

# THE GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE

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Embellished with a View of the Principal Front of DRURY-LANE THEATRE; and with  
 Sketches of Monuments, Arms, &c. in WYCLIFFE CHURCH, Yorkshire.

By SYLVANUS URBAN, GENT.

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 where all Letters to the Editor are desired to be addressed, POST-PAID.

METEOROLOGICAL DIARY for September, 1812. By Dr. POLE, Bristol,

Days. Mo.	M. 8 h.	G. heat,	Inches. 20ths.	WEATHER.
1	57	64	30-7	mostly cloudy
2	56	68	30-6	ditto
3	57	67	30-4	cloudy
4	57	67	29-18	ditto
5	58	68	29-18	clear
6	55	67	30-1	cloudy at times
7	56	66	30-3	clear
8	59	71	30-2	mostly clear, evening rain-
9	59	68	29-17	morning cloudy, heavy showers, afternoon clear
10	60	66	30-1	mostly clear, morning one shower
11	51	68	30-7	mostly clear
12	51	68	30-9	clear
13	54	67	30-8	ditto
14	47	67	30-7	ditto
15	43	65	30-4	ditto
16	46	65	30-1	ditto
17	56	61	29-19	morning cloudy and showery, afternoon clear
18	48	61	30-5	clear
19	41	62	30-7	cloudy
20	55	66	30-3	clear
21	54	66	30-2	ditto
22	57	70	30-1	cloudy, frequent showers
23	52	58	30-3	mostly cloudy
24	45	61	30-1	ditto
25	51	62	30-3	cloudy, evening rainy
26	55	66	30-5	cloudy, evening rain
27	56	68	30-5	cloudy, afternoon rainy, windy
28	61	66	29-14	cloudy, rainy, high wind
29	51	57	30-0	cloudy
30	55	66	30-1	cloudy, some rain

The average degrees of Temperature, from observations made at eight o'clock in the morning, are 53-4 100ths; those of the corresponding month in the year 1811, were 55-53 100ths; in 1810, 56-40 100ths; in 1809, 56-76 100ths; in 1808, 45-80 100ths; in 1807, 48-27 100ths; in 1806, 54-52 100ths; in 1805, 58 100ths; and in 1804, 56-32 100ths.

The quantity of Rain fallen this month is equal to 1 inch 90 100ths; that of the corresponding month in the year 1811, was 4 inches 5 100ths; in 1810, 2 inches 66 100ths; in 1809, 4 inches 16 100ths; in 1808, 4 inches 56 100ths; in 1807, 3 inches 69 100ths; in 1806, 1 inch 81 100ths; in 1805, 1 inch 59 100ths; and in 1804, 28 100ths of an inch.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE for October, 1812. By W. CARY, Strand.

Day of Month.	Height of Fahrenheit's Thermometer.			Barom. in. pts.	Weather in Oct. 1812.	Day of Month.	Height of Fahrenheit's Thermometer.			Barom. in. pts.	Weather in Oct. 1812.
	8 o'clock Morning.	Noon.	11 o'clock Night.				8 o'clock Morning.	Noon.	11 o'clock Night.		
Sept.	o	o	o			Oct.	o	o	o		
27	57	67	62	30, 10	fair	12	44	52	44	29, 20	rain
28	62	66	55	29, 74	rain	13	43	53	46	, 05	fair
29	55	56	55	30, 00	cloudy	14	47	52	45	28, 85	rain
30	56	63	55	29, 85	cloudy	15	46	54	42	29, 16	showery
O. 1	56	69	54	, 77	cloudy with th.	16	45	55	42	, 50	fair
2	48	65	48	, 95	fair	17	40	54	50	, 30	rain
3	46	66	46	30, 00	fair	18	50	56	50	28, 90	rain
4	50	66	50	29, 90	fair	19	54	56	50	, 57	stormy
5	54	65	57	, 60	fair	20	51	56	45	, 93	fair
6	60	64	46	, 30	cloudy	21	46	52	48	29, 68	fair
7	44	58	52	, 39	fair	22	50	56	50	, 45	fair
8	53	62	47	, 20	stormy	23	49	55	43	, 74	fair
9	47	57	50	, 44	showery	24	43	56	48	, 92	fair
10	50	56	50	, 37	rain	25	50	55	50	, 70	fair
11	50	53	45	, 35	cloudy	26	47	54	45	, 60	fair

# THE GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE,

For OCTOBER, 1812.

Mr. URBAN, *Stoke Newington,*  
Oct. 3.

THE occurrence of a very extraordinary volcanic eruption at St. Vincent's, one of the Caribbee Islands, having induced much surprise and inquiry, I transmit to you an authentic detail of particulars, drawn up by a scientific observer on the Island, and printed there. I received it from a neighbour of mine, intimately connected with the West Indies; and some of your constant Readers are anxious to see it recorded in your valuable Journal, for the information of the publick, and of posterity.

It may not be unimportant to add that additional communications, received by my neighbour, report, that all the European Settlers on the Caribbee lands of the Island, Windward or Eastward, in the vicinity of the Souffrier Mountain, suffered much, most of the estates being covered 10 or 12 inches thick, with stones and dust. One gentleman, proprietor of an estate on the opposite or South-West side of the Island, happened to be absent at the time of the explosion. On his return, he found the buildings and the estate completely covered with the volcanic eruption of dust, stones, &c. and that 27 of his negroes were killed. Many of the estates on the Island, however, will suffer but little. It is indeed thought, that they will benefit from the light coat of sand fallen upon them. In the course of a few days after the explosion, the rains that fell cleared the ground in many places, and vegetation began again to appear. The Rabacca river, that turned several mills, was completely dried up; but a hope was entertained that it would again run.

It is to be observed that the wind, between the Tropics, always blows to the Westward; and that Barbadoes, nevertheless, which is 70 miles due East of St. Vincent's, was actually

covered, two inches thick, with the volcanic dust. Day-light did not appear in Barbadoes, on the day after the explosion, till two o'clock in the afternoon; and the inhabitants were obliged to use candles in their habitations and streets, to the above period. What is still more extraordinary, but no less true, is, that vessels at sea, some 300, and others 500, miles to windward of St. Vincent's, had their decks covered with volcanic dust. In the Islands of Grenada, Tobago, and Antigua, the garrisons were, at night, put under arms, in consequence of the thundering noise they heard, which they supposed to proceed from hostile fleets in the neighbourhood.

How to account for such extraordinary phenomena, is far beyond my power. It shall, therefore, be left to those who investigate the works of God in the natural world; and I will only express a wish, that these awful occurrences may lead us seriously to contemplate THE POWER AND MAJESTY OF THE GREAT CREATOR, and to prepare for THAT TREMENDOUS DAY, when the whole "Earth shall tremble and quake, and the very foundation also of the hills shake, and be removed;" when "the Heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the Elements shall melt with fervent heat; the Earth also, and the works that are therein, shall be burned up;" and when there will be heard, "as the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunders, saying, Hallelujah! for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth: let us be glad, and rejoice, and give honour unto him."

Yours, &c. G. G.

"Description of the Eruption of the SOUFFRIER MOUNTAIN, on Thursday Night the 30th April, 1812, in the Island of St. VINCENT.

"The Souffrier Mountain, the most Northerly of the lofty chain running through the centre of this Island, and  
the

the highest of the whole, as computed by the most accurate survey that has yet been taken, had for some time past indicated much disquietude; and from the extraordinary frequency and violence of earthquakes, which are calculated to have exceeded 200 within the last year, portended some great movement, or eruption. The apprehension, however, was not so immediate, as to restrain curiosity, or to prevent repeated visits to the crater, which of late had been more numerous than at any former period, even up to Sunday last, the 26th of April, when some gentlemen ascended it, and remained there for some time. Nothing unusual was there remarked, or any external difference observed, except rather a stronger emission of smoke from the interstices of the conical hill at the bottom of the crater. To those who have not visited this romantic and wonderful spot, a slight description of it, as it lately stood, is previously necessary, and indispensable, to form any conception of it, and to the better understanding the account which follows—for no one living can expect to see it again in the perfection and beauty in which it was on Sunday the 26th inst.

“About 2000 feet from the level of the sea (calculating from conjecture), on the South side of the mountain, and rather more than two-thirds of its height, opens a circular chasm, somewhat exceeding half a mile in diameter, and between 4 and 500 feet in depth: exactly in the centre of this capacious bowl rose a conical hill, about 260 or 300 feet in height, and about 200 in diameter, richly covered and variegated with shrubs, brushwood, and vines, above half-way up, and for the remainder, powdered over with virgin sulphur to the top. From the fissures in the cone and interstices of the rocks, a thin white smoke was constantly emitted, occasionally tinged with a slight bluish flame. The precipitous sides of this magnificent amphitheatre were fringed with various evergreens, and aromatic shrubs, flowers, and many Alpine plants. On the North and South sides of the base of the cone, were two pieces of water, one perfectly pure and tasteless; the other strongly impregnated with sulphur and alum. This lonely and beautiful spot was rendered more enchanting by the singularly melodious notes of a bird, an inhabitant of these upper solitudes, and altogether unknown to the other parts of the Island, hence fancifully called, or supposed to be, invisible, though it certainly has been seen, and is a species of the *Merie*.

