

size. This lake, which receives the contribution of several little rivers, gives rise to the river Leven, which disembogues itself in the sea, after passing through a considerable part of Fifeshire. As we were returning, the house and grounds of Mr. Graham, who is absent in India, were pointed out to me; they form a part of the northern side of the loch, and have a very handsome appearance from the water. This house was built by Sir William Bruce, a celebrated architect, in 1685.

Kinross is a small town, and the capital of the tiny shire which bears its name. It is a royal burgh. Most of the houses have neat little kitchen-gardens belonging to them, and some have plantations of trees, presenting altogether an agreeable scene. The inn in the town is tolerably comfortable; I there tasted some of the trout I have described, the flavour of which was very fine. This fish is esteemed as a great delicacy at Edinburgh and Perth, and in all the towns to which the distance of carriage will admit of its being conveyed in a state of freshness.

The shores of Lochleven gave birth to Bruce, the Poet, the elegance and tenderness of whose song cannot fail to please and affect the mind. I cannot do better than describe him in the feeling manner in which he is mentioned.

in No. 36 of the Mirror :—" This Michael Bruce was born in a remote village in Kinross-shire, and descended from parents remarkable for nothing but the innocence and simplicity of their lives : in the 21st year of his age he was seized with a consumption, which put an end to his life. Nothing, methinks, has more the power of awakening benevolence, than the consideration of genius thus depressed by situation, suffered to pine in obscurity, and sometimes, as in the case of this unfortunate young man, to perish, it may be, for want of those comforts and conveniencies which might have fostered a delicacy of frame, or of mind, ill calculated to bear the hardships which poverty lays on both. For my own part, I never pass the place (a little hamlet, skirted with a circle of old ash trees, about three miles on this side of Kinross) where Michael Bruce resided, I never look on his dwelling, a small thatched house, distinguished from the cottages of the inhabitants only by a sashed window at the end, instead of a lattice, fringed with a honeysuckle plant, which the poor youth had trained around it, I never find myself in that spot, but I stop my horse involuntarily ; and looking on the window, which the honeysuckle has now almost covered, in the dream of the moment I picture out a gentle figure for the tenant of the mansion ; I wish, and my heart swells while I do so, that he were alive, and that I were a great man, to have the luxury of

visiting him there, and bidding him be happy." This amiable youth and sweet Poet has feelingly depicted the melancholy illness that brought him to the grave.

" Starting and shiv'ring in the unconstant wind,
Meagre, and pale, the ghost of what I was,
Beneath some blasted tree I lie reclin'd,
And count the silent moments as they pass,—

The winged moments, whose unstaying speed
No art can stop, or in their course arrest;
Whose flight shall shortly count me with the dead,
And lay me down in peace with them to rest."

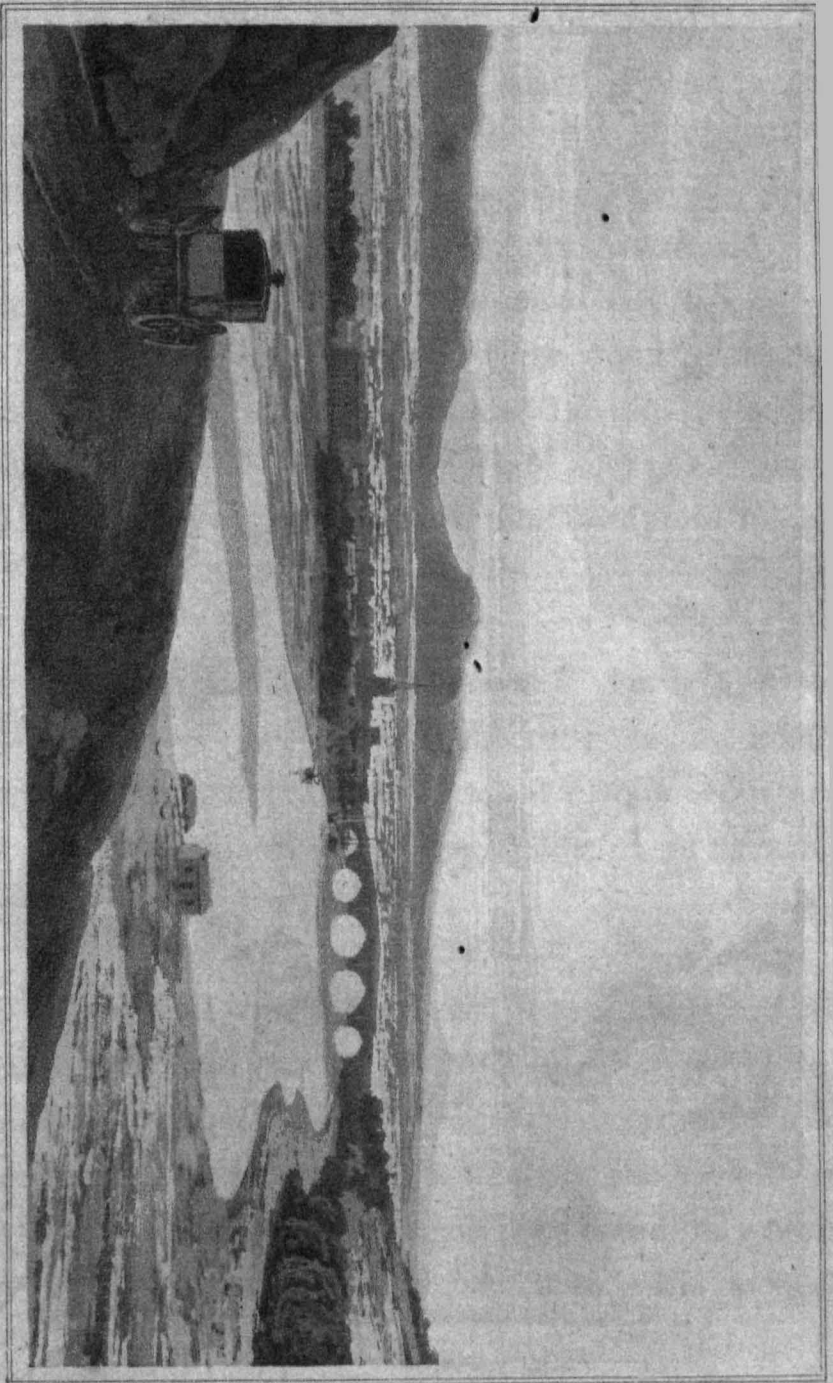
In this little town there are no less than three schools, in each of which writing and accounts are taught, at *three shillings* per annum for each pupil. Some small cotton-manufactories are carried on here. This place is a great thoroughfare, being placed in the high road to Perth, between which and Queen's Ferry it is equidistant. It furnished me with a gig for the former place, distant about fifteen English miles; this mode of conveyance I was invited to adopt by the fineness of the weather.

The road to Perth is extremely good, and the country presented an appearance of increased luxuriance and cultivation as I advanced. Woods and corn-fields, hill and dale, every where gladdened the eye; and the looks and habits of the peasantry seemed to correspond with the flourishing gaiety of the surrounding scenery. The superb plain

of Gowrie, extending for nearly twenty miles, opened in the most unexpected and beautiful manner. A short distance from Perth, where I made the sketch annexed, the windings of the Tay, the bridge uniting the rich and romantic country on either side, the handsome appearance of the town, the cavalry barracks, and an expanded view behind, offer to the eye the most enchanting prospect. When Agricola and his army first beheld the Tay, and the adjacent plain, upon which Perth at present stands, it is recorded that they exclaimed, with one voice, " Ecce Tibur! Ecce Campus Martius! Behold the Tiber! Behold the Field of Mars!"—The Italians afterwards called the Tay the New Tiber.

This river, which deservedly excited the eulogium of the Roman legions, is the chief of all the Scottish waters, and has its source in the western extremity of Perthshire, in the district of Breadalbane, on the frontiers of Lorn, in Argyleshire.

With an exception of the New Town Edinburgh, the town of Perth, the capital of the county of Perthshire, is by far the best built and most regular of any in Scotland. Perhaps a finer situation for a capital could not be found. The streets are broad and long, well paved, with handsome buildings on either side, and many elegant shops. It ap-



Perth.

Drawn by Mr. John Carr.

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pears that anciently particular streets were inhabited by particular artisans, as the names of some, still preserved, seem to indicate. The inns are excellent. It would be tedious, and foreign to my purpose, to describe this beautiful city very minutely; it will be sufficient to observe, that the principal streets, in the old part of the town, are the High and the South street, both of which are very long, and that George-street, Charlotte-street, the Crescent, Rose Terrace, and the Circus, are the most handsome in the new part. This town has been subject to some very destructive inundations, which have caused the streets to be raised from time to time. Many stories, and even whole houses, are to be found below the surface of the street.

