself, and indeed is given in the very words of those Divines who are esteemed among the Calvinists as the most excellent and orthodox of their sect: though I truly

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hold them to be abominable, and such as are fundamentally destructive of Piety, and open a broad and trodden way to the commission of every enormity, and crimes of every description. Many persons of little discernment do not consider how pernicious and absurd the tenet is of rigid and exclusive Predestination: for which reason this Dialogue is published; that it may appear clear as the mid-day sun, that both the doctrines, and the teachers and promulgators of them, should be shunned and avoided no less than the infernal lake. If the title-page of this doctrine should seem somewhat strange and harsh, let not this offend the Reader: for it is a known fact that many who have been led away with such dogmas have not only given themselves up to theft and plunder, but to murder, and other abominable crimes: and could my devoutest wishes be of any avail they would prevent the accession of new examples in future to the doleful experience of the past; which being considered will evince the title of the piece to be truly adapted to the subject.—Farewell.”

That principles similar to those which the Predestined Thief derived from his Creed, operate at the present time on the minds of deluded and ignorant men, is instanced in the recent remarkable case of Robert Kendall, who was executed at Northampton in August last for robbing the Leeds Mail. This man had confessed his guilt to his Solicitor, and his confession was known to Mr. Davies, a Baptist Minister at Wellingborough; who notwithstanding published a history of Kendall, in which he insinuated his own belief of the Malefactor's innocence, and wherein the Culprit himself declared that he was condemned for a crime of which he was perfectly innocent. This Pamphlet of Mr. Davies has been ably answered by the Rev. E. Griffin, Curate of St. Nicholas's, Nottingham, who observes, Kendall's confession of his guilt was suppressed, “ to what purpose, but with a contemptible design to impugn the evidence upon which Kendall was convicted, to the satisfaction of the Judge, the Jury, the whole Court, and the Auditory: to magnify this (supposed) extraordinary conversion, and himself as the chosen servant of God

God in effecting it? though Kendall died with a lie in his mouth; and his Encomiast suppressed the very point upon which the question depends; affecting to believe the sincerity of his repentance, when he must have known the contrary. Yet this, it seems, is the effect of grace in the heart."

Mr. Davies's Pamphlet, however, created a great sensation: the whole County of Northampton rang with declarations of Kendall's innocence, and with a censure of all parties connected with the prosecution. It also created a controversy in the County Newspapers. To remove, therefore, these disagreeable reports, in vindication of the Court and Jury which convicted Kendall, and for the satisfaction of the Publick, Kendall's Solicitor himself, Mr. John Newton Goodhall, manfully steps forward, and says, in a Letter to Mr. Gotch of Kettering, printed in the Northampton Paper, and also affixed to this Pamphlet,

"I do most solemnly declare and protest, upon my word and honour, as a man and a gentleman, that Kendall did most distinctly and unequivocally confess to me, previous to the last March Assizes, that he was guilty of the offence of robbing the Leeds Mail Coach on the night of 26th October, 1812: that it was his hand which opened the box containing the letter-bags: that it was his hand alone which stole the bags therefrom; that he had then a moiety of the booty in his possession, and that he himself hid the Mail-bags in Finedon Poplars. And I do further protest, that, after his condemnation, I strongly urged him to restore that property to the rightful owner, which he assured me should be done; and which was afterwards, under his direction, placed with the Solicitor formerly alluded to at Northampton."

For the Letter itself, which does Mr. Goodhall great credit, we must refer our Readers to this interesting Pamphlet; which well deserves a general circulation.

24. *The Travels and Memoirs of Sir John Reresby, Bart.* 8vo, pp. 414. Jeffery.

RERESBY'S Memoirs have been long known and valued by the accurate reader of English History; nor are they less entertaining than instructive. There is, perhaps, no

other work extant which gives us so clear a view of the intrigues of Ministers and Courtiers in the period to which it relates, the reigns of Charles and James the Second; and it peculiarly recommends itself to our credence, as well as to our attention, by an invariable air of candour and good humour, clothed in their proper garb of freedom and simplicity of language. We agree with the Writer of the preface, that "there is something in the air of these Memoirs that continually reminds us of Lord Melcombe's Diary; but," adds he, making a significant distinction, "Reresby was an honest man." They were first printed in 1734, in a small volume, which has of late years become somewhat scarce; and the present Editor, who tells us that he had long wished to republish them, determined to take that step on receiving from a Gentleman a gift of the Travels of Sir John Reresby, in manuscript, which had been purchased out of the Library of Mr. Topham Beauclerk: He has accordingly now printed them for the first time, prefixed to the Memoirs. They contain, in a Journal of the most usual European Tour, much information as to facts, and many observations and reflections, perfectly original, and delivered in a style, the easy carelessness of which never for a moment disguises the good sense, the education, the activity and accuracy of enquiry, or the politeness of the writer. The Editor quotes, as an example of all these together, a passage in which Reresby, then a very young man, gives a short character of the French, which we will here insert. Would to God that we had not, in our time, reason to think yet worse of them!

"The women are rather subtle than chaste; interested than virtuous; a great itch to be well clad, sometimes occasioning the neglect of one part to adorn the rest. In fine, the French are generally soon gained, and soon lost; good company, but bad friends; unable to keep a secret; and had rather lay their hands on their swords for you than on their purse. They have more of airy than solid, and attempt better than they perform; so that it may be properly enough said of them, as Tacitus said of the Britons in his time, *in deposcendis periculis eadem audacia; in detractandis ubi advenire eadem formido.*"

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