“A century had now elapsed since the last convulsion of the mountain, or

since any other elements had disturbed the serenity of this wilderness than those which are common to the Tropical tempest. It apparently slumbered in primeval solitude and tranquillity; and from the luxuriant vegetation and growth of the forest, which covered its sides from the base nearly to the summit, seemed to discountenance the fact, and falsify the records of the antient Volcano.—Such was the majestic and peaceful Souffrier on April the 27th; but we tread on *ignem repositum cineri dolens*, and our imaginary safety was soon to be confounded by the sudden danger of devastation. Just as the plantation bells rang 12 at noon on Monday the 27th, an abrupt and dreadful crash from the Mountain, with a severe concussion of the earth, and tremulous noise in the air, alarmed all around it. The resurrection of this fiery furnace was proclaimed in a moment, by a vast column of thick, black, rosy smoke, like that of an immense glass-house, bursting forth at once, and mounting to the sky; showering down sand, with gritty calcined particles of earth and favilla mixed, on all below. This, driven before the wind towards Wallbou and Morne Ronde, darkened the air like a cataract of rum, and covered the ridges, woods, and cane pieces, with light gray-coloured ashes, resembling snow when slightly covered by dust. As the eruption increased, this continual shower expanded, destroying every appearance of vegetation. At night a very considerable degree of ignition was observed on the lips of the crater, but it is not asserted that there was as yet any visible ascension of flame. The same awful scene presented itself on Tuesday; the fall of favilla and calcined pebbles still increasing, and the compact pitchy column from the crater, rising perpendicularly to an immense height, with a noise at intervals like the muttering of distant thunder. On Wednesday the 29th, all these menacing symptoms of horror and combustion still gathered more thick and terrific, for miles around the dismal and half-observed Mountain. The prodigious column shot up with quicker motion, dilating as it rose, like a balloon. The sun appeared in total eclipse, and shed a meridian twilight over us, that aggravated the wintry gloom of the scene, now completely powdered over with falling particles. It was evident that the crisis was as yet to come; that the burning fluid was struggling for a vent, and labouring to throw off the superincumbent strata and obstructions, which suppressed the ignivomous torrent. At night it was manifest that it

had greatly disengaged itself from its burthen, by the appearance of fire flashing now and then above the mouth of the crater.

“On Thursday the memorable 20th of April, the reflexion of the rising sun on this majestic body of curling vapour was sublime beyond imagination—any comparison of the Glaciers, of the Andes, or Cordilleras with it, can but feebly convey an idea of the fleecy whiteness and brilliancy of this awful column of intermingled and wreathed smoke and clouds. It afterwards assumed a more sulphureous cast, like what we call thunder-clouds; and in the course of the day a ferruginous and sanguine appearance, with much livelier action in the ascent, and a more extensive dilation, as if almost freed from every obstruction. In the afternoon the noise was incessant, and resembled the approach of thunder still nearer and nearer, with a vibration, that affected the feelings and hearing.—As yet there was no convulsive motion, or sensible earthquake. Terror and consternation now seized all beholders. The Charaibs settled at *Morne Ronde*, at the foot of the Souffrier, abandoned their houses, with their live stock and every thing they possessed, and fled precipitately towards town. The negroes became confused, forsook their work, looked up to the mountain, and, as it shook, trembled, with the dread of what they could neither understand or describe. The birds fell to the ground, overpowered with showers of favilla, unable to keep themselves on the wing; the cattle were starving for want of food, as not a blade of grass or a leaf was now to be found. The sea was much discoloured, but in no wise uncommonly agitated; and it is remarkable, that throughout the whole of this violent disturbance of the earth, it continued quite passive, and did not at any time sympathize with the agitation of the land. About four o'clock P. M. the noise became more alarming, and just before sun-set the clouds reflected a bright copper colour, suffused with fire. Scarcely had the day closed, when the flame burst at length pyramidally from the crater, through the mass of smoke; the rolling of the thunder became more awful and deafening. Electric flashes quickly succeeded, attended with loud claps; and now indeed the hurly burly began. Those only who have witnessed such a sight, can form any idea of the magnificence and variety of the lightning and electric flashes; some forked zig-zag playing across the perpendicular column from the crater—others shooting upwards from the mouth like rockets of the most

dazzling lustre—others like shells with their trailing fuzes flying in different parabolas, with the most vivid scintillations from the dark sanguine column, which now seemed inflexible, and immoveable by the wind. Shortly after seven P. M. the mighty cauldron was seen to simmer, and the ebullition of lava to break out on the N. W. side. This, immediately after boiling over the orifice and flowing a short way, was opposed by the activity of a higher point of land, over which it was impelled by the immense tide of liquified fire that drove it on, forming the figure V in grand illumination. Sometimes, when the ebullition slackened, or was insufficient to urge it over the obstructing hill, it recoiled back, like a refluxing billow from the rock, and then again rushed forward, impelled by fresh supplies, and scaling every obstacle, carrying rocks and woods together in its course down the slope of the mountain, until it precipitated itself down some vast ravine, concealed from our sight by the intervening ridges of *Morne Ronde*. Vast globular bodies of fire were seen projected from the fiery furnace, and bursting, fell back into it, or over it, on the surrounding bushes, which were instantly set in flames. About four hours from the lava boiling over the crater, it reached the sea, as we could observe from the reflection of the fire, and the electric flashes attending it. About half past one another stream of lava was seen descending to the Eastward towards *Rabacca*: the thundering noise of the mountain, and the vibration of sound that had been so formidable hitherto, now mingled with the sullen monotonous roar of the rolling lava, became so terrible, that dismay was almost turned into despair: at this time the first earthquake was felt; this was followed by showers of cinders, that fell with the hissing noise of hail during two hours. At three o'clock a rolling on the roofs of the houses indicated a fall of stones, which soon thickened, and at length descended in a rain of intermingled fire, that threatened at once the fate of *Pompeii*, or *Herculaneum*. The crackling and coruscation from the crater, at this period, exceeded all that had yet passed. The eyes were struck with momentary blindness, and the ears stunned with the glemeration of sounds. People sought shelter in cellars, under rocks, or any where—for every where was nearly the same; and the miserable negroes flying from their huts, were knocked down or wounded, and many killed in the open air. Several houses were set on fire. The estates situated in the immediate vicinity

nity seemed doomed to destruction. Had the stones that fell been proportionally heavy to their size, not a living creature could have escaped without death: these having undergone a thorough fusion, were divested of their natural gravity, and fell almost as light as pumex, though in some places as large as a man's head. This dreadful rain of stones and fire lasted upwards of an hour, and was again succeeded by cinders from three till six o'clock in the morning. Earthquake followed earthquake almost momentarily, or rather the whole of this part of the Island was in a state of continued oscillation—not agitated by shocks vertical or horizontal, but undulated like water shaken in a bowl.

“The break of day, if such it could be called, was truly terrific. Darkness was only visible at eight o'clock, and the birth of May dawned like the day of Judgment; a chaotic gloom enveloped the mountain, and an impenetrable haze hung over the sea, with black sluggish clouds of a sulphureous cast. The whole Island was covered with favilla, cinders, scoria, and broken masses of volcanic matter. It was not until the afternoon the muttering noise of the mountain sunk gradually into a solemn, yet suspicious, silence! Such were the particulars of this sublime and tremendous scene, from the commencement to the catastrophe! To describe the effects is, if possible, a more difficult and truly most distressing task.”

Mr. URBAN, *Caversham, near Reading, Sept. 20.*

IN your last Number, you have finally concluded your elaborate criticism upon the *Bibliomania* of Mr. Dibdin. The cut of the *Hawker* (taken from the work itself), and the observations of the Author relating to the subject of Hawking, amused me a good deal. From thence I went to the *Utopia* (edited by the same Reverend gentleman), and to Mr. Haslewood's reprint of *Juliana Berners*; wherein the subject appears to be well nigh exhausted. But judge, Sir, of my surprise and delight, when, turning to a corner of my library, in which are arranged about 150 duodecimo volumes of old and modern poetry, I discovered—what I was pretty sure of having possessed—a small chap-book upon the subject of *Hawking*; printed at Reading in 1776—and intitled, *Hawking Moralised*.

It is a collection of miscellaneous

scraps of poetry, good, bad, and indifferent, upon this once popular amusement; and I send you two specimens from the same. In the first, which is the prettier of the two, the amusement affords a melancholy reflection, arising from the termination of it: in the second, the poet feels a loftiness of sentiment, which is perhaps expressed with some little inflation. In both cases the *Hawker moralises*; and hence the *Miscellany* takes its name, as above expressed.

From “*Hawking Moralised,*” printed at Reading, 1776, 12mo:

“My pretty Hawk a prettier Dove,  
Holds fast 'twixt beak and feet;  
While calling on its absent Love,  
To seek the moss-wove seat,

He saw, and seiz'd. Oh! had his eye  
Been dimm'd by age, or wing depress'd,  
Fate had not doom'd the Dove to die,  
Nor fix'd a thorn within my breast.

My Hawk shall lose his gingling bells,  
Nor perch again upon my fist:  
While of the past remembrance dwells,  
From chace of bird I do desist.  
My pretty Hawk a prettier Dove  
Hath snatch'd at once from life and love.”

P. 73.

From the same:

“Tantivy! the horn tells the breaking  
of day,

And merrily Foresters rise;  
O'er heath and o'er meadow they prick  
their bold way,

While the Deer nimbly scampers and

Let these their favourite game pursue,  
A different sport I keep in view:

My full-plum'd *Hawks* my thoughts engage;

And with the birds aerial war to wage  
I hasten. See aloft my Falcon flies,  
And cuts with well-pois'd wing the liquid  
skies!

As thus he leaves the humble earth,  
And spreads his gallant plumage to  
the sun,

In my fond breast a thousand thoughts  
One vanishing as t'other hath begun.

’Tis thus, say I, with noble souls: they  
soar

Above this little grow'ling scene of  
They the bright image of their God adore,  
And heav'n-ward fly on faith-inspiring  
wings.”

P. 105.

If these extracts excite the curiosity, or gratify the taste, of the fore-mentioned *Hawking Antiquaries*, I shall perhaps burden your pages with another specimen or two. The book cannot be parted with; but Mr. D.

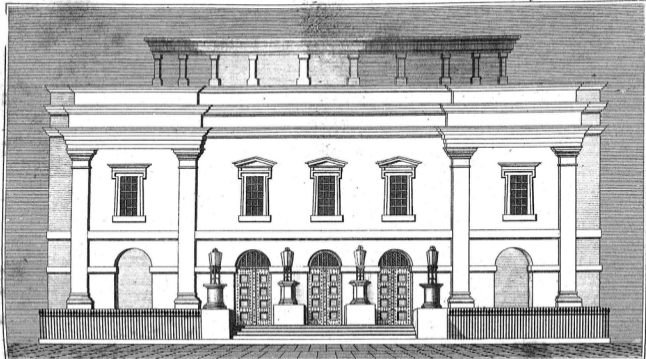
or Mr. H. by putting themselves into the Reading Coach, may have a sight of it,—as well as a taste of stewed carp, caught and drest after the manner of Isaac Walton—in visiting their hearty well-wisher,  
RUSTICUS.