The Crescent forms a beautiful curve, and looks towards the North Inch, a lawn of the greenest pasture, forming the Race-Course, and watered by the Tay. This spot is much resorted to as a promenade, and is frequently embellished with many elegant and well-dressed ladies, and at the same time disfigured by the linen-washerwomen. On the Rose Terrace, to the northward of the Crescent, stands an elegant building, which was nearly finished, containing the halls and apartments of the public seminaries. This highly ornamental building has been erected by subscription, many of the donations of which are truly noble. The schools of this city have been long very justly cele-

brated, and have afforded education to many distinguished persons, amongst whom the people of Perth, with infinite pride, reckon James Crichton, whose wonderful endowments, both of body and mind, obtained him the appellation of "the admirable Crichton," and ranked him as the wonder of his species, and the eloquent, learned, and refined Lord Mansfield, who, after obtaining at the British bar, by the invincible powers of his oratory, the name of "the silver-tongued Murray," filled the dignified office of Chief Justice with a splendour of ability that will shed lustre upon his country for ages to come. The pupils at these seminaries are very numerous, and come from various parts of Great Britain and Ireland. The system of education, the skill of the masters, the salubrity of the climate, the good morals of the people, and the cheapness of provisions, contribute to render the schools of this town of the first consideration to parents in the disposal of their children. Perth presents another instance of the literary inclination of the Scottish people. It has a Literary and Antiquarian Society, founded in 1784. There is a public library; and there are also several excellent booksellers' shops. One of the principal curiosities now remaining in this town is St. John's Church, a very large and ancient structure, now divided into three churches, called the East, the Middle, and the West Kirks. In this church John Knox preached an animated discourse against the

idolatry of the Church of Rome. After the sermon, and when the most respectable citizens had retired to dinner, an enthusiastic priest was indiscreet enough to prepare to celebrate Mass, which so inflamed those who had not retired, and those who returned to the spot upon hearing of it, that they attacked the priest, destroyed his images and relicks, and, extending their rage to the neighbouring monasteries of the Gray and Black Friars, and the Carthusians, nearly levelled them with the earth. Upon hearing of these outrages, Queen Mary dispatched an army of seven thousand men to subdue the insurgents; but both parties being of considerable strength, terms of accommodation were mutually offered and accepted. A treaty was signed, which the Queen, who entered Perth in consequence of it, has the reputation of having broken, by introducing French troops into the city after the Protestant forces had been dismissed. At this juncture, as Patrick Murray, one of the reformers, with his family, was viewing the French soldiers, as they marched into the town, from the balcony of their house, some of the troops fired several shots at the place, and killed his son, a boy about eleven years old. When his dead body was pointed out to the Queen, historians assert, that, such is the influence of religious hostility, she displayed the greatest want of feeling. The people of Perth again revolted: Knox once more inspired them with holy zeal against their

oppressors, and victory was on the side of the people. In the midst of the tumult the exasperated populace demolished the noble abbey and palace of Scone, which stood in the neighbourhood. These differences, and the advantages obtained against the religion of the Church of Rome, led to the final triumphs of the Reformation. As soon as the people felt their power, they were not content with the mere toleration of their religion, but, headed by Knox, Willcocks, and others, men of vigorous minds and powerful persuasion, well suited to the times in which they flourished, at length succeeded in making their worship the established religion of the kingdom.

Gowrie-house, so celebrated in history, was, till very lately, standing. I saw merely the basement of some part of it, the remainder having been pulled down the preceding summer, to make room for some other buildings. The walls of the part which remained are of a prodigious thickness. It was erected by the Countess of Huntley, in 1520, and in 1746 was presented by the magistrates to the Duke of Cumberland, who afterwards sold it to government for barracks. It was famed for being the theatre of the Gowrie conspiracy, one of the most mysterious events in the annals of Scotland.

As I have mentioned that the Duke of Cumberland was

owner of this pile, it may not be unpleasant to my readers to peruse a ridiculous circumstance which occurred in this town, soon after the events which induced the magistrates to present this house to the royal Commander. Robertson, of Strowan, whose poetical talent is well known, was, at an advanced age of life, the Chief of a Clan, at the head of which he fought, in the unhappy conflict of 1745, against the royal troops at Preston Pans, who there sustained a signal defeat. The old Chieftain obtained for his share of the booty the carriage of Sir John Cope, the Commander in Chief, which he drove as far as he could towards the district of Rannock ; and when the roads became impassable for the carriage, his vassals carried it into Rannock, where he began to examine its contents ; and finding, amongst other things, several rolls of a brown colour, which, as they were in a soldier's carriage, he concluded must be valuable specifics for wounds, he ordered them to be sold in the streets of Perth, and his vassals went about crying, " Wha'll buy Jonny Cope's salve ? " The salve proved upon trial to be rolls of chocolate.

The bridge of Perth is a simple and elegant, but strong, structure, which opens a communication with different great roads of the kingdom ; it was finished in 1771, by subscription. It was designed and executed by Mr. Smeaton. Its entire length is nine hundred feet, and its breadth only twenty-

two within the parapets: it is subject to obvious objections on that account; and its narrowness is such, that there is no foot-path on the northern side. The piers are founded ten feet beneath the bed of the river, upon oaken and beechen piles, and the stones laid in puzzalane, and cramped with iron. It has nine arches, of which the centre is seventy-five feet in diameter. The sum of 26,000*l.* was expended on this noble and useful work. The Commissioners of Forfeited Estates, by his Majesty's permission, contributed 11,000*l.*, Perth 2,000*l.*, Royal Borough 500*l.*, Private Subscribers 4,756*l.*; but, notwithstanding these liberal contributions, the building could not have been completed, had not the late Earl of Kinnoul, who had retired from the tumult and cares of public life, after having essentially served his country as a diplomatic representative, with great public spirit advanced the remaining sum required, and taken the tolls for a security. The debt thus contracted has since been discharged, and the toll abolished.

The village of Bridgend, long time inconsiderable and neglected, has participated in the great public advantage derived from this structure, and is now a very flourishing appendage of the beautiful capital on the opposite shore.

The environs of Perth afford many subjects for admiration. On the northern bank of the river, opposite to the

Hill of Moncrief, is the towering Crag of Kinnoul. These two hills seem to be rivals in form and grandeur; between these the Tay winds with equal majesty and beauty, enlivened by ships moving up and down, and reflecting on its bosom a series of neat cottages, handsome villas, gardens, rising woods, flourishing plantations, and rich waving corn-fields. Every point of view is at once picturesque, happy, social, and civilized. A great part of this county abounds with the fossil treasures of nature. From the summit of Moncrief-hill, turning eastward, may be seen the Frith of Tay, the rich Carse of Gowry, and the populous northern coast of Fife; to the westward, Upper Strathern, and Strath-Tay*. Wild heaths, and full-grown woods and cultivated grounds, banquet the eye with contrasted character. The prospect from Kinnoul-hill, though less extensive, is thought to be more beautiful than from that of Moncrief. From the former, the eye, delighted, ranges over the vast plain of Strathmere, the Grampian Mountains, the windings of the Tay, Perth and its gay environs, the coast of Fife, and the German Ocean. There are several hand-

* Strath is an expression peculiar to the Highlands, and more particularly applies to the North Highlands. From the great central mountains which run from south to north descend a series of others in connection, and running parallel to each other, towards the east and west seas; the openings between these parallel mountains are called Straths, and form distinct districts, and are generally watered by considerable meres, as Strathern, Strathmere, Strath-Tay, &c.

some mansions to be met with in these excursions, the principal of which is Duplin-house, the seat of Lord Kinnoul.

The ride to Methven is also well worth the exertion of the traveller, particularly of the romantic wanderer, who, in this ramble, near to the bridge of Dalcrue, may

“ From rose and hawthorn shake the tear,”

upon the grave of Bessy Bell and Mary Gray, so celebrated in Scottish song. The tradition which loves to dwell upon the memory of these unfortunate young ladies relates that the father of Miss Bell was Laird of Kinvaid, in the neighbourhood of Lednoch ; that the girls were both very beautiful, and loved each other with all the ardour of romantic friendship ; that the plague broke out in 1666, when Miss Bell was visiting Miss Gray, to escape the contagion of which they erected for themselves a bower, about three quarters of a mile west from Lednoch-house, in a secluded spot, called Burn-braes, on the side of Brauchie-burn, where they resided in the happy society of each other for some time, till at length the pestilence spreading with great fury, they imbibed it from a young gentleman, who, with a liberality of love somewhat uncommon, was enamoured of them both ; and that in this sylvan asylum they perished, and were buried in another part of Mr. Gray's ground, called the Dronach Haugh, at the foot of a brae of the same name, near the bank of the river of Almond.