#### DRURY-LANE THEATRE.

**T**HIS Theatre opened on Saturday, the 10th of October, with *Hamlet*, to an immense audience. The public expectation had been so much excited, that the doors were crowded at an early hour; and the difficulty of entrance was excessive. When at length the crowd had slowly laboured their way into the Hall, they found other difficulties; and the passages to the doors for receiving money were scenes of nearly as much struggle and danger as the street. This hall is a large unornamented, oblong entrance, lighted by a handsome circular lamp, with a range of narrow iron-railing enclosing the pay-doors. The next progress is into a circular apartment, surrounded by columns, and covered by a dome. In the centre is a cast from the beautiful statue of Shakspeare, by Roubiliac, in the garden of Mrs. Garrick, at Hampton, left after her decease to the British Museum.

On the landing-place of each of the grand staircases, a line of railing, bronzed and gilt, is drawn across for the ticket-receivers; and those once passed, the audience are let loose among the galleries of this striking edifice. The general avenue to the upper part, in the interior, is a showy circular passage, running round the Shakspeare-hall, at about a third of its height, lighted with antique lamps of bronze, and branching off to the saloon and the boxes. The Saloon, on the construction of which the Architect probably occupied much of his means, is handsome, so far as size might assist its effect. Large ottomans are placed at intervals in two lines down the middle, and the recesses in the sides lined with sofas. The colour of the furniture is throughout scarlet. Two coffee-rooms close the extremities. Chandeliers and lamps, on antique models, are interspersed in great profusion. On the box-doors being opened, the Theatre blazes upon the eye; and it is scarcely possible for any eye to look upon it without being for the moment dazzled and delighted by its prodigal and luxuriant beauty. The

back of the Boxes sweeps, as it appeared to us, a segment of about two thirds of a circle; but the front deviates with uncommon elegance, from a figure almost too precise and too unmanageable for the purposes of a theatre, and assumes the form of an irregular conchoid, or, to use a more familiar illustration, a horse-shoe, considerably flattened in the middle. This form gives great advantages in seeing and hearing, from bringing forward the audience more equally to the front. We understand that the centre boxes are 17 feet nearer the stage than in the Covent-Garden Theatre, and 16 feet nearer than in the former house. The front of the dress-boxes is simple and delicate; that of the first circle, retiring by a slight bend, is covered with gilding and colours; the fronts of the upper rows are gorgeously decorated with green and gold. The back of the boxes is a strong red; the cushions a deep crimson. To the credit of the Architect and the Committee, the Basket is wholly omitted. The Pit contains only 17 rows of seats, but it seems capacious and well-arranged; the entrances are at the back. The orchestra occupies but a part of it, and the seats at either end reach down to the stage. The aspect of the Stage is admirable: the place of the Stage-doors is filled up by two immense groupes, of gryphons or sphynxes in bronze, supporting each a brazen tripod of hydrostatic lights, the invention of Mr. Barton. The flame rises from a circle of thirty-six small tubes above the edge of the urn; and, from its brilliancy, wavering delicacy, and slight connection with its support, excited universal admiration. Over these, on a line with the first and second circles, are the Managers' boxes, small, and singularly tasteful: above these is a magnificent cornice; and the whole is surmounted by the statue of a Muse. This is all finely picturesque. From the overpowering brightness of the stage and the tripods, the eye rises to the graceful ornament of those recesses, that look, with their gold and imaged work, like pavilions in an Eastern garden, and from them gradually fixes on the pale and marble form of a Muse, surrounded with the severer lines of the architecture, slightly shaded from the burning brightness of the stage, and standing in all the grace of chaste, lonely, Greek simplicity. Two large green columns, with gilded capitals, limit



*107. Front of the New Theatre, Drury Lane.*



the stage on either side; and the Architect seems to have availed himself of them in a very able manner. From the comparative narrowness of the stage, it might have been feared that the figures of the performers would appear disproportionately large, at least to all that majority of the audience not perfectly on their level: but by bringing forward those pillars, and still more by, if we may so express ourselves, extending their pedestal on both sides of the proscenium, an immediate contrast is formed, which reduces the stature of the performer to the due proportion. From this, which struck us as a very happy expedient, the stage appeared to have all the advantage, without the inconvenience, of that size, which has given rise to so much complaint in the Covent-garden Theatre. On a comparison with this latter theatre, defects occur to us in both; but the mutual character differs so widely, that a perfect contrast is beyond our powers. The one produces its effect by rigid regularity; the other by various elegance. In the one, decoration obtrudes itself reluctantly, and is submissive to the sterner spirit of the Temple; in the other, the very wantonness of a luxuriant taste sports in all its fancies, and impresses all its touches with the spirit of an oriental palace. Shakspeare would have chosen Covent-garden for the stern passions of his *Othello*, or the desperate and sublime cruelty of his *Lady Macbeth*; but for the light elegance, and fairy beauty, and fantastic splendour of the *Tempest*, or the *Midsummer Night's Dream*, he would have turned unwillingly from Drury-lane. They are both able works, and do honour to the liberality and the skill by which they have been raised within so short a period; but a decision on their respective merits must depend on the peculiar habits of the decider.

Careful provision has been made to secure the audience against all danger. The circular wall, which forms the back of the boxes (which in all other theatres has been a framing of timber), is a solid brick wall, three feet thick; and at a distance of only eight feet from that wall is another, of concentric form, of 2 feet 3 inches thickness; the two being connected by strong brick arches, covered with stone above, forming the corridors or passages immediately at the back of the several tiers of boxes, and constituting a double barrier of uncom-

combustible materials, to check the progress of fire. The staircases are entirely of stone; and the avenues and door-ways leading to them all so constructed, in point of materials and capacity, as to afford effectual security, both against fire, and pressure of the audience arising from sudden alarm. The external doors of the theatre, also, are so constructed as to open outwards as well as inwards. A system has also been adopted, which promises to secure the building from fire. For this the Theatre is indebted to the science and ingenuity of Col. Congreve, who has gratuitously undertaken to superintend its execution. It consists in the application of compressed air, by means of which water can be forced through pipes already laid to every part of the building. In the centre of the ceiling there is a head of Apollo upon a circular board, upon which the rays of the sun are painted, and which hangs a little lower than the rest of the ceiling round it. To this part of the ceiling a great pipe is conveyed, from which, by the operation of machinery over the ceiling, water may be discharged in great abundance, and by the horizontal whirling of the circular board beneath, be spread in a heavy shower over every part of the pit and boxes. The quantity of water in the reservoir at all times will be 200 hog-heads, which will be sufficient to keep all the pipes fully supplied about half an hour; and the Directors of the York-buildings Water-works are engaged to put their steam-engines in activity, and in 20 minutes to replenish the reservoir.

Of the Exterior appearance of this building, of which we have given a view of the principal front (see Plate 1.), it can scarcely be necessary to say any thing. Simple in its form, and unobtrusive in its character, though solid and massive in all its parts, it presents little promise of the elaborate nature and finish of the internal edifice. The means of the Committee having been limited, it was their object to avoid all unnecessary expense.

This magnificent building will be completed for 112,000*l.* The expense, including lamps, lustres, stoves, grates, furniture, and Architect's commission, will not exceed 125,000*l.*: and the whole amount of expenditure, including scenery, wardrobe, and all the other properties, will not exceed 150,000*l.*

Mr. URBAN, *Sept. 12.*  
**A** CORRESPONDENT, page 132,  
 inquires about a person whom he  
 calls Sir Jacob Ackworth, bart. He  
 may be informed, that that gentleman  
 was only a Knight, not a Baronet;  
 that he was Surveyor of the Navy  
 from 1715 to 1748-9, March 16, when  
 he died—and that he had a daughter  
 married to Sir George Wheate, bart.  
 Whether he had any other issue, the  
 Writer hereof is not informed. E.

*The following, it is believed, is now  
 first published from the Original,  
 communicated to us by*

A CONSTANT READER.

SIR, *Whitehall, July 13, 1714.*

**T**HE Queen has commanded me to  
 transmit to you the enclosed  
 Petition of Alexander Charles, com-  
 plaining that King Augustus has made  
 a grant of the goods of Robert Gor-  
 don, deceased, in prejudice of him,  
 who, as next heir, has a right to in-  
 herit. You are particularly to in-  
 form yourself of her Majesty's sub-  
 jects settled in Poland, whether, upon  
 the death of British merchants, the  
 persons next of kin, if there was no  
 testamentary disposition, have not  
 always enjoyed their estates; and if  
 so, whether such claim be founded  
 upon any treaty that can be pro-  
 duced, or upon usage only. If you  
 find you have good ground to inter-  
 pose in favour of the present Peti-  
 tioner, her Majesty thinks fit you  
 should do it in the strongest manner;  
 for it is not his case only, but that of  
 the rest of her Majesty's subjects  
 established in that country, who, I  
 am told, are very numerous. I am,  
 Sir, your most humble servant,

Mr. Scot. H. BROMLEY.

Mr. URBAN, *Chelsea, Sept. 14.*

**I**N the year 1702 the Earl of Ran-  
 elagh, Paymaster-General of the  
 Army, was expelled the House of  
 Commons, for having *misapplied* the  
 public money. This event is thus  
 mentioned in the second volume of  
 Smollett's *History of England*:

"No object ingrossed more time, or  
 produced more violent debates, than did  
 the inquiry into the public accounts.  
 The commissioners, appointed for this  
 purpose, pretended to have made great  
 discoveries. They charged the Earl of

GENT. MAG. *October, 1812.*

Ranelagh, Paymaster-General of the  
 Army, with flagrant mismanagement.  
 He acquitted himself in such a manner  
 as screened him from all severity of  
 punishment, nevertheless they expelled  
 him from the House for a high crime  
 and misdemeanour, in misapplying several  
 sums of the public money. He  
 thought proper to resign his employ-  
 ment."

In a MS. of the Earl's own-hand  
 writing he thus alludes to this trans-  
 action:

"*Account of the violent and unjust  
 Proceedings of the House of Com-  
 mons against me in the year 1702.*

"*Wednesday, November 11, 1702:*  
 Mr. Bromley, from the Commissioners,  
 presented to the House a Narrative,  
 or representation, of their proceed-  
 ings, in relation to my Accounts as  
 Paymaster of the Forces; which he  
 read in his place, and afterwards deli-  
 vered in at the table. Ordered, that  
 I should have a copy of the said  
 Narrative. Resolved, that the House  
 will, upon Friday se'nnight, take the  
 said Narrative into consideration.

"*Thursday, November 19, 1702:*  
 Ordered, that I should have time till  
 this day se'nnight to give in my  
 Answer to the said Narrative.

"*Thursday, November 26, 1702:*  
 The Speaker acquainted the House,  
 that he had received that morning  
 a letter from me, that I could not  
 bring in my Answer until Monday  
 following, and therefore I desired  
 time till then. Ordered, that I bring  
 in my Answer on that day.

"*Monday, November 30, 1702:*  
 I presented the House my Answer to  
 the said Narrative, and it was read.  
 Ordered, that the Commissioners of  
 Accounts have a copy of it; and that,  
 upon the desire of said Commissioners,  
 Thursday next be appointed to  
 deliver in their Reply.

"*Thursday, December 3, 1702:*  
 Sir Godfrey Copley, from the Com-  
 missioners, acquainted the House  
 that he had their Reply to my An-  
 swer, which he read in his place, and  
 afterwards delivered it; whereupon,  
 Resolved, that day, that the Com-  
 missioners have power to examine  
 the Accounts of the Paymaster-Gen-  
 eral of the Army; although his Ac-  
 counts have been delivered to former  
 Commissioners, or that they have  
 been

been passed by the Auditor of the Imprest. Resolved, also, that the House will proceed, to-morrow morning, to receive the proofs of the Commissioners to the several articles of their Narrative, and of my answers to the same.

"*Friday, December 4, 1702:* The House proceeded according to the said Order, and Resolved, that it appears to this House that the Paymaster-General of the Army hath given great and unnecessary delays, in his proceedings before the Commissioners for taking the Public Accounts. Resolved, also, that this House will, to-morrow morning, proceed to receive the proofs of the Commissioners to the several articles of their Narrative, and of my Answers to the same.

"*Saturday, December 5, 1702:* The House proceeded accordingly, and several Articles of the Commissioners were read, and my Answers to the same; and, after a long debate thereupon, Resolved, that the House will proceed farther, upon Monday morning next, upon the remaining articles of the Commissioners' Narrative and of my Answers.

"*Monday, December 7, 1702:* The House proceeded accordingly on that day; and the remaining articles, and my answers thereunto, being read and debated;

"Resolved, that it appears to this House that the said Commissioners had very good grounds for making their observations, laid before this House:

"Resolved, that all moneys issued to the Paymaster-General of the Army ought to be applied to the use of the Army and Forces only, and to no other use or purpose whatsoever:

"Resolved, that all Privy Seals, Orders of the Treasury, or other warrants, to the Paymaster-General of the Army, to apply the money in his hands to other than the use of the Army and Forces, are illegal and void:

"Resolved, that all Privy Seals or warrants to the Auditors of the Imprest, to pass accounts without proper vouchers, or to make any allowances other than according to the law and course of Exchequer, are illegal and void:

"Resolved, that the Commissioners have made good the allegations in their Narrative laid before this House.

"A motion being made, and the question being put, that the House do now adjourn; it passed in the Negative:

"Resolved, that it appears to this House that the Paymaster-General of the Army hath misapplied several sums of the public money.

"*Monday, January 18, 1703:* Mr. St. John, from the Commissioners, presented to the House a General State of Receipts and Issues of the Public Revenue, between Michaelmas 1700 and Michaelmas 1701, and between Michaelmas 1701 and Michaelmas 1702, with some observations thereupon; and the titles thereof were read. Resolved, that this House will, upon Friday morning next, take the said States into consideration.

"*Friday, January 22, 1703:* Ordered, that the consideration of that part of the observations in the said State, which related to me, should be adjourned till Monday following; but, other business intervening, the House did not proceed upon any thing relating to me till Friday, January 29, 1703; and the last observation being read, and a debate arising thereupon, it was adjourned till Monday following.

"*Monday, February 1, 1703:* The House resumed the adjourned debate upon the said last observation of the Commissioners; and the Resolutions of the 4th and 7th of December last relating to me being read: Resolved, that Richard Earl of Ranelagh, late Paymaster of the Forces, is guilty of a high crime and misdemeanour, in misapplying several sums of the public money: Resolved, that Richard Earl of Ranelagh, for his said offences, be expelled the House."

Yours, &c. T. FAULKNER.

MR. URBAN, *Old Town, Stratford-upon-Avon, Sept. 1.*

UPON the Monument of George Carew, Earl of Totness, in Devon, and Baron of Clopton in this parish, erected by his Countess in Stratford-upon-Avon Collegiate Church, is the following inscription for Sir Thomas Stafford:

"Thomas Staffordus, strenuus militum ductor in Hiberniâ, et merito suo eques auratus, serenissimis Magnæ Britanniæ Regibus Jacobo et Carolo, eorumque conjugibus Annæ et Henriette-Marie,

ob fidem præstitam operam inter domesticos charus; quia cum illustri Comite ejusq; conjuge diu familiariter vixit, hic pariter requiescere voluit, donec Christi redemptoris voce ad æternam gloriam induendam, una cum triumphatis beatorum cœlis resuscitabitur superstitibus: Valedixit an' o ab exhibitio in carne Messia supra millesimum sexcentess'... postquam omnibus notis gratis annos vixisset....."

This Sir Thomas Stafford, who is said to have been an illegitimate son of the Earl of Totness, was secretary to that nobleman when President of Munster, in the reign of Elizabeth; and the Earl having compiled a History of the Rebellion in Ireland, which he had so successfully appeased, bequeathed by his will (remaining at Doctors' Commons, dated 30 Nov. 1625) all his books and MSS. to Sir Thomas; who, in 1633, published the Earl's history, under the title of "*Hibernia Pacata*," in folio, which he dedicated to Charles I. "to whom nothing could pass through the publisher's hands which was not justly due, both by common allegiance and particular service." To Sir Thomas the Earl also gave his lease of an annuity or pension of 500*l.* received from the Alienation Office; and if Sir Thomas survived him, he wished his Countess to convey unto him all his estates of Woodgrove in Essex, at Salcombe, Abberton, and Lancaster, or elsewhere, in Devon and Cornwall. This nobleman died without issue 27 March, 1629; and it appears that Sir Thomas survived both him and his Countess; the latter of whom died 14 Jan. 1636-7; and by her will, (in the Commons, dated 9 June 1636) she desires her trusty and good friend and chaplain, Richard Wright, Clerk, dwelling in Warwickshire, and Richard Wootton, of Fleet-street, London, gent. to peruse all her deeds and evidences, and deliver unto Sir Thomas Stafford such as belonged to him.

Sir Thomas was Gentleman Usher to the Queen, and married the widow of Sir Robert Killigrew, who was father of Sir William Killigrew. It appears in Birch's Life of Sir Robert Boyle, p. 54, that towards the end of the Summer [about 1638], the kingdom having attained a seeming settlement by the king's pacification with the Scots, Sir Thomas Stafford,

with his lady, visited their old friend the Earl of Corke, at his seat at Stalbridge, in Dorsetshire, with whom, before their departure, they concluded a match between his son, Mr. Francis Boyle, afterwards Lord Shannon, and Elizabeth Killigrew, then a maid of honour, both young and handsome, daughter to my Lady Stafford by her former husband. To make his addresses to this lady, Mr. Francis was sent before, accompanied by Philareus his brother [Robert Boyle, who wrote a sketch of his memoirs under this title] to London; whither, in a few weeks, they were followed by the Earl and his family, of which a great part lived at (Lady Stafford's house) the Savoy; the rest, for his family was much increased by the accession of his daughters, the Countess of Barrimore and Lady Ranelagh, with their Lords and children, were lodged in the adjacent houses; but took their meals in the Savoy, where the old Earl kept a plentiful table. Mr. Francis Boyle's addresses to his Mistress being soon successful, he was, in the presence of the King and Queen, publicly married at Court, with all that solemnity which generally attended matches with Maids of Honour.

The Earl of Corke appears to have retained a great regard for Sir Thomas Stafford; and by his Will (24th Nov. 1642, 18 Car. 1.) "gives to this his true and faithful friend, if he survived him, his diamond hatband, for which he paid 200*l.*; and if his son Francis survived him, to bestow it upon him at his death." [Collins' Peerage, vol. V. p. 258, 3d edit. 1756.]

It does not appear that Stafford was buried at Stratford in the family vault with his friends the Earl and Countess, as he desired; for the blanks in the inscription (which was probably, as well as the other for the Earl and Countess on the same monument, composed by himself) were never supplied; and there is no entry of his burial in our Register.

This is my whole information regarding Sir Thomas Stafford, of whom I am very desirous of obtaining further particulars: the communications, therefore, of any of your numerous and intelligent Correspondents will be gratifying and servicable.

Yours, &c. R. B. WHEELER.

Mr. URBAN, *Old Town, Stratford upon Avon, Sept. 1.*

IN Blomefield's History of Norfolk, (vol. VII. p. 95.) it is mentioned, that, in 1511, Sir Thomas Boleyn presented Sir Richard Torkington to the rectory of Mulbarton, in the hundred of Humbleyard, in that county; who, in 1517, March 20, began his pilgrimage to Jerusalem, which he performed, and took an exact account of his journey; and that his Manuscript was lately in the possession of Mr. James Wright. This identical MS. wherein Mr. Wright has, among others of its former owners, written his name, is now before me; and as it records many curious observations of this devout pilgrim, agreeing well with the superstitious notions of those times, I have transcribed a few extracts from the Book: and shall be obliged to your Correspondents for any biographical communications or references regarding Torkington, of whom I know nothing farther.

The Church, says Blomefield (p. 94.) is dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and stands in the King's Books, Milberton, alias Mulberton, cum Kenningham, 141. In Ecton's *Thesaurus*, continued by Dr. Willis (2d edit. 1754, p. 313.) it appears that the Church was gone: "*Æccles. destructa.*—John Revel, gent. Patron. 1741." I have therefore little hopes of any monumental inscription being preserved.

Torkington's MS. which is written on upwards of 200 small pages in the common hand of that period, thus commences:

"Thys ys the begynnyng of the pylgrymage of Syr Rychard Torkyngton, person of Mulberton in Norfolkke. And how he went towardys Iherusalem all a lone to the tyme he came to Venesse."