The staple manufacture of Perth is linen, which, it is said, was at first insensibly established by several itinerant merchants, who used to travel through the Highlands to Perth and its vicinity, and, having acquired some little property by their erratic enterprise, at length settled as shopkeepers at Perth, and augmented the industry of the city by their little capitals and their experience. The linen manufacture was also not a little indebted to the trustees of the forfeited estates, (part of the rents of which were applicable to the improvements of the country,) who encouraged the culture of lint, and the spinning of linen-yarn. The salmon-fisheries of the river are very extensive. Fish packed in ice are sent to London every spring and part of the summer, and there used to be a considerable exportation to the ports of the Mediterranean. So abundant are the fisheries, that three thousand salmon have been caught in one morning, weighing altogether eight-and-forty thousand pounds. The cotton-manufactures are also in a flourishing condition; and cotton-mills, bleach-fields, and print-fields, have been erected and formed in various situations in and adjoining to the city. The agricultural improvements of the country are coincident with the progress of its manufactures; and wheat, barley, and other kinds of grain, are annually exported to London and Edinburgh, to a large amount. Owing to the vicinity of the Highlands, manufactures of doe-skins and buck-skins have been also established; and tallow, bees-wax, dressed sheep-skins, dressed and raw

calf-skins, and raw goat-skins, are shipped from this place; boots, shoes, and gloves, are also manufactured in large quantities. Paper-mills too are established here.

Much of the prosperity and opulence of Perth are traceable to those causes which seldom produce any thing but desolation and poverty. In those unhappy times of public broil, which so frequently occur in Scottish history, this town was occasionally occupied by opposing armies, which rendered it a market for every necessary commodity. Dealers created capitals, and, by their prudence and enterprize, laid the foundation of all the good fortune which has attended this city since the Union.

The prevailing religion is High Calvinism, and the places of worship are numerous. The inhabitants have a high character for sobriety and decorum of manners. Owing to the number of people of rank and respectability, in commerce and trade, in the city and its vicinity, the streets are frequently enlivened with elegant equipages. The style of living is very handsome, and the ladies dress with considerable taste and fashion. On a Sunday I observed the philibeg worn, but not generally. The whole of this delightful place and its environs strongly reminded me of the city of Bonn, on the left bank of the Rhine, known in that romantic region by the name of "the Little Pearl."

I inspected every part of the prison, which is subject to the objection of its having no court-yard, a defect in all the prisons of Scotland; but it is clean, well aired, and spacious, compared with the tolbooth of Edinburgh. The prison-allowance is poor. The felons were very few. The gaoler informed me that some time since a young girl received sentence of death, 'for some rather heinous crime; and that, upon being pressed to petition to have her punishment commuted to transportation for fourteen years, the success of which was assured to her, she for a long time persisted in preferring death to banishment, and was at last, with great difficulty, prevailed upon to sue for the exchange, which was conceded to her in pity to her youth. The principal reason, I was afterwards informed, which induced her to prefer death to banishment, arose from her having been told, what is the fact, that Government provides no means for the return of the convict sentenced to transportation, after the expiration of the sentence, so that she, in all human probability, would be transported for life. This is a point highly deserving the attention of Government, whose faith ought not to be violated even with those who, for a period, have by their delinquency forfeited all claims to its ordinary protection. In the front of this prison is the following whimsical inscription:—"This house loves peace, hates knaves, crimes punisheth, preserves the laws, and good men honoureth."

CHAP. XV.

SCONE—MONKISH PROPHECY—OMNIS TERRA—ROUND TOWERS—
THE CARSE OF GOWRIE—FARM-SERVANTS—DUNDEE—BOETHIUS
—DR. JOHNSON—ABERBROTHICK—THE ABBEY—MONTROSE—
DONNOTTER-CASTLE—STONEHAVEN—ABERDEEN—EPIGRAM—
THE NEW BRIDGE—THE PIER—MARISCHAL COLLEGE—
DR. BEATTIE—THE PRISON—LUNATIC ASYLUM.

BEFORE I quitted Perth I visited Scone, a little village which stands about a mile and a half north of Perth, on the opposite side of the river, once famous for the royal palace which there, till very lately, gratified the curiosity of the traveller, having been the residence of the Scottish Kings, and the place where they were crowned. The Abbey I before mentioned also stood here. Upon the site, and I believe upon the foundation, of the palace of Scone, which was begun by the Earl of Gowrie, and finished by Sir David Murray, a favourite of King James VI., a magnificent Gothic mansion, of a red stone, apparently from the same quarry out of which the bridge was built, has been commenced and nearly finished by the present Lord Mansfield. The situation of this princely structure is exquisitely fine: it

is surrounded with plantations, the Tay finely meandering along the margin of the extensive lawn in which it stands, and the views in all directions, particularly towards Perth, being very beautiful. Adjoining, in a corresponding gloom of yew and fir trees, is a mausoleum of the noble family of Stormont, composed, as I was informed, of part of the aisle of the ancient abbey. It appeared to have been newly faced, and, if I remember correctly, was adorned with pinnacles. In this final depository I was informed there is a marble urn, containing the heart of a foreign lady, to whom Lord Stormont was first married, who died abroad, and requested that this pledge of her love might rest in his family cemetery. Mr. Cant observes that this Abbey was “founded by Alexander I. A. D. 1114, and was dedicated to the Trinity and Michael the Archangel. Our Kings were accustomed to be crowned here; and here the fatal marble chair in which they were crowned was kept, which was sent by Edward Longshanks to Westminster, where it still remains. Edward is supposed to have removed it to counteract an ancient prophecy, conceived in the following monkish lines :—

“ *Ni fallit fatum, Scoti quocunque locatum,
Invenient lapidem, regnare tenentur ibidem.*

“ Unless old prophecies and words are vain,
Where'er this stone is found the Scots shall reign.”

A prediction which the accession of James VI. to the English throne was thought to have consummated. There

is a small eminence near the house, called generally Boot-hill, and by some writers Omnis Terra, or Every Man's Land: the tradition is, that, at a coronation, each person who wished to see it brought his boots full of earth, which he emptied, and raised a little mound, which enabled him, *on his own land*, to see the ceremony. It is probable that Boot-hill is a corruption of Moot-hill, or the Hill of Meeting; and amongst the Highlanders it is known to this day by the name of Tom-a-Mhord, or the Hill of Justice.

Sudden indisposition, and the time which I lost in consequence, prevented me from seeing the Tower of Abernethy, in the town of that name, near the confluence of the Earn and Tay, distant, as I was informed, about 10 miles from Perth. There is only another building of the same kind in Scotland, viz. at Brechen. However, from the description given of both by several tourists, I should think they do not differ from the round towers which I saw at Glendaloch, and other places in Ireland.

I have seldom quitted any place with more reluctance than I did Perth. Soon after I had left it, I entered the Carse of Gowrie, the pride of the Scotch, and the admiration of every tourist. It is a long narrow plain, extending nearly from Perth to Dundee, about sixteen miles along the northern shore of the Tay, and is bounded on the north by the Sidlaw and other hills, which, sheltering it from that

quarter, afford to it a climate benign and favourable to vegetation. This vast and fertile plain, from being naturally a barren sand along the sea-shore, is composed of the finest soil, washed by heavy rains, which fall near the sources of the Tay, the Earn, the Gary, and the Tummel, from the Highlands; the naked summits of whose mountains exhibit every evidence of the spoliation. The fertility of the artificial soil thus deposited is extraordinary. There the English traveller will see English agricultural instruments and English farming almost every where adopted. As I approached Dundee, the Tay presented a magnificent expansion, and rendered the surrounding scenery of prodigal luxuriance exquisite beyond description. The mountains of the Highlands seem to have disrobed themselves to adorn these banks of the Tay, that, as it rolls along, every object may correspond with the majesty of its waters.

In the rural economy of this enchanting district, and in many parts of the Highlands, it is worthy of observation that the farm-servants are not admitted into the farmer's family, but have a separate house, adjoining to the out-offices, where they reside. Besides their wages, they have certain allowances of oatmeal, and money for salt; they have also an English pint of sweet milk, or double the quantity of butter-milk, to breakfast, dinner, and supper. The farmer also affords them fuel. Thus, whilst the Carse

resembles Arcadia in beauty, the simple food of her swains is Arcadian too. Pork and bacon, which used to be disgusting to the palate of a Highlander, form a greater portion of the food of the peasant here than in any other part of Scotland. The farmers in this district are very opulent and well informed. The road to Dundee is very good, from which many bye-roads communicate with the different villages in its neighbourhood.

Dundee is a fine town, the most considerable in Forfarshire. The houses are built of stone, the streets are well paved, and the market-place is a spacious square, from which the streets branch out; the shops are very respectable, and appear to be well supplied with every useful and ornamental article. The town-house, which stands in the market-place, is a handsome edifice of stone, erected in 1734, having a neat spire, one hundred and forty feet high. The upper story is allotted to the prisons, which, on account of their elevation, are well ventilated and secure, and the lower rooms contain the Guildhall, the Court-room, &c. The principal structure, amongst the religious houses, is St. Andrew's Church, which has an elegant spire, and, what is a great rarity in such buildings in Scotland, a fine peal of bells.

The harbour is most advantageously situated for commerce: it has been greatly improved under the liberal

care of the magistrates : vessels of the largest burden can have free access to it. At Dundee the Tay is three miles wide ; but, being so well sheltered by high land, horses can cross it, at any time, in ferries that ply on either side. In consequence of the flourishing state of commerce the town is very opulent ; and too much praise cannot be bestowed on the liberal and active spirit of the magistrates to render it worthy of the eminent local advantages which it possesses. The staple manufacture of the town is linen ; and a great deal of canvas or sail-cloth, sack-cloth, and cotton bagging, is made here. There are also several rope-manufactories. In this place the dying of linen-yarn is brought to a greater degree of perfection than any where else in Great Britain, and affords employ for several thousand persons. The salmon-fisheries on the Tay are also very productive. This town particularly has at various eras experienced the ravages of war, during the troubles of Charles and the usurpation of Cromwell. At the time when General Monk carried it by storm, so great were its riches, in consequence of the neighbouring gentlemen having brought their moveable wealth into it as a place of security, that every private soldier in the General's army had 60*l.* sterling for his share of the spoils, which were conveyed in sixty vessels to England. The celebrated Wallace was educated here ; and Hector Boece, or Boethius, the historian, was born here in 1470,

and studied with great success in the University of Paris, where he formed a lasting and honourable friendship with Erasmus. In 1500 he was recalled to Aberdeen by Bishop Elphinston, who made him Principal of that university.

Although his friend Erasmus has said of him that he knew not what it was to make a lie, it appears tolerably evident that he had a strong propensity to fiction. Dr. Johnson thus elegantly speaks of him: "The style of Boethius, though perhaps not always rigorously pure, is formed with great diligence upon ancient models, and wholly uninfected with monastic barbarity. His history is written with eloquence and vigour, but his fabulousness and credulity are justly blamed. The fabulousness, if he was the author of the fiction, is a fault for which no apology can be made; but his credulity may be excused in an age when all men were credulous. Learning was then rising in the world; but ages so long accustomed to darkness were too much dazzled with its light to see any thing distinctly. The first race of scholars in the fifteenth century, and some time after, were for the most part learning to speak rather than to think, and were therefore more studious of elegance than truth. The cotemporaries of Boethius thought it sufficient to know what the ancients had delivered. The examination of tenets and of facts was reserved for another generation."

Dundee was also the place of nativity of the late gallant Lord Duncan. This town, like Perth, displays a strong passion for literature and education. Besides a public grammar-school, it has English schools, in which, under able masters, the useful and elegant branches of learning are taught. The inns are good here. The neighbourhood is adorned with many neat and elegant villas, which exhibit the opulence of the town and the refinement of the inhabitants. The population is estimated at upwards of twenty-six thousand persons.

How singular is it, that, in passing through so fine a town, Dr. Johnson should only have noticed it by observing, "We stopped awhile at Dundee, where I remember nothing remarkable." But perhaps the melancholy humour in which he left the University of St. Andrew's, when the naturally morbid gloom of his mind appears to have assumed a darker hue from having contemplated, as he has phrased it, "a college alienated, and a church profaned," was too settled to admit of his feeling and commemorating the charms of a gay, graceful, and flourishing city.

The road to Abroath, or Aberbrothick, will sadly lose by a comparison with that which I had left behind, and I met with nothing to enter in my journal till I reached that town, which is of a tolerable size, and stands upon a small

plain, in an amphitheatre formed by a small ridge of hills. The harbour, which is small, but commodious, is entirely artificial, and formed by piers, which afford protection to vessels when they are not able to make any other port. At spring-tides, which rise here fifteen feet, ships of two hundred tons, and, at ordinary tides, ships of one hundred tons, can be admitted. This harbour is protected by a small neat battery, which originated from an attack made on the town, during the American war, by a privateer.

But what are most attractive to a traveller in this place are the ruins of the monastery, which excite a high impression of the magnificence of this venerable pile, in its perfect state. It was founded by William the Lion, in 1178, and dedicated to the celebrated Primate, Thomas a-Becket. The monks were of the Tyronesian order, from Kelso. The last abbot was Cardinal Beaton, who resembled Wolsey in power and splendour. The buildings of this religious establishment were enclosed in a wall, and must have covered a considerable extent of ground. The abbey was built of a red stone, found in the neighbourhood, unfortunately very friable. From its picturesque remains, it is evident that it must have originally possessed much beauty of architecture and sculpture; but time and religious phrensy seem to have overturned its solid towers, shattered its graceful columns, and unroofed its Gothic cloisters with peculiar

avidity, and with a more than ordinary sweep of desolation. I may be permitted to mention how I found myself accommodated here, as I have before done, and throughout shall continue to do; because an idea has gone forth in my own country, that, upon quitting Edinburgh, the traveller can seldom meet with comfort in any other part of Scotland but at the hospitable dwellings of private individuals to whom he may be introduced: the principal inn at this place is excellent. The trade of this place is considerable, consisting chiefly of osnaburgs, brown linen, and sail-cloth.

The road to Montrose, the next stage, is barren of beauty. The town is very neat and handsome, and singularly situated on a peninsula formed by the rivers of the South and North Esk, and the German Ocean: the harbour is not easy of access, but will admit vessels of large burden. The principal manufactures are linen, yarn, and thread, sheeting and sail-cloth, and rope-works. Tanning is also carried on; and there is a considerable fishery on the coast. This town is inhabited by many genteel persons of independent fortune, who naturally impart to the place a spirit of gaiety and refinement. It has a theatre and assemblies. Some of its public buildings are very respectable in appearance. The episcopalian spirit of Dr. Johnson was roused and delighted here by visiting the English chapel, and contemplating an organ in it. It has also public schools, an hospital, and a large

public library. The bridge over the South Esk is handsome. The Pretender slept here on the 13th of February, 1716, the night before he effected his escape to France. The population consists of about five thousand persons.

In my way to Aberdeen from Montrose, along the sea-coast, I passed through the towns of St. Cyrus, Benholm, Inverbervie, and Stonehaven. The ruins of Donnotter-castle, very near Stonehaven, the property of Mr. Keith, of Ravelstone, are very ancient. The rock upon which they stand is divided from the main land by a deep chasm. Before the use of fire-arms this castle was considered so impregnable, that, in 1661, the regalia of Scotland was deposited in it, for protection from the English army. From Montrose, Stonehaven is prettily situated, and well adapted for commerce. The harbour is good and safe. Its manufactures are sail-cloths, osnaburgs, brown linens, twist, worsted and thread stockings. Near the town is a new village, (built by Mr. Barclay, of Urie, a very worthy gentleman,) called also 'Stonehaven. From this place to Aberdeen the road is very good. Dull successive prospects of sterility without grandeur, and cultivation without gaiety, an absence of peasantry and trees on one side, and an interminable ocean on the other, prevented the eye from administering much gratification to the mind, and made me feel, with considerable emotion, my dependence upon Nature for some of my happiest

enjoyments. Deeply did I regret that I had not taken another route ; and more so, for the sake of Scotland, that Boswell had not conducted his illustrious companion through parts of his country better calculated to soften the rigour of his prejudices. However, the accommodations all the way are good.

After a long and tedious route, I was refreshed by seeing the capital of Aberdeenshire open upon me ; and I entered it with the feelings of one who had escaped from scenes he would wish never to revisit.

As I entered New Aberdeen, I beheld, amongst the first objects, the active and liberal hand of improvement before me, and on every side.