"ffirst the ffryday a for Mydent that was Seynt Cuthberdys day And the xx day of Marche in the vij yer of kyng herri the viij.<sup>th</sup> And the yer of ower lorde god M.CCCCC xvij. abowte viij of the cloke the same mornyng I shippedd at Rye in Sussex. And the same day a bowte x. of the cloke at nyght I loded at Depe. in Normandy. And ther I lay in the Shippe all nyght." &c. &c.

[Extracts.]—"At Lyons I visityd the Reliques at the yle wher Seynt Anne lyes. Ther ys a Cuppe of an Emerawde stone. wherof ower Savyr Crist drank at hys Mawdy."

"Thursday that was the ix day of April I com to Agnebelletto. The aftyr

none I passed ovyr an ill and a grevous Mounte callyd mounte Gobylyn. the same nyght I com to Cambery wt. in the mountis. Wher I a bode good ffy-day and hard divine s'vyce.

"Ther in a Castyll ys a ffayer Churche wher ys the sudary of ower Savyr Crist lh'e."

"And ther I hard a ffamous Sermon of a Doctor which began at v. of the cloke in the mornyng and contynuyd tyll it was ix of the clok. In hys s'mon at on tyme he had a balys in hys hond a nother tyme a schorge the iij.<sup>de</sup> tyme a crowne of thorne the iij.<sup>th</sup> tyme he shewyd the pepyll a pictur poyntyd on a clothe of the passion o.<sup>r</sup> lorde. And aft. that he shewyd them the ymage of god crucifyed upon a crosse and thame all the peple bothe yong and old they fell downe upon ther knes and cryed with lamentable voce om'a the p'cher the peple they weppe marvell it was to see.

At Milan "in a Chirche of Seynt Silvester is on of the thornys that ower lord was crownyd w.<sup>t</sup> Also ther ys a grett Churche of o.<sup>r</sup> blyssyd lady. And ovyr the bye Auter in the Roff or toppe of the Churche ys a syne of a sterr of golde and in the mydys of the sterr ys on of the naylis that ower Savyr Crist was crucifyed w.<sup>t</sup> Ther brenne lampes a-bowth it that ye may se it p'ffghly."

"At Pavia ther lyes Seynt Austyn the grett doctor in an howse of religion of Chanons regular and fryers Austyns. In the same Church lyeth Lyonell the second sounne of kyng Edward the iij.<sup>de</sup> honorable upon whose tumbe ys wretyn "*Sanguine insignis fuerat vel florib.<sup>us</sup> armis.*

*Ossa Leoneti continet iste lapis.*"

"We com [29. April] to the godly and ffamose Cite of Venys. Ther I was well at ese, ffor ther was no thyng that I desyred to have but I had it shortly. At Venys at the fyrst howse that I cam to except oon the good man of the house seyde he knew me by my face that I was an englysshman. And he spake to me good englyssh thanne I was jous and glade. ffor I saw nev'. englyssh man ffrom the tyme I dep'ted owt of Parys to the tyme I cam to Venys. which ys vij or viij C. myles."

At Padua among other relics is "the Tong of Seynt Antony yett ffayer and ffressh which toug he convertyd myche peple to the ffeythe of Crist." "Also in the abbey of Seynt Justine virginys a place of blake monkys ryght delectable and also solytary. Ther lithe Seynt Luke and Seynt Marhew And ther we see the ffynger of Seynt luke that he wrotte the holy gospell w.<sup>t</sup>" "Also in the monastery of blake monkys callyd Seynt

Seynt Nicholas *De Elia* is oon of the pottis that ower lord turnyd watir in to wyne." "Also in a nother Church lies the holy body of Seynt Luce virgyn. ye may see p'f'lyghtly hyr body and hyr papys."

"In Candia s'ire Creta was musyke fyrste founde And also Tourneys and exersys of Armys fyrst founde on horse bake. Ther was lawe fyrst put in wryt- yng. Armour was fyrst ther divisyd and founde. And so was rowys and rowyng in bootts. In the same yle was Saturnus borne. *Primus Cretens Saturnus venit ab oris.*" "Samyne ther dwellid Cretes yt ys wretyng of them in *Acib. Ap'lor. Cretenses semp. mendaces bestie.*"

"We passed by the Ile of Seynt Nicholas of Cartha wher as he tooles made of Iron that nev'. here ther egge by myracle of Seynt Nicholas. As they sey I saw it nott."

"Saturday the xj day of July a bowyt iijj of the cloke at afyr noon we had sight of the holy londe. Thanne the Maryners song the letany And afyr that all the pylgryms w.<sup>t</sup> a joyfull voyce song *Te Deum laudamus.* and thankyd all myghty god that he had yoven us such grace to have onys the sight of the most holy londe."

"At Jaffe begynnynth the holy londe and to ev.<sup>r</sup> pylgryme at the fyrst foote that he sett on the londe ther ys grauntyd plenary remission *De pena et a culpa.* In Jaff Seynt Petir reysid ffrom Deth Tabitam. the sarvaunt of the Appostolis. And fast by ys the place wher Seynt Petir usyd to fyssh And o.<sup>r</sup> Savior Crist calld hym and seyde *sequere me.*

"At Rama we war receyvvd into Duke Philipps hospitall And it ys calld so by cause Duke Philippe of Burgone byldyd it of hys grett Charite to Receyve Pylgryms therin. We found no thyng ther in but bar walles and bar floerthes excepte onny a well of good f'resh watir whiche was myche to o.<sup>r</sup> comforth. Nev'theles ther com to us Jacobyns and other feynyd Cristen peple of Soundry Sectis that brought to us mattes ffor o.<sup>r</sup> mony to lye upon. And also brede sodyng egges and sumtyme other vetallyes as mylke grapsy and appylys."

"Saturday [18. July] a bowyt vj or vij of the cloke at afyr noon we cam to Iherusalem and were receyvvd in to the Mounte Syon.

"Whanne Masse was don [Sunday 19. July] we went all to Dyn'. in the place wher we war ryghg honestely s'vyel. And at medys of the dyner the ffather wardyn made a ryght holy sermon and shewyd ryght devoutly the holynesse of all the blyssyd choseyn place of the holy londe And exortyd ev.<sup>r</sup> man to confession and repentaunce. And so to

visite the seyde holy placis in elennes of lyff. And w.<sup>t</sup> such Devocion as all myghty god wold yeff unto them of hys most speciall grace."

"At the Mounte of Olivete we came to the place under an holow Roke wher o.<sup>r</sup> savor preyng fell in suche an agony that he swete watir and blode That the droppes fell in grett plenty from hys eyne to the erthe sayng, *Pater si possibile est ut transat cum, s'ine inde; veruntamen no'. sicut ego volo, s'. sicut tu vis. fiat voluntas tua.* Cleme remission."

"Ffrom thens descendyng a stonyss east we came to the place wher o.<sup>r</sup> Savor Crist left Petir Jauis & John. *Sedete hic donec vadam illuc et orem vigilate et orate.* Also wher the Postyllis made the Creds of ower feyth. Also wher ower Savor Crist taught hys Discipolis to pray sayng *Cum orat. ita dicite, Pater noster.*"

"The stonyss of that place wher ower lady was born ys remedi and consolation to women that travell of Chylde."

"We went to the howse of *Dives Epulonis, qui sepultus est in Inferno.*

"We cam to the howse of Veronica wher as o.<sup>r</sup> blyssid Savor impressyd the ymage of hys face in hyr wympel whiche ys at Rome. And it ys callyd ther the Vernacle.

"The Churche of the holy sepulere ys rounde myche leke the form and makyng of the Temple at London saff it ys excedyng fer in gretnesse and bath wonder many yles Crodes and vowtes Chapellys high and lowe in grett nowmber and mervell it ys to see the many deferens and secrete places w.<sup>t</sup> in the sayd temple."

"Under the Mounte of Clavery [Calvary] ys a nother Chapell of o.<sup>r</sup> blyssid lady and Seynt John Ev'ngeliste that was callyd Galgatha and ther ryght under the morteyss of the Crosse was founde the hede of o.<sup>r</sup> fore father Adam."

"We cam to Bethelhem it was callyd in old tyme *Efrata* wher of it ys wretyng *Ecco audivimus eum in Efrata.* And bytwyna Citie and the chirche ys the flod *floridus* wher the fayer mayd shuld a ben brent and was savyd harnessed by myracle for the fyre changed in to Rosis."

"At the Est ende of the Chirche of Bethelhem ys a cave in the grounde wher sumtyme stod a Chirch of Seynt Nicholas. In the same cave entred ower blyssid lady w.<sup>t</sup> hyr Sone. And hyd hyr for ffer of Kyng Herrod. the gronde ys good for Norces that lake mylk for ther Childern."

"The last day of July a bowyt v. of the cloke in the mornyng we made sayle to warde Cypres homward w.<sup>t</sup> ryght grett joy and solas."

"The

"The xxv. day of August that was Seynt Bertilmews day the morne aftyr Seynt Bertilmew decessyd Roberd Crosse of London Pewterer and was buryed in the Chirche yard in Salyus [in the Island of Cyprus.] And xxvij day of August decessyd Syr Thomas Toppe a prest of the West countre. And was cast ov', the borde As was many moo whos soules god assoyle. And thanne ther remainyd in the shippe iij Englyssh prestis moo."

"Off o.'s chere and well entretyng at the Rody [Rhodes] and what comfort was don to us and speciall that was seke and disesyd by Syr Thomas Newporte and Mayster William Weston and Syr John Bowthe and aftyrward by other Jentylmen of England ther it war to long to wrytte."

"At the Rodes In the Chyrche of Seynt John ys many grett reliques The fynger of Seynt John that he shewyd ower Savo' whanne he seyde *Ecce Agnus Dei.*" In the place of the Lordes mysteres ys a fayer Chapell ther ys on of y'. thornys that o.'s lorde was corwynyd w'. and ev'y. good fryday from ix of the klok to it be x. it burgyns and waxe grene."

"Tewysday Seynt Thomas day erly in the mornyng we discovered not fare from us iij grett Shippys And thanne we war in grett fere for we wend they had be Turkes but thei war not soo. They war Cristen men we made to wardes them for to have spoke w'. com of them to know what Tydyngs they browgh owt of fraunce and sodenly oon of the shippes shott a gonne at us. And hit ower shippe and stroke a sounder on of o.'s grett Cables. God be thankyd no man was harmyd nor hurte.—Thanne he made us to mayne that ys to sey stryke downe ower sayles."

"Sunday [3. January] the wynde began to ryse in the north And monday all day and all nyght it blew owtrageously. Indured a wondred grett Tempest aswell be exceedyng wondors blowyng of wynde as by continuall lythynyng So that the capteyne and the patron And all the knyghtys of the Rode whyche war ther to the nownbyr of xiiij wended we shulde a be lost."

"The same nyght a howte x of the cloke we all p'mysyd pylgrymage to ower lady of grace of Missena in Cecyllia. And ev'y man delyv'ed hys offering the same tyme to the patronne of the shippe."

"Tewysday the v. day of Januarij we seyleyd up and down in the Gullf of Venys for the wynd was so strayght a yens us that we myght not kepte the ryght wey in no wyse And we war offeryd to be dryff in to Barbaria where dwellyth ower mortall Enimys. as Turkes. Mau-moluks. Sarrazyns and other infidelys."

"Wedynsday the vj. day of Januarij the wynde rose a yens us w'. grett tempest thounderyng and lyghtnyng all day and all nyght So owt rageously that we knew not wher wee war. And thanne we putt us all in the mercy of god beyng in grett peyne and woo both day and nyght voowyng sum of us pylgrymages to o.'s blyssyd lady of Lorette. in Ytalya and sum to o.'s lady of Walsyngh'm. and sum to Seynt Thomas of Cannterbury we that war Englyssshmen. The patronne of o.'s shippe gaderd mony of us for to make o.'s offeryng to the iij kyngs of Colony And as sone as we cam on londe we shuld have messe in honor of them."

"And in thys flosayd long contynuall tempeste and storme we war drefk bakward iij. C. myle."

"In the yle callyd Swafana in Turkey we a bode v. dayes and dyv'se knyghtes of the Rodes wont on londe w'. ther hande gonnes and slew horse for ther hawkes that war in the sheppe ther war in the shippe. I. C. hawkes and moo."

"Saturday a for the fyrst Soudary of elene lent the xx. day of february we went in to the Castell [of Corfu] a mong the Jewys it was ther Sabaday. The same day ther was a Jewe maryed and aftyr Dynere I saw them danse in a grett Chamber bothe men and women in ryche apparell Damaske Saten velvett weryng a bowte ther nekkys chensys of fyne gold w'. many rynggs on ther fygngers w'. stonys of grett pryce. She that was maryed she had upon hyr hede a crowne of gold.—On of the Jewys he gan to syng And than all the women danned to gedyr by the space of an owre. And aftyr that ther cam in yong men on of them sang Thanne the men and women danned to gedyr Aftyr that they callyd in ther mynstellys and so they danned iij long howrys. They be fayer women. wonderfull werkes in sylke and gold and many goodly thyngs they have to sell. in thys cete we a bode by the space of xiiij dayes."

"In the yle of Cecyll by the see syde ys *Mons Etaneus* whiche brosynth both day and nyght ye may see the smoke com owt of the topp of it. Ther cam owt of thys hyll fyer ronnyng downe like as it had be a flode of watyr in to the Citty which stondyth by the see syd and brost many howses And also shippes that war in the havyn And put the Citty whiche ys callyd Cathanea in grett Juberte wher the holy body of Seynt Agathe lyes And by the myracle of the veyle of Seynt Agathe the Citee a-for rehersyd was pres'vyd."

"Monday that was the xvij day of Apryll we cam to Dover and lay ther all nyght."

« Tewysday

"Tewysday a for Whith Sounday we cam to Cannterbury to Seynt Thomas Messe and ther I offeryd and made an Ende of my Pylgrymage—*Deo gracia.*"

"We war owt of Enlong in ower seyde pylgrymage the space of an holl yer v. wekys and iij dayes."

Yours, &c. R. B. WHEELER.

Mr. URBAN, Sept. 8.

THE Bill for the better provision of the unbeneficed Clergy having been for a considerable time before the publick, it has been a matter of some surprise to me, that your pages, always open to discussion, and abounding with remarks on the prevailing topics of the day, have never offered, until, in your last Number (see p. 101), a single animadversion on it. Every month, on cutting open your leaves with all the eagerness of a man who, from the obscurity of his nook, can take a peep at what is going on in the world, only through the loop-hole which you open to him, I have expected to see Pluralists and Curates descending into the controversial arena of the Gentleman's Magazine. But the former seem to repose in perfect security, knowing that every former legislative attempt to compel them to an act of justice has been defeated, or has dropt still-born, in the shape of some lifeless half-measure, some inert regulation by no means reaching to the extent of the case. The latter, from the same sense of former failure, seem to lie down hopeless and despairing. At length forth starts an opponent to Lord Harrowby's Bill, under the title of *A Poor Incumbent*. Any other clerical designation would not have answered his purpose: a dignitary, a pluralist could say but little for themselves.—The garb of poverty is what no man is very desirous of appearing in before the world; its thread-bare cloak, however, may serve as a good disguise. But if this suspicion of mine be groundless, if your Correspondent's circumstances agree with his signature of *A Poor Incumbent*, let me give him the "right hand of fellowship," for I am *A Poor Curate*. Nevertheless, with your leave, I must animadvert a little on his Remarks.

The Poor Incumbent considers Lord Harrowby to have adopted the Population of a Parish as the standard whereby to determine the value of

the Living. And is his Lordship so very ignorant as not to know what every one knows, that there is not the least necessary connexion between them? It is clearly his object to make the number of souls in a parish, not the standard of the value of its tithes, but the criterion of the ecclesiastical duty performed in it. Can a safer basis of calculation be framed? Having thus ascertained the quantity of labour, his Lordship from thence deduces the amount of compensation due for it. Can a fairer principle be laid down?—The Poor Incumbent allows, that the man who has the care of a parish in which are (meaning *is*) the greater number of souls, is entitled to a higher remuneration than the man, whose task is less arduous; and then almost immediately adds, that to compute the *needful value* of a cure from the number of souls contained therein is a *fallacy*; a *regulation most unjust*. What a perverted inference from the point which he concedes! what a contradictory conclusion! And is it really unjust, that the wages shall bear a due proportion to the labour? Then Moralists and Legislators have never yet told us what justice means.—My brethren, I hope, will excuse the coarseness of the comparison: is the hire of the husbandman regulated by the fertility of the field, or by the amount of his toil? Does the clerk in a mercantile concern receive a salary in proportion to the clear profits of his employers, or to the labour they require from him?

In adopting the sentiment of the *National Adviser*, the Poor Incumbent charges the Bill with "aiming at the existence of the poor Vicar." What a murderous Lord Harrowby! And then proceeds to say, that if justice be done to the Curate (a confession, by the bye, that he is treated with injustice at present), let it not be done at the expence of the Incumbent alone. Surely there is no one else on whom the Curate can make any demand. A benefice is property, I admit: because the law calls it a freehold: but it is property, *sui generis*, of a peculiar nature—property clearly intended for the maintenance of the officiating ministers of Religion—property bestowed on the incumbent, not as a pension for past services, but as a compensation for the continued discharge



charge of them. Failing in this, whether by the secular employment of a school-master, by the interfering duties of another living, or even by infirmity, to say nothing of the numerous unjustifiable causes of non-residence, he fails in the implied condition of his incumbency.—“*What then is to become of superannuated Rectors and Vicars?*” I beg to ask a question in turn: What, at present, becomes of superannuated Curates?

The Poor Incumbent's proposal of restoring to the Church some part of the property of which it was deprived by the dissolution of the Monasteries, &c. and applying it to the augmentation of small livings, might do very well, if it were practicable. But lay improprators are as tenacious of their possessions as clerical rectors. They, too, could raise a clamour respecting the invasion of property; and having on their side stronger arguments, and not more generosity, neither poor Incumbents nor poor Curates have any thing to expect from that quarter.

Mr. Urban, there is not a thinking man in the kingdom, who is not sensible of the depressed condition of stipendiary Curates: with salaries in most cases not amounting to more than half the salary of an exciseman, and exceeded by the wages of a common mechanick, they have to supply the common cravings of nature, and to support a decency of appearance, not required from those who occupy a lower step in the gradation of society. With a disposition, perhaps, for study, they are totally precluded from its indulgence by the want of means to procure books. With the strongest desire to promote those charitable institutions with which every neighbourhood abounds, they must either stand forward on the subscription list at the price of some necessary of life, or at least domestic comfort; or retire under the mortifying plea of poverty.

The Poor Incumbent is ready in supposing cases of Vicars weighed down by infirmity, and burdened with families. Let me ask him, if Curates are not subject to similar infirmity, and equally apt to incur similar burdens? Are Vicars the only persons who are exposed to distress, or sensible of its bitterness? But the cases, wherein a beneficed Clergyman is compelled by infirmity to employ a Curate, are few

indeed compared with those occasioned by pluralities and non-residence. Now if the income of a living is to be divided into two unequal portions (and I believe most of my brethren would be contented to go halves), is it any matter of injustice that the man, who undertakes the whole toil, should receive the larger share? Whatever in such a case the Incumbent would receive—be it small in amount—not more than the present pittance of his Curate,—still it would be *clear gain*—the product of a sinecure.

I fear, Mr. Urban, that I have presumed to appropriate to these remarks too large a portion of your valuable Miscellany: nevertheless I shall hope for your indulgence. The order of Clergy to which I belong, have hitherto been silent under their misery, trusting that the justice of their case would open its own way: this trust, I hope, is now about to be realized. But I intreat them not to rely on it indolently. Their opponents will be active. They will, perhaps, petition Parliament; they will fill the public prints with exaggerated statements, and argue from extreme cases. Let the whole body of Curates arise, and meet them with equal activity. Their parliamentary influence may be less; but justice and reason are on their side. Let them not, through shame or timidity, any longer withhold their distress from the public eye. Newspapers and Magazines will kindly open to them their channels of communication, and give publicity to their grievances.

Under an impression, Mr. Urban, that you will not refuse to them that favour, I request you to insert in the Gentleman's Magazine these observations of  
A CORNISH CURATE.

#### *State of Trade in the Eighth and Ninth Centuries.*

(From VELY's *History of France*.)