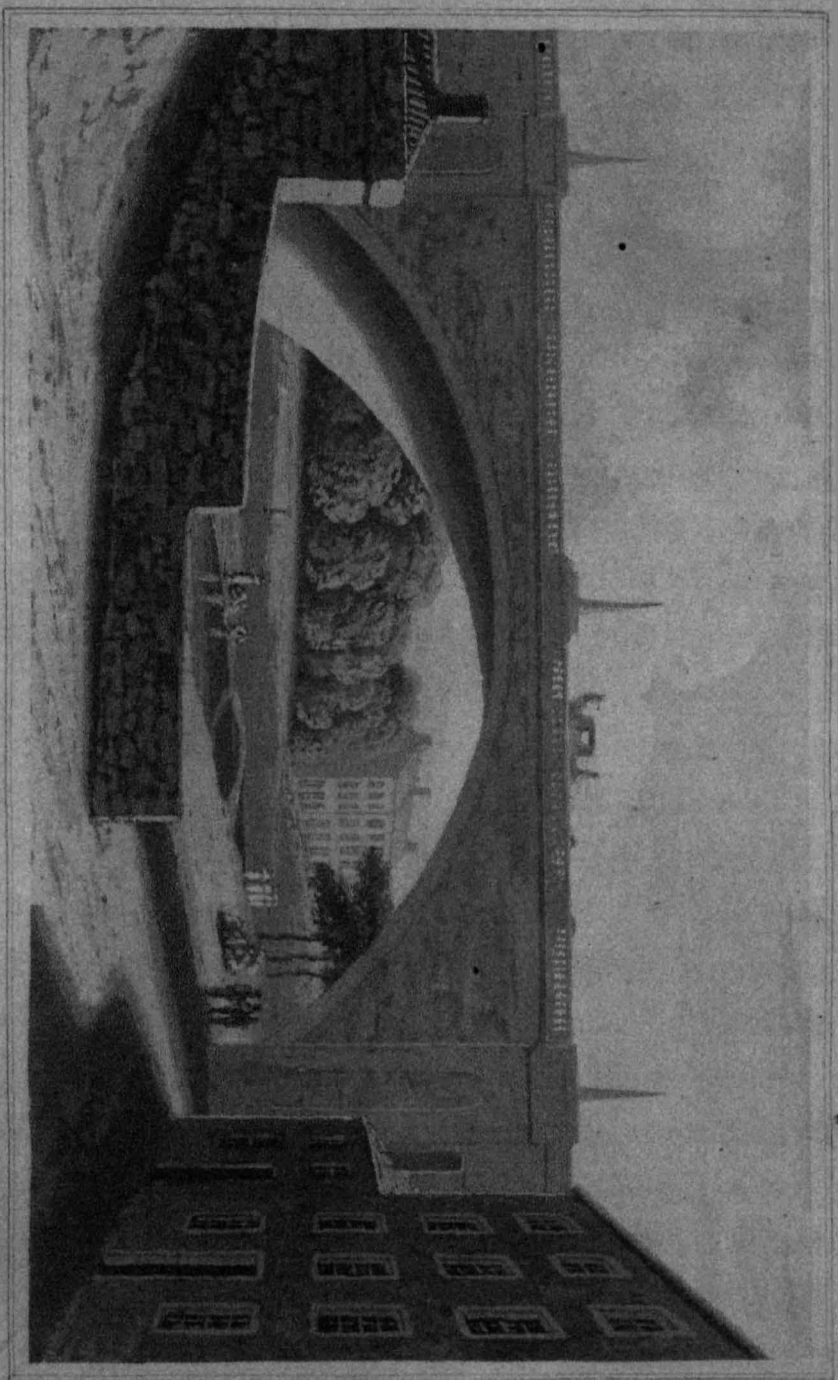
I was the bearer of letters to Major-General Macdonald, the Commander of the district (whose military skill and gallantry in the Low Countries and in Holland would derive no additional lustre from any eulogium of mine), and to other gentlemen, who received me with characteristic politeness and attention. After having secured rooms at an excellent hotel, in my walks through this learned and celebrated city I was much gratified by observing that the streets were spacious, and the houses in general very handsome, being for the most part built of the same sort of granite as that with which the streets of London are paved ; it is dug from a

quarry in the neighbourhood. This circumstance, and the encouragement which the talents of the Scotch receive in England, gave rise to the following epigram, as it appeared in 1764 :

The new Scottish pavement is worthy of praise ;
We're indebted to Scotland for *mending our ways* :
But what we can never forgive 'em, some say,
Is that they have taken our *posts* all *away*.

In consequence of the town being built in several places upon ridges, the tops of some of the streets are at the base of others. The cross, which is in the centre of Castle-street, is much admired ; it is an octagon stone building, richly ornamented with bas relievos of the Kings of Scotland, from James I. to James VI., with a Corinthian column in the middle, surmounted by an unicorn.

But, amongst the instances which may be adduced to shew the rapidly-increasing opulence of this city, the New Bridge attracts the earliest notice of the traveller, as he passes over it in his way from Perth. This noble structure was raised in 1803-4, and is built of the same granite as the houses, and consists of one principal arch, of 130 feet span, which springs over the Denburn Valley, in the line of the new south entry, called Union-street. The width is forty feet within the parapet walls. The view through this arch below, when I made a sketch, is extremely beautiful. The thin pyramidal ornaments upon the balustrades are unworthy of the taste and refinement of so distinguished a



Shandon.

Drawn by Sir John Lane.

Published by Mackenzie & Leigh, Strand, 1848.

city, and can answer no purpose that I could discover but to attract the attention of the lightning. This bridge was designed by Mr. Thomas Fletcher, of Aberdeen, engineer.

A more important but not so elegant, a public work is the pier, close to the town, at the mouth of the river Dee ; it well deserves the attention of the traveller. The harbour of Aberdeen is naturally what is called a *Bar Harbour*, in consequence of the easterly and north-easterly storms forming a ridge of sand at the mouth of it, which at low tide is seldom covered with water more than three feet deep. Frequent and dreadful used to be the shipwrecks of vessels riding at anchor in the roads in foul weather, until the flow of tide enabled them to find protection in the harbour. After many ineffectual efforts to remove so destructive an evil, the spirit and munificence of the town have triumphed over the difficulties of nature, and under the direction of the celebrated Mr. Smeaton, and at an expense of upwards of 20,000*l.*, a pier one thousand two hundred feet in length, gradually increasing in thickness and height as it approaches the sea, where the head ~~ex-~~rounding is ~~sixty feet~~ diameter at the base, and the perpendicular elevation ~~thirty-eight feet~~, has been erected on the north side of the harbour; the expense of this is defrayed by ~~doubling the harbour-dues~~. The whole is of granite ;

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and some of the outside stones of this mighty piece of masonry are above three tons weight, with hewn beds: there are now seventeen fathoms at low water a little to the south of the bar, and from eight to nine fathoms at the harbour's mouth, where there were formerly but a few feet.

New Aberdeen is chiefly celebrated for the Marischal College and University, situated in Broad-street, founded and endowed by George, Earl Marischal of Scotland, in 1593. It is a large sombre pile, and contains, besides lecture-rooms for the different classes, the public schools for conferring of degrees, a common hall, the library, a small museum of natural history and antiquities, and an observatory well furnished with a very valuable astronomical apparatus. The government of this learned establishment consists of a principal, three professors of philosophy, one of divinity, and others for mathematics, chemistry, medicine, and oriental languages; and there are many bursaries for poor students. A bursar is a student, who, for a certain number of years, enjoys a small exhibition or allowance, called in Scotland a bursar, or bursary. A student who has no bursary is, with a similar misapplication of the word, as it is used in these times at Aberdeen, called a *libertine*. This college owes not a little of its lustre to the character and literary productions of the late truly amiable and elegant

Dr. Beattie, who, from having been usher to the grammar-school at Aberdeen, was most honourably elevated to the chair of moral philosophy in this college. Amongst the numerous works of this distinguished writer, his *Minstrel*, and his *Essay on the Nature and Immutability of Truth*, are entitled to pre-eminence. Poetry never had a more delicate and feeling votary, nor religion a more acute and fervid apostle. His refined modesty acted upon his rich and cultivated mind as a fine veil upon a beautiful face, increasing the charms which it rather covered than concealed. The piety of his Sovereign, captivated with the eloquence of the holy advocate, sought for the pleasures of personal conversation with him. Dr. Beattie had the peculiar honour of an interview with their Majesties, unrestrained by the harassing forms and depressive splendour of a court, who paid the most flattering compliments to his hallowed labours, and more substantially rewarded them with a pension. Such an application of resources derived by a beloved Monarch from a loyal people resembles, as was once observed upon a memorable occasion, the sun, which extracts moisture from the earth, to replace it in refreshing dews. The writings and life of this unblemished man coincide with pure design and perfect execution. All that he inculcated he practised. He arrested the thoughtless, he fixed the wavering, he confirmed the good. His domestic sorrows were great and many ; his philosophy, however, was

of a divine nature, and he submitted to them with a resignation which seemed to be derived from Heaven, where he is gone to mingle with 'the spirits of the good and great, who preceded him in their flight to immortality.

The *Senatus Academicus* of Marischal College consists of the following members :---

Right Hon. Lord AUCKLAND, Chancellor.

Alex. Baxter, Esq. Rector.

William L. Brown, Principal.—Patron, the Crown.

W. L. Brown,	Divinity.	Town of Aberdeen.
James Kidd,	Oriental Languages.	Sir Alex. Ramsay.
W. Livingstone,	Medicine.	Crown.
John Stuart,	Greek.	Ditto.
Geo. Glennie,	Moral Phil: and Logic.	Ditto.
Rob. Hamilton,	Natural Philosophy.	Ditto.
Ja. Beattie,	Natural History.	Ditto.
Patrick Copland,	Mathematics.	Town of Aberdeen.
George French,	Chymistry.	College.

In the market-place, which is a handsome oblong square, is the town-house, with a handsome spire; and adjoining this is the tolbooth, a gloomy square building, about one hundred and twenty feet high, in the tower of which there is a depot of small arms, and the fragments of a maiden, or guillotine. Whilst the city is receiving so many embellishments, it would be well if the magistrates would erect another gaol in the room of the present one. The chambers, or rather dungeons, of this gloomy abode, every one of which I

inspected, are small, confined, badly ventilated, and loathsome. Some of those miserable beings, who may be destined to the rigours of confinement in this town, may hereafter find accommodations equally secure and more healthy in the bridewell which is building in its vicinity ; but as the town must, I presume, have a tolbooth for the safe custody of criminals committed for trial, or punishment of very serious offences, a traveller may be permitted to submit, with deference, his feelings upon the subject, to the humane and enlightened magistracy of this town ; not doubting that when their resources will admit, when other difficulties, which perhaps at present obstruct their intentions, are removed, they will consider, that, by restraining the persons of those who violate the laws, the legislature never intended that they should incur the superadded misery of disease and sickness.

That there is a great share of humanity as well as liberality in the town is evident from the number of asylums for the sick and infirm which it contains, amongst which the Lunatic Hospital, built and principally supported by subscription, and very properly removed about a mile from the town, deserves attention for its neatness and order, and the excellent treatment of the unfortunate objects confined within its walls. Dr. Dyce, physician to this hospital, has tried an experiment upon some of the

patients, in violent cases, which has been attended with temporary success. He has had a machine like a pump made, into which the maniac is shut, and so closely confined, in an erect position, as not to be able to move, in which state water is pumped upon his bare head. The terror produced by this process has, I believe, never failed to subdue the paroxysm, and to render the patient much milder and more rational. The patients have spacious grounds to walk in; the violent are separated from the convalescent, and their rooms were remarkably clean and comfortable. The whole had that neat and sprightly appearance which I should conceive so necessary to sooth and gradually restore the mind suffering under the heaviest visitation of the Almighty.

The bridewell, as far as I could judge, will, when finished, in some degree resemble that at Edinburgh: it was constructing of the granite I have had occasion to mention before, which is almost the only mineral production of Aberdeenshire, and with which, either upon the surface or in quarry, the county abounds. This stone has a tendency to split only in one direction, and the common masons know how to split it into blocks, and they afterwards cut it, although astonishingly hard, with uncommon skill and dexterity. The chippings are found very good for roads.

CHAP. XVI.

TRADE OF NEW ABERDEEN—MANUFACTURES—SHIPPING—LAND VALUABLE — DR. JOHNSON'S ILLIBERALITY — INFIRMARY — MEDICAL SOCIETY — LITERARY CHARACTERS — THE ATHE-
NAEUM—OLD ABERDEEN — JURISDICTION OF MAGISTRATES—
THE SHERIFF'S COURT—SOCIETY OF ADVOCATES IN ABERDEEN
—KING'S COLLEGE — DISTINGUISHED CHARACTERS — DANISH
ANECDOTE.

ABERDEEN, in regard to population and trade, is reckoned the third town in Scotland. The number of inhabitants, by the last census, was computed at twenty-seven thousand ; but it has been increasing very rapidly for some years past, and at this time it is supposed to contain at least thirty thousand inhabitants. Its trade is very various, and pretty extensive. The imports, as far as the difficulties of the present war will admit, are chiefly from the Baltic, Archangel, Holland, and America : the articles brought from these places are mostly such as are calculated for manufacturers. There is, at present, very little export direct from this town, but its manufactures are circulated through the whole island, and part of them exported from other places. The principal article of export is worsted stockings, knitted on wires, which, at a former period, this

place sent into Germany and Holland in very great quantities; indeed it at one time supplied a great part of the Continent with this article, through the medium of Holland, and it formed a very extensive and profitable traffic both for the manufacturers and the industrious females in the country all round, by the latter of whom these stockings were wrought. Since the commencement of the present war, however, this trade has suffered very much, and is now almost totally annihilated, owing to the very severe restrictions upon our intercourse with the Continent: what little, therefore, is done in this way at present, is merely what is required in Britain itself; and the article of this kind made for home consumption is much finer than that usually sent to the Continent, and indeed much higher priced than stockings made on frames, the consequence of which is, that but very few comparatively of knitted stockings are required.

The principal manufactures in Aberdeen at present consist of cottons and linens, various descriptions of which are made in great perfection, and in very considerable quantities; there are also several very extensive manufactories of white and coloured threads, for which articles Aberdeen has been long famous. One house, of very great extent, embraces the manufacture of threads, linens, ducks and sail cloth, and this indeed may be justly reckoned the

largest manufactory in the north of Scotland : there are some very large mills belonging to it on the river Don, in the neighbourhood of the town, where their yarns are spun and twisted by machinery, and where their bleaching is carried on ; their weaving is done partly in the town and suburbs, but chiefly in the country around, where they have looms in almost every town and village to the distance of forty or fifty miles. In short, to give some idea of the extent of this manufactory, it may be sufficient to remark that it employs from seven to eight hundred weavers, and the number of hands engaged in its various departments may be some thousands, consisting of both sexes, and almost of every age.

Though this is by far the most extensive, there are two other thread-manufactories of no inconsiderable note, besides several inferior ones. In cotton goods, too, the manufacture of this place is very considerable. There are two principal cotton-works, to one of which is attached a print-field. The mills belonging to this latter are also situated on the river Don, and are perhaps the second, if not the first, in point of extent, in Scotland : here the yarn is spun and twisted by water machinery, and here also the bleaching and printing is carried on. The produce of this manufactory is sold throughout all Scotland and England, and the concern has for several years proved

very useful to the public, and very lucrative to its spirited proprietors.

The next considerable work of this nature is managed by a steam-engine; and, though of late establishment, promises also great utility and prosperity. It is chiefly, for the present, confined to the manufacture of sail-yarns, and of plain goods; but it is yet in its infancy, and will, perhaps, soon extend its limits, as well as its variety of manufactures. There are several smaller manufactories of cotton goods, of various kinds, the produce of which is sold in the town and neighbourhood. In this place there are many other pretty considerable concerns, such as breweries, tanneries, soap and candle works, and two founderies; also a coach-manufactory, where travelling vehicles of all descriptions are made in a very neat style.

One very considerable branch of trade here is fishing, by which a great deal of money has been realised; it consists chiefly in salmon and herrings for curing. Very great quantities of salmon are caught and cured here annually, and sent to the London market; the gentlemen concerned in this trade, besides the fisheries about Aberdeen, have others at different places in the neighbouring counties, from which they also send to London every year very considerable quantities. This trade has proved a source

of unexpected and almost inexhaustible wealth to the adventurers. Some gentlemen here have herring-fisheries in the Murray Frith and Frith of Forth, by which they occasionally draw great profits.

There is a very considerable tonnage of shipping belonging to the port of Aberdeen, consisting of vessels from forty or fifty to seven or eight hundred tons, most of which are built at the port, and one ship was lately built here of nine hundred tons.

The shipping is very variously employed, some of it in Government service, some in the foreign trade direct with Aberdeen itself, some with other places, and the rest in the coasting trade, which, considering the size of the town, employs a very great part. For the supply and equipment of the shipping, there are also several manufactories of cordage and sail-cloths.

An acre of land here is worth double the rent of an acre in the neighbourhood of London, owing to the absence of poor-rates.

It is also celebrated for pickled pork, with which the Dutch used formerly to victual their East-India vessels and ships of war. Aberdeen also has great reputation for

the excellence of its salt and fresh butter. Boswell mentions that Dr. Johnson laughed heartily upon being informed that Cromwell's soldiers taught the Aberdeen people to make shoes and stockings, and to plant cabbages. Whoever thus informed the melancholy sage must have been in a great error indeed. Aberdeen is a place of great antiquity, and has for a long period of time carried on an extensive intercourse with various parts of the Continent of Europe, which doubtless would have imparted to her enterprising natives the discovery of such primary comforts long before that period, had they not arisen, as amongst their southern brethren, with the gradual progress of civilization. The freedom of the city was conferred upon Dr. Johnson, and this seems to have been the only derisive remark he made upon the people of Aberdeen.

The infirmary, or hospital, in Aberdeen, is visited by two respectable physicians, under whom several young men attend ; and in this way the youth have almost every variety in practice to exemplify the 'private instructions' of the physicians. There is no professed school of medicine in Aberdeen ; but though this be wanting, the medical professors in Aberdeen have long borne a distinguished character. This is confirmed in a great degree by the number of young men who study medicine in Aberdeen. Many students from England frequent Aberdeen.

There is also a Medical Society, supported by the students. By their contributions books are principally purchased; and it is now supposed to be a matter of the first importance to get entered as a member in this society, for the benefit of the library, which is very extensive. The students likewise have many other advantages in this society, from discourses which they deliver, and by the comments which such discourses draw forth.

In Aberdeen there are upwards of twenty clergymen, including those in the established church and episcopalian chapels, as well as sectaries.