THERE was a settled trade between England and France till Charlemain, offended at the presumption of Oda, king of the Merians, prohibited all manner of dealing between the two nations; and it was not till two years after, that it returned into its former channel. In these times, scarce any other trade was known than that carried on in Markets and Fairs; these were almost the only

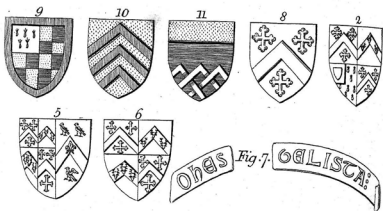


Fig. 12.

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Fig. 4.

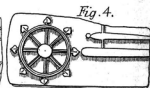


Fig. 1.

Hic iacet Roger' de Wyclif quom dñs scti' velle  
 ratina h' ems quom aabz ppietudens dñs amen

only place for providing one's self with necessaries. Artificers and dealers lived apart, dispersed in the country; the towns were chiefly inhabited by the Clergy and some Handicraftsman, with few or no Monks or Nuns, the far greater part of the monasteries being either in the open countries or the neighbourhood of the cities. The Nobility lived on their estates, or attended on the court. The people were so far under their lords' power, as not to quit the place of their birth without his leave. The Villan was annexed to the estate, and the slave to the master's house or land. Such a dispersion was little promotive of Trade, which loves large and policed communities; and it was to remedy this inconvenience, that our kings established so many fairs. One of the most famous was that of St. Dennis; traders resorting to it, not only from all parts of France, but from Friesland, Saxony, England, Spain, and Italy. We find, however, that, in more distant ages, trade was not absolutely confined to those markets alone, or to European foreigners. The city of Arles, under the first reigns of the Merovingians, was in great repute for its manufactures, its embroideries, and gold and silver inlaid works; and like Narbonne and Marseilles, frequented by ships from the Levant and Africa; but this prosperity gradually sank under the devastations of continual wars, the Asiaticks and Africans no longer coming to our ports. Such, however, is the force of original and innate dispositions, that Narbonne, Arles, and Marseilles, still retain that commercial and naval genius which had made them the staples of the universe. Under the Carolingians, they kept a certain number of ships trading to Constantinople, Genoa, Pisa, and Alexandria. Lewis the Gracious granted a charter to a body of merchants, without any other acknowledgment or obligation than to come once a year and account with his exchequer.—The French too have little busied themselves in trade under the two first races of our kings, leaving it almost entirely to foreigners: Spain furnished them with horses and mules; Friesland with party-coloured mantles, upper garments furred with marten, otter, and cat skin; England with grain, iron, tin, lead, leather,

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and hounds; the East and Africa with drugs, exquisite wines, and Egyptian paper, the only sort used in France till the eleventh century; and olive-oil, which at that time was so scarce in our climates, that, at a Council held at Aix la Chapelle, monks were permitted to use bacon-oil. If foreigners imported only common goods to France, its exports were answerable, consisting usually of potters ware, brasnery, wine, honey, madder, and salt." M. L.

“ There scatter'd oft, the earliest of the year,  
By hands unseen are showers of violet;  
The redbreast loves to build and warble there,  
And little footsteps lightly print the ground.”

GRAY'S ELEGY.

Mr. URBAN, Dec. 27, 1811.

I HAVE taken the liberty of transmitting to you an exact description of the rectorial church of Wycliffe, near Greta Bridge, Yorkshire; with the monuments, inscriptions, arms, stained glass, &c. contained in it. The Church is pleasantly situated on the banks of the Tees, which divides Yorkshire from the county of Durham, adjoining Wycliffe Hall, the seat of F. Constable, esq. where are many romantic and picturesque views, both up and down the river. The lofty and perpendicular rocks displaying their rugged fronts, and the distant woods and plantations their dusky summits, form upon the whole such a groupe of objects in the most finished tints as are seldom collected in one picture. It would be in vain to attempt, in words, what colours would but too imperfectly express; I shall therefore confine myself to one object, namely, what I have promised above.

This venerable structure consists of a nave and a chancel, divided by a large pointed arch. It has also a porch with arches of the same order. The date of its foundation is unknown: yet, from internal evidence, and from a reference to the Rev. G. Miller's account of English Church Architecture, in his Description of Ely Cathedral, one may conjecture that it was founded sometime between 1200 and 1250.

The following is an extract from Domesday:

“ In

"In Wyclive 11 caruc.

"In Thorp' ad geld. 2 caruc. et 2 ear. possunt esse. Ibi habuit Raven unum manesium. Nunc habet Emsant, et vastum est. Pratum Acr. 1. Totum 5. quarentenæ long. et 1 lat. Tempore R. Ed. valebat 5 s."

Extract from "Inquisitiones Feodorum in Richmundeschire factæ coram Johanne Kirkby Thesaurario domini E. filii Regis Henrici, anno regni ejusdem Regis E. 15<sup>o</sup> (1287) ut patet in rotulo Feodorum ejusdem anni in com. Ebor. et in Bagade fcodis, in custodia Remem. Thesaurarii existente in Ebor." (Gale's Honor of Richmond, p. 37.):

"Robertus de Wycliff tenet 12 caruc. terræ in Wycliff, Girlyngton et medietatem de Thorp', quæ faciunt feodum militare: unde Thomas de Girlyngton tenet 3 caruc. in Girlyngton de dicto Roberto. Item Michael de Thorp' et Rogerus de Halnathby tenet 1 caruc. terræ et dimidium de medietate villæ de Thorp' de Felicia de Hoton, et ipsa de eodem Roberto. Item idem Robertus tenet 7 caruc. terræ in Wycliff de Wil. de Kirkton cum prædictis parcellis, et Wil. de Comite (scilicet Richmondia), et Comes de Rege. Et prædicti Michael et Rogerus de Halnathby tenent de alia medietate de Thorp' unam carucatam et dim. de eadem Felicia, et Felicia de Roberto Wycliff, et Robertus de Maria de Middleham, et Maria de Comite, et Comes de Rege."

Both Girlyngton and Thorp are in the parish of Wycliffe. The former was the seat of the illustrious family of the *de Girlyngtons* for many centuries: the last of them perished in defence of Charles I. The mansion is at present converted into a farm-house.

Fig. 1. is an inscription on brass, within the altar-rails, with the arms fig. 8. *Hic jacet Rogerus de Wycliff quondam dominus istius villæ, et Katerina uxor ejus, quorum animabus propitiatur Deus. amen.* In Gale's Honor of Richmondshire, page 70, this Roger is mentioned in a register of the feudal tenures, anno 1317: "Rogerus Wycliff tenet in Thorpe super Tese 3 caruc. ad 12, et facit sectam ad liberam curiam et alia servitia;" and again, anno 1319, "Roger de Wycliff pour 3 charues de terre en Thorp sur Tese a 12 pour relief," 4s. 2d. —Hence one may conjecture, that this is the same Roger; and that if the brass plate is not of the same date, it has been renewed afterwards.

The illustrious John Wycliffe, the Reformer, was of this family; a painting of whom, by Sir Antonio More, from an original, was given by the last rector, the Rev. Thomas Zouch, to his successors, and is kept in the adjoining parsonage-house.

I find mention of a Robertus Wycliff, Clericus, anno 1392 (Gale, p. 78.)

The following inscription in Roman Capitals is on a brass plate on a large blue slab over the vault:

"Wilhelmus Wycliff, armiger, quondam hujus manerii dominus, Eccl'ie patronus, pauperumque munificentissimus alumnus, sub hoc tumulo reconditur: qui licet in prioribus annis inultis adversæ fortunæ fluctibus fuerit jactatus, familiæ tamen suæ memoriam et antiquitatis splendorem propagare summam curam adhibuit. Hic quinto die Augusti anno D'ni 1584 ex hac luce in feliciora emigravit.

"Juxta eujus latus dilecta conjux Merial, filia prænobilis D'ni Wilh'mi D'ni Evrie, sepulta jacet; in eujus memoriam hoc marmor fieri et locari maritus ejus curavit. Hæc obiit vicesimo tertio Novemb: anno D'ni 1557.

"Joh'es Wycliff, ultimus filius d'oti Wilhelmi et Merial, erga charissimos hos suos parentes, in amoris pignus et pietatis suæ testimonium hoc monumentum dicavit. Anno D'ni 1611."

There is also, within the altar rails, a brass plate, on which is engraven a boy in a praying posture, with the arms No. 2. (which also occur in the body of the church upon an old oak seat) with this inscription:

"Radulfo Wiclifus, ætatis suæ decimo quarto, anno vero Domini 1606, die Januarii quinto, inversa fatorum serie, defuncto filio suo unico, superest pater Gulielmus Wiclifus hoc quantum est monumentum, non sine summo rerum humanarum fastidio, posuit pietatis et amoris ergo."

At the death of this Ralph, the male issue of Wycliffe became extinct; his two sisters marrying, the one a Witham, and the other a Tunstall, the latter of whom redeemed the other moiety, and by other intermarriages became also possessed of the valuable estate of Burton Constable in Holderness, Yorkshire; both which estates have descended to the present worthy possessor, F. Constable, esq.

Fig. 3. is a correct sketch of a blue marble slab at the entrance into the chancel. The inscription is, "*Hic jacet dominus Johannes Forster, quon-*

*dom rector istius ecclesie de Wycliff, cuius anime propitietur Deus. amen;*" and "*Jesu fili dei miserere mei. amen.*" —It is unknown at what time this John Forster was rector.

The following inscriptions are also in the chancel on blue slabs:

"H. E. S. Thomas Robinson, A. M. hujus ecclesie rector per annos ferme triginta octo. Obiit septimo calendis Aprilis, A. D. 1769; æt. 66."

"H. E. S. Stapylton Robinson, A. M. reverendi Thomæ Robinson, filius. Obiit quarto calendis Junii, A. D. 1769, æt. 28."

On a grey slab:

† "Here lies interred Bridget, the daughter and co-heiress of Thomas Witham, late of Preston-upon-Skeerne, esq. and wife of Michael Tunstall, gent. She died May 4, MDCCXLV. aged 33 years, 11 months, and 12 days. Also William, their fourth son, who died on March 5, 1744, aged one month and five days; and Winefred, their younger daughter, who died Nov. 1, MDCCXLV. aged one year, 10 months, and 13 days."