Very few of these clergymen are authors, though most of them are distinguished for their erudition and intelligence. Dr. Brown, Principal of Marischal College, and one of the ministers of the established church, is thought to be an eloquent preacher, and an animated speaker in the General Assembly. He is author of a volume of Sermons, an Essay on the Natural Equality of Man, and a Poem on Sensibility. Besides these, he has published several small tracts and single sermons, and a new edition of Leland's View of Deistical Writers, with an excellent appendix. He succeeded Dr. Campbell, who wrote in opposition to Hume on Miracles. This writer is well known to the literary world;

the general characteristic of his writings seems to be great vigour and acuteness of intellect.

Mr. Cadiner, of St. Paul's Chapel in Aberdeen, (an English chapel,) has lately published a Tour through Ceylon. He succeeded Mr. Alcock in this chapel, who, as a preacher, was one of the first order. His sermons were finely conceived, uniformly composed with neatness, and in many instances with peculiar felicity of diction.

Bishop Skinner, of the Scots Episcopal Church in Aberdeen, is author of a book called Primitive Truth. It is principally in vindication of the episcopal establishment. He writes several other small tracts, and is assisted by his son, Mr. William Skinner, a graduate of Oxford, who is considered as a very excellent preacher.

The literary characters of Aberdeen are many, though there are not many authors. The booksellers are very numerous, and monthly supply the town and country with most of the books of character, as they appear in London. All the periodical publications are widely disseminated about Aberdeen; and, in conjunction with the London newspapers, diffuse a very general intelligence among all classes. Indeed the information which may be

acquired here by literary people, is, in almost every instance, little inferior to London; for, independently of the foregoing means, there is a literary establishment upon an extensive scale, called the Athenæum, superintended by Mr. Brown, bookseller, and of which he is principal proprietor, where all the London newspapers, four days after they appear in London, and most of the periodical publications, and many political tracts, are taken in. This place is well attended, and contributes to add to the general intelligence which pervades the people of this part of Scotland.

There is a very extensive circulating library, containing many thousand volumes, and constantly enlarged by the new publications, with a liberality and taste which do credit to the proprietor.

As far as my opportunities admitted, the society here seemed to display the elegance of refinement, and the luxury of opulence.

Old Aberdeen is about a mile to the northward of the New Town, at the mouth of the river Don. This town is comprehended under the parish of Oldmachar, as New Aberdeen is under the parish of St. Nicholas. The ma-

gistrates of the one town have no connection with the other ; but it is believed the magistrates of Old Aberdeen seldom exercise their jurisdiction as magistrates. It is different in the New Town, where their power and jurisdiction are exercised, in all cases concerning personal property, to the highest extent : their jurisdiction is frequently exercised in criminal matters ; but it is generally understood to be restricted to the lesser delinquencies : that which involves any crime of magnitude is generally left to be tried by the Circuit Court. In this court the Lords of Justiciary preside, and take cognizance of all appeals in civil cases, from the inferior courts, under twelve pounds sterling.

In civil and criminal cases, the jurisdiction of the sheriff in the county is much the same as the baillies in the burghs ; with this difference, however, that the jurisdiction of the magistrates of burghs is limited to the burgh exclusively, but that of the sheriffs extends also to the county, like that of the magistrates.

The magistrates of burghs cannot be expected to dispense justice always with great propriety, where points of law are involved in the issue of the case. They accordingly have assistants, who are acquainted with the law. In some

burghs these assistants are designated assessors, in others consulters, and frequently the duty falls upon the town-clerks; but still, as the magistrate (generally a mercantile man) is the judge, where he is obstinate in his own determination, without much knowledge of the law, (which is too often the case,) the course of justice is perverted.

The Sheriff's Court is superintended by a Judge, denominated a Sheriff Depute. He is named from the Faculty of Advocates in Edinburgh. The practical part of the business, however, falls upon the *Sheriff Substitute*, who is generally called from the practitioners before the inferior court.

The Commissary Court is a remnant of the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the bishops: their business is not extensive; it is principally limited to the proving and establishing of titles to the personal estates of those who are dead. The dues upon this latter procedure are heavy, and very much complained of. Upon them the Commissary's living principally depends. Indeed the general opinion is against the Commissary Court: for it creates a tax upon the commission of property from the dead to the living, merely for the Commissary's emolument, whose jurisdiction is so trifling in other matters that it could be easily accomplished in the Sheriff's Court. The jurisdiction of a Commissary is not limited always to a single county; it frequently embraces two or three.

Before the Sheriff, Baillie, and Commissary Courts, the same lawyers practise, and conduct business. In Aberdeen they are designated Advocates; this title, and other privileges, they enjoy by royal charter. In other provincial towns they are only designated "Writers." In Aberdeen there are no law classes. In the King's College there is a professorship for teaching the civil law; but no lectures are given, and the place is considered as a sinecure.

The Society of Advocates in Aberdeen, incorporated by royal charter, are in number about fifty. Receiving a liberal education, they in general are men of considerable intelligence, some in respectable and independent circumstances, and in the habits of associating with the first people of rank in the country. In order to ensure as much respectability as possible, a young man, before he can be put apprentice to an advocate, must previously produce certificates of having received a liberal and a classical education.

The principal buildings near this town bespeak it to be a place of great antiquity, amongst which the King's College is its most distinguished ornament. The chapel of this sombre but stately pile is vaulted with a double cross arch, above which is an imperial crown in stone, supported by eight stone pillars, upon which there are evident marks of decay, and indications of a speedy downfall; besides

this, there is a tolerably good library, in which there are some curiosities, a common hall, rooms for lectures, and a range of houses for the professors. The professors are of Humanity or Latin, Greek, three of Philosophy, Oriental Languages, Civil Law, Divinity, and Medicine. There are a number of bursaries for poor students. The students here, as in the New Town, live out of the college, except a few who reside as pupils with the professors. The course of education, I was informed, is nearly the same in both colleges, which are totally distinct and separate from each other, and separately confer their academical honours. Many efforts have been made, for many years past, to unite these colleges into one university and one college, "a consummation devoutly to be wished" by both; but a jealous adherence to their mutual interests and privileges has hitherto rendered the difficulties of an adjustment insurmountable. The King is patron of both colleges, but never interferes in the election of their higher officers.

One of the most shining characters of the age was educated at this college, which is deservedly proud of the name of Sir James Mackintosh. The leading events in the public life of this great man are widely known. Upon a memorable occasion, he delivered one of the most profound and eloquent speeches ever heard from the British bar, in supporting an individual against the indignant

application of the present ruler of France for redress, in a British court of justice, against an attack which he deemed a libel. The speech excited the admiration of the judges before whom it was pronounced, and of the country. Connected with the views of Buonaparté, and recommended by transcendent eloquence, it was rapidly translated into all the languages of Europe, and diffused the fame of the orator over the civilized world. The great endowments of his mind, displayed on this and other important occasions, led to rapid promotion; but to a promotion which, though honourable and lucrative to the object, is much to be regretted by the country: Sir James Mackintosh was appointed Recorder of Bombay; and his exalted genius, which, in times like the present, would add to the wisdom and energy of our councils at home, is brilliantly discharging the duties of his judicial situation in a distant region.

The principals and professors of both colleges have the reputation of eminence in purity of conduct and depth of learning. Besides Dr. Beattie and Sir James Mackintosh, the names of Reid, Campbell, Gregory, and Gerard, connected with the Philosophical Society established here, reflect no little additional lustre on Aberdeen.

The King's College in Old Aberdeen is not united to the

Marischal College in Aberdeen, and in all probability never will be. Some years ago a proposition of this kind was made, and anxiously wished for, by the professors of the Marischal College; but, as the livings of King's College were better, the professors of this latter college were rather indifferent about the measure; and it is believed from this reason the matter dropped. At each of these colleges there may be about one hundred and fifty students, at an average: they wear red gowns; there is nothing else peculiar in their dress. They reside not in college, but in town. At these colleges there are neither many Irish nor American youths, though the contrary is generally believed in England; they are principally youths from the neighbouring counties and towns. There are pretty frequently young men from England who attend the colleges here. From the bursaries given to students, upon competition, at the opening of each session at college, great assistance is rendered to the poor student. The lowest of these bursaries may be about five pounds yearly, and the highest about ten or twelve pounds. The yearly session at college continues five months, beginning in November and ending in March. From the session being so short, and living not very high, numbers in Scotland take the benefit of a classical education at college. I have before mentioned that Hector Boethius was the first president of this college.

The Senatus Academicus of King's College is as follows :

His Grace the Duke of GORDON, Chancellor.		
Lord Glenbervie, Rector.—Rod. M'Leod, Principal.		
W. Jack, Sub-Principal, and Professor of Philosophy.—Patron, the University.		
H. M'Pherson,	Greek.	The University.
William Ogilvie,	Humanity.	Ditto.
Alex. Dauncy,	Civil Law.	Ditto.
A. Bannerman,	Medicine.	Ditto.
W. Jack and R. Scott,	Philosophy.	Ditto.
James Bentley,	Oriental Languages.	Ditto.
Gilbert Gerard,	Divinity.	M. of Synod, &c.
Wm. Duncan,	Natural Philosophy.	

I made an agreeable excursion round the vicinity, which is embellished with several gentlemen's seats, and some few but very scanty plantations, enlivened by various prospects of the sea ; in the course of which I visited the venerable Gothic bridge said to have been built by Bishop Cheyne, in 1281, over the Don, consisting of one large arch, where there is an enchanting view to the west, upon the banks of the river, which are here well wooded ; also some very extensive cotton-mills ; and upon my return to the Old Town I experienced much civility from Dr. Ogilvie, who resides in the manse, or parsonage-house, belonging to the church, which is composed of two very antique spires and one aisle, fragments of a great cathedral, called St. Machers. This cathedral is mentioned in history as a magnificent pile, and as having had a noble library, which was destroyed in 1560. To relieve the sombre character of ecclesiastical

description, neither my reader nor the Doctor will be offended at my relating the following whimsical occurrence which befel him as a traveller, which afforded me a smile worth having in some of my solitary Caledonian rambles. The attachment which the Doctor has to the study of astronomy induced him some years since to cross over to Denmark, for the purpose of personally paying his respects to a celebrated professor of his favourite science at Copenhagen. Unfortunately he arrived at a time when a considerable ferment prevailed in the public mind, in consequence of our having taken and detained one of their ships of war, for what cause I do not remember: the professor largely partook of the public anger; and as it is natural to identify a foreigner with his country, as soon as the Doctor entered the room, the former went up to him, and, forgetful of the compliment of such a visit, and thinking only of the outrage conceived to have been offered to the dignity of Denmark, exclaimed, "Sir, I am glad to see you; but, Sir, how dare *you* to take one of our ships?" Upon which the Doctor, with equal coolness and good humour, drily replied, "Sir do not be offended with me; upon my honour *I* never took a ship in my life." The answer had the intended effect; the professor laughed at and apologized for the length to which his patriotic ardour had carried him, and treated his worthy guest with all the attention due to him during his stay in the Danish capital.

CHAP. XVII.

ABERDEENSHIRE BIRDS—ABERDEENSHIRE FORESTRY—SLANES-
CASTLE—ITS EXTRAORDINARY SITUATION—THE LATE EARL
OF ERROL—THE BULLERS OF BUCHAN—PETERHEAD—EFFECT
OF FIRST SEEING A TREE—BANFF—DUFF-HOUSE—THE EARL OF
FIFE—CULLEN—FINE MARBLE—FINLATER-HOUSE—GORDON-
CASTLE—ELGIN—ANECDOTES OF SCOTTISH PEASANTS—THE
CATHEDRAL—RURAL ECONOMY.

UPON quitting Aberdeen, I slept at a hamlet, distant about sixteen miles. The Scotch in general reckon the distance, in posting, by the English mile; but sometimes they confound the English with the Scottish mile, to the no little vexation of the English traveller. A Scotch mile is fifteen hundred geometrical paces, an English mile twelve hundred. The inn was a comfortable one; and, for supper, a branded fowl, as it is called, from its being broiled on the gridiron, was introduced. Here, and in other parts of Scotland, I found that, upon the arrival of a guest, when the larder afforded nothing else, it was common to seize upon the first luckless fowl that came within the reach of the cook, which was instantly put to death, and speedily served up in the way I have mentioned. The ride to this place was

flat and extremely dreary. In many parts nature appeared worn to the bone, the rocks rising through the thin surface of the earth. No trees waved their ample branches in the breeze; and the song of the bird was not heard. Many parts of Aberdeenshire reminded me of Russian Finland, except that it wanted its rude masses of rock, which in that country every where line the road. It has been whimsically said, that in Aberdeenshire the birds are accustomed to build their nests upon the ground, so great is the scarcity of hedges and trees.

The contrast between the barren face of the country and the polished state of society very strongly presents itself to the observation. A young artist from Aberdeenshire went to London, to advance his fortunes, and applied to be an assistant scene-painter at one of the theatres: upon being examined as to his qualifications, particularly with regard to trees, he observed, "I can paint a rural scene, but know nothing about *your forestry*." Notwithstanding these remarks, which arise from what I saw, I am informed that in some parts of Aberdeenshire there are thriving plantations, and that industry and enterprise are doing all within their power to mitigate the severity of nature.

In making our way to Slanes Castle, the curricie of a

friend of mine, who accompanied me to Peterhead, sustained many a severe shock, and threatened us with frequent overthrow. The cross road to this singular spot is only fit for horse-travelling. Very little, I was informed, remains of the ancient Castle of Slanes, it having been demolished by King James VI., in the Earl of Huntley's rebellion in 1594.

My astonishment increased as I approached the more modern fabric. Upon a wide waste, without verdure and without a tree, the turrets of the castle rose before us. Upon alighting to view its front towards the sea, it presented the extraordinary appearance of a large solid mansion resting upon a rock, lashed by the tempestuous ocean that divides Scotland from Norway. Within, I found a very comfortable house, having a square court, and a gallery leading to the rooms on each side; the drawing-room looks immediately upon the sea, which in stormy weather covers its windows with spray, and wanted nothing but the motion of the waves to make me conceive that I was looking from the cabin-windows of a large man of war. Who will not be surprised to hear that such a chosen scene of gloomy grandeur and magnificent desolation was the hereditary residence of a family at once distinguished for their rank and refinement of manners? It is the seat of the Earl of Errol, who, by the articles of the Union, as well as by an

act of parliament abolishing the heritable jurisdiction in Scotland, is the hereditary Lord High Constable of Scotland. In the room I have been describing is a fine and very handsome portrait of the late Earl, in his parliamentary robes, by Sir Joshua Reynolds. Dr. Beattie thus feelingly and elegantly delineates the character of this amiable nobleman, to whom he was much indebted for many marked civilities, in a letter which he wrote to Mrs. Montagu, upon the subject of his Lordship's death :---“ Lord Errol's death, of which you must have heard, is a great loss to this country, and matter of unspeakable regret to his friends. I owed him much ; but, independently of all considerations of gratitude, I had a sincere liking and very great esteem for him. In his manners he was wonderfully agreeable ; a most affectionate and attentive parent, husband, and brother ; elegant in his economy, and perhaps expensive, yet exact and methodical. He exerted his influence, as a man of rank and a magistrate, in doing good to all the neighbourhood ; and it has often been mentioned, to his honour, that no man ever administered an oath with a more pious and commanding solemnity than he : he was regular in his attendance upon public worship, and exemplary in the performance of it. In a word, he was adored by his servants, a blessing to his tenants, and the darling of the whole country. His stature was six feet four inches, and his proportions most exact. His countenance and deportment

exhibited such a mixture of the sublime and the graceful as I have never seen united in any other man. He often put me in mind of an ancient hero; and I remember Dr. Samuel Johnson was positive that he resembled Homer's character of Sarpedon." At the coronation of his present Majesty, this Lord Errol officiated as Lord High Constable of Scotland. The library is a very comfortable apartment, and well supplied. The murmur of the waves without seemed auspicious to study and meditation. I should much like to be under the roof of Slanes Castle

"When the storms aloft arise, when the north lifts the wave on high."

OSSIAN.

The road to Peterhead, by the way of the Buller, or Boiler, of Buchan, distant from the castle about two miles, was represented to be so bad, that I mounted a led horse, and my friend went round by the main road.

The Buller is very near to a little romantic hamlet of fishermen, and resembles from the top of the rock on which we stood, and which forms its walls, a vast well, opening, at the bottom, through a large caverned passage, into the sea, which in stormy weather rushes in through this aperture, and, striking against the opposite side, rises to a prodigious height, considerably above the top, sometimes throwing up large stones in its rage: in this state

of violence its foam resembles water boiling over, which I apprehend is the origin of the name of this gloomy and awful chasm. Part of the top of the rock is so narrow, that I was obliged to crawl to it upon my hands and knees with great care, to prevent falling from the precipice, which threatened instant destruction to me on either side; yet I was assured, by a gentleman of acknowledged veracity, that some years since, when the passage was not broader, a man rode over it on a sheltie: the great caution of a horse is well known, it may therefore be perfectly correct.

Along this shore there are many other singular caverns, and it is much the fashion with the frequenters of Peterhead to make water-parties to explore them. On this (the eastern) coast the natives are distinguishable by having high check-bones and red hair.

The ride from the Buller to Peterhead partook of the same stony sterile nakedness before adverted to, with the addition of worse roads. The elevated appearance of Peterhead, rising upon a peninsula, embraced by the ocean, would be very agreeable, if trees formed a part of the prospect. This town is situated on the most easterly promontory of Scotland, within three hundred miles of the Naze of Norway, and the peninsula on which it stands is united to the country on the north-west by an isthmus only