Here are also in the South wall, behind the door, two small neat marble tablets, with the following inscriptions:

"Sacred to the memory of Elisabeth, wife of Mr. Matthew Whitelock, of Richmond, and daughter of Mr. John Newby, of West Thorp, in this parish: she died Jan. 17, 1802, aged 21 years. O God! thy will be done!"

"To the memory of Maria, daughter of John Newby, of Thorp, and wife of Richard Ellerton, of Richmond, who departed this life Sept. 22, 1808, aged 24."

Fig. 4. is a sketch of a small coffin-lid in the church-yard. The arms, fig. 5 and 6, are upon a blue marble fixed in the wall on the outside of the church.

#### *A description of the Windows and Stained Glass, &c.*

In front there are six large painted windows, of which the first (from the West) consists of three long lights or divisions, in one of which there remain depicted certain fragments of a figure holding the imperfect scroll (fig. 7.) The inscription, when entire, was *Joh'es Evangelista*, the saint to whom, probably, the church was dedicated. The remaining five front windows are of the same size and shape, consisting of three long lights and three upper ones, formed by the or-

namental part of the stone divisions. Each long division, in these five windows, has been occupied by some painting in full proportion, though at present not one remains entire; in some, little or no remnants are visible. In the three long lights of the first of these windows are fragments from the waist upwards, heads wanting, of three Evangelists, holding each a book. In the upper lights are the pictures of the Virgin, with a crown on her head, holding in her left arm the infant Christ, and in her right hand an olive branch; and of two females playing, the one upon two pipes or flutes, and the other upon an instrument not unlike our triangle, having a number of rings upon it to increase the musick. In the second window, in the first long light, is the picture of the fourth Evangelist from the waist upwards, head defaced. In the second, there are some small remnants of a figure holding something like a globe. In the third is the full picture of *St. James*, except the head, with a pilgrim's staff in his right hand, and in his left a book: the scrip with the scallop hanging by his side. In an upper light is the picture of God holding the globe of the earth, and in another a female playing upon a violin. In the third window there are not the slightest remnants of any painting in the long lights, though it is pretty clear there have been. In an upper light is an extremely deformed face, and in another a female playing upon a violin. The fourth, like the third, contains no figure in the lower lights. In an upper division is the full picture of God, except the head, supporting in his arms Christ on the cross; in another, a female sounding a trumpet; and in the third, one playing upon an instrument somewhat resembling the bagpipes. The fifth contains, in an upper light, the picture of the Virgin, head wanting, with the infant Christ in her arms.

The old East window consisted mostly of stained glass, but falling to decay, the present one, much reduced in size, was substituted; in which is preserved, a fragment of *David* in a praying posture, a female in a reclining attitude, and a figure, from the waist upwards, holding a chalice. The rest of the glass is carefully preserved in the adjoining rectory.

In the North side are two windows.

The

The first, divided into two lights by stone, contains (fig. 9) the arms of the Dukes of Richmond, and fig. 10 (which I leave to be elucidated by any of your Readers.) The other North window seems to have been renewed some time ago. In it are preserved, from the old window, the lower part of fig. 11, the arms of the Fitzhughs of Ravensworth, and part of the arms of the Dukes of Richmond, same as fig. 9. The window to the West is walled up: it is the largest in the whole structure, and inclines much to the Norman style of building. There are two bells, on the lesser of which are the following inscriptions: GODS NAME BE PRAISED; and below, RAPHE PORTER ME FECIT. 1607. On this bell are also several impressions of the silver coinage of Edward VI. and James I. There is within the altar-rails a small neat piscina, and a long stone seat.—I have also to call the attention of your Readers to your Magazine for April 1802, page 297, where is a sketch of a coffin-lid found at Wycliffe in 1801. In regard to the ornamental part, the drawing is perfectly correct, but the inscription is far from it. Fig. 12 is an exact copy; but it is to be lamented that the end of the stone is wanting, consequently the inscription is imperfect; part of it runs thus: *Here lies \*\*\*\*\* the wife of Thomas, of Thorp.* In the above "Inquisitiones Feodorum," &c. (1287) I find the following: *Hoton' parva "Sunt ibi 3 caruc. terre, unde 12 &c. quas Wil. de Hoton tenet de Roberto filio Thomæ de Thorpe, & ipse Robertus de Comite, et Comes de Rege."* One may fairly conjecture that this was the same *Thomas de Thorpe*, and then the date of the stone may be ascertained within a few years. Part of the old mansion of *Thorp* remains; but considerable improvements have been made, and the estate at present belongs to *S. Crawdock*, esq.

DUNELMENSIS.

Mr. URBAN, Kensington, Sept. 12.

THE Letter of your Correspondent upon 1 Chron. xx. 3, (and cut them with saws, &c. Vide infra,) given in your Magazine for July last, p. 33, appears to me a proof of the important service that the Pastors and Professors of Geneva have rendered to religion, by making the Bible plain and easy for readers of

the most ordinary capacity. The passage here quoted is particularly clear in their translation.—During that there is a gentleman of education and information, your Correspondent, who understands Greek and Latin, and who cannot satisfy himself respecting the difficulty of the same passage, that he reads in three different versions of the Bible, in three different languages.

Your Correspondent finds fault with the Critics for not having "cleared up 1 Chron. xx. 3: it must," says he, "continue a matter of doubt to the unlearned reader."—But it has already been "cleared up" by many Critics, such as Dr. Sam. Chandler, in his *Review of the History of the Man after God's own Heart*, p. 188, &c. and his *Life of King David*, vol. II. p. 227—223, and the Notes; see also *Michaël. Supplem. ad Lex. Heb.* p. 954, &c. and p. 1697; and by many other English critics, whom I have at present no opportunity of consulting.

Farther, I intend to shew that AFTER THE EXPLANATION given in the letter to which your Correspondent alludes, and which he answers, it is so far from continuing "a matter of doubt," that the simple perusal of the English Bible is sufficient for the understanding of 1 Chron. xx. 3, and to satisfy "the unlearned reader." By the Bible in the English language, at least, I will, in the first place, endeavour to "clear up" the passage in question.

We see in Gen. xix. 38, that the Ammonites descended of *Ben-ammi*, son of Lot.—We see in Deut. ii. 19, that they were under a special protection of the Mosaic Law: "And when thou comest nigh over against the children of Ammon, distress them not, nor meddle with them; for I will not give thee of the land of Ammon any possession; because I have given it unto the children of Lot for a possession.—David could not be ignorant of these facts.

We see in 1 Chron. xix. 4, what was the crime of the Ammonites: *Hanus took David's servants and shaved them, and cut off their garments—and sent them away—and prepared for war, when they saw that they had made themselves odious to David*, ver. 6 and 7.—There were provocations, there were motives for going to war; but the offences bear no kind of proportion to the horrid punishments which,

which, it is supposed, were inflicted by David.

David was, besides, affectionately disposed towards Hinnon their King; he had received favours from his father, 1 Chron. xix. 2. *And David said, I will shew kindness unto Hinnon the son of Nahash, because his father shewed kindness to me, And David sent messengers to comfort him concerning his father.*—is there any probability that he should order the subjects of that Prince, his friend, to be put to death by such cruel tortures? Would the officers of his army have consented to carry such abominable orders into execution?

It would be still more extraordinary, that David should not have lost the affections of the Ammonites, whilst the barbarities he exercised upon them were fresh in their memories. For when he was at Mabanaim, 2 Sam. xvii. 27, on the other side of the Jordan, waiting the event of Absalom's rebellion, *Shobi the son of Nahash of Rabbah* (therefore brother of Hinnon), amongst other friends of David, brought him very large supplies of all sorts of necessaries, namely, *beds, and basons, and earthen vessels, and wheat, and barley, and flour, and parched corn, and beans, and lentiles, and parched pulse, And honey, and butter, and sheep, and cheese of kine, for David, and for the people that were with him, to eat.* 2 Sam. xvii. 28, 29.

The same English Bible informs us, what was David's treatment of those whom he had subdued in war. We read in 1 Chron. xix. 19, that *when the servants of Hadarezer saw that they were put to the worse before Israel, they made peace with David, and became his servants.* The proof that David did not murder them, or the Ammonites, is what follows in the same verse: *Neither would the Syrians help the children of Ammon any more.* If they had been all killed, where would have been the use of informing us, that they would not be allied any more?

Again, let any one consult his Bible whether the Ammonites were *cut with saws*, &c. and whether David *so dealt with all the cities of the children of Ammon*? He will find this was not the case; for he will read in 2 Chron. xx. 1, that about 140 years after the victory which is the subject of this

discussion, *the children of Moab, and the children of Ammon, and with them others besides the Ammonites, came against Jehoshaphat to battle.*—A sufficient demonstration perhaps that the nation had not been destroyed.

But if they were only made captive, they had an opportunity to shake off the yoke when the kingdom of Juda was weakened by the revolt of the ten tribes, and by its submission to *Shishak King of Egypt*; 2 Chron. x and xii. Then of course the Ammonites were able to make war, as is here related, and to bring such a multitude of men against Jehoshaphat, as forced him to acknowledge, in his prayer to God, that he *had no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do, but our eyes are upon thee*; 2 Chron. xx. 12. And we find that these nations were extremely formidable, if they were able to oppose to Jehoshaphat an army superior in number to his own; 2 Chron. xvii. 14—18. *quod vide.*

Here we have the evidence of Jehoshaphat himself against the heinous crime falsely imputed to David; for he says in his prayer, *And now behold, the children of Ammon whom thou wouldest not let Israel invade, when they came out of the land of Egypt, but they turned from them, and destroyed them not.* 2 Chron. xx. 10;—a prayer which implies in the most positive manner, not only that they had not been destroyed by David, but even that at all times they had been treated with mercy by the Jews, and that their hostility against him was an act of ingratitude.

So far the facts related in the Bible lead to the true reading of 1 Chron. xx. 3. But we see in the examination of the passage itself a great help to its interpretation. It runs thus in all the editions of the English Bible that I have consulted:

*“And he brought out the people that were in it, and cut them with saws, and with harrows of iron, and with axes. Even so dealt David with all the cities of the children of Ammon.”*

Observe that the words which are not in the original, are carefully put in italics, in the English Bible. Now if we leave out the word *them*, and suppose the verb *cut* in the infinitive mood (as it is composed of the same